

**PROPOSED CHANGES
SUPERINTENDENT'S COMPENDIUM
2020
KLONDIKE GOLD RUSH NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK**

The Superintendent is seeking public comment on the proposed Superintendent's Compendium. The proposed compendium is a written compilation of designations, closures, permit requirements and other restrictions adopted under the Superintendent's discretionary authority.

Information on how to submit comments is available at:

<https://www.nps.gov/locations/alaska/proposed-compendiums.htm>

After review and consideration of the need for annual updates, the following substantive changes are proposed.

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

83 FR 2069, Jan. 16, 2018: the NPS is revising 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 of this section above and the text below reflect these changes:

Proposed New Language:

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

The area designated on Map 1a (Appendix 1) is open to sale and 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.

This update brings the compendium language current with the 83 FR 2069 revision to 36 CFR 2.52 revision effective February 15, 2018.

36 CFR 13.50 Closures and restrictions, National Park System Units in Alaska

The NPS seeks public comment on allowing the use of electric bicycles (e-bikes) in National Park System units in Alaska. The proposal 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.

The reason for this proposed addition is as follows:

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) proposes to allow e-bikes only on roads, parking areas, and designated trails where traditional bicycles are allowed. This will ensure 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 National Park Service in Alaska is requesting comment on this proposed addition to the 2020 park compendiums.

13.1402(b) Klondike Gold Rush: camping permit conditions

The NPS proposes to include the Friday and Saturday preceding Memorial Day as dates that campers in the Dyea Campground must register and make payment for use of park campsites.

The reason for this proposed addition is:

- Previous wording in the Superintendent’s Compendium allowed for camper registration and payment at the Dyea Campground from Memorial Day to Labor Day. As the Memorial Day weekend marks the opening date for the season where the campground has services available, fee collection and registration should begin on the Friday before Memorial Day and continue through Labor Day.

13.1402(b) Klondike Gold Rush: camping permit conditions

The NPS proposes to set a limit on the number of people that are able to use the group campsite in the Dyea Campground.

The reason for this proposed addition is:

- It has been determined that due to the size of the one designated group campsite in the Dyea Campground, (12) twelve people is the maximum number that the space can reasonably accommodate.

13.1402(b) Klondike Gold Rush: camping permit conditions

The NPS proposes to set the dates for the 2020 Chilkoot Trail permit and fee collection season.

The reason for this proposed addition is:

- Each year the permit and fee collection start and end dates is determined by staff availability and the train schedule which picks up hikers from Bennett at the northern end of the Chilkoot Trail. Proposed permit dates for 2020 are June 1 through September 13.

13.1402(b) Klondike Gold Rush: camping permit conditions

The NPS proposes to add a registration requirement for overnight use on the use of the Chilkoot Trail during the shoulder seasons from September 14 through October 31 and April 15 through May 31.

The reason for this proposed addition is:

- Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park manages a portion of the 33 mile Chilkoot Trail that begins in Dyea, AK and ends in Bennett, Canada. With an increase in park visitation and use of the trail occurring during all months of the year, KLGO is proposing campers register for overnight use in the shoulder seasons from September 14 through October 31 and April 15 through May 31. Registration will be free. Registration is intended to allow staff to accurately track visitor use patterns, determine staffing needs for the trail, assist with information gathering in case of an emergency, and monitor compliance with camping conditions. Customs and Border Protection Officers for the United States and Canada need to see 100% compliance with border crossing documentation and this registration will assist with ensuring visitors receive the correct information for checking in with those agencies.

13.1404 Klondike Gold Rush: authorization to collect mushrooms

The NPS proposes to reduce the daily amount of mushrooms that may be gathered on park administered lands for personal consumption. The proposed change would reduce the quantity gathered from three gallons to one gallon per person per day.

The reasons for this proposed addition is:

- This designation is made pursuant to a determination that such collections by hand for personal consumption will not adversely affect park wildlife nor the perpetuation of the subject species, nor otherwise adversely affect other park resources.
- The change from (3) three gallons per 24 hours to (1) gallon per day is to bring Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park mushroom collection regulations in line with collection limits in similar National Park Service administered sites where limits are between one quart and one gallon per day.
- Three gallons per 24 hours is a commercial quantity of mushrooms and exceeds the intent of harvest for personal consumption. While harvesting mushrooms does not compromise the species viability, it does degrade visitor experience and may cause the formation of social trails.

Chief Ranger

Date

Superintendent

Date