



Categorical Exclusion Documentation Form (CE Form)

Project: 2020 Denali National Park and Preserve Superintendent's Compendium

PEPC Project Number: 92986

Description of Action (Project Description):

This compliance addresses the 2020 Denali National Park and Preserve Superintendent's Compendium.

2020 changes have been implemented with respect to the following:

2.1(a)(4) Designated areas for collection of dead wood on the ground for firewood A duplicate sentence was removed from this section of the compendium.

2.10(a) Camping: conditions and permits Hours of generator use in campgrounds will be from 8-10 am and 4-8pm year-round, to protect the experience of campers throughout the year.

2.10(d)(2) Food storage: designated areas and methods, Frontcountry Developed Area (FDA) Changes in this section removed language dealing with hanging food in the FDA and clarified that only unattended food and scented items need to be stored in a wildlife-safe manner.

2.15(a)(1) Areas designated as closed to pets Changes in this section clarified that NPS use of dogs for wildlife management is exempt from regulations covering pets. Changes also clarified that although pets are not allowed outside of the Frontcountry Developed area, working dogs used for non-motorized surface transportation are allowed in all areas of the park October 1 through April 14.

2.15(a)(5) Pet excrement disposal conditions Language was added requiring that pet excrement be removed from trails where dogs are allowed.

2.21 Smoking Smoking is prohibited within 25 feet of entrances to visitor facilities and other park buildings in order to protect the health of visitors and NPS employees.

2.52 Designated areas for sale and distribution of printed matter and other message-bearing items for First Amendment purposes Language was added to bring this section into compliance with national regulations stipulating that other message-bearing items are to be treated the same as printed matter for First Amendment purposes.

13.25(c) Designated campgrounds: restrictions, terms, and conditions The group campsite in the Riley Creek campground was added to this section.

13.930 Do I need a permit to operate a motor vehicle on the Denali Park Road west of the Savage River? The term "non-commercial" was added to this section to clarify that commercial vehicles always require a permit to operate on the Denali Park Road west of the Savage River.

13.976(c) FDA conditions for lighting or maintaining fires The employee fire ring at the Toklat road camp was added to the list of areas where employees may have open fires.

The changes described above represent clarifications and minor amendments to existing regulations. These changes will not substantially impact the environment or the way that visitors experience Denali National Park and Preserve.

A public comment period regarding proposed changes to the compendium was open from January 15, 2020 - February 15, 2020. In addition to the final 2020 compendium, a summary of substantive comments and responses to those comments is attached.

General information about park compendiums:

The Superintendent's Compendium is the summary of park specific rules implemented under the discretionary authority of the park Superintendent. The park compendium is updated annually and is a written compilation that addresses designations, closures, permit requirements, and other restrictions and/or specifications imposed under the discretionary authority of the superintendent. The Superintendent's Compendium is prepared in accordance with the delegated authority contained within the regulations in Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Chapter I, Parts 1 through 7, as authorized by Title 54, United States Code, Section 100101 and 100751, and establishes regulatory provisions for Denali National Park and Preserve. Parts 1 through 6 are general regulations applicable to all areas of the National Park System, and Part 13 contains special regulations specific to individual parks in Alaska.

The park compendium does not contain those regulations found in 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and other United States Codes (U.S.C.) and CFR Titles which are enforced without further elaboration at the park level.

Regulations set forth in the Superintendent's Compendium are categorically excluded under the National Environmental Policy Act (42 USC 4321 et seq.); Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508); U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) regulations (43 CFR Part 46); DOI Manual part 516; and NPS Director's Order 12 - Conservation Planning, Environmental Impact Analysis, and Decision-Making.

Project Locations:

Location

County:	Denali Borough	State:	AK
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There are no required mitigations identified.

CE Citation: A.8 Modifications or revisions to existing regulations, or the promulgation of new regulations for NPS-administered areas, provided the modifications, revisions or new regulations do not: a) Increase public use to the extent of compromising the nature and character of the area or causing physical damage to it, b) Introduce noncompatible uses which might compromise the nature and characteristics of the area, or cause physical damage to it, c) Conflict with adjacent ownerships or land uses, or d) Cause a nuisance to adjacent owners or occupants.

CE Justification:

This CE addresses the 2020 Superintendent's Compendium. The compendium is a collection of park-specific authorizations and restrictions. The changes to the existing compendium implemented with the 2020 compendium are minor adjustments of existing regulations that primarily seek to provide clarity or increase public and resource safety. The changes in the 2020 compendium do not: a) increase public use of the park to the extent of compromising the nature and character of the park or causing physical damage to it; b) introduce non-compatible uses to the park that could compromise the nature and character of the park or cause physical damage to it; c) cause conflict with adjacent ownerships or land uses, or d) cause a nuisance to adjacent owners or occupants.

Decision: I find that the action fits within the categorical exclusion above. Therefore, I am categorically excluding the described project from further NEPA analysis. No extraordinary circumstances apply.

Signature

Superintendent: _____ **Date:** _____
Denice Swanke

Extraordinary Circumstances:

If implemented, would the proposal...	Yes/No	Notes
A. Have significant impacts on public health or safety?	No	Many of the changes adopted in the 2020 compendium will have small, positive impacts on public safety (e.g., clarifying proper food storage, requiring pet excrement removal from trails, and restricting smoking near buildings)
B. Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation, or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas?	No	
C. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA section 102(2)(E))?	No	
D. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?	No	
E. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?	No	
F. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?	No	
G. Have significant impacts on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, as determined by either the bureau or office?	No	
H. Have significant impacts on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species?	No	
I. Violate a federal, state, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?	No	
J. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EO 12898)?	No	
K. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO 130007)?	No	
L. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112)?	No	

