



# Scope of the Winter and Shoulder Season Plan

## What is This Plan?

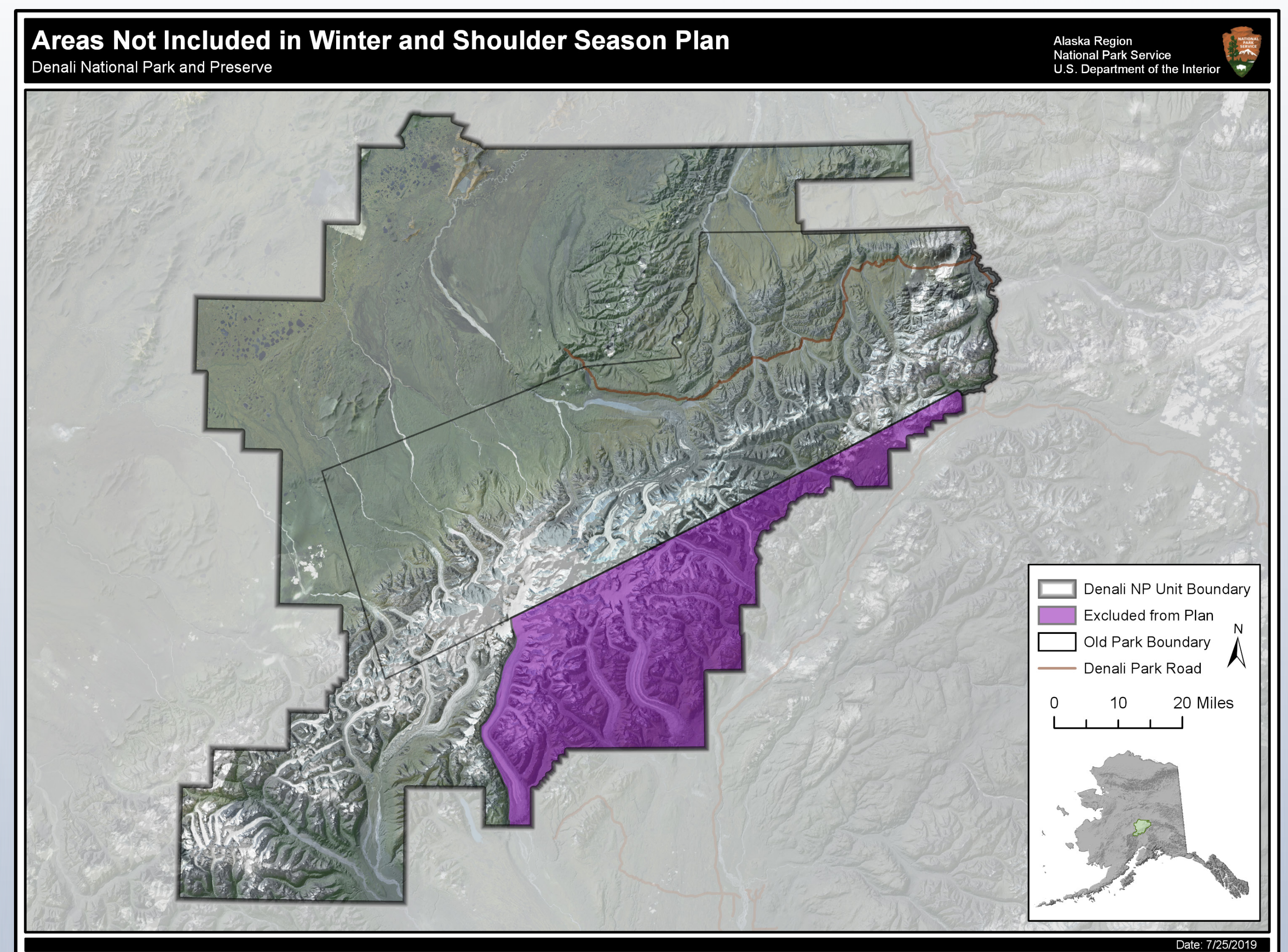
The Winter and Shoulder Season Plan is a document that outlines ideas for increasing the quality of the winter and shoulder season visitor experience in Denali, as well as the role that Denali National Park could play in regional tourism and resource protection.

This plan is not a NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) environmental document. If the park decides to act on any of the ideas described in the Winter and Shoulder Season Plan, the appropriate level of NEPA analysis would be conducted before implementation.

## Definition of Winter and Shoulder Seasons

For the purposes of this plan, the winter and shoulder seasons are defined based on the yearly cycle of park operations, particularly those concerning the accessibility of the Denali Park Road.

- The fall shoulder season begins after Road Lottery, which occurs the second weekend after Labor Day.
- The winter season begins when wintry weather closes the road at Headquarters
- The spring shoulder season begins when spring road opening operations permit public vehicle traffic west of the Mountain Vista rest area, typically in mid-April
- Summer begins when all visitor services and facilities are open to the public, typically in mid to late May. This has included tour and transit bus service west of Teklanika, restriction of private vehicles west of the Savage River, operation of all entrance area facilities including the Denali Visitor Center and Denali Bus Depot, and the operation of all roadside campgrounds except Wonder Lake



## Where?

This plan includes the entire park—with the exception of a portion of the southern 1980 park additions. The area not included in the plan consists of the southern park additions northwest of Highway 3 and extending to the western edge of the Kahiltna Glacier.

## Why Omit Some Areas?

- Use patterns here have typically been very different from other areas of the park. This area might have different resource protection and visitor experience needs from the other areas of the park
- Incorporating this area in the plan could increase the complexity of it, and compromise its ability to expeditiously address emerging issues the rest of the park
- Although use patterns here are known to have been different from the rest of the park in the past, there is not detailed information regarding current visitor use in this area