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Hoffecker is an archaeologist and paleoanthropologist who works in Russia and Alaska on the ecology of prehistoric human populations in northern environments. He received a PhD from the University of Chicago in 1986. Ongoing research projects include excavation at Kostenki (near Voronezh, Russia) of traces of the earliest modern human settlement in Eastern Europe roughly 50,000-40,000 years ago, and analysis of changes in Inuit society and economy at Cape Espenberg (northern Seward Peninsula, Alaska) 500-1000 years ago. He is the author of *A Prehistory of the North: Human Settlement of the Higher Latitudes* (2005) and, with Scott Elias, *Human Ecology of Beringia* (2007).