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Press Release

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Tourism, a Healthy Contributor to Alaska's Economy

(Anchorage, Alaska) – Alaska's visitor industry accounts for \$3.9 billion annually, more than 46,000 Alaskan jobs during peak season, and \$179 million in state and municipal revenues, according to a report recently released by the Alaska Division of Economic Development.

"The information in the *Economic Impact of the Alaska's Visitor Industry* report is critical for state and local policy makers," said Susan Bell, Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development (DCCED) Commissioner. "Decisions are being made right now about tourism marketing funding and investments in related infrastructure."

The report also highlights the recovery in Alaska visitation and economic impacts in recent years. An estimated 1.9 million out-of-state visitors traveled to Alaska between October 2012 and September 2013. This past summer, Alaska experienced the third consecutive year of growth since significant declines in 2009 and 2010.

"The data in this report allows the State of Alaska and our business partners to plan wisely for future success," said Kathy Dunn, state Tourism Marketing Manager. The report also includes regional visitor industry spending, employment, and labor income estimates. The report can be found online, along with other market research conducted by the Division of Economic Development, at: <http://commerce.alaska.gov/dnn/ded/DEV/TourismDevelopment/TourismResearch.aspx>.



DCCED's mission is to promote a healthy economy, strong communities, and protect consumers in Alaska. For more information contact Caryl McConkie, Division of Economic Development, 907-465-5478 or caryl.mcconkie@alaska.gov.

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