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ORAL HISTORY
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Adolph "Rudy" Gray was interviewed on August 15, 2018 by Barbara Cellarius, anthropologist with Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve, on the deck of the Gray's home on a private parcel of land within Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve that overlooks Jack Lake near the Nabesna Road. His wife, Jean, also participated in the interview. This interview was done as part of an effort to document the lives and experiences of people with longstanding ties to the park.

In this interview, Rudy talks about his personal background and childhood, developing a love for the outdoors, serving in the military, attending college, coming to Alaska (first to Ketchikan), the variety of jobs he held in Alaska (including for Pam Am Airlines in Ketchikan/Annette Island and as a teacher in Fort Yukon, Mentasta, Healy, Bettles, and Hughes), being a pilot, running a trapline and selling furs, traveling in India, Nepal and Thailand and visiting the Dalai Lama, his experience in park-affiliated communities such as Chitina, Kennecott, Mentasta, and Dot Lake, and homesteading at Jack Lake.

Background information from Barbara:

"The park's geologist, Danny Rosenkrans, suggested that I interview Rudy as a long-time park resident/property owner with an interesting history in the area and who was getting older, so a good thing to do while he was still around and coming to the park. (I think he was making trips to Tok for some kind of cancer treatment at the time and passed away a year or two later.) It wasn't for a specific project, although Danny was likely aware of projects like Jukebox and the one that resulted in *For the Love of Freedom: Ethnographic Overview and Assessment*. At the time, I think Rudy and his wife Jean were spending winters in the Lower 48, maybe in Washington state, and then summers on Jack Lake. He was in his 90s, I believe, and their home was accessed by ATV, rather than highway vehicle, from the Nabesna Road.