



Wilderness Focus Concept 1

Compared to current conditions, the park puts more effort and resources toward emphasizing wilderness recreation possibilities and the wilderness character that sets this park apart from other locations in the state.

Efforts are made to cultivate a sense of what the wild Alaskan winter is and to actively promote and preserve winter wilderness. The entrance area is primarily for visitor orientation and exploration of the frontcountry trails, and the connection of this area to the other 6 million acres of wild country in the park is emphasized.

The shoulder seasons are geared toward the independent, Alaskan visitor, providing them with a unique and special time to visit the national park in their backyard.

Winter Road Plowing

- No plowing until spring road opening

Road Access

- Winter = non-motorized recreation
- Shoulder seasons
 - o Primarily private vehicles
 - o Commercial use of the road focuses on serving existing independent uses (e.g., bike rentals and tours, shuttle service)
 - o Summer bus tours do not start until other park operations are at summer capacity ~ May 15

Visitor Facilities

- Visitor center = Upgrades to MSLC utilities, continued use of the Murie Dining Hall as secondary visitor space and indoor picnic area, possible use of the entire Murie Dining Hall building
- Additional emergency warm space established and advertised in the entrance area



Winter Public Use Shelters

- Default is none
- The park may choose to conduct a trial with a few shelters in the frontcountry
- Maximum = 4 shelters in the frontcountry or on the road corridor as far west as Sanctuary

Trails

- Existing frontcountry trails in the entrance area are advertised but user-maintained
- The park may decide, but is not obligated, to continue grooming the McKinley Station – Riley campground loop
- Park aufeis monitoring efforts may continue to informally provide a semi-maintained snow surface for non-motorized recreation on the park road
- Winter fat-tire biking on the park road