

**SUMMARY OF CHANGES
SUPERINTENDENT'S COMPENDIUM
2020
DENALI NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE**

The compendium is a written compilation of designations, closures, permit requirements and other restrictions adopted under the Superintendent's discretionary authority. After review and consideration of the need for annual updates and public comments on proposed changes, the following substantive changes have been incorporated into the 2020 Superintendent's Compendium.

2.1(a)(4) Designated areas for collection of dead wood on the ground for firewood

The NPS has omitted a duplicate sentence in this compendium section.

The revised language reads:

Visitors may gather dead wood on the ground for use as fuel for campfires within Denali National Park and Preserve unless prohibited by on-site signs or specific permit restrictions. See also 13.35(c)(4). Federally qualified subsistence users should refer to section 13.485

See also, section 2.13 which restricts campfires in the former Mt. McKinley National Park

2.10(a) Camping: conditions and permits

The NPS changed this section to better reflect actual periods of campground use. This change reflects visitor use of Riley Creek, Savage and Teklanika Campgrounds outside of April 15 – September 30, and ensures that campers outside of these dates can have the same noise-free experience summer visitors expect. The visitor camping season is expanding beyond April 15 and September 30. We have received complaints from visitors about excessive generator use in campgrounds during these times of year.

The revised language reads:

Generators may be operated in the Riley Creek, Savage River, and Teklanika River Campgrounds between the hours of 8am and 10am and from 4pm to 8pm when the campgrounds are open to public use. Operation of a generator or idling of a parked vehicle for the purpose of electricity generation outside of these hours is prohibited.

2.10(d) Food storage: designated areas and methods

2. Frontcountry Developed Area (FDA)

The NPS changed this section to bring this regulation into harmony with how food storage in the FDA is managed. There is no authorized camping in the FDA outside of campgrounds, and we direct non-campers caching food in the FDA (e.g., near the road or at Toklat) to use a BRC, food lockers, or buildings.

The revised language reads:

Unattended food and beverages, food and beverage containers, garbage, harvested fish, and all other unattended scented items must be stored in a bear resistant container (BRC) or secured—

- Within an NPS provided food storage locker
- Within a hard sided building; or
- Within a lockable and hard sided section of a vehicle, vessel, or aircraft

2.15(a)(1) Areas designated as closed to pets

The NPS changed this section to reflect the new use of dogs by the NPS for wildlife management purposes on a year-round basis. It also defines the term working dog to provide clarity for visitors experiencing the park with dogs and to better protect wildlife during this time of year.

The revised language reads:

For the Frontcountry Developed Area, see 13.978. Pets are prohibited in all other areas of the park. This prohibition does not apply to—

- dogs used for legal hunting in the park and preserve additions;
- emergency search and rescue missions;
- qualified service animals accompanying persons with disabilities per the ADA; or
- dogs used by the NPS for wildlife management.

In addition to the above exceptions, working dogs are allowed from October 1 through April 14. Working dogs are in a harness and pull a person or a sled, as in skijoring, dogsledding, or freight hauling. When not actively pulling a load, dogs must be on a leash no longer than six feet or otherwise physically confined per 2.15(a)(2).

2.15(a)(5) Pet excrement disposal conditions

The NPS changed this section to reflect trails where dogs are allowed. In recent years, Denali has expanded sections of the Roadside Trail where visitors are allowed to travel with their dogs. This change updates the regulation regarding pet excrement to include these areas.

The revised language reads:

Pet feces must be removed from areas around buildings, parking areas, campgrounds, trails where dogs are allowed, and the train depot.

2.21 Smoking

The NPS added a minimum distance for smoking from the entrance of park buildings to prevent smoke from drifting into visitor facilities.

The revised language reads:

All public buildings are closed to smoking unless specifically permitted and signed as a designated smoking area. Smoking is prohibited within 100 feet of the park fuel, aviation gas storage facilities, and propane tanks or within 25 feet of entrances to visitor facilities and other park buildings.

2.52 Designated areas for sale and distribution of printed matter for First Amendment purposes

The NPS updated this section to reflect a servicewide revision allowing sale and distribution of “other message bearing items.” Per 83 FR 2069, effective February 15, 2018 the NPS revised its regulations to allow the free distribution of message-bearing items other than printed matter in areas of a park designated by the superintendent, subject to compliance with the regulations at 36 CFR 2.51 and 2.52. These items include readable electronic media like CDs, DVDs, and flash drives; articles of clothing like hats and accessories like buttons and pins; key chains; and bumper stickers. Changes to the title and the text of this section reflect these changes.

The revised language reads:

2.52 Designated areas for sale and distribution of printed matter and other message-bearing items for First Amendment purposes

All outdoor areas in the Frontcountry Developed Area—excluding campgrounds, the kennels, and the dog yard—are open to sale or distribution of printed matter and other message-bearing items without a permit as defined by 36 CFR 2.52(a) when conducted by 25 or fewer persons. Activities must not block ingress or egress to buildings or roadways. Sale or distribution of printed matter and other message-bearing items conducted by 26 or more individuals must have a permit issued by the Superintendent.

13.25(c) Designated campgrounds: restrictions, terms, and conditions

The NPS added the group campsite available in Riley Creek Campground. In 2018 the NPS constructed a group campsite to Riley Creek Campground that had not been reflected in the previous regulation.

The revised language reads:

- There are three campsites available for groups of nine or more in the Savage River campground and one campsite for groups of nine or more in the Riley Creek campground. These sites are available for tents only on an advanced reservation basis under procedures established by the Superintendent.

13.50 Closures and restrictions, National Park System Units in Alaska

The NPS added language addressing the use of electric bicycles (e-bikes) in National Park System units in Alaska. On August 30, 2019, the National Park Service published an e-bike policy. A stated goal of the policy is to address e-bikes so that the NPS can exercise clear management authority over them within the National Park System. The policy provides that e-bikes are to be allowed in areas where traditional bicycles are allowed. Under national NPS regulations, traditional bicycles are allowed only on roads, parking areas, and designated trails. 36 CFR 4.30(h). Under Federal law specific to conservation system units in Alaska, which include national parks, “nonmotorized surface transportation methods for traditional activities ... and for travel to and from villages and homesites” are allowed notwithstanding any other provision of law. 16 USC 3170(a). It has been the position of the Department of the Interior that these methods include the use of traditional bicycles. E-bikes do not fall under this allowance because they have an electric motor and therefore are not “nonmotorized.”

Although ANILCA allows traditional bicycles anywhere within conservation system units in Alaska, NPS Region 11 (Alaska) allows e-bikes only on roads, parking areas, and designated trails where traditional bicycles are allowed. This ensures that the NPS manages e-bikes in Alaska in the same way it manages e-bikes outside of Alaska. The nationwide policy intended to achieve a consistent management framework for e-bikes within the National Park System. In addition, the NPS has no data on the level of bicycle use on more than 20 million acres in Alaska that are off-trail and not in designated wilderness. This would make it very difficult to anticipate the impacts of allowing e-bikes in those same, vast locations – impacts that could include concerns about public safety associated with remote, cross-country travel, protection of resources in sensitive biomes such as tundra, and management objectives such as preserving wilderness character in eligible wilderness.

The language for the 2020 compendium is:

The term “e-bike” means a two- or three-wheeled cycle with fully operable pedals and an electric motor of less than 750 watts (1 h.p.).

E-bikes are allowed in accordance with the provisions of 36 CFR Part 4. E-bikes are allowed on park roads, parking areas, and trails that are open to traditional bicycles.

E-bikes are prohibited where traditional bicycles are prohibited under 36 CFR 4.30. Except where use of motor vehicles by the public is allowed, using the electric motor to move an e-bike without pedaling is prohibited.

A person operating an e-bike is subject to the following sections of 36 CFR part 4 that apply to the use of traditional bicycles: sections 4.12, 4.13, 4.20, 4.21, 4.22, 4.23, and 4.30(h)(2)-(5).

Except as specified in this Compendium, the use of an e-bike is governed by state law, which is adopted and made a part of this Compendium. Any violation of State law adopted by this paragraph is prohibited.

This provision is approved and will remain in effect until rescinded or superseded.

13.930 Do I need a permit to operate a motor vehicle on the Denali Park Road west of the Savage River?

The NPS added the term non-commercial to better define who may drive vehicles on the Denali Park Road outside of the restricted summer season. This addition adds clarity for the general public, who do not need a permit during this time, and for commercial operators, who need a permit year-round.

The revised language reads:

A permit is not required for non-commercial use of the Park Road between Savage River and Teklanika Rest Area (1) from the conclusion of Road Lottery to the closure of the road for the season due to weather or safety conditions, or (2) in spring when conditions allow for driving until initiation of the transit service.

13.976(c) FDA conditions for lighting or maintaining fires

The NPS added the Toklat Road Camp to the designated locations where NPS employees may build an open fire.

The revised language reads:

- NPS employees may build an open fire at the designated site located within the C-Camp Housing Area.
- NPS employees may build an open fire at the designated site located adjacent to the playground in the Headquarters Housing Area.
- NPS employees may build an open fire at the designated site located within the Toklat Road Camp.