Reviving Ethno-Landscape – Human-Laika Sled Dog Culture Through "Beringia" Sled Dog Race in Kamchatka

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Sled Dog Culture in the Russian North
or Eastern-Siberian Sled Dog Culture

Dogs and humans are:

▶ Working partners

▶ Hunting buddies

▶ Travel companions

▶ Lifeguards

▶ Defenders of the household and livestock

▶ Watchers of the reindeer herds, etc.

Eastern Siberian Type of a Dog Sled Culture
train type,   10-13 dogs,   chest belt

History

Archeology - 8500 years ago

First contact with Russians – 17th century

1930s – state policy to eliminate dogs

1950s-1960s – relocations

Introduction of other means of transportation

1990s – Soviet Union Collapse

Sled dogs started to go away

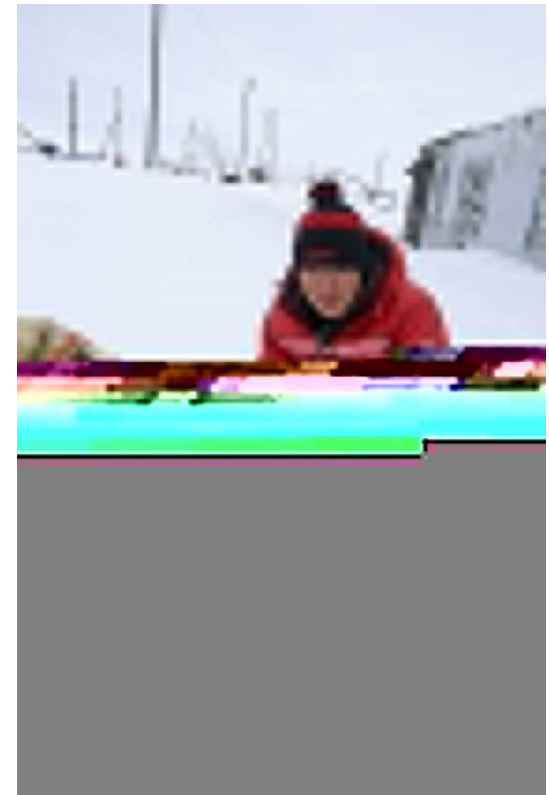2000s more snowmobiles

Beringia Traditional Sled Dog Race

Unique race

Indigenous women mashers

Traditional routes and food

Contemporary contribution of dog sled culture to community sustainability

Economic

- Ethno-ecological tourism

- Humanitarian aid delivery

Social

- Celebration of the sled dog tradition

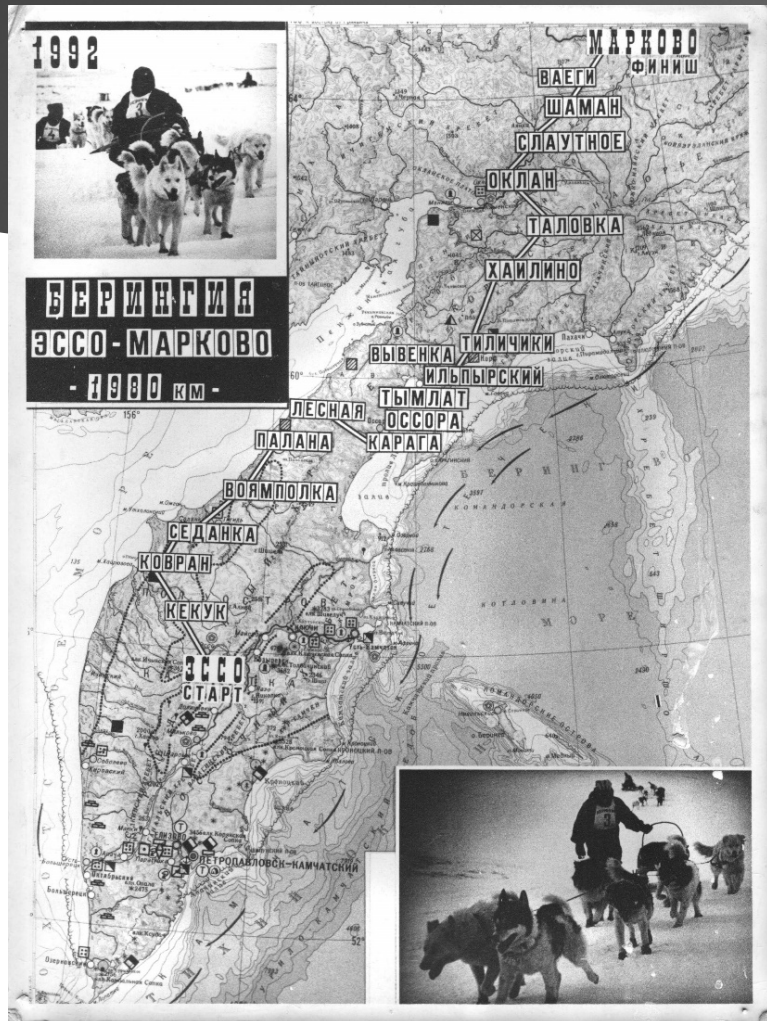- Opportunity to have new visitors and friends

Environmental

- Environmentally friendly

- Reconnection human – landscape - dog

Cultural

- Continuation of traditions

- Traditional knowledge exchange and revitalization

Longest race

Regional level	City level	Village level

Regional level
- Extensive attention to Kamchatka
- Tourism

City level
"Popularization" of sled dog

Village level
"Breath of fresh air"

Friendship

Reminder of the past traditions

Involvement of youth

Dog Race Pros and Cons

Pitomnik (dog nursery)

Contemporary vs. traditional

Children sled dog races

Future directions

Thank you