



Desired Conditions

Desired conditions are statements of aspiration that describe what conditions, outcomes, and opportunities the park envisions for the future. Desired conditions describe the conditions that the park would like to achieve and maintain in the future and do not answer questions of how these conditions will be achieved. What would you like to see for these areas of the park?

Definitions	<p>Winter: Begins when snowy weather causes the closure of the Denali Park Road at Mile 3, lasts until the spring opening of the road past Mountain Vista (~Mile 13)</p>	<p>Shoulder Seasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Autumn: Begins immediately after the annual Denali Road Lottery, lasts until wintry weather closes the Denali Park Road at Mile 3• Spring: Begins when the road opens past Mountain Vista, lasts until May 15
Entrance–HQ & MP 231 / Nenana River Trails	<p>Winter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Compared to other areas in the park, this area most heavily mediates and moderates visitor interactions with the Alaskan winter through the availability of services, information, and facilities• Visitors can also find elements of a wild winter experience• The entrance area is a welcoming place for people with varying degrees of skill, available time, and desire to interact directly with the winter park experience	<p>Shoulder Seasons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In the shoulder seasons, the entrance area feels and functions like a quieter, less active version of what occurs here in summer• Administrative presence is high, and facilities and trails are relatively easy to navigate• Trails may be closed seasonally, especially during the spring thaw, to prevent damage
Plowed / Open Section of the Denali Park Road	<p>Winter, Portion of Plowed Road West of Park Headquarters (Mile 3)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The plowed portion of the park road provides vehicular and non-motorized (pedestrian, bicycle) access to the park• The road is open only when safe driving conditions are present• The emphasis is on viewing wildlife and scenery as well as providing access for non-motorized excursions off the road corridor	<p>Shoulder Seasons, Any Portion of the Road Accessible to Private Vehicles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Visitors in their private vehicles are a primary user group of the open portion of the park road in the shoulder seasons, and affordable, sustainable access is a priority• Although commercial users and / or shuttles may be operating, access for private vehicles remains important, and vehicular road traffic west of the Savage River is dominated by private vehicles to a greater extent than during the summer season• Limits on the number of vehicles allowed past Savage or other management actions affecting vehicle access may be instituted in order to provide for resource protection and visitor experience



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Unplowed / Closed Section of the Denali Park Road

Winter

- The unplowed park road provides non-motorized visitor access into the winter wilderness of Denali, as well as an easier-to-navigate winter route
- Resource conditions and the visitor experience on the unplowed park road are nearly indistinguishable from the surrounding wilderness

Shoulder Seasons

- The closed section of the park road is essentially a trail for non-motorized recreational use in the shoulder seasons
- Pedestrians and bicycles dominate the traffic, although administrative motorized traffic maintains a presence

Mountain Vista or Teklanika

Winter: Mountain Vista (Only for Concepts With Plowing Past HQ)

- This area provides a wilderness threshold experience in concepts where the road is plowed to Mountain Vista
- Established trails may have signage or wandering, but are generally maintained to a lesser degree than winter trails near the entrance area
- Visitors may use these areas as a portal into the park, and are largely left to their own devices beyond plowed parking areas and maintained facilities

Shoulder Seasons: Teklanika River

- As weather allows during the shoulder seasons, the Teklanika rest stop area is the terminus of vehicle traffic and a gateway for further non-motorized exploration of the park
- The Teklanika rest stop area is a visitor hub in the shoulder seasons, though to a lesser extent than the entrance area
- NPS presence is higher here than at other points along the open portion of the road, but typically not as high as in the entrance area

Stampede Corridor / Cantwell & Windy Area

Winter

- These areas provide a backcountry experience for motorized and non-motorized users alike
- Administrative presence in the form of formalized trails, facilities, and services is lighter than at the park entrance area
- The emphasis is on access into the park for a variety of user groups

Shoulder Seasons

- During the shoulder seasons these areas are accessed by non-motorized recreationists and subsistence users in the Cantwell area who are allowed to use OHVs
- These areas receive a lesser degree of visitation than the park road corridor, and provide a backcountry experience for visitors
- Emphasis is on access into the park for a variety of user groups



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Wilderness Area	<p>Winter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The designated wilderness of Denali National Park is a pristine winter wilderness, maintaining its character much as it has for time immemorialNon-motorized recreationists can experience day and overnight trips in a truly wild setting	<p>Shoulder Seasons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">During the shoulder seasons, the designated wilderness of Denali National Park functions much the same as it does during the summer seasonSummer season backcountry unit quota limits may be enforced during the shoulder seasons if warranted to protect resources and manage visitor use
Kantishna	<p>Winter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">This area provides a visitor experience that is largely similar to that of the areas that surround it (Stampede corridor / northern trails and designated wilderness)Kantishna shares many characteristics of a wilderness experience, but snowmachine use is allowed for traditional activities, and there are signs of development (e.g., buildings)	<p>Shoulder Season</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">This area provides a visitor experience that is largely similar to that of the areas that surround it (Stampede corridor / northern trails and designated wilderness)Kantishna shares many characteristics of a wilderness experience, but there are signs of development (e.g., buildings)