In writing Paper 5, please refer to the general guidelines for papers on the first page of the assignment for Paper 1. All of those guidelines apply for Paper 5.

Prompt for Paper 5:

My intention with Paper 5 is for you to be more forward-looking in your analysis. I have provided a choice of topics, and in each case I would like you to make predictions about what the future will likely hold for your chosen topic and Alaska. In addition, I would like to you make judgments and recommendations about what you think the best future strategy should be. In particular, these recommendations should be tailored to the current Obama administration – what actions, if any, do you think the president should take on your chosen issue? Your recommendations may be very different from what your predictions of the actual path of events will be. In both categories (predictions and recommendations), you must provide examples and citations to support your arguments.

For Paper 5, you should choose one of the following topics:

- **An analysis of the future prospects for land management in the Tongass National Forest, including a recommendation for the Obama administration on how it should approach the Tongass issue.** Using examples and citations from recent and past events, you must make predictions of how the forest will likely be managed in the coming years and whether the decades-long conflict over logging practices will ever be resolved. In addition to your predictions for the future, you should make clear judgments and recommendations about what the best future strategy should be.

- **A recommendation for the Obama administration on how oil drilling should be managed in the Arctic Ocean off of Alaska’s northern coast.** This is a very hot topic right now. Using examples and citations from readings about the Exxon Valdez oil spill and the NRC report about cumulative effects of oil and gas drilling (additional chapters now available on eReserves), you should provide predictions of what will likely happen with offshore oil drilling and make judgments and recommendations about what the best future strategy should be. These predictions and judgments can span the entire range of possibilities – from no offshore drilling to an aggressive oil development approach.

- **An analysis of the current and future prospects for Alaska’s native people in the context of ANCSA and ANILCA.** What do you expect for Alaska Natives in the coming decades? Will their traditional culture continue to erode, or have events of the last few decades protected these cultures in ways that never materialized for tribes in the lower 48 states? How does the regional corporation structure shape the future for Alaska Natives? In particular, please include recommendations for how the Obama administration should approach issues that are important to Alaska Natives. What issues are important, and do they require government action? You should both make predictions about what the future holds for Alaska Natives and make judgments and recommendations about what the best future strategy should be.
• A final option is to write about a **topic of your choice** that is not listed here. For any chosen topic, your paper must include **predictions about the future** and **recommendations** for future action. In particular, your recommendations should be designed for the current **Obama administration**, in which you make arguments for a particular political and/or management strategy. If you choose this option, you must **have your topic approved by the instructor** in advance. This will be an easy process – just shoot me a quick email with your topic idea, and I’ll get back to you quickly with any suggestions or concerns that I have.

In choosing the argument you will make in this paper, I suggest that you study carefully the course readings for sources of evidence to support your argument. A **requirement for this paper** is that you cite (either by paraphrasing or by direct quotation) **at least two different sources**. That is, you cannot base your paper entirely on evidence from a single source.

Remember, as you write and review your paper, continually ask yourself: **What is my argument? What evidence do I provide to support my argument?** and **Is this clear to the reader?**

As always, I’m available for assistance as you write your paper – in evaluating your thesis, your writing, your sources of evidence, or just in making suggestions about the topic of your paper. You can email me at miner@u.washington.edu or come by my office, Kincaid Hall 442. I’m generally quite happy to be interrupted without warning.