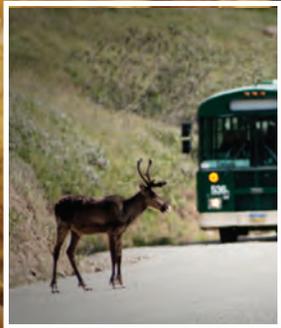
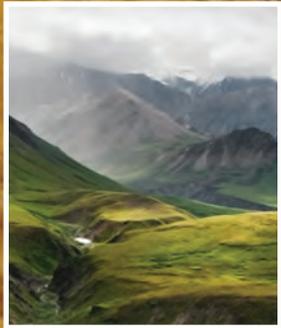




# Foundation Statement



The National Park Service (NPS) directs each park to develop a Foundation Statement, which is a formal description of the park’s core mission and provides basic guidance for the decisions to be made about the park—a foundation for planning and management.

The Foundation Statement for Denali National Park and Preserve is the park’s most basic document for planning and management. It is grounded in the park’s legislation and from knowledge acquired since the park was originally established. It provides a shared understanding of what is most important about the park. The legislation used to understand and summarize why Congress and the president created the park—and to build many parts of the Foundation Statement—is included in Appendix A.

Denali’s Foundation Statement describes the park’s purpose, significance, fundamental resources and values, other important resources and values, primary interpretive themes, and special mandates.

## ***MISSION STATEMENT for Denali National Park and Preserve:***

***We protect intact, the globally significant Denali ecosystems, including their cultural, aesthetic, and wilderness values, and ensure opportunities for inspiration, education, research, recreation, and subsistence for this and future generations.***



### **How to cite this document:**

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# Denali National Park and Preserve Foundation Statement

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# Elements of a Foundation Statement

A Foundation Statement for any national park includes the following elements:

## Purpose Statement

*Why did Congress and the president establish the park as a unit of the national park system?*

The park purpose is a clear statement of why Congress and the president established the park as a unit of the national park system. The purpose of the park is derived from the enabling legislation and legislative history.

## Significance Statements

*What is most important about the park's natural and cultural resources and values?*

Guided by legislation and the knowledge acquired through management, research, and civic engagement, statements of significance define what is most important about the park's natural and cultural resources and values. The significance statements are used to guide planning and management decisions to ensure that the resources and values that Congress and president wanted preserved are the first priority.

## Resources and Values

*Which park resources and values are primary to the park's purpose and significance (fundamental resources and values), or also are important for park management and visitors (other important resources and values)?*

### Fundamental Resources and Values

The fundamental resources and values are those which are so significant that Congress felt it was important to designate a national park to protect them and identified them through legislation. The NPS works to preserve those resources and values that are fundamental to maintaining the significance of Denali.

### Other Important Resources and Values

Denali has other important resources and values that are not primary to the park's purpose and significance, but are important for both park management and visitors. These other important resources and values are ones that fall within the general law and policy guidance of the NPS, including general direction for all the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) conservation system units.



## Primary Interpretive Themes

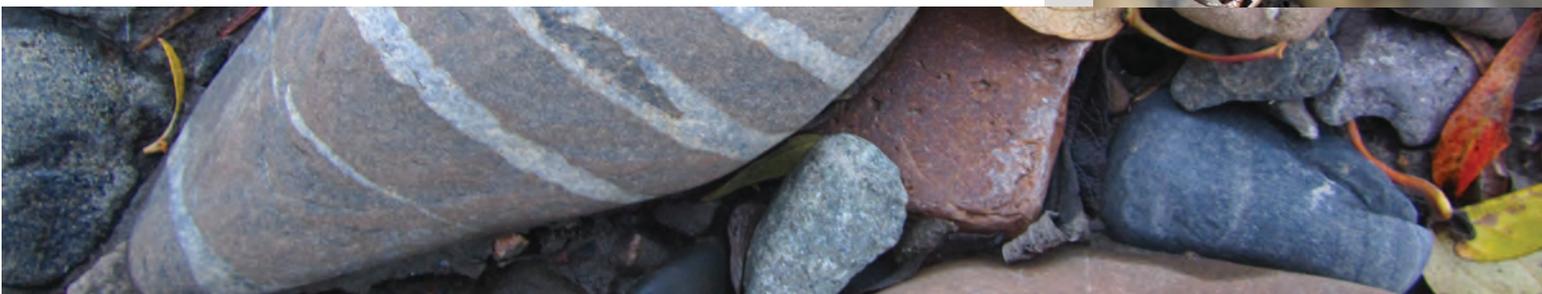
*What are the key stories and concepts that help the public understand and appreciate the purpose and significance of the park?*

Primary interpretive themes describe the key stories and concepts that help the public understand and appreciate the purpose and significance of the park. The primary interpretive themes provide the foundation on which the park's education and interpretation programs are based.

## Special Mandates and Administrative Commitments

*What other legal requirements, formal agreements, and administrative commitments apply to the park?*

Special mandates are legal requirements and administrative commitments that apply to the park. These special mandates may include direction from Congress or formal agreements with other public or private entities. The special mandates are identified to ensure their consideration in all planning and decision-making about the national park.



# National Park Service



## MISSION STATEMENT for the National Park Service:

*The National Park Service (NPS) preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system, for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The National Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.*

The National Park Service core values are a framework in which the NPS accomplishes its mission.

They express the manner in which, both individually as staff and collectively as an agency, the NPS pursues its mission.

### The NPS core values are:

#### Shared Stewardship

*We share a commitment to resource stewardship with the global preservation community.*

#### Excellence

*We strive continually to learn and improve, so that we may achieve the highest ideals of public service.*

#### Integrity

*We deal honestly and fairly with the public and one another.*

#### Tradition

*We are proud of it; we learn from it; we are not bound by it.*

#### Respect

*We embrace one other's differences, so that we may enrich the well-being of everyone.*



### The Arrowhead

The arrowhead was authorized as the official National Park Service emblem by the Secretary of the Interior on July 20, 1951.

The sequoia tree and bison represent vegetation and wildlife, the mountains and water represent scenic and recreational values, and the arrowhead represents historical and archeological values.



# Establishment of Alaska's National Parks

The National Park Service Organic Act of 1916 states that units of the national park system are established to “conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as to leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.” This statement represents the most basic mission of Denali National Park and Preserve.

Prior to Alaska becoming a state in 1959, nearly all land in the Territory was federal. The Alaska Statehood Act granted the state the right to select 104 million acres of federal land. Within a few years, the state land selection process began to include lands traditionally used by Alaska Natives. This process led to objections that eventually resulted in a freeze on further state land selections, pending Congressional settlement of the Native claims.

In 1971 Native claims were resolved with the passage of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA). This act also provided for the withdrawal of 80 million acres for possible designation as national parks, fish and wildlife refuges, national forests, and wild and scenic rivers. Denali National Park and Preserve is among those park areas expanded in 1978 by Presidential Proclamation by President Carter when he withdrew over 100 million acres of federal land, including 56 million acres as national monuments.

Most of the national park units in Alaska, including Denali National Park and Preserve, were established or expanded under the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), which was signed into law on December 2, 1980. ANILCA’s passage culminated more than 20 years of deliberation on federal land claims after Alaska statehood.

ANILCA mandates the specific purposes for each park established. Congress also provided that ANILCA would allow some key activities necessary to perpetuate the rural Alaskan lifestyle, such as subsistence uses, traditional uses, access, use of cabins, and hunting and trapping. Providing for ANILCA’s mandates and special uses makes management of Alaska parks unique within the national park system.



Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve



Bering Land Bridge National Preserve



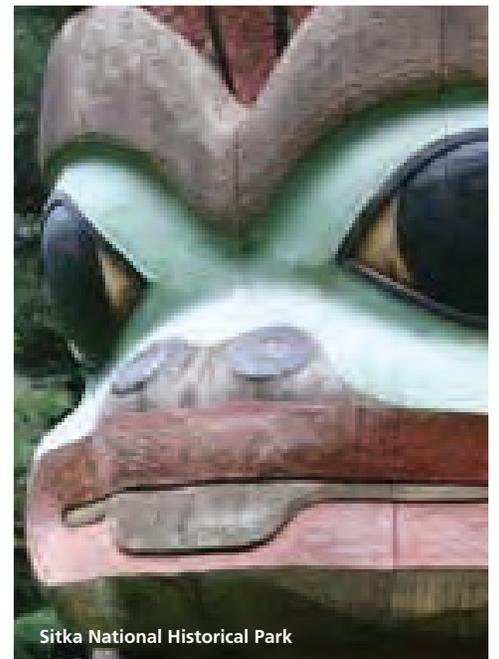
Cape Krusenstern National Monument



Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve



Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve



Sitka National Historical Park

*We care for those special places in Alaska saved by the American people as a part of a national system of parks so that all may experience*

*our heritage. We serve residents and visitors who seek inspiration, recreation, and education, as well as those who come for traditional activities, subsistence, and scientific study. We cooperate with local communities, tribes, and others to protect the natural and cultural resources in these special places for this and future generations to experience and enjoy.* Alaska Region Mission Statement (2004)



Denali National Park and Preserve



Kobuk Valley National Park



Lake Clark National Park and Preserve



Noatak National Preserve



Kenai Fjords National Park



Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve



Katmai National Park and Preserve



Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park



Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve

# Overview: Denali's Foundation

## Park Purpose

**Why did Congress and the president establish the park as a unit of the national park system?**

*(as paraphrased and condensed from multiple pieces of legislation)*

Denali National Park and Preserve was established as a park...

- for people's enjoyment and benefit
- to preserve wildlife
- to preserve scenic beauty
- to preserve extensive, unaltered natural ecosystems
- to protect historic and archeological sites
- to preserve wilderness resource values and related recreational opportunities
- to maintain opportunities for scientific research in undisturbed ecosystems
- to protect resources related to subsistence
- to provide the opportunity for continued subsistence activities for rural residents
- to protect and interpret the mountain (Denali) massif
- to provide opportunities for mountaineering and wilderness recreation

Some lesser boundary changes were made...

- to create a boundary that could be patrolled more easily
- to include areas for park administration and visitor services near the park entrance

## Significance Statements

**What is most important about the park's natural and cultural resources and values?**

*(consistent with language in the park's Consolidated General Management Plan (1986), as amended in 1997 and 2006)*

1. Large Protected Area
2. Mountains and Glaciers
3. Wildlife and Habitat
4. Scenic Resources and Air Quality
5. Cultural Resources
6. Mountaineering
7. Wilderness Recreation
8. Paleontological Resources



# Statement

## Resources and Values

**Which park resources and values are primary to the park's purpose and significance (fundamental resources and values), or are also important for park management and visitors (other important resources and values)?**

*(consistent with language in the park's Resource Stewardship Strategy (2008))*

### Fundamental Resources and Values

1. Wildlife populations, wildlife habitat, and the processes and components of the park's natural ecosystem
2. Wilderness character, wilderness resource values, and wilderness recreational opportunities
3. Scenic and geologic values of Mount McKinley (the mountain also known as Denali) and surrounding mountain landscape
4. Visitor enjoyment and inspiration from observing wildlife in its natural habitat and other natural features

### Other Important Resources and Values

5. Historic, archeological, and ethnographic resources
6. Paleontological resources
7. Air quality
8. Subsistence resources and opportunities
9. Scientific research, education, and interpretation about natural ecosystems and geologic features and processes

## Interpretive Themes

**What are the key stories and concepts that help the public understand and appreciate the purpose and significance of the park?**

*(consistent with language in the park's Education Plan (2009))*

- Extensive Natural Ecosystems
- Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
- Mount McKinley (Denali)
- Wilderness Values and Wilderness Recreation
- People and the Land
- Dynamic Change

## Special Mandates

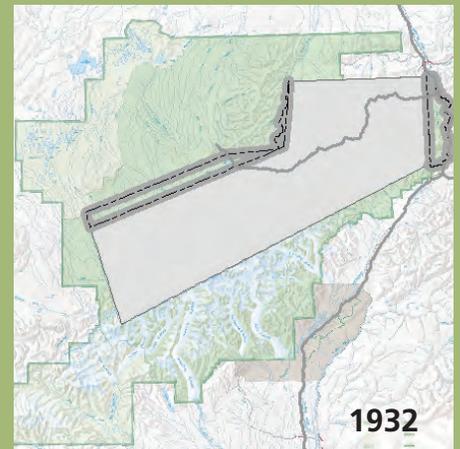
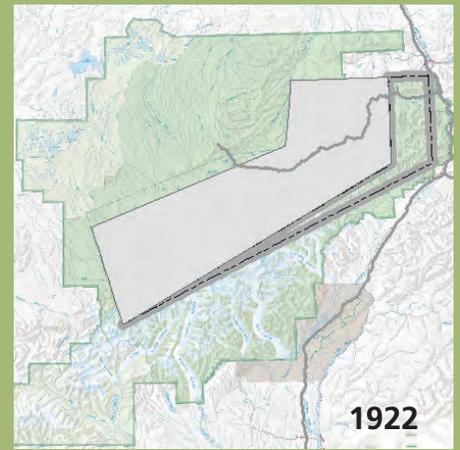
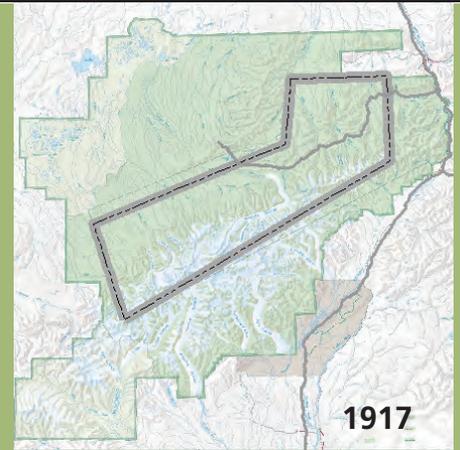
**What other legal requirements, formal agreements, and administrative commitments apply to the park?**

- Biosphere Reserve



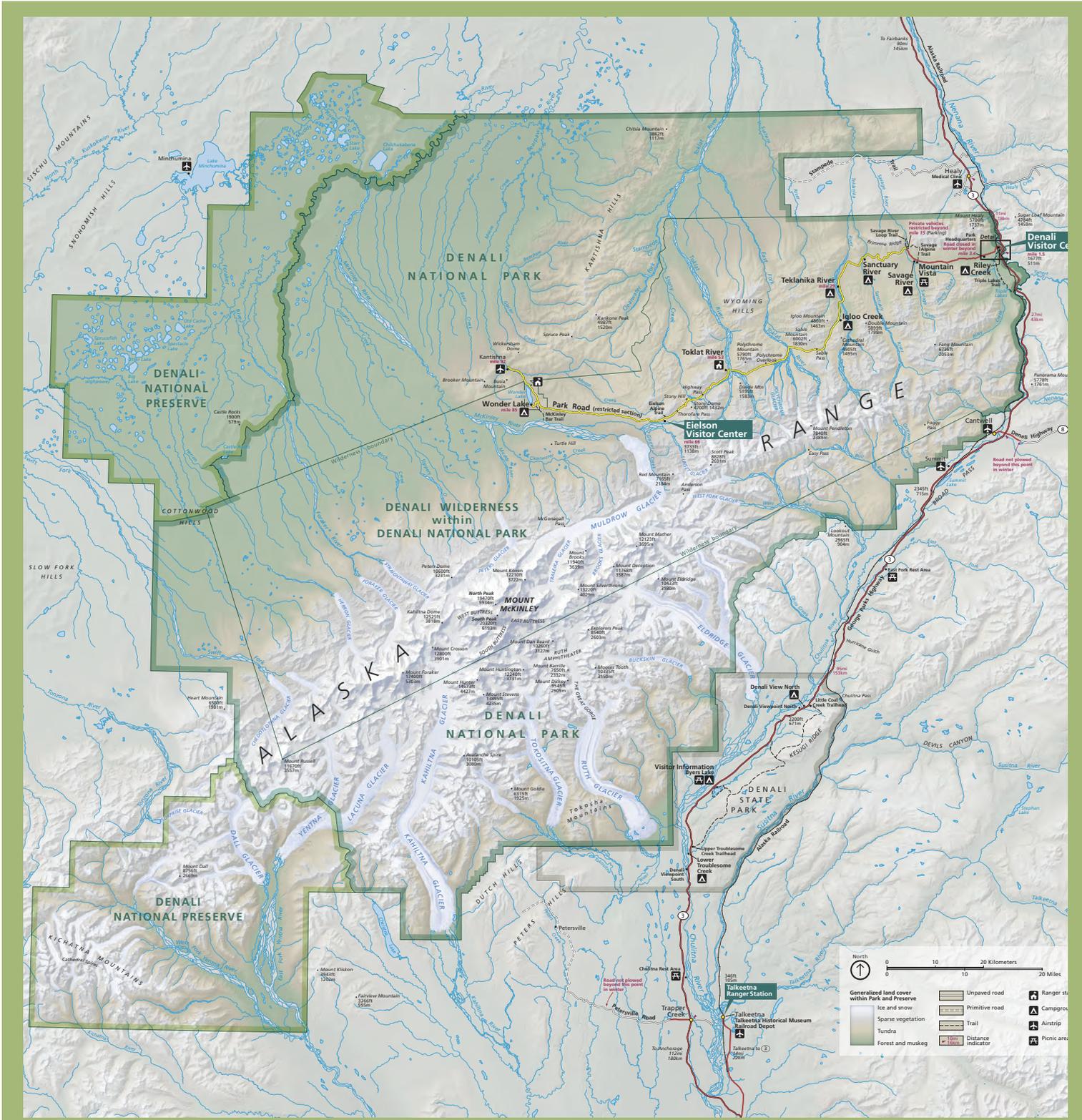
# Maps

Boundary changes for Denali National Park and Preserve (panel at right). After Mount McKinley National Park was established in 1917, land additions were made in 1922 and 1932. In 1980, with the passage of ANILCA, the park tripled in size and became Denali National Park and Preserve.



Map of Alaska showing Denali National Park and Preserve (gray shading) and other national park units (boundaries in green).

Map of Denali National Park and Preserve used in the park brochure (2013).



# Overview: Purpose Statement



The purpose of Denali National Park and Preserve has evolved since 1917 when Congress established the original Mount McKinley National Park (old park), and has increased in complexity because of the different mandates that apply to the old park, the national park additions (added by ANILCA in 1980), the national preserve (also added by ANILCA), and the designated wilderness (covering most of the old park).

Here are the purposes of Denali National Park and Preserve and the legal documentation for these purposes. *The first mention of each purpose is in green.*

## [1917 39 Stat. 938, about Mount McKinley National Park]

- Provide a **public park for the benefit and enjoyment of the people**, with proper regulations for the protection, management, and improvement of the park, primarily aimed at

administering for the freest use of the park for recreational purposes by the public

preservation of animals, birds, and fish

preservation of natural curiosities and their **scenic beauty**

- Provide a **game refuge for the protection of animals and birds**

## [1922 42 Stat. 359, eastward park boundary extension]

- Include important breeding grounds for sheep and caribou range in park
- **Patrol boundary more easily**

## [1932 47 Stat. 68, moving east boundary to Nenana River, revising northwest boundary]

- **Include areas in park for administration and visitor services**
- Preserve winter range for moose

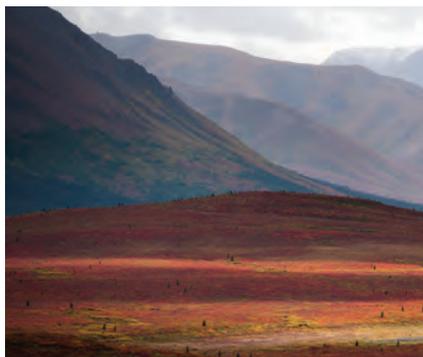
## [1980 Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), about parks and preserves in Alaska]

- Preserve lands and waters for the benefit, education, and inspiration of present and future generations
- Preserve unrivaled scenic and geological values associated with natural landscapes
- **Protect populations of wildlife and fish and their habitat**
- **Preserve extensive, unaltered natural ecosystems**
- **Protect historic and archeological sites**
- **Preserve wilderness resource values and related recreational opportunities** such as hiking, canoeing, fishing, and sport hunting
- **Maintain opportunities for scientific research in undisturbed ecosystems**

- Protect resources related to subsistence needs
- Provide the opportunity for rural residents engaged in a subsistence way of life to continue to do so

**[Section 202 of ANILCA, about park and preserve additions]**

- Protect and interpret the mountain massif and additional scenic formations
- Protect wildlife and its habitat
- Continue opportunities, and reasonable access, for mountaineering and wilderness recreation



**[Section 701 of ANILCA, designating Wilderness within the national park system]**

- Protect Denali Wilderness

**[Section 1313 of ANILCA, about preserves]**

- Same purpose as old park and park additions, except for an additional allowable use:  
Allow the taking of fish and wildlife for sport purposes and subsistence uses, and trapping under applicable state and federal law and regulation



Park Purpose:  
Overview

# Purpose Statement



## Sheldon's Sheep Resurveyed

Charles Sheldon was intrigued by the white sheep in the region near Mount McKinley (Denali). After seeing how many sheep were being hunted to supply gold mining camps, he argued for the establishment of a "game refuge" to protect these and other animals.

Monitoring sheep populations helps park managers understand the populations that the park was created to protect. NPS staff conduct ground-based surveys to learn about the ratio of rams, ewes, and lambs, and, when funding allows, aerial surveys using flight transects, in order to estimate the total number of sheep.



Park Purpose:  
*Protect wildlife*

## Mount McKinley National Park (Old Park) 1917 [39 Stat. 938]

In 1917 Congress established Mount McKinley National Park as (1) "a public park for the benefit and enjoyment of the people" and (2) a game refuge. Consistent with these purposes, the statute directed the Secretary of Interior to publish rules and regulations "aimed at the freest use of the said park for recreation purposes by the public and for the preservation of animals, birds, and fish and for the preservation of the natural curiosities and scenic beauties thereof."

## Mount McKinley National Park boundary extension 1922 [42 Stat. 359]

In 1922 Congress passed a bill to move the eastern boundary of the park about 17 miles eastward. The House Report on the bill stated that the purpose was to "take in an additional 445 square miles of mountainous territory, which is the home of large herds of mountain sheep and caribou . . ."

## Mount McKinley National Park boundary extension 1932 [47 Stat. 68]

In 1932 Congress passed a bill to add 385 square miles to the park by moving the eastern boundary to the Nenana River, and by modifying the northwestern boundary to follow drainage divides and to include Wonder Lake in the park. In a memorandum to the Secretary of Interior, quoted in the House Report on the bill, NPS Director Albright wrote, "This [eastern] extension will bring into the park the administrative headquarters development, [and a] new hotel will sooner or later be erected near the railroad. . . . The proposed extension to the northwest will bring Wonder Lake into the park [which] would afford a finer view of Mount McKinley than any now had in the park. It will also aid in better conserving the moose in the park by giving them winter-range protection."



*Pen used by Woodrow Wilson on February 26, 1917 to sign the legislation establishing McKinley National Park.*

## Denali National Park and Preserve 1980 [Pub. L. 96-487, also known as ANILCA]

In 1980 Congress passed the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), which enlarged the unit and renamed it Denali National Park and Preserve.

*Section 101 of ANILCA describes the broad purposes of the new conservation system units throughout Alaska, including enlarged national parks and preserves such as Denali. These purposes are the following:*

- Preserve lands and waters for the benefit, use, education, and inspiration of present and future generations
- Preserve unrivaled scenic and geological values associated with natural landscapes
- Maintain sound populations of, and habitat for, wildlife species
- Preserve extensive, unaltered ecosystems in their natural state
- Protect resources related to subsistence needs
- Protect historic and archeological sites
- Preserve wilderness resource values and related recreational opportunities such as hiking, canoeing, fishing, and sport hunting
- Maintain opportunities for scientific research in undisturbed ecosystems
- Provide the opportunity for rural residents engaged in a subsistence way of life to continue to do so

*Section 202 of ANILCA states that the Denali National Park and Preserve additions are to be managed for the following specific purposes:*

- To protect and interpret the entire mountain massif and the additional scenic mountain peaks and formations
- To protect habitat for, and populations of, fish and wildlife, including, but not limited to, brown/grizzly bears, moose, caribou, Dall sheep, wolves, swans, and other waterfowl
- To provide continued opportunities, including reasonable access, for mountain climbing, mountaineering, and other wilderness recreational activities

*The Senate Report on ANILCA clarifies the legislative intent for Denali regarding its purposes as a wildlife sanctuary.* (Report of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, together with Additional Views to accompany H.R. 39. 96th Congress, 1st session, Report No. 96-413)

“Four of the units in large part—Gates of the Arctic, Mount McKinley, Katmai, and Glacier Bay National Parks—are intended to be large sanctuaries where fish and wildlife may roam freely, developing their social structures and evolving over long periods of time, as nearly as possible, without the changes that extensive human activities would cause.” (Senate Report p. 137)



### Ice Age Archeology

Two of Denali’s archeological sites—Bull River II (above) and Teklanika West (below)—are among the oldest known sites in North America. They date from 12,500 to just over 13,000 years ago and provide some of the oldest physical evidence of when prehistoric people migrated to and inhabited this continent during the last Ice Age. Also, the Bull River II site is the only known site in Central Alaska on the south side of the Alaska Range dating from this time period (Late Pleistocene). Artifacts and animal bones found at the sites indicate when ancient peoples occupied these places and what animals they hunted for food.



**Park Purpose:**  
*Protect historic and archeological sites*

# Purpose Statement (cont'd)



## An Opportunity for People to Enjoy Visiting Denali

In 1922, 1923, and 1938, there were 7, 34, and 1487 people, respectively, who visited Mount McKinley National Park. Early options for visitors included the Morino Roadhouse and the Savage River Camp. In recent years, park visitation has exceeded 400,000. New trails and facilities (e.g., bookstore, visitor centers, Murie Science and Learning Center) and new activities (glacier landings, mountaineering) have increased the ways visitors enjoy the park.



**Park Purpose:**  
*For the benefit and enjoyment of the people*

“The prime resource for which the north addition is established is the critical range necessary to support populations of moose, wolf, and caribou as part of an integral ecosystem. Public enjoyment of these outstanding wildlife values would thus continue to be assured.” (Senate Report, p. 166)

“The south addition includes . . . spectacular glacial gorges and valleys . . . Lowland areas in the southern additions provide ecologic diversity and opportunity for recreation and access.” (p. 166)

The same report also provides some detail and clarification as to what Congress intended by providing for wilderness recreational activities in the Denali additions.

“These National Park System units will also provide an opportunity for people to enjoy a wide array of recreational experiences unique in our Nation—ranging from the solitude and challenge of remote wilderness to the simple pleasure of hiking an accessible trail, or rafting down a crystal clear river, or learning about a quirk of nature or history from a park ranger. Although seemingly remote now, the Alaskan parks are more readily accessible than was Yellowstone at the time of its establishment: thus, as population pressures increase and technological advances make all the world more accessible, it becomes ever more important that actions be taken now to protect these splendid lands and waters.” (pp. 137-138)

“Several of the new park units established by this legislation, most notably Gates of the Arctic, Wrangell-St. Elias, the Denali additions, and Lake Clark, encompass some of the most magnificent, remote, and untouched mountain terrain in North America. Within these units, whole mountain ranges intersect in a spectacular jumble of unclimbed, uncharted peaks, with rugged spires, great glaciers and snow fields, and deep, glacier-carved gorges. These features offer unparalleled opportunities for the whole range of climbing and mountaineering activities, from short day hikes and overnight trips to long treks and major expeditions in truly rugged and remote terrain. The Committee expects that future management of these areas for such purposes will allow such recreational uses with minimal formal regulatory requirements, and with recognition of the desire of such users for solitude, self-reliance and freedom of movement. These uses, and management practices, must be accomplished in a manner consistent with the purposes for which the areas are established and within the limits of sound management principles, including providing for visitor and resource protection.” (p. 171)

## Denali Wilderness

Section 701 of ANILCA designated the “Denali Wilderness of approximately one million nine hundred thousand acres” (later remapped at 2.1 million acres) under the Wilderness Act as depicted on a map referenced in Section 202 of ANILCA and including 99 percent of the former Mount McKinley National Park.

According to the 1964 Wilderness Act, these lands are to be “administered for the use and enjoyment of the American people in such manner as will leave them unimpaired for future use and enjoyment as wilderness, and so as to provide for the protection of these areas, the preservation of their wilderness character, and for the gathering and dissemination of information regarding their use and enjoyment as wilderness.”

## Denali National Preserve

Section 1313 of ANILCA addresses the purpose of national preserves created by the act.

“A National Preserve in Alaska shall be administered and managed as a unit of the National Park System in the same manner as a national park except as otherwise provided in this Act and except that the taking of fish and wildlife for sport purposes and subsistence uses, and trapping shall be allowed in a national preserve under applicable State and Federal law and regulation.”

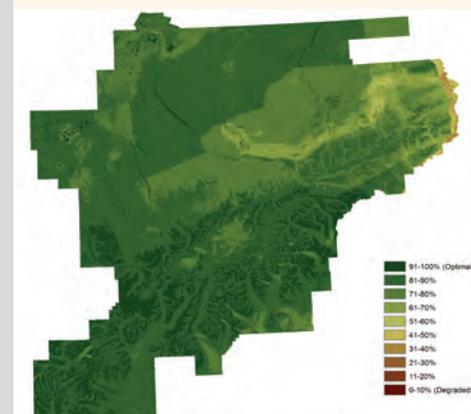
It is important to distinguish a “purpose” from an allowable use. The ANILCA language specifies that the preserve has the same purpose as the rest of the park, and is distinguished only by having an additional allowable use. Likewise, in the park and preserve additions subsistence is an allowable use, but not a purpose. ANILCA Sec. 202(3) (a) reads, “Subsistence uses by local residents shall be permitted in the additions to the park where such uses are traditional . . . .”



### Mapping Wilderness Character

While *wilderness character* is not specifically defined in the 1964 Wilderness Act, the Act’s definition of wilderness identifies four qualities that unify all wilderness: untrammeled, undeveloped, natural, and outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Maps can be useful for summarizing spatially the integrity (green) or degradation (brown) of the park’s wilderness character (see page 30).

While on backcountry patrols, park rangers are the eyes and ears that monitor the park’s wilderness character. They routinely monitor resource conditions and impacts from humans. They make wildlife observations and also note aircraft overflights, the presence and condition of campsites and social trails, and the number of visitors they encounter.



Park Purpose:  
*Preserve wilderness values*

# Overview: Significance Statements

These are *brief* significance statements. Full significance statements begin on page 22.

## 1. Large Protected Area

At six million acres, Denali is the third largest unit in the national park system and preserves vast landscapes. These landscapes are an extensive patchwork of subarctic ecosystems largely undisturbed by humans.

## 2. Mountains and Glaciers

The park's boundary encompasses a significant portion of the Alaska Range, which spawns many large glaciers, and includes the tallest peak in North America. The 18,000-foot base-to-summit vertical relief of Mount McKinley (also known as Denali) is among the greatest in the world, if not the greatest.

## 3. Wildlife and Habitat

Denali is the first national park established to protect wildlife. The park's size and ecological integrity allow it to preserve sufficient habitat for Dall's sheep, grizzly bears, wolves, moose, caribou, golden eagles, and many other species. Visitors can observe these species in natural habitats ranging from alpine tundra to lowland forests and wetlands.

## 4. Scenic Resources and Air Quality

With its rugged ice-draped mountains, rolling tundra, and broad river valleys, Denali (the park) offers expansive vistas and has the highest level of protection possible under the Clean Air Act.

## 5. Cultural Resources

As over 300 cultural sites testify, people have moved through and lived on the Denali landscape since time immemorial, from the prehistoric Alaska Natives to early explorers, miners, and eventually park visitors. Many of these sites are of such importance that they are recognized in the National Register of Historic Places.



## 6. Mountaineering

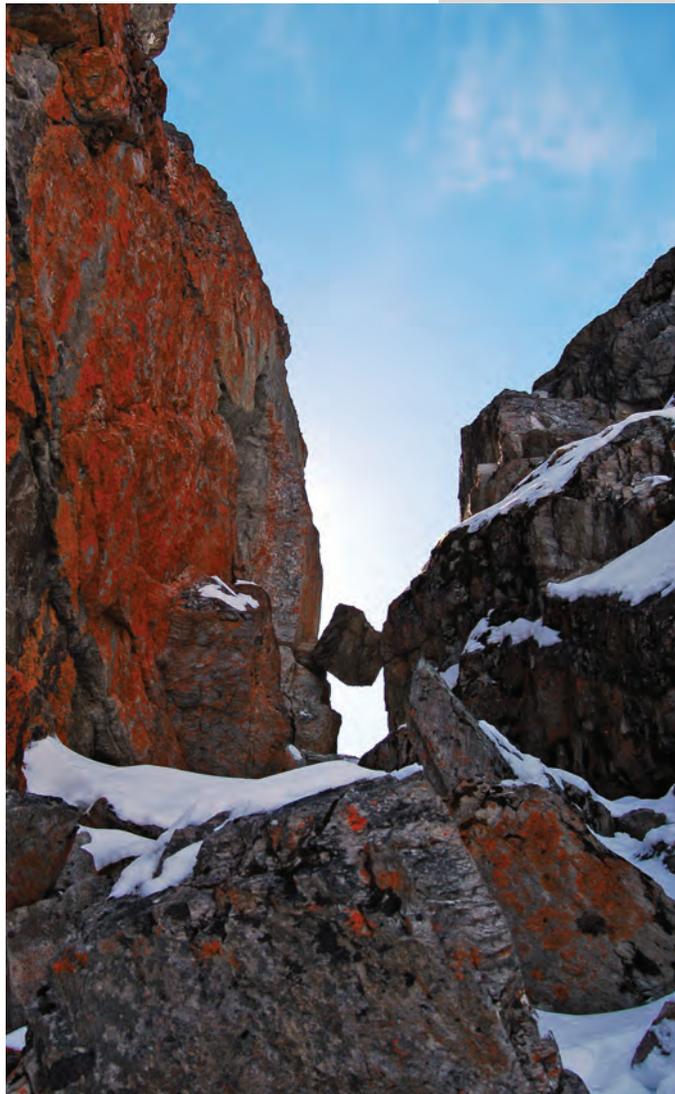
As the highest peak in North America, and one of the “seven summits of the world,” Denali (the mountain) captivates the human imagination and attracts climbers from around the world.

## 7. Wilderness Recreation

Denali (the park) preserves wilderness character and offers superlative opportunities for remote wilderness recreation—where evidence of human use is minimal—that is easily accessible compared to other wilderness areas in Alaska.

## 8. Paleontological Resources

Denali is one of the premier protected areas in North America for understanding the ecological relationships among species and the environment at the end of the Age of Dinosaurs about 70 million years ago. Thousands of trace fossils of dinosaurs and other species have been found in the Cantwell Formation since 2005, when the first dinosaur track was found.



Significance  
Statements:  
*Overview*

# Significance Statements



## How is Climate Change Affecting Denali's Glaciers?

Photo comparisons of Denali's glaciers (present day compared to historic photos) are often dramatic, showing significant changes over more than 80 years. The map shows glacier changes that have occurred during the 60 years between 1950 and 2010 (red are losses in ice area and blue are gains in ice area).



## 1. Large Protected Area

Denali National Park and Preserve encompasses a vast six-million-acre area, about the size of the state of New Hampshire. Most of the two million acres of the original park has been in protected status since 1917. This large size enables a spectacular array of flora and fauna to live together in a healthy natural ecosystem, and provides excellent opportunities to study subarctic ecosystems in settings largely undisturbed by humans at the scale of the park. Because of these values, the United Nations Man and the Biosphere Program designated the park and preserve as an International Biosphere Reserve in 1976. Because of Denali's location at a latitude where tundra and other ecosystems are very vulnerable to increasing temperatures, Denali is a premier place in the subarctic to study how projected and recent climate change will influence, or already has influenced, permafrost, vegetation, animal habitat, and ecosystem processes.

## 2. Mountains and Glaciers

The park contains a major portion of the Alaska Range, one of the great mountain uplifts in North America. The Alaska Range is dominated by North America's highest peak, Mount McKinley (Denali), with its summit at 20,320 feet above sea level. Towering 18,000 feet above the adjacent lowlands, the mountain's dramatic vertical relief exceeds the vertical relief of Mount Everest measured from base to summit. A number of large glaciers originate in the park's high mountains, including some of the largest in North America.

Significance Statement:

*Mountains and Glaciers*

### 3. Wildlife and Habitat

The park was established in 1917 as a refuge for large mammals. Backcountry visitors and those visitors traveling the park road often observe Dall’s sheep, caribou, wolves, grizzly bears, moose, and foxes. Nowhere else in America can visitors observe such concentrations of these large species of wildlife in such an accessible natural setting. The park also is significant for its diversity of habitats. Birds come from all over the world to nest in the park. The park’s rich and varied vegetation types include alpine tundra, shrub-scrub tundra, mixed spruce-birch and spruce-tamarack woodlands, taiga, wetlands, and extensive riparian and lowland forest areas. Denali has more than 10,000 mapped lakes. More than 753 species of flowering plants cover the slopes and valleys of the park.

### 4. Scenic Resources and Air Quality

Outstanding views of natural features, including mountains, glaciers, faults, and rivers dominate the park landscape. On a clear day, Denali can be seen from Anchorage, more than 130 air miles to the south. The exceptional air quality in Alaska and the lack of city lights near the park provide the conditions for outstanding daytime views year-round and excellent night sky visibility in fall, winter, and spring. Denali National Park and Preserve is a designated Class I airshed under the Clean Air Act Amendments.



#### Changing Habitat for Wildlife

Climate change causes changes in moisture and temperature regimes, and in how frequently or intensely fire-prone habitats burn. The result is a change in which plants grow where and in the mosaic of successional patterns across the landscape.

For example, in some areas, tundra is being “invaded” by shrubs, and shrublands by spruce trees. At elevations or locations where there has been winter forage for caribou, vegetation changes may render the habitat no longer suitable because the preferred winter forage for caribou (lichens), and other plants they eat, no longer grow there. What other changes will occur in the future?



Significance Statement:

*Wildlife and Habitat*

# Significance Statements (cont'd)



## Managing the Mountain

Since the first ascent over a century ago, Mount McKinley (Denali) has drawn an increasing number of mountaineers to its flanks. Over 1,100 climbers from around the world attempt the mountain each year between May and July. Such concentrated activity requires careful management to prevent serious injuries and illnesses and to mitigate resource impacts.

Denali rangers have pioneered advances in high alpine human waste management, requiring use of the Clean Mountain Can to improve the visitor experience, reduce illnesses, and preserve wilderness character at the highest elevations on the continent.



Significance  
Statements:  
*Mountaineering*

## 5. Cultural Resources

There are more than 300 known prehistoric and historic sites within Denali's boundaries. Because cultural resource inventories have been limited to date, this number likely represents a small fraction of the park's total sites. Known resources include archeological and historic sites associated with Alaska Native groups, early explorers, mining history, and the early days of the park. Major prehistoric sites in the park include the Teklanika Archeological District, a property listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Many historic structures are in the park headquarters area, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as a district, and on the boundaries of the Denali Wilderness (along the original park boundary). These are mainly patrol cabins and other structures dating back to early years of park management. Historic mining activity dates back to the early 1900s in the Kantishna Hills (which include the national register-eligible Kantishna Historic District), the Stampede area, and the Dunkle Hills near Cantwell.

## 6. Mountaineering

Because Denali is the highest peak in North America, has a high northern latitude location, and is relatively accessible, it is considered one of the world's premier mountaineering destinations, drawing climbers from many countries. It is touted as one of the "seven summits of the world." Many other peaks in the park, including Mount Foraker, also offer outstanding expeditionary climbing opportunities.

## 7. Wilderness Recreation

Denali preserves wilderness character and offers superlative opportunities for remote wilderness recreation—where evidence of human use is minimal—that is easily accessible compared to other Alaskan wilderness. Outstanding cross country hiking, backcountry camping, and winter touring possibilities are available for those willing to approach the area in its natural condition. This huge park contains

large areas with almost no trails and with minimal to nonexistent evidence of modern human use. These conditions are in contrast to most wilderness areas in the contiguous 48 states, where maintained trails, designated campsites, footbridges, and signs are standard. Also, Denali's wilderness also contrasts with much of Alaska, where similar opportunities abound, but areas for such opportunities are very difficult to reach. A large portion of Denali's backcountry is readily accessible to visitors who can reach the park by either highway or railroad from either Anchorage or Fairbanks—Alaska's two largest cities and major connection points for out-of-state visitors.

## 8. Paleontological Resources

Denali has become significant as one of the premier protected areas in North America for understanding ecological relationships among species at the end of the Age of Dinosaurs. Of the hundreds of fossil sites discovered so far in the Cantwell Formation, which covers significant areas of the park, many contain dozens or hundreds of tracks. Thousands of trace fossils of dinosaurs, birds, fish, mollusks, worms, and plants have been found in outcrops within this formation. Among this rich array of fossils, which researchers have used to reconstruct entire Cretaceous ecosystems, are fossils of both meat-eating dinosaurs (e.g., theropod) and plant-eating dinosaurs (e.g., hadrosaur, ceratopsian, nodosaur). Researchers consider the diversity of fossil birds to be unparalleled, and have described two new fossil bird species. These fossil assemblages, preserved in these Cantwell sedimentary rocks about 70 million years ago, are especially noteworthy because they represent multiple habitats—including lake, braided stream, and alluvial fan—that occurred at nearly the same latitude as Denali is today. The first dinosaur track was not found until 2005, so it is likely that many of the paleontological resources have not been discovered yet.



### Wildly Successful Searches for Dinosaur Tracks

Since the first dinosaur fossil (track) was discovered in 2005, researchers have documented thousands of fossils at hundreds of sites. These fossils indicate that many species of dinosaurs made their home in what is now Denali.

As of 2014, no *bones* of dinosaurs have been found, but their trace fossils include tracks, tail drags, body and skin impressions, and coprolites (feces). These trace fossils, and those of other creatures that lived in the same paleoenvironments, provide insight into what the park was like about 70 million years ago.

To protect all of Denali's fossil resources and manage important fossil sites, park staff developed the Paleontological Resources Management Plan.



### Significance Statements:

*Paleontological Resources*

# Overview:

## Resources and Values

The resources and values that the National Park Service is responsible for preserving in Denali are contained in Congressional direction to the NPS through legislation such as the park's enabling statutes, the National Park Service Organic Act of 1916, and the Clean Air Act.

### Fundamental Resources and Values

*Fundamental resources and values* are the particular systems, processes, experiences, scenery, sounds, and other features that are central to achieving the park's purposes and maintaining its significance. Denali's fundamental resources and values are those that Congress identified specifically for the park through its enabling legislation, including both the Mount McKinley National Park Act of 1917 and the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980. These resources and values may be synthesized for Denali as follows:

1. Wildlife populations, wildlife habitat, and the processes and components of the park's natural ecosystem.
2. Wilderness character, wilderness resource values, and wilderness recreational opportunities.
3. Scenic and geologic values of Mount McKinley and the surrounding mountain landscape.
4. Visitor enjoyment and inspiration from observing wildlife in its natural habitat and other natural features.



## Other Important Resources and Values

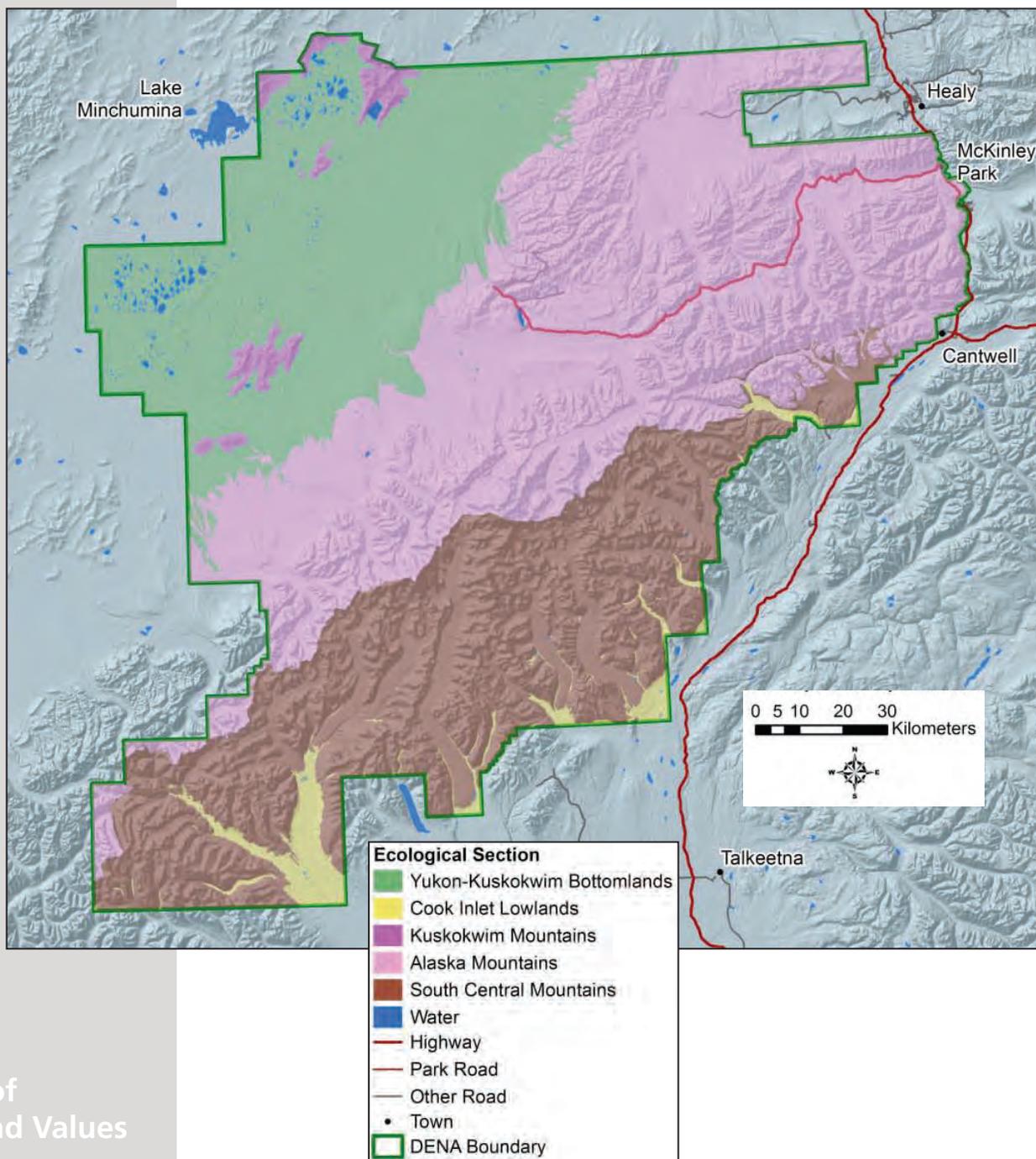
Denali National Park and Preserve has *other important resources and values* that are not primary to the park's purpose and significance, but are important for both park management and visitors. These are resources and values that Denali possesses and has a legal mandate to protect, but which do not account for the establishment of the park and preserve. These other important resources and values include:

5. Historic, archeological, and ethnographic resources.
6. Paleontological resources.
7. Air quality.
8. Subsistence resources and opportunities.
9. Scientific research, education, and interpretation about natural ecosystems and geologic features and processes.



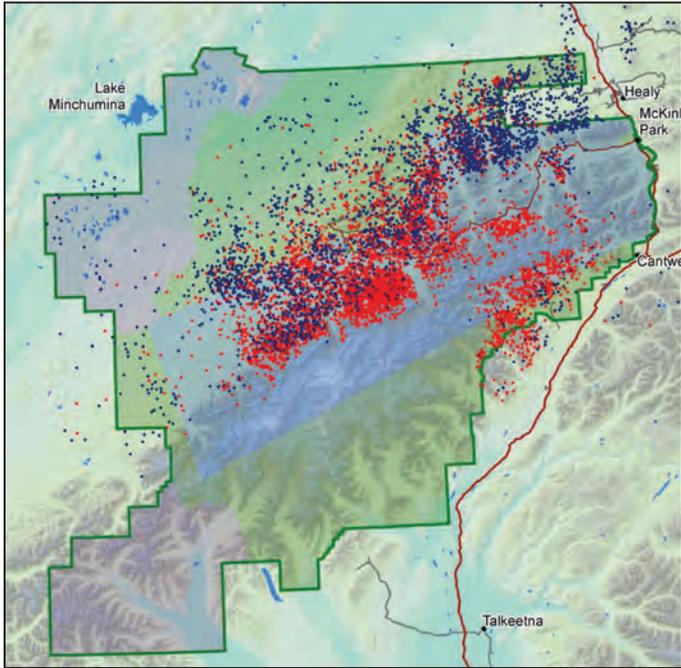
# Geography of Park Resources and Values

The map on this page shows the basic ecological underpinnings for the resources and values that are special in Denali. The Alaska Range divides the park into areas to the north (pink and green) and to the south (brown and yellow). These two areas are distinguished by major differences in climate, which, in turn, affect everything else.

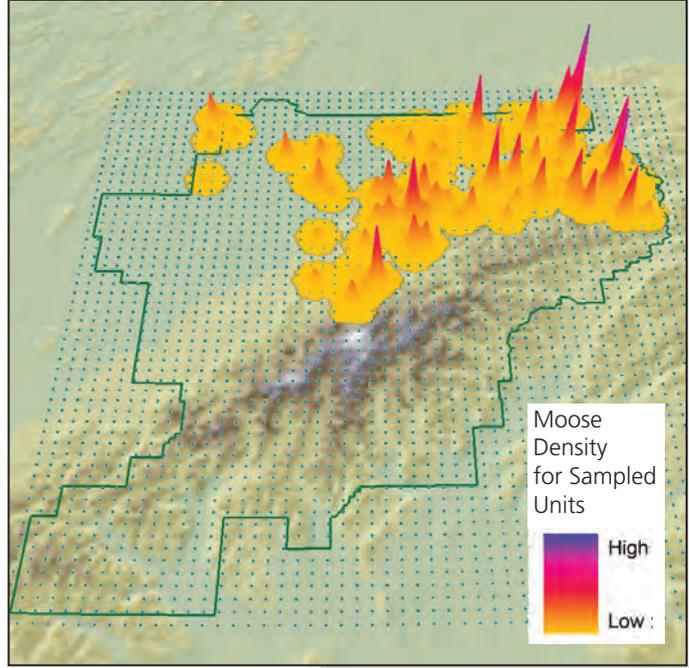


Geography of Resources and Values

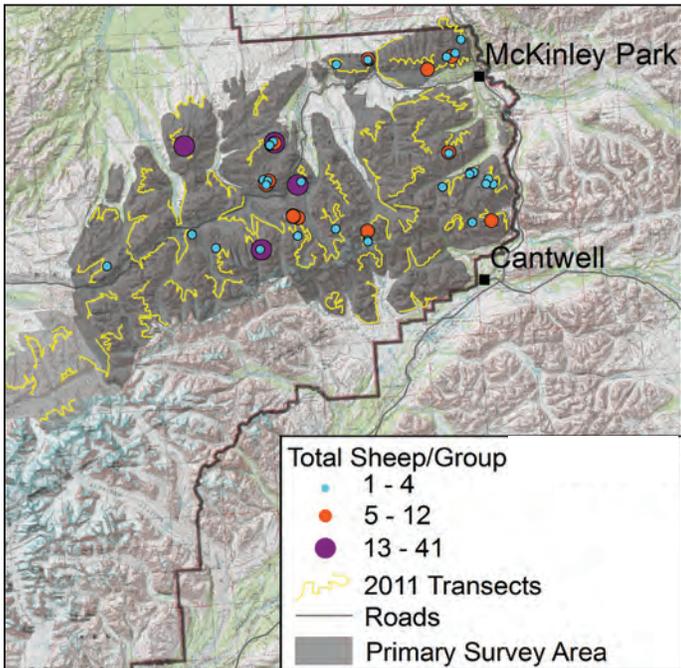
The maps that follow are examples of the geography of Denali's fundamental resources and values (1-4) and other important resources and values (5-9).



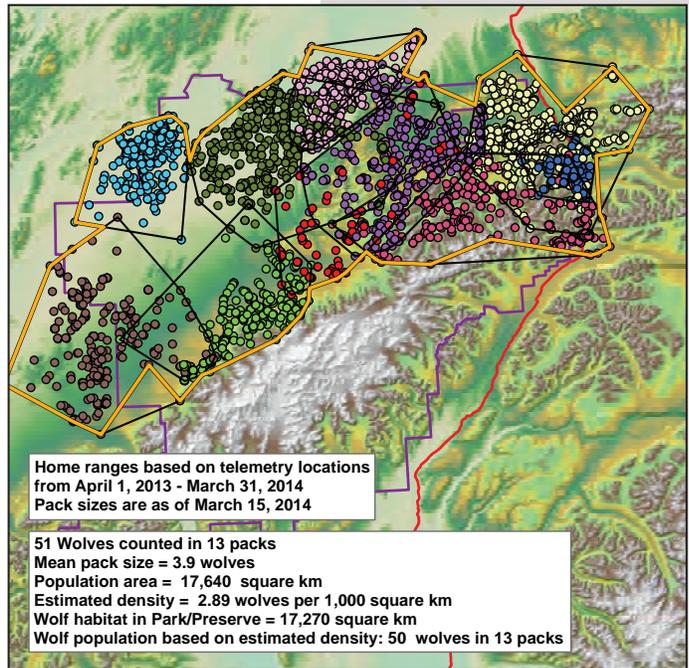
(1) Wildlife Populations and Habitat  
(4) Visitor Enjoyment/Observing Wildlife  
Caribou locations in winter (blue) and summer (red).



(1) Wildlife Populations and Habitat  
(4) Visitor Enjoyment/Observing Wildlife  
Moose density in sampled grid units (2011).

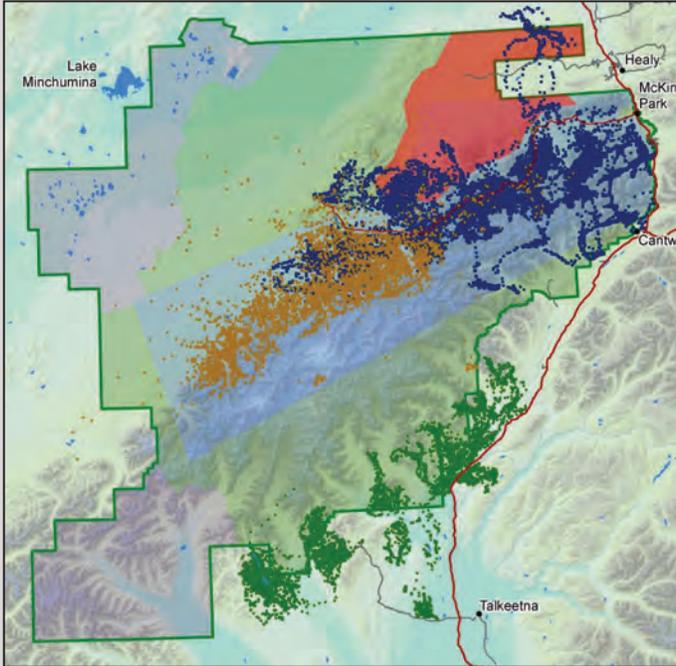


(1) Wildlife Populations and Habitat  
(4) Visitor Enjoyment/Observing Wildlife  
The number of Dall's sheep per group, as counted during aerial surveys (2011).

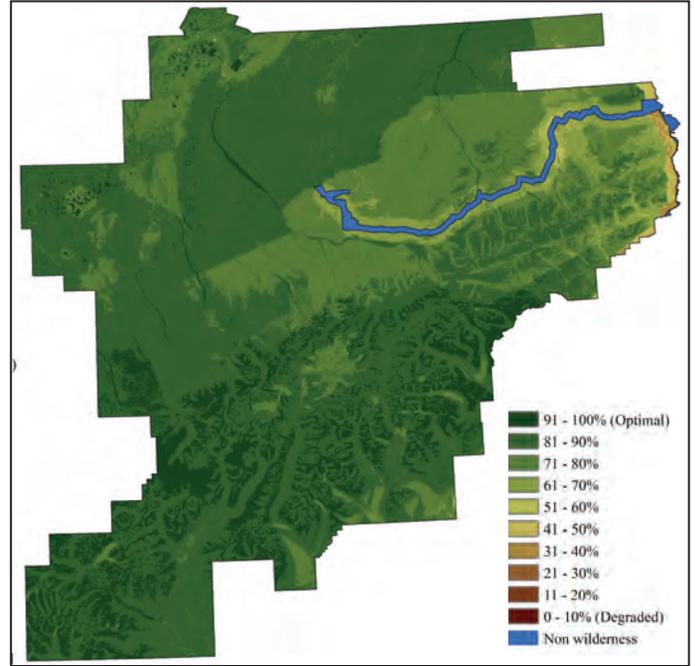


(1) Wildlife Populations and Habitat  
(4) Visitor Enjoyment/Observing Wildlife  
Home ranges for wolf packs with collared wolves (2013-2014). Different-colored dots are used for each pack.

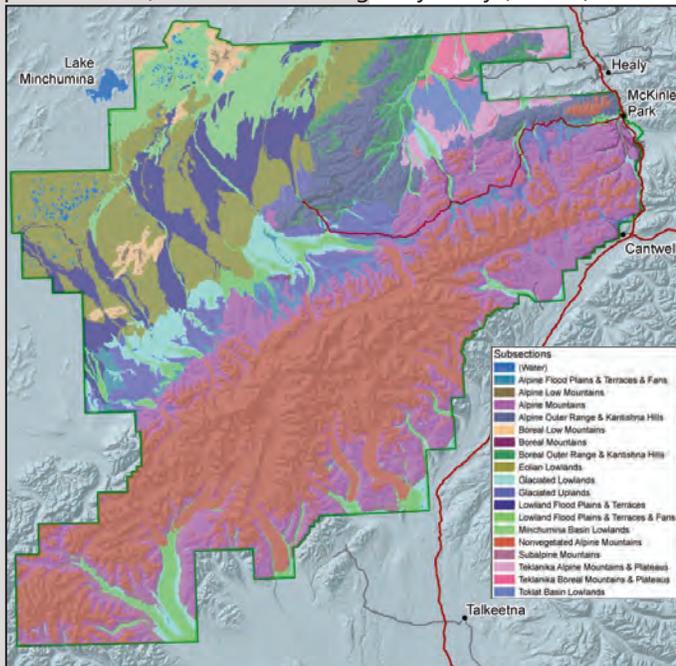
# Geography of Park Resources and Values (cont'd)



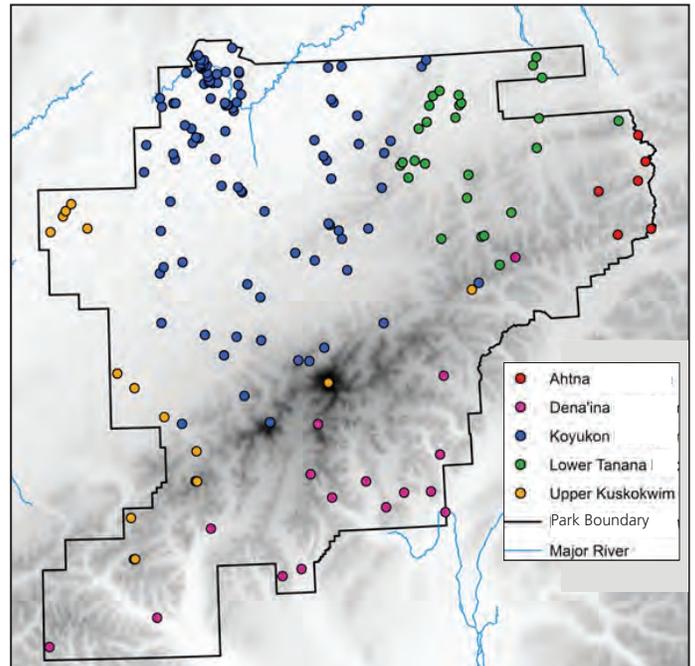
(1) Wildlife Populations and Habitat  
 (4) Visitor Enjoyment/Observing Wildlife  
 Locations of collared grizzlies during three studies (colors) prior to 2009; the site of a new grizzly study (2009 - ) is red.



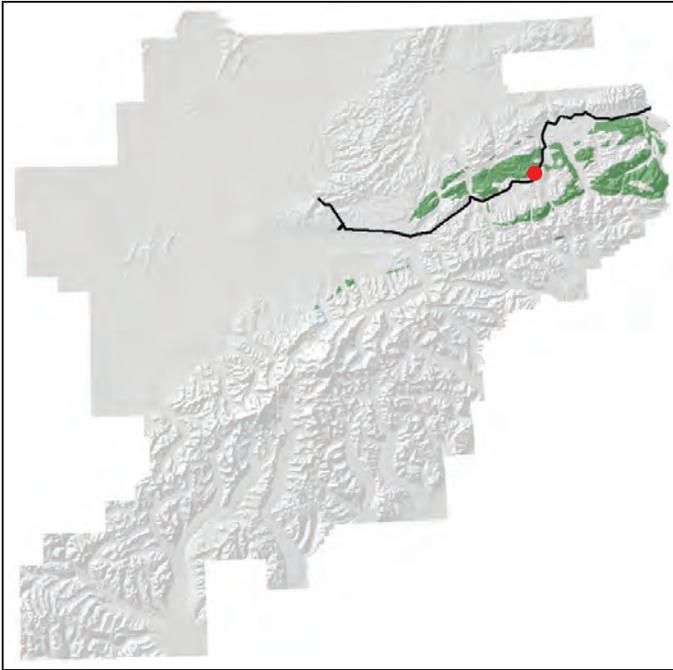
(2) Wilderness Character  
 Map of wilderness character (2012). Areas where wilderness character is more "intact" are shaded darker green.



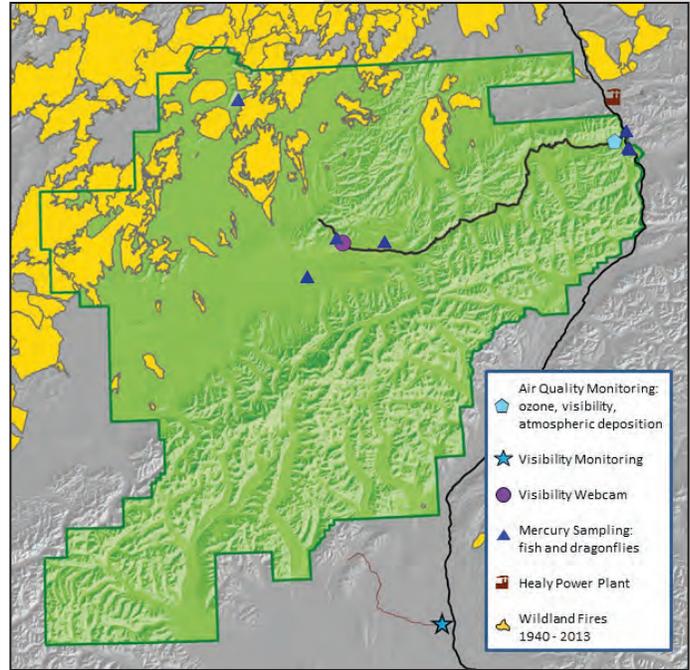
(3) Scenic and Geologic Values of Mount McKinley and the Mountain Landscape  
 Location of mountainous areas (shaded orange and pink).



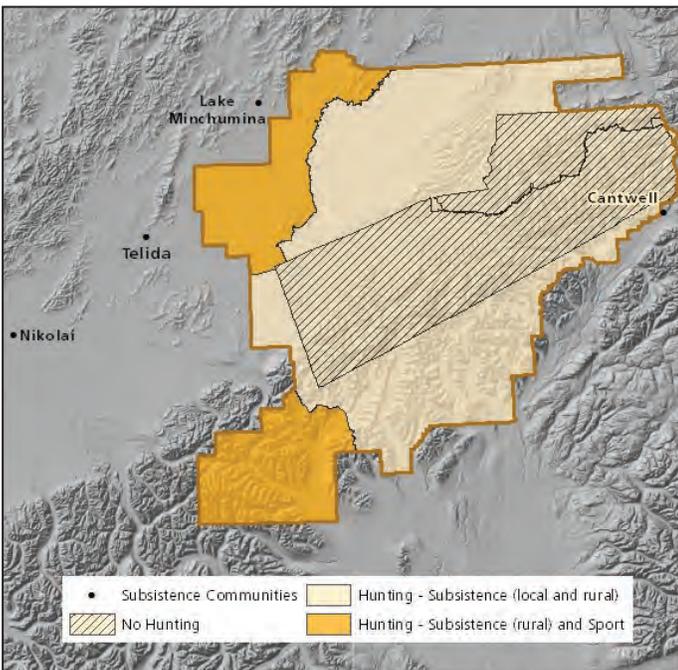
(5) Historic, Archeological, and Ethnographic Resources  
 Locations of native place names, color coded by Athabaskan dialect.



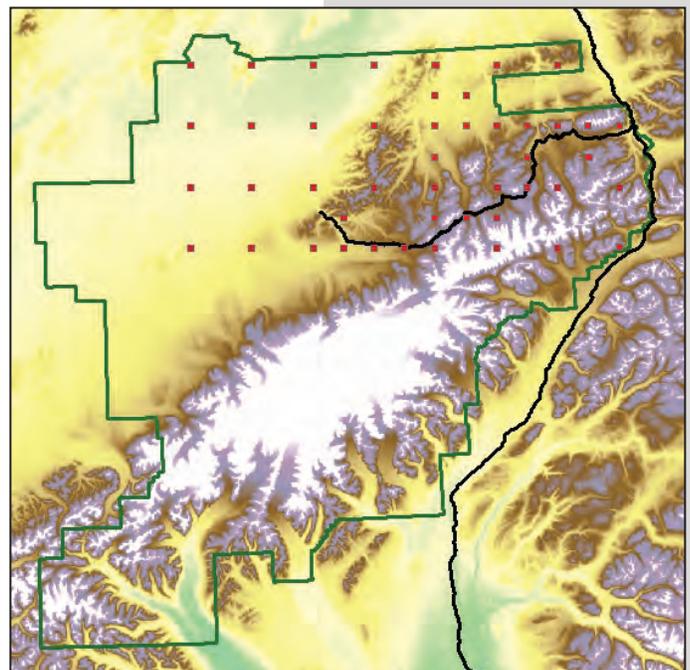
**(6) Paleontological Resources**  
 Location of the park's Cantwell Formation (green) and of the discovery of the first dinosaur track (red dot).



**(7) Air Quality**  
 Air quality and visibility are measured in and adjacent to Denali's Class I airshed.



**(8) Subsistence Resources and Opportunities**  
 Opportunities for subsistence hunting and trapping are available in the 1980 park and preserve additions, but not in the former Mount McKinley National Park.



**(9) Scientific Research, Education, and Interpretation**  
 Grid locations for long-term monitoring of vegetation. Many research projects are conducted near the park road, near faults and glaciers, on Denali, and in burned areas.

# Fundamental Resources and Values

## 1. Wildlife populations, wildlife habitat, and the processes and components of the park's natural ecosystem

The original Mount McKinley National Park was established as a “game refuge” set aside in part for “the preservation of animals, birds, and fish.” ANILCA indicated the park additions were established “to protect habitat for, and populations of, fish and wildlife,” thereby extending this fundamental purpose to the entirety of the expanded park and preserve. ANILCA also established a purpose of protecting entire ecosystems, not just wildlife. Denali’s large size, remoteness, and early protection of the original park make possible the ongoing preservation of an intact natural ecosystem sufficient to support even large, wide-ranging mammals such as caribou and wolves.

## 2. Wilderness character, wilderness resource values, and wilderness recreational opportunities

The passage of ANILCA in 1980 recognized the wilderness resource values of the original park and the additions. Section 701 designated 99 percent of the former Mount McKinley National Park (mapped at 2.1 million acres) as the Denali Wilderness to be managed under the provisions of the Wilderness Act, which states wilderness lands should be “administered for the use and enjoyment of the American people in such manner as will leave them unimpaired for future use and enjoyment as wilderness . . . and for the gathering and dissemination of information regarding their use and enjoyment as wilderness.” ANILCA specified a purpose of the park additions as “to provide continued opportunities, including reasonable access, for mountain climbing, mountaineering, and other wilderness recreational activities.” Section 101 of ANILCA provided that a general purpose of the Alaska conservation system units is to “preserve wilderness resource values and related recreational opportunities such as hiking, canoeing, fishing, and sport hunting,” and sections 102 and 707 define wilderness in the same manner as the Wilderness Act. A wilderness suitability study in 1986 found that virtually all of the park additions and preserve, with the exception of some mining-disturbed lands in the Kantishna Hills, were suitable for wilderness designation.

The key components of wilderness described in the Wilderness Act include (1) generally appearing to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with



### Watching Wolves, Watching Out for Wolves

Each year, thousands of visitors traveling in Denali can see wild wolves as they travel, hunt, and play in their natural habitat. However, these wide-ranging carnivores often travel beyond the park boundary, where they may be legally hunted or trapped. The deaths of individual wolves outside national parks have sparked widespread controversy and may result in fewer opportunities for Denali visitors to view wolves.

Wildlife viewing not only is a fundamental park resource, but also a key draw for park visitors—important contributors to the local economy. Research, which tracks trends in the sightings of wolves and other wildlife, provides valuable information on how management choices inside and outside the park can influence this special resource.



### Fundamental Resources and Values:

*Wildlife populations  
and Visitor enjoyment  
from observing  
wildlife*

the imprint of man’s work substantially unnoticeable, and (2) opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Denali possesses wilderness recreational opportunities that are both very accessible and very remote, requiring self-reliance, significant time commitments, and thorough advance planning. For visitors who choose never to leave a bus or airplane, Denali offers the opportunity to enjoy the undeveloped wilderness character of the park.

### **3. Scenic and geologic values of Mount McKinley (the mountain also known as Denali) and surrounding mountain landscape**

Management of the original Mount McKinley National Park was intended, in part, “for the preservation of the natural curiosities and scenic beauties thereof . . . .” ANILCA expanded the national park to include the entire Mount McKinley massif, and specified one purpose of the park additions as to “protect and interpret the entire mountain massif and the additional scenic mountain peaks and formations.” In addition to having the tallest mountain in North America, Denali contains myriad high mountains in the Alaska Range, including Mount Foraker and the Cathedral Spires, some of the largest glaciers in North America, and glacier-carved gorges, such as the Ruth Gorge.

### **4. Visitor enjoyment and inspiration from observing wildlife in its natural habitat and other natural features**

Congress set aside the original Mount McKinley National Park “as a public park for the benefit and enjoyment of the people . . . .” A general purpose of all of the ANILCA lands is to “preserve lands and waters for the benefit, use, education, and inspiration of present and future generations.” Because of the location and conservative management of the Denali Park Road, the park is one of the best places in the world for the public to observe large northern mammals in their natural habitat. Visitors also have many opportunities to observe smaller mammals and birds, some of which are rarely seen elsewhere in North America. Alaska Range features, such as glacially-carved mountains, “the mountain” (Denali), and the open views of dynamic alpine landscapes, also are a source of visitor enjoyment and inspiration. The park road facilitates wilderness recreational opportunities and supports freedom of discovery, a sense of adventure, and a connection to nature.



#### **Managing the Park Road**

The park's ability to balance the protection of park resources while offering quality visitor experiences is exemplified in the management of the Denali Park Road.

Road crews use graders and haul gravel to maintain it, rangers patrol it, and commercial services staff manage the transportation contract for it, so visitors can ride buses to view wildlife and access the park's wilderness. Planning staff, with public input, worked to create the Vehicle Management Plan, which established indicators and standards for visitor experience and resource protection. Resources staff monitor these indicators to ensure the road is managed according to the plan.



#### **Fundamental Resources and Values:**

*Wilderness recreation opportunities and Visitor enjoyment from observing wildlife*

# Other Important Resources and Values

The fundamental resources and values are those that are so significant that Congress felt it was important to designate a national park to protect them. Denali National Park and Preserve has other important resources and values, which are not primary to the park's purpose and significance, but are important for both park management and visitors. These are resources and values that Denali possesses and which the National Park Service has a legal or policy mandate to protect—including general direction for all the ANILCA conservation system units—but which do not account for the establishment of the park and preserve. These other important resources and values include:

## 5. Historic, archeological, and ethnographic resources

Denali has more than 300 known cultural resource sites, both prehistoric and historic. It is anticipated that additional cultural resources will be found as inventories are conducted and completed. Protection of historic, archeological, and ethnographic resources is mandated by several federal laws and regulations, and by policy. A general purpose of ANILCA conservation system units is to “protect historic and archeological sites.”

## 6. Paleontological resources

Recent discoveries of fossilized tracks and other prints of hadrosaurs, theropods, and birds from the Cretaceous period have added a special dimension to park resources protected under the NPS Organic Act.



### Historic Resource of the Denali Park Road

The Denali Park Road, built over 16 years (1922-1938) by the Alaska Road Commission (ARC), was nominated to the National Register of Historic Places in 2013.

The road is both a rugged pioneer trail through a remote area and a scenic tour road. In building this structure, the ARC combined landscape engineering suitable for northern environments with NPS aesthetic road design principles. The original ten-foot-wide gravel road with wooden bridges and ford sites possessed a rusticity that reflected its location on Alaska permafrost.

The road is historically significant for its association with the period of scenic road development in national parks (1920s and 1930s), as well as for its association with the Mission 66 park development program (1950s and 1960s) when changes were made to the road corridor.



### Other important Resources and Values:

*Historic, archeological, and ethnographic resources*

## 7. Air quality

Denali has exceptionally clean air that is a resource in its own right, but also supports visitor enjoyment of the park’s scenic resources and the health of the park’s ecosystem. All of Denali is designated a Class I airshed under the Clean Air Act Amendments.

## 8. Subsistence resources and opportunities

ANILCA generally specifies a purpose for Alaska conservation system units as to “provide the opportunity for rural residents engaged in a subsistence way of life to continue to do so.” Specifically for Denali, ANILCA identifies subsistence as a permitted use, but not as a purpose. Subsistence users actively harvest resources in Denali, particularly in the northwestern park and preserve, in the southeastern park additions near Cantwell, and in the Kantishna Hills.

## 9. Scientific research, education, and interpretation about natural ecosystems and geologic features and processes

General language from both ANILCA and the Wilderness Act specifies that lands designated under these laws include education and research among their purposes. ANILCA mentions interpretation of the mountain massif and other geologic features as a specific purpose for the Denali additions. Section 4(b) of the Wilderness Act states that education and research are primary public purposes within areas preserved as wilderness.



### Local Knowledge about Climate Change

Based on their regular interactions with the landscape and their use of natural resources, local subsistence users provide important insights into climate change. Some of the changes they observed include the timing of freeze-up, lowered river levels, increased thunderstorms, and increased wind. Subsistence users’ local observations suggest that park managers adopt flexibility in determining hunting and trapping seasons and regulations to adapt to climate change in the same way that subsistence users adjust to changing resources.



### Other Important Resources and Values:

*Subsistence resources and opportunities*

# Primary Interpretive Themes



## The Tradition of Sled Dogs

Since the earliest days of Mount McKinley National Park, sled dogs have played a critical role in protecting resources and preserving the park's wilderness character. To this day, Denali's kennels continue to represent two of the park's interpretive themes: *Wilderness Values and Recreation* and *People and the Land*. Every winter, rangers and dog teams establish winter trails, patrol boundaries, and provide support to researchers and resource activities in the park wilderness. The furry, tongue-lolling transport is perfect for wilderness, as the transportation is non-mechanized and traditional.

Thousands of visitors connect to these themes each year—whether they visit the kennels and attend a Sled Dog Demonstration in summer (photo above), or follow the winter work of the dogs and rangers (photo below) through social media.



## Primary Interpretive Themes:

*Wilderness Values and Recreation* and *People and the Land*

Educators and interpreters facilitate a physical, intellectual, and emotional experience for the visitor based on the park purpose and significance, and on the park's fundamental and other important resources and values. These resources and values serve as the basis from which park-wide education and interpretation themes are established.

Resource condition can directly impact desired visitor experiences, just as human interactions with the resources can affect resource condition. Interpretation and education programs ultimately strive to encourage commitment to resource stewardship within visitors.

Visitors will care about park resources when they find personal meanings in the education and interpretation themes that are based on those resources. All of Denali's education and interpretation themes have a clear connection to resource stewardship and resource condition.

## Extensive Natural Ecosystems

Denali's intact, natural ecosystems embody a wisdom from which humans can learn and promote the workings of a healthy planet [including resiliency, adaptation, and mitigation in the face of climate change] for a sustainable future.

## Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat

The size and ecological integrity of Denali preserve a home of extraordinary quality for populations of large northern mammals, birds, and other wildlife, where they can live and be observed interacting with one another and their natural habitat with minimal human disruption.

## Mount McKinley (Denali)

Denali's magnitude captivates human imagination and inspires exploration and the protection of the Denali region's landscapes, wildlife, and wilderness.

## Wilderness Values and Wilderness Recreation

Denali's wild lands create a refuge from modern civilization where we can discover, challenge, and connect with the primal pulses and prevailing forces of nature.

## People and the Land

The ways Denali shapes and is shaped by the character, lives, and values of people past and present offer us insights into our relationship with our natural heritage.

## Dynamic Change

Denali preserves a dynamic landscape, ever shifting, changing, and adjusting to cycles and processes, seen and unseen.



## Distance Learning

Denali rangers and educators teach live science lessons to students nationwide using Skype. The programs use interactive learning techniques to convey interpretive themes such as *Mount McKinley* and *Dynamic Change*. The kids gain a better understanding of why rangers work to protect national parks.

In one course focused on Denali (Mount McKinley), students play-act plate tectonics and discover the geologic forces that made Denali the highest peak in North America. A geologist dispatches stories to the students as she studies glaciers and climate while summiting the mountain.



Interpretive Themes:  
*Mount McKinley*  
*(Denali)*

# Special Mandates and Administrative Commitments

## Biosphere Reserve

*The Man and the Biosphere Programme develops the basis within the natural and social sciences for the rational and sustainable use and conservation of the resources of the biosphere and for the improvement of the overall relationship between people and their environment. It predicts the consequences of today's actions on tomorrow's world and thereby increases people's ability to efficiently manage natural resources for the well-being of both human populations and the environment.*

*The World Network of Biosphere Reserves, which now [2013] includes 621 sites in 117 countries, is an important means to incorporate biodiversity conservation and ecosystem management activities into sustainable development. This opportunity for U.S. biosphere reserves is especially valuable with respect to cooperation with U.S. neighbors Canada and other countries having ecological conditions similar to parts of the U.S.*

*An important goal of U.S. biosphere reserves is to serve as models of voluntary collaboration in land management and sustainable development by securing the support and involvement of local people; therefore, the periodic review of U.S. biosphere reserves will focus on how the reserves perform the following functions through voluntary cooperative approaches involving local people and their elected officials:*

- 1. Conservation—contribute to the conservation of landscapes, ecosystems, species and genetic variation;*
- 2. Development—foster economic and human development which is socio-culturally and ecologically sustainable;*
- 3. Logistic support—facilitate local demonstration projects, environmental education and training, and research and monitoring related to local, regional, and global opportunities for conservation and sustainable development.*

In 1976, Mount McKinley National Park was designated as a Biosphere Reserve by the Man and the Biosphere Programme of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). In 1982, the size of the reserve and the name was changed to include what had become Denali National Park and Preserve. The Denali Biosphere Reserve represents the arctic and alpine tundra vegetation regions of the United States.

Special Mandates:  
*Biosphere Reserve*

The description of the Denali Biosphere Reserve is as follows:

Denali Biosphere Reserve and National Park is situated in south-central Alaska centered on the Alaska Range which separates the coastal lowland from the interior. Denali comprises the highest peak in North America, towering 18,000 feet (about 5,500 meters) above the surrounding landscape, as well as the Denali fault system, the largest crustal break in North America.

Warm, dry south-facing slopes adjacent to rivers have white spruce (*Picea glauca*) with paper birch (*Betula papyrifera*), balsam poplar (*Populus balsamifera*) and quaking aspen (*P. tremuloides*), and a ground cover of ericaceous shrubs and mosses. North-facing permafrost-underlain slopes and lowlands have black spruce (*P. mariana*) with paper birch, white spruce, tamarack (*Larix laricina*), and ericaceous shrubs, mosses, sedges, and grasses. Moist foothill tundra comprises cottongrass (*Eriophorum* spp.) with dwarf shrubs, green alder (*Alnus crispa*), and dwarf birch (*Betula nana*). Drier tundra has mats of mountain avens (*Dryas* spp.), grasses, and sedges. Above the alpine tundra, rock, snow, and ice dominate.

Mammal species in the area include wolf (*Canis lupus*), grizzly bear (*Ursus arctos*), Canadian lynx (*Lynx canadensis*), Alaska moose (*Alces alces*), barren-ground caribou (*Rangifer tarandus*), and beaver (*Castor canadensis*).

There are some subsistence and sport hunting, trapping, and mining activities within the biosphere reserve. Topics for research in the area include the ecology of large mammals, raptor biology, vegetation mapping, human recreational impact on resources, geology, archeology, and several continuous monitoring programs.



## Biosphere Reserve

Periodic review documents are prepared to report to the Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB) on the status of the park as a biosphere reserve.

Questions posed by MAB provide Denali a chance to give updates: Have there been significant changes over the past decade in habitats, biodiversity, and ecosystems? Does the reserve contribute significantly to biodiversity conservation? Does the reserve provide an opportunity to explore and demonstrate voluntary approaches to sustainable development on a landscape or regional scale? Have biodiversity and ecosystem services assessments been done?



Special Mandates:  
*Biosphere Reserve*

# Participants

## Participation during Development

### Denali National Park and Preserve

Paul R. Anderson, Superintendent (2002-2012)  
Steve Carwile, Compliance Program Manager (1992- )  
Philip N. Hooge, Assistant Superintendent for Resources, Science, and Learning (2003-2014)  
Charlie Loeb, Park Planner (2002-2007)  
Elwood Lynn, Assistant Superintendent for Operations (2004-2014)  
Ingrid Nixon, Chief of Interpretation (2006-2012)  
Mike Tranel, Chief of Planning (2002-2008)  
Lucy Tyrrell, Research Administrator (2000- )  
Miriam Valentine, Chief of Planning (2008- )  
Joe Van Horn, Wilderness Coordinator (2000-2011)

### Alaska Regional Office

Joan Darnell, Chief, Environmental Planning and Compliance Team  
Zach Babb, Outdoor Recreational Planner

## Additional Review

### Denali National Park and Preserve

Don Striker, Superintendent (2013- )  
Christie Anastasia, Acting Chief of Interpretation (2013)  
Amy Craver, Cultural and Subsistence Program Manager (2006- )  
Kris Fister, Public Affairs Officer (2003- )  
Dave Schirokauer, Physical Sciences Program Manager (2012- )  
Jim LeBel, Acting Chief of Concessions (2013- )  
Kathleen Przybylski, Chief of Administration (2012- )  
Eric Smith, Chief of Maintenance (2011- )  
Pete Webster, Chief of Resource and Visitor Protection (2011-2014)

### Alaska Regional Office

Adrienne Lindholm, Wilderness Coordinator, Alaska Region  
Bud Rice, Environmental Protection Specialist, Alaska Region  
Jeremy Karchut, Archeologist, Alaska Region



### Behind the Scenes Support of the Park's Mission

Carrying out the park's mission—making sure the park's purposes and significance are the basis of park operations, including the creation of this document—could not happen without the staff and budgets to do so. Important behind-the-scenes administrative support functions include hiring permanent and seasonal staff, and oversight and management of budget, purchasing, travel, housing, and information technology.



# For More Information

**Superintendent**  
**Denali National Park and Preserve**  
**Denali\_Superintendent@nps.gov**  
**(907) 683-9581**  
**[www.nps.gov/dena](http://www.nps.gov/dena)**



Photo by Tom Walker

## Photo Credits

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## Volunteers-in-Parks (VIP) Program

Through the Volunteers-in-Parks (VIP) program, each year approximately 500 volunteers contribute more than 50,000 hours to Denali. Retired couples, individuals, school groups, scouts, clubs, and organizations donate their time and efforts to provide essential services at Denali's visitor centers, offices, the park kennels, campgrounds, and even on the slopes of Mount McKinley. Volunteers are involved in all aspects of park operations. For example, Denali's volunteers construct trails, eradicate invasive plants, and assist park researchers with a variety of projects.

Volunteers work varied schedules. Whether they give a few hours on a special project or work full-time for a summer, they make the time to give something back to this park treasure in Alaska. Denali's volunteers are essential to fulfilling the park's mission.



**For More  
Information**

# Appendix A. Legislation

*Appendix A includes legislation (or excerpted parts), proclamations, and executive orders specific to the establishment or management of Denali National Park and Preserve.*

## Legislation

1917

An Act  
To establish the Mount McKinley National Park,  
in the Territory of Alaska, approved February 26, 1917 (39 Stat. 938)

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the tract of land in the Territory of Alaska particularly described by and included within the metes and bounds, to wit: Beginning at a point as shown on Plate III. reconnaissance map of the Mount McKinley region, Alaska, prepared in the Geological Survey, edition of nineteen hundred and eleven, said point being at the summit of a hill between two forks of the headwaters of the Toklat River, approximate latitude sixty-three degrees forty-seven minutes, longitude one hundred and fifty degrees twenty minutes; thence south six degrees twenty minutes west nineteen miles; thence south sixty-eight degrees west sixty miles; thence in a southeasterly direction approximately twenty-eight miles to the summit of Mount Russell; thence in a northeasterly direction approximately eighty-nine miles to a point twenty-five miles due south of a point due east of the point of beginning; thence due north twenty-five miles to said point; thence due west twenty-eight and one-half miles to the point of beginning, is hereby reserved and withdrawn from settlement, occupancy, or disposal under the laws of the United States, and said tract is dedicated and set apart as a public park for the benefit and enjoyment of the people, under the name of the Mount McKinley National Park. (U.S.C., title 16, sec. 347.)*

SEC. 2. That nothing herein contained shall affect any valid existing claim, location, or entry under the land laws of the United States, whether for homestead, mineral, right of way, or any other purpose whatsoever, or shall affect the rights of any such claimant, locator, or entryman to the full use and enjoyment of his land. (U.S.C., title 16, sec. 348.)

SEC. 3. That whenever consistent with the primary purposes of the park, the Act of February fifteenth, nineteen hundred and one, applicable to the location of rights of way in certain national parks and national forests for irrigation and other purposes, shall be and remain applicable to the lands included within the park. (U.S.C., title 16, sec. 349.)

SEC. 4. Nothing in this Act shall in any way modify or affect the mineral land laws now applicable to the lands in the said park. (U.S.C., title 16, sec. 350.)

SEC. 5. That the said park shall be under the executive control of the Secretary of the Interior, and it shall be the duty of the said executive authority, as soon as practicable, to make and publish such rules and regulations not inconsistent with the laws of the United States as the said authority may deem necessary or proper for the care,



protection, management, and improvement of the same, the said regulations being primarily aimed at the freest use of the said park for recreation purposes by the public and for the preservation of animals, birds, and fish and for the preservation of the natural curiosities and scenic beauties thereof. (U.S.C., title 16, sec. 351.)

SEC. 6. That the said park shall be, and is hereby, established as a game refuge, and no person shall kill any game in said park except under an order from the Secretary of the Interior for the protection of persons or to protect or prevent the extermination of other animals or birds: *Provided*, That prospectors and miners engaged in prospecting or mining in said park may take and kill therein so much game or birds as may be needed for their actual necessities when short of food; but in no case shall animals or birds be killed in said park for sale or removal therefrom, or wantonly. (U.S.C., title 16, sec. 352.)

SEC. 7. That the said Secretary of the Interior may, in his discretion, execute leases to parcels of ground not exceeding twenty acres in extent for periods not to exceed twenty years whenever such ground is necessary for the erection of establishments for the accommodation of visitors; may grant such other necessary privileges and concessions as he deems wise for the accommodation of visitors; and may likewise arrange for the removal of such mature or dead or down timber as he may deem necessary and advisable for the protection and improvement of the park: *Provided*, That no appropriation for the maintenance of said park in excess of \$10,000 annually shall be made unless the same shall have first been expressly authorized by law. (U.S.C., title 16, sec. 353.)

SEC. 8. That any person found guilty of violating any of the provisions of this Act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be subjected to a fine of not more than \$500 or imprisonment not exceeding six months, or both, and be adjudged to pay all costs of the proceedings. (U.S.C., title 16, sec. 354.)

**1922**

An Act

To add certain lands to Mount McKinley National Park, Alaska, approved January 30, 1922 (42 Stat. 359)

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the south, east, and north boundaries of the Mount McKinley National Park are hereby changed as follows: Beginning at the summit of Mount Russell, which is the present southwest corner of the park; thence in a northeasterly direction one hundred miles, more or less, to a point on the one hundred and forty-ninth meridian, which is twenty-five miles south of a point due east of the upper northwest corner of the park; thence north along the one hundred and forty-ninth meridian twenty-five miles; thence west forty miles, more or less, to the present upper northwest corner of Mount McKinley National Park. And all these lands lying between the above-described boundary and the present south, east, and north boundaries are hereby reserved and withdrawn from settlement, occupancy, or disposal, and under the laws of the United States said lands are hereby made a part of and included in the Mount McKinley National Park; and all the provisions of the Act to establish Mount McKinley National Park, Alaska, and for other purposes, approved February 26, 1917, are hereby made applicable to and extended over lands hereby added to the park. (U.S.C., title 16, sec. 347.)



Appendix A

# Appendix A (cont'd)

1928

An Act

To repeal the proviso of section 6 and the last proviso of section 7 of "An Act to establish the Mount McKinley National Park in the Territory of Alaska," approved February 26, 1917, approved May 21, 1928 (45 Stat. 622.)

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the last proviso of section 7 of an Act entitled "An Act to establish the Mount McKinley National Park, in the Territory of Alaska," approved February 26, 1917, which is in the words and figures following: "Provided, That no appropriation for the maintenance of said park in excess of \$10,000 annually shall be made, unless the same shall have first been expressly authorized by law," be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

SEC. 2. That the proviso of section 6 of an Act entitled "An Act to establish the Mount McKinley National Park, in the Territory of Alaska," approved February 26, 1917, which is in the words and figures following: *Provided,* That prospectors and miners engaged in prospecting or mining in said park may take and kill therein so much game or birds as may be needed for their actual necessities when short of food; but in no case shall animals or birds be killed in said park for sale or removal therefrom, or wantonly," be, and the same is hereby repealed. (U.S.C., title 16, 6th supp., sec. 352, 353.)

1932

An Act

To revise the boundary of the Mount McKinley National Park, in the Territory of Alaska, and for other purposes, approved March 19, 1932 (47 Stat. 68)

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the boundary of the Mount McKinley National Park is hereby changed so as to read as follows: Beginning at the summit of a hill between the Toklat River and the Clearwater Fork of that river at an approximate latitude of sixty-three degrees forty-seven minutes forty-five seconds, longitude one hundred and fifty degrees seventeen minutes forty seconds, which is intended to be same point of beginning of the boundary description as contained in the Act of February 26, 1917; thence southerly along the summit of the ridge between Toklat River and the Clearwater Fork of said river and across Stony Creek at its confluence with the said Clearwater Fork to the summit of the ridge between Stony Creek and the Clearwater Fork of the Toklat River; thence following the summit of said ridge and the summit of the ridge between the tributaries of said Clearwater Fork, the headwaters of the North Fork of Moose Creek and Boundary Creek to the intersection with the present boundary of Mount McKinley National Park at approximate latitude of sixty-three degrees thirty-two minutes forty-five seconds, longitude one hundred and fifty degrees twenty-four minutes forty-five seconds; thence southwesterly fourteen and three-tenths miles, more or less, to a point one-half mile north of Wonder Lake on the stream flowing out of Wonder Lake into Moose Creek; thence south sixty-eight degrees west forty-three and five-tenths miles, more or less, to the point of intersection with the southwest boundary extended; thence southeasterly thirty-three miles, more or less, to the summit of Mount Russell; thence in a northeasterly direction following the present south boundary approximately eighty-eight miles to Windy Creek at approximate latitude sixty-three degrees twenty-five minutes forty-five seconds, longitude one hundred and forty-nine degrees one minute thirty-five seconds; thence easterly following the north bank of Windy Creek to the western boundary of The Alaska Railroad right of way; thence northerly following the west boundary of The Alaska Railroad right of way to a point due east of the present north boundary of the park as extended due east; thence due west following the present north boundary of the park to the summit of the ridge between Toklat River and the Clearwater Fork of said river; thence southerly following the summit

of said ridge to the place of beginning: *Provided, however,* That such isolated tracts of land lying east of The Alaska Railroad right of way and the west bank of the Nenana River between the north bank of Windy Creek and the north park boundary as extended eastward are also included in said park; *Provided further,* That nothing herein contained shall affect any valid existing claim, location, or entry under the land laws of the United States, whether for homestead, mineral, right of way, or any other purpose whatsoever, or shall affect the rights of any such claimant, locator, or entryman to the full use and enjoyment of his land. (U.S.C., 6th supp., title 16, sec. 355.)

SEC. 2. That the provisions of the Act of August 25, 1916, entitled "An Act to establish a national park service, and for other purposes," and the Act of February 26, 1917, entitled "An Act to establish the Mount McKinley National Park, in the Territory of Alaska," together with all Acts supplementary to and amendatory of said Acts are made applicable to and extended over the lands hereby added to the park. (U.S.C., 6th supp., title 16, sec. 355a.)

## 1958

Alaska Statehood Act; July 7, 1958  
An Act to provide for the admission of the State of Alaska into the Union  
P.L. 85-508, 72 Stat. 339

### SEC. 11.

(a) Nothing in this Act shall affect the establishment, or the right, ownership, and authority of the United States in Mount McKinley National Park, as now or hereafter constituted; but exclusive jurisdiction, in all cases, shall be exercised by the United States for the national park, as now or hereafter constituted; saving, however, to the State of Alaska the right to serve civil or criminal process within the limits of the aforesaid park in suits or prosecutions for or on account of rights acquired, obligations incurred, or crimes committed in said State, but outside of said park; and saving further to the said State the right to tax persons and corporations, their franchises and property on the lands included in said park; and saving also to the persons residing now or hereafter in such area the right to vote at all elections held within the respective political subdivisions of their residence in which the park is situated.

## 1980

An Act to provide for the designation and conservation of certain public lands in the State of Alaska, including the designation of units of the National Park, National Wildlife Refuge, National Forest, National Wild and Scenic Rivers, and National Wilderness Preservation Systems, and for other purposes  
approved Dec. 2, 1980 (16 USC 3101-3233, Pub. L. 96-487, 94 Stat. 2373)

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. This Act may be cited as the "Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act."

\* \* \* \* \*

## TITLE I—PURPOSES, DEFINITIONS, AND MAPS

### PURPOSES

SEC. 101. (a) In order to preserve for the benefit, use, education, and inspiration of present and future generations certain lands and waters in the State of Alaska that contain nationally

# Appendix A (cont'd)

significant natural, scenic, historic, archeological, geological, scientific, wilderness, cultural, recreational, and wildlife values, the units described in the following titles are hereby established.

(b) It is the intent of Congress in this Act to preserve unrivaled scenic and geological values associated with natural landscapes; to provide for the maintenance of sound populations of, and habitat for, wildlife species of inestimable value to the citizens of Alaska and the Nation, including those species dependent on vast relatively undeveloped areas; to preserve in their natural state extensive unaltered arctic tundra, boreal forest, and coastal rainforest ecosystems; to protect the resources related to subsistence needs; to protect and preserve historic and archeological sites, rivers, and lands, and to preserve wilderness resource values and related recreational opportunities including but not limited to hiking, canoeing, fishing, and sport hunting, within large arctic and subarctic wildlands and on free flowing rivers; and to maintain opportunities for scientific research and undisturbed ecosystems.

(c) It is further the intent and purpose of this Act consistent with management of fish and wildlife in accordance with recognized scientific principles and the purposes for which each conservation system unit is established, designated, or expanded by or pursuant to this Act, to provide the opportunity for rural residents engaged in a subsistence way of life to continue to do so.

\* \* \* \* \*

SEC. 102. (13) The terms "wilderness" and "National Wilderness Preservation System" have the same meaning as when used in the Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 890).

\* \* \* \* \*

## TITLE II—NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM

### ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW AREAS

SEC. 202. (3)(a) Mount McKinley National Park, by the addition of an area containing approximately two million four hundred and twenty-six thousand acres of public land, and approximately one million three hundred and thirty thousand acres of additional public land is hereby established as Denali National Preserve, both as generally depicted on map numbered DENA-90,007, and dated July 1980 and the whole is hereby redesignated as Denali National Park and Preserve. The park additions and preserve shall be managed for the following purposes, among others: To protect and interpret the entire mountain massif, and additional scenic mountain peaks and formations; and to protect habitat for, and populations of fish and wildlife including, but not limited to, brown/grizzly bears, moose, caribou, Dall sheep, wolves, swans and other waterfowl; and to provide continued opportunities, including reasonable access, for mountain climbing, mountaineering and other wilderness recreational activities....Subsistence uses by local residents shall be permitted in the additions to the park where such uses are traditional in accordance with the provisions in Title VIII.

(b) The Alaska Land Use Council shall, in cooperation with the Secretary, conduct a study of the Kantishna Hills and Dunkle Mine areas of the park as generally depicted on a map entitled "Kantishna Hills/Dunkle Mine Study Area" dated October 1979, and report thereon to the Congress not later than three years from the date of enactment of this Act. The study and report shall evaluate the resources of the area, including but not limited to, fish and wildlife, public recreation opportunities wilderness potential, historic resources, and minerals, and shall include those recommendations respecting resources and other relevant matters which the Council determines are necessary. In conjunction with the study required by this section, the Council in consultation with the Secretary, shall compile information relating to the mineral potential of the areas encompassed within the study, the estimated cost of acquiring mining properties and the environmental consequences of further mineral development.

(c) During the period of the study, no acquisition of privately owned land shall be permitted within the study area, except with the consent of the owner, and the holders of valid mining claims shall

be permitted to operate on their claims, subject to reasonable regulations designed to minimize damage to the environment: Provided, however, That such lands or claims shall be subject to acquisition without the consent of the owner or holder if the Secretary determines, after notice and opportunity for hearing, if such notice and hearing are not otherwise required by applicable law or regulation, that activities on such lands or claims Will significantly impair important scenic, wildlife, or recreational values of the public lands which are the subject of the study.

\* \* \* \* \*

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 203. Subject to valid existing rights, the Secretary shall administer the lands, waters, and interests therein added to existing areas or established by the foregoing sections of this title as new areas of the National Park System, pursuant to the provisions of the Act of August 25, 1916 (39 Stat. 535), as amended and supplemented (16 U.S.C. 1 et seq.), and, as appropriate, under section 1313 and the other applicable provisions of this Act: Provided, however, That hunting shall be permitted in areas designated as national preserves under the provisions of this Act. Subsistence uses by local residents shall be allowed in national preserves and, where specifically permitted by this Act, in national monuments and parks.

\* \* \* \* \*

TITLE VII—NATIONAL WILDERNESS PRESERVATION SYSTEM

DESIGNATION OF WILDERNESS WITHIN NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM

SEC. 701. In accordance with subsection 3(c) of the Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 892), the public lands within the boundaries depicted as "Proposed Wilderness" on the maps referred to in sections 201 and 202 of this Act are hereby designated as wilderness, with the nomenclature and approximate acreage as indicated below:

1) Denali Wilderness of approximately one million nine hundred thousand acres;

\* \* \* \* \*

SEC. 707. Except as otherwise expressly provided for in this Act wilderness designated by this Act shall be administered in accordance with applicable provisions of the Wilderness Act governing areas designated by that Act as wilderness...

\* \* \* \* \*

TITLE VIII—SUBSISTENCE MANAGEMENT AND USE

\* \* \* \* \*

POLICY

SEC. 802. It is hereby declared to be the policy of Congress that—

(1) consistent with sound management principles, and the conservation of healthy populations of fish and wildlife, the utilization of the public lands in Alaska is to cause the least adverse impact possible on rural residents who depend upon subsistence uses of the resources of such lands, consistent with management of fish and wildlife in accordance with recognized scientific principles and the purposes for each unit established, designated, or expanded by or pursuant to titles II through VII of this Act, the purpose of this title is to provide the opportunity for rural residents engaged in a subsistence way of life to do so;

# Appendix A (cont'd)

(2) nonwasteful subsistence uses of fish and wildlife and other renewable resources shall be the priority consumptive uses of all such resources on the public lands of Alaska when it is necessary to restrict taking in order to assure the continued viability of a fish or wildlife population or the continuation of subsistence uses of such population, the taking of such population for nonwasteful subsistence uses shall be given preference on the public lands over other consumptive uses; and

\* \* \* \* \*

## SUBSISTENCE AND LAND USE DECISIONS

SEC. 810. (a) In determining whether to withdraw, reserve, lease, or otherwise permit the use, occupancy, or disposition of public lands under any provision of law authorizing such actions, the head of the Federal agency having primary jurisdiction over such lands or his designee shall evaluate the effect of such use, occupancy, or disposition on subsistence uses and needs, the availability of other lands for the purposes sought to be achieved, and other alternatives which would reduce or eliminate the use, occupancy, or disposition of public lands needed for subsistence purposes.

\* \* \* \* \*

## ACCESS

SEC. 811. (a) The Secretary shall ensure that rural residents engaged in subsistence uses shall have reasonable access to subsistence resources on the public lands.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act or other law, the Secretary shall permit on the public lands appropriate use for subsistence purposes of snowmobiles, motorboats, and other means of surface transportation traditionally employed for such purposes by local residents, subject to reasonable regulation.

\* \* \* \* \*

## SPECIAL ACCESS AND ACCESS TO INHOLDINGS

SEC. 1110. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act or other law, the Secretary shall permit, on conservation system units national recreation areas, and national conservation areas, and those public lands designated as wilderness study, the use of snowmachines (during periods of adequate snow cover, or frozen river conditions in the case of wild and scenic rivers), motorboats, airplanes, and nonmotorized surface transportation methods for traditional activities (where such activities are permitted by this Act or other law) and for travel to and from villages and homesites. Such use shall be subject to reasonable regulations by the Secretary to protect the natural and other values of the conservation system units, national recreation areas, and national conservation areas, and shall not be prohibited unless, after notice and hearing in the vicinity of the affected unit or area, the Secretary finds that such use would be detrimental to the resource values of the unit or area. Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting the use of other methods of transportation for such travel and activities on conservation system lands where such use is permitted by this Act or other law.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Act or other law, in any case in which State owned or privately owned land, including subsurface rights of such owners underlying public lands, or a valid mining claim or other valid occupancy is within or is effectively surrounded by one or more conservation system units, national recreation areas, national conservation areas, or those public lands designated as wilderness study, the State or private owner or occupier shall be given by the Secretary such rights as may be necessary to assure adequate and

feasible access for economic and other purposes to the concerned land by such State or private owner or occupier and their successors in interest. Such rights shall be subject to reasonable regulations issued by the Secretary to protect the natural and other values of such lands.

\* \* \* \* \*

TITLE XIII—ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

MANAGEMENT PLANS

SEC. 1301. (a) Within five years from the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall develop and transmit to the appropriate Committees of the Congress a conservation and management plan for each of the units of the National Park System established or to which additions are made by this Act.

\* \* \* \* \*

ADMINISTRATIVE SITES AND VISITOR FACILITIES

SEC. 1306. (a) ESTABLISHMENT.--In conformity with the conservation and management plans prepared for each unit and the purposes of assuring the preservation, protection, and proper management of any conservation system unit, the Secretary may establish sites and visitor facilities—

- (1) within the unit, if compatible with the purposes for which the unit is established, expanded, or designated by this Act, and the other provisions of this Act, or
- (2) outside the boundaries of, and in the vicinity of the unit. To the extent practicable and desirable, the Secretary shall attempt to locate such sites and facilities on Native lands in the vicinity of the unit.

REVENUE-PRODUCING VISITOR SERVICES

SEC. 1307. (a) CONTINUATION OF EXISTING VISITOR SERVICES.--Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary, under such terms and conditions as he determines are reasonable, shall permit any persons who, on or before January 1, 1979, were engaged in adequately providing any type of visitor service within any area established as or added to a conservation system unit to continue providing such type of service and similar types of visitor services within such area if such service or services are consistent with the purposes for which such unit is established or expanded.

\* \* \* \* \*

NAVIGATION AIDS AND OTHER FACILITIES

SEC. 1310. (a) EXISTING FACILITIES.—Within conservation system units established or expanded by this Act, reasonable access to, and operation and maintenance of, existing air and water navigation aids, communications sites and related facilities and existing facilities for weather, climate, and fisheries research and monitoring shall be permitted in accordance with the laws and regulations applicable to units of such systems, as appropriate. Reasonable access to and operation and maintenance of facilities for national defense purposes and related air and water navigation aids within or adjacent to such areas shall continue in accordance with the laws and regulations governing such facilities notwithstanding any other provision of this Act. Nothing in the Wilderness Act shall be deemed to prohibit such access, operation and maintenance within wilderness areas designated by this Act.

(b) NEW FACILITIES.—The establishment, operation, and maintenance within any conservation system unit of new air and water navigation aids and related facilities, facilities for national defense purposes, and related air and water navigation aids, and facilities for weather, climate, and fisheries research and monitoring shall be permitted but only (1) after consultation with the

# Appendix A (cont'd)

Secretary or the Secretary of Agriculture, as appropriate, by the head of the Federal department or agency undertaking such establishment, operation, or maintenance, and (2) in accordance with such terms and conditions as may be mutually agreed in order to minimize the adverse effects of such activities within such unit.

\* \* \* \* \*

## ADMINISTRATION OF NATIONAL PRESERVES

SEC. 1313. A National Preserve in Alaska shall be administered and managed as a unit of the National Park System in the same manner as a national park except as otherwise provided in this Act and except that the taking of fish and wildlife for sport purposes and subsistence uses, and trapping shall be allowed in a national preserve under applicable State and Federal law and regulation. Consistent with the provisions of section 816, within national preserves the Secretary may designate zones where and periods when no hunting, fishing, trapping, or entry may be permitted for reasons of public safety, administration, floral and faunal protection, or public use and enjoyment. Except in emergencies, any regulations prescribing such restrictions relating to hunting, fishing, or trapping shall be put into effect only after consultation with the appropriate State agency having responsibility over hunting, fishing, and trapping activities.

\* \* \* \* \*

## TAKING OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

SEC. 1314. (a) Nothing in this Act is intended to enlarge or diminish the responsibility and authority of the State of Alaska for management of fish and wildlife on the public lands except as may be provided in title VIII of this Act, or to amend the Alaska constitution.

(b) Except as specifically provided otherwise by this Act, nothing in this Act is intended to enlarge or diminish the responsibility and authority of the Secretary over the management of the public lands.

\* \* \* \* \*

## WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT

SEC. 1315. (a) APPLICATION ONLY TO ALASKA.--The provisions of this section are enacted in recognition of the unique conditions in Alaska. Nothing in this section shall be construed to expand, diminish, or modify the provisions of the Wilderness Act or the application or interpretation of such provisions with respect to lands outside of Alaska.

\* \* \* \* \*

## ALLOWED USES

SEC. 1316. (a) On all public lands where the taking of fish and wildlife is permitted in accordance with the provisions of this Act or other applicable State and Federal law the Secretary shall permit, subject to reasonable regulation to insure compatibility, the continuance of existing uses, and the future establishment, and use, of temporary campsites, tent platforms, shelters, and other temporary facilities and equipment directly and necessarily related to such activities.

\* \* \* \* \*

1983

PUBLIC LAW 97-468 Jan. 14, 1983 96 STAT. 2556

TITLE VI--ALASKA RAILROAD TRANSFER

SEC. 601. This title may be cited as the "Alaska Railroad Transfer Act of 1982"

\* \* \* \* \*

Sec. 604(b)(1) On the date of transfer, the Secretary shall simultaneously:

\* \* \* \* \*

(D) convey to the State a deed granting the State (i) an exclusive-use easement for that portion of the right-of-way of the Alaska Railroad within the Denali National Park and Preserve extending not less than one hundred feet on either side of the main or branch line tracks, and eight feet on either side of the centerline of the "Y" track connecting the main line of the railroad to the power station at McKinley Park Station and (ii) title to railroad-related improvements within such right-of-way.

Prior to taking the action specified in subparagraphs (A) through (D) of this paragraph, the Secretary shall consult with the Secretary of the Interior. The exclusive-use easement granted pursuant to subparagraph (D) of this paragraph and all rights afforded by such easement shall be exercised only for railroad purposes, and for such other transportation, transmission, or communication purposes for which lands subject to such easement were utilized as of the date of this Act.

\* \* \* \* \*

Sec. 604(c)(3) There shall be reserved to the Secretary of the Interior the right to use and occupy, without compensation, five thousand square feet of land at Talkeetna, Alaska, as described in ARR lease numbered 69-25-0003-5165 for National Park Service administrative activities, so long as the use or occupation does not interfere with the operation of the State-owned railroad. This reservation shall be effective on the date of transfer under this section or the expiration date of such lease, whichever is later.

\* \* \* \* \*

Sec. 608(d) After the date of transfer to the State pursuant to section 604 of this title, the portion of the rail properties within the boundaries of the Chugach National Forest and the exclusive-use easement within the boundaries of the Denali National Park and Preserve shall be subject to laws and regulations for the protection of forest and park values. The right to fence the exclusive-use easement within Denali National Park and Preserve shall be subject to the concurrence of the Secretary of the Interior. The Secretary of the Interior, or the Secretary of Agriculture where appropriate, shall not act pursuant to this subsection without consulting with the Governor of the State of Alaska or in such a manner as to unreasonably interfere with continued or expanded operations and support functions authorized under this title.

\* \* \* \* \*

# Appendix A (cont'd)

## FUTURE RIGHTS-OF-WAY

Sec. 609.(a) After the date of enactment of this Act, the State or State-owned railroad may request the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture, as appropriate under law, to expeditiously approve an application for a right-of-way in order that the Alaska Railroad or State-owned railroad may have access across Federal lands for transportation and related purposes. The State or State-owned railroad may also apply for a lease, permit, or conveyance of any necessary or convenient terminal and station grounds and material sites in the vicinity of the right-of-way for which an application has been submitted.

(b) Before approving a right-of-way application described in subsection (a) of this section, the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture, as appropriate, shall consult with the Secretary. Approval of an application for a right-of-way, permit, lease, or conveyance described in subsection (a) of this section shall be pursuant to applicable law. Rights-of-way, grounds, and sites granted pursuant to this section and other applicable law shall conform, to the extent possible, to the standards provided in the Act of March 12, 1914 (43 U.S.C. 975 et seq.) and section 603(6) of this title. Such conformance shall not be affected by the repeal of such Act under section 615 of this title.

\* \* \* \* \*

## DENALI NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE LANDS

Sec. 612. On the date of transfer to the State (pursuant to section 604 of this title) or other disposition (pursuant to section 611 of this title), that portion of rail properties of the Alaska Railroad within the Denali National Park and Preserve shall, subject to the exclusive-use easement granted pursuant to section 604(b)(1)(D) of this title, be transferred to the Secretary of the Interior for administration as part of the Denali National Park and Preserve, except that a transferee under section 611 of this title shall receive the same interest as the State under section 604(b)(1)(D) of this title.

**1997**

PUBLIC LAW 105-83 NOV. 14, 1997 111 STAT. 23

SEC. 120. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, 90 days after enactment of this section there is hereby vested in the United States all right, title and interest in and to, and the right of immediate possession of, all patented mining claims and valid unpatented mining claims (including any unpatented claim whose validity is in dispute, so long as such validity is later established in accordance with applicable agency procedures) in the area known as the Kantishna Mining District within Denali National Park and Preserve, for which all current owners (or the bankruptcy trustee as provided hereafter) of each such claim (for unpatented claims, ownership as identified in recordations under the mining laws and regulations) consent to such vesting in writing to the Secretary of the Interior within said 90-day period: Provided, That in the case of a mining claim in the Kantishna Mining District that is involved in a bankruptcy proceeding, where the bankruptcy trustee is a holder of an interest in such mining claim, such consent may only be provided and will be deemed timely for purposes of this section if the trustee applies within said 90-day period to the bankruptcy court or any other appropriate court for authority to sell the entire mining claim and to consent to the vesting of title to such claim in the United States pursuant to this section, and that in such event title in the entire mining claim shall vest in the United States 10 days after entry of an unstayed, final order or judgment approving the trustee's application: Provided further, That the United States shall pay just compensation to the aforesaid owners of any valid claims to which title has vested in the United States pursuant to this section, determined as of the date of taking: Provided further, That payment shall be in the amount of a negotiated settlement of the value of such claim or the valuation of such claim awarded by

judgment, and such payment, including any deposits in the registry of the court, shall be made solely from the permanent judgment appropriation established pursuant to section 1304 of title 31, United States Code, and shall include accrued interest on the amount of the agreed settlement value or the final judgment from the date of taking to the date of payment, calculated in accordance with section 258a of title 40, United States Code: Provided further, That the United States or a claim owner or bankruptcy trustee may initiate proceedings after said 90-day period, but no later than six years after the date of enactment of this section, seeking a determination of just compensation in the District Court for the District of Alaska pursuant to the Declaration of Taking Act, sections 258a–e of title 40, United States Code (except where inconsistent with this section), and joining all owners of the claim: Provided further, That when any such suit is instituted by the United States or the owner or bankruptcy trustee, the United States shall deposit as soon as possible in the registry of the court the estimated just compensation, in accordance with the procedures generally described in section 258a of title 40, United States Code, not otherwise inconsistent with this section: Provided further, That in establishing any estimate for deposit in the court registry (other than an estimate based on an agency approved appraisal made prior to the date of enactment of this Act) the Secretary of the Interior shall permit the claim owner to present information to the Secretary on the value of the claim, including potential mineral value, and the Secretary shall consider such information and permit the claim owner to have a reasonable and sufficient opportunity to comment on such estimate: Provided further, That the estimated just compensation deposited in the court registry shall be paid forthwith to the aforesaid owners upon application to the court: Provided further, That any payment from the court registry to the aforesaid owners shall be deducted from any negotiated settlement or award by judgment: Provided further, That the United States may not request the court to withhold any payment from the court registry for environmental remediation with respect to such claim: Provided further, That the Secretary shall not allow any unauthorized use of claims acquired pursuant to this section after the date title vests in the United States pursuant to this section, and the Secretary shall permit the orderly termination of all operations on the lands and the removal of equipment, facilities, and personal property by claim owners or bankruptcy trustee (as appropriate).

## 2004

PUBLIC LAW 108-447 DEC. 8, 2004

Title VIII, Section 3(d)(3)(G) of the 2005 Consolidated Appropriations Act (P.L. 108-447), signed into law December 8, 2004:

(3) PROHIBITION ON FEES FOR CERTAIN PERSONS OR PLACES.--The Secretary shall not charge an entrance fee or standard amenity recreation fee for the following:

\* \* \* \* \*

(G) An area or unit covered under section 203 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (Public Law 96-487; 16 U.S.C. 410hh-2), with the exception of Denali National Park and Preserve.

## 2008

PUBLIC LAW 110-161  
CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

DIVISION F--DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES  
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

# Appendix A (cont'd)

## TITLE I

### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

#### SEC. 129. CLARIFICATION OF CONCESSIONAIRE HISTORIC RIGHTS.

(a) In implementing section 1307 of Public Law 96-487 (96 Stat. 2479), the Secretary shall deem Denali National Park Wilderness Centers, Ltd., a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Alaska, to be a person who, on or before January 1, 1979, was engaged in adequately providing the following scope and level of visitor services within what is currently Denali National Park and Preserve:

- (1) Guided interpretive hiking services in the Kantishna area new park additions (i.e. park area added in 1980 to former Mount McKinley National Park), not to exceed 14 guided interpretive hikes per week.
- (2) Gold panning outings in the Kantishna area new park additions, not to exceed 3 gold panning outings per week.
- (3) Guided interpretive trips, including an average of four vehicle trips per day, not to exceed 28 trips per week, into the Old Park (i.e. former Mount McKinley National Park).
- (4) Guided and unguided canoeing on Wonder Lake, including the storage of five canoes on Wonder Lake.
- (5) Transportation over the road between the north boundary of the Old Park and Wonder Lake, including Wonder Lake Campground, for an average of 10 trips per day not to exceed 70 trips per week.

(b) For purpose of implementing this section, the term `person' means the person who has a controlling interest in the entity described under subsection (a) or his lineal descendants born prior to January 1, 1979.

## 2008

PUBLIC LAW 110-229—MAY 8, 2008  
CONSOLIDATED NATURAL RESOURCES ACT OF 2008

### Subtitle F—Denali National Park and Alaska Railroad Exchange

#### SEC. 351. DENALI NATIONAL PARK AND ALASKA RAILROAD CORPORATION EXCHANGE.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

- (1) CORPORATION.—The term “Corporation” means the Alaska Railroad Corporation owned by the State of Alaska.
- (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(b) EXCHANGE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—

(A) EASEMENT EXPANDED.—The Secretary is authorized to grant to the Alaska Railroad Corporation an exclusive- use easement on land that is identified by the Secretary within Denali National Park for the purpose of providing a location to the Corporation for construction, maintenance, and on-going operation of track and associated support facilities for turning railroad trains around near Denali Park Station.

(B) EASEMENT RELINQUISHED.—In exchange for the easement granted in subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall require the relinquishment of certain portions

of the Corporation's existing exclusive use easement within the boundary of Denali National Park.

(2) CONDITIONS OF THE EXCHANGE.—

(A) EQUAL EXCHANGE.—The exchange of easements under this section shall be on an approximately equal- acre basis.

(B) TOTAL ACRES.—The easement granted under paragraph (1)(A) shall not exceed 25 acres.

(C) INTERESTS CONVEYED.—The easement conveyed to the Alaska Railroad Corporation by the Secretary under this section shall be under the same terms as the exclusive use easement granted to the Railroad in Denali National Park in the Deed for Exclusive Use Easement and Railroad Related Improvements filed in Book 33, pages 985–994 of the Nenana Recording District, Alaska, pursuant to the Alaska Railroad Transfer Act of 1982 (45 U.S.C. 1201 et seq.). The easement relinquished by the Alaska Railroad Corporation to the United States under this section shall, with respect to the portion being exchanged, be the full title and interest received by the Alaska Railroad in the Deed for Exclusive Use Easement and Railroad Related Improvements filed in Book 33, pages 985–994 of the Nenana Recording District, Alaska, pursuant to the Alaska Railroad Transfer Act of 1982 (45 U.S.C. 1201 et seq.).

(D) COSTS.—The Alaska Railroad shall pay all costs associated with the exchange under this section, including the costs of compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), the costs of any surveys, and other reasonable costs.

(E) LAND TO BE PART OF WILDERNESS.—The land underlying any easement relinquished to the United States under this section that is adjacent to designated wilderness is hereby designated as wilderness and added to the Denali Wilderness, the boundaries of which are modified accordingly, and shall be managed in accordance with applicable provisions of the Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 892) and the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980 (94 Stat. 2371).

(F) OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Secretary shall require any additional terms and conditions under this section that the Secretary determines to be appropriate to protect the interests of the United States and of Denali National Park.

**2013**

DENALI NATIONAL PARK IMPROVEMENT ACT P.L. 113-33 January 28, 2013

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the 'Denali National Park Improvement Act'.

SEC. 2. KANTISHNA HILLS MICROHYDRO PROJECT; LAND EXCHANGE.

(a) Definitions- In this section:

(1) APPURTENANCE- The term 'appurtenance' includes--

- (A) transmission lines;
- (B) distribution lines;
- (C) signs;
- (D) buried communication lines;

# Appendix A (cont'd)

- (E) necessary access routes for microhydro project construction, operation, and maintenance; and
- (F) electric cables.

(2) KANTISHNA HILLS AREA- The term 'Kantishna Hills area' means the area of the Park located within 2 miles of Moose Creek, as depicted on the map.

(3) MAP- The term 'map' means the map entitled 'Kantishna Hills Micro-Hydro Area', numbered 184/80,276, and dated August 27, 2010.

(4) MICROHYDRO PROJECT-

(A) IN GENERAL- The term 'microhydro project' means a hydroelectric power generating facility with a maximum power generation capability of 100 kilowatts.

(B) INCLUSIONS- The term 'microhydro project' includes--

- (i) intake pipelines, including the intake pipeline located on Eureka Creek, approximately 1/2 mile upstream from the Park Road, as depicted on the map;
- (ii) each system appurtenance of the microhydro projects; and
- (iii) any distribution or transmission lines required to serve the Kantishna Hills area.

(5) PARK- The term 'Park' means the Denali National Park and Preserve.

(6) SECRETARY- The term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of the Interior.

(b) Permits for Microhydro Projects-

(1) IN GENERAL- The Secretary may issue permits for microhydro projects in the Kantishna Hills area.

(2) TERMS AND CONDITIONS- Each permit under paragraph (1) shall be--

- (A) issued in accordance with such terms and conditions as are generally applicable to rights-of-way within units of the National Park System; and
- (B) subject to such other terms and conditions as the Secretary determines to be necessary.

(3) COMPLETION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS- Not later than 180 days after the date on which an applicant submits an application for the issuance of a permit under this subsection, the Secretary shall complete any analysis required by the National Environment Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) of any proposed or existing microhydro projects located in the Kantishna Hills area.

(c) Land Exchange-

(1) IN GENERAL- For the purpose of consolidating ownership of Park and Doyon Tourism, Inc. lands, including those lands affected solely by the Doyon Tourism microhydro project, and subject to paragraph (4), the Secretary may exchange Park land near or adjacent to land owned by Doyon Tourism, Inc., located at the mouth of Eureka Creek in sec. 13, T.16 S., R. 18 W., Fairbanks Meridian, for approximately 18 acres of land owned by Doyon Tourism, Inc., within the Galena patented mining claim.

(2) MAP AVAILABILITY- The map shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service.

(3) TIMING- The Secretary shall seek to complete the exchange under this subsection by not later than February 1, 2015.

(4) APPLICABLE LAWS; TERMS AND CONDITIONS- The exchange under this subsection shall be subject to--

- (A) the laws (including regulations) and policies applicable to exchanges of land administered

by the National Park Service, including the laws and policies concerning land appraisals, equalization of values, and environmental compliance; and

(B) such terms and conditions as the Secretary determines to be necessary.

(5) EQUALIZATION OF VALUES- If the tracts proposed for exchange under this subsection are determined not to be equal in value, an equalization of values may be achieved by adjusting the quantity of acres described in paragraph (1).

(6) ADMINISTRATION- The land acquired by the Secretary pursuant to the exchange under this subsection shall be administered as part of the Park.

### SEC. 3. DENALI NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE NATURAL GAS PIPELINE.

(a) Definitions- In this section:

(1) APPURTENANCE-

(A) IN GENERAL- The term 'appurtenance' includes cathodic protection or test stations, valves, signage, and buried communication and electric cables relating to the operation of high-pressure natural gas transmission.

(B) EXCLUSIONS- The term 'appurtenance' does not include compressor stations.

(2) PARK- The term 'Park' means the Denali National Park and Preserve in the State of Alaska.

(3) SECRETARY- The term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of the Interior.

(b) Permit- The Secretary may issue right-of-way permits for--

(1) a high-pressure natural gas transmission pipeline (including appurtenances) in nonwilderness areas within the boundary of Denali National Park within, along, or near the approximately 7-mile segment of the George Parks Highway that runs through the Park; and

(2) any distribution and transmission pipelines and appurtenances that the Secretary determines to be necessary to provide natural gas supply to the Park.

(c) Terms and Conditions- A permit authorized under subsection (b)--

(1) may be issued only--

(A) if the permit is consistent with the laws (including regulations) generally applicable to utility rights-of-way within units of the National Park System;

(B) in accordance with section 1106(a) of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 3166(a)); and

(C) if, following an appropriate analysis prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), the route of the right-of-way is the route through the Park with the least adverse environmental effects for the Park; and

(2) shall be subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary determines to be necessary.

### SEC. 4. DESIGNATION OF THE WALTER HARPER TALKEETNA RANGER STATION.

(a) Designation- The Talkeetna Ranger Station located on B Street in Talkeetna, Alaska, approximately 100 miles south of the entrance to Denali National Park, shall be known and designated as the 'Walter Harper Talkeetna Ranger Station'.

(b) References- Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Talkeetna Ranger Station referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the 'Walter Harper Talkeetna Ranger Station'.

# Appendix A (cont'd)

## Proclamation

1978

Denali National Monument  
By the President of the United States of America

### A Proclamation

In the creation of Mount McKinley National Park the southern half of the mountain's massif was inadvertently excluded from the Park. The creation of Denali National Monument will bring within the protection of the National Park System the entirety of this, the highest peak on the North American continent. This face markedly differs from the north side for it has a more gradual rise and a significant system of glaciers. It is also the approach route used historically by those seeking to scale Mount McKinley.

Certain of the glaciers on the south face are among the largest in Alaska, reaching up to 45 miles in length. Yet, only the very uppermost parts are presently within the National Park. Their protection is enhanced by the creation of this monument.

In the southwest area of the monument hereby created are the geologically unique Cathedral Spires. From this granitic pluton mass radiate eight major glacial troughs exhibiting cirques and headwalls rising 5,000 feet from their bases.

The monument also protects significant habitat for the McKinley caribou herd which has provided a basis for scientific study since the early twentieth century. Associated with the herd in this ecosystem are other scientifically important mammals such as grizzly bear, wolf and wolverine. The Toklat River region includes a unique area of warm springs which attracts an unusual late run of Chum salmon. This run provides an important late fall food source for the grizzly bear population of the area which, because of its accessibility, has been the subject of many scientific studies.

The land withdrawn and reserved by this Proclamation for the protection of the geological, biological and other phenomena enumerated above supports now, as it has in the past, the unique subsistence culture of the local residents. The continued existence of this culture, which depends on subsistence hunting, and its availability for study, enhance the historic and scientific values of the natural objects protected herein because of the ongoing interaction of the subsistence culture with those objects. Accordingly, the opportunity for the local residents to engage in subsistence hunting is a value to be protected and will continue under the administration of the monument.

Section 2 of the Act of June 8, 1906 (34 Stat. 225, 16 U.S.C. 431), authorizes the President, in his discretion, to declare by public proclamation historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest that are situated upon the lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States to be national monuments, and to reserve as part thereof parcels of land, the limits of which in all cases shall be confined to the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, by the authority vested in me by Section 2 of the Act of June 8, 1906 (34 Stat. 225, 16 U.S.C. 431), do proclaim that there are hereby set apart and reserved as the Denali National Monument all lands, including submerged lands, and waters owned or controlled by the United States within the boundaries of the area depicted as the Denali National Monument on the map numbered DENA-90,007 attached to and forming a part of this Proclamation. The area reserved consists of approximately 3,890,000 acres, and is the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected. Lands, including submerged lands, and waters within these boundaries

not owned by the United States shall be reserved as a part of the monument upon acquisition of title thereto by the United States.

All lands, including submerged lands, and all waters within the boundaries of this monument are hereby appropriated and withdrawn from entry, location, selection, sale or other disposition under the public land laws, other than exchange. There is also reserved all water necessary to the proper care and management of those objects protected by this monument and for the proper administration of the monument in accordance with applicable laws.

The establishment of this monument is subject to valid existing rights, including, but not limited to, valid selections under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, as amended (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.), and under or confirmed in the Alaska Statehood Act (48 U.S.C. Note preceding Section 21).

Nothing in this Proclamation shall be deemed to revoke any existing withdrawal, reservation or appropriation, including any withdrawal under Section 17 (d) (1) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1616(d)(1)); however, the national monument shall be the dominant reservation. Nothing in this Proclamation is intended to modify or revoke the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding dated September 1, 1972, entered into between the State of Alaska and the United States as part of the negotiated settlement of Alaska v. Morton, Civil No. A-48-72 (D. Alaska, Complaint filed April 10, 1972).

The Secretary of the Interior shall promulgate such regulations as are appropriate, including regulation of the opportunity to engage in a subsistence lifestyle by local residents. The Secretary may close the national monument, or any portion thereof, to subsistence uses of a particular fish, wildlife or plant population if necessary for reasons of public safety, administration, or to ensure the natural stability or continued viability of such population.

Warning is hereby given to all unauthorized persons not to appropriate, injure, destroy or remove any feature of this monument and not to locate or settle upon any of the lands thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 1st day of December, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and seventy-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and third.

JIMMY CARTER

# Appendix A (cont'd)

## Executive Orders

1922

Executive Order 3617  
by President of the United States

Reserving Land in Alaska for use in Administration of Mount McKinley National Park

Under authority of the act of Congress approved June 25, 1910 (36 Stat. 847), as amended by the act of August 24, 1912 (37 Stat. 497), it is hereby ordered that the following described lands in Alaska be temporarily withdrawn from settlement, location, sale or entry, except as provided in said acts, and be reserved for use in connection with the administration of the Mount McKinley National Park and to protect a right-of-way for a proposed road into the Park:

What will be when surveyed the N½ N½, SW¼ NW¼, W½ SW¼, SE¼ SW¼ Sec. 4., S½ Sec. 5, S½ Sec. 6, N½ Sec. 7, N½ Sec. 8, NW¼ Sec. 9 in T. 14 S., R. 7 W., and S½ Sec. 1 and N½ Sec. 12 in T. 14 S., R. 8 W., F. B. M.

January 13, 1922  
WARREN G. HARDING

1923

Executive Order 3800  
by President of the United States

Reserving Additional Lands for Administration of Mount McKinley National Park

Under authority of the Act of Congress approved June 25, 1910 (36 Stat., 847), as amended by the Act of August 24, 1912 (37 Stat., 497), Executive Order of January 13, 1922 (No. 3617), temporarily reserving and setting apart certain lands in Alaska for use in connection with the administration of the Mount McKinley National Park and to protect a right-of-way for a proposed road into the Park, is hereby amended to include in the said temporary reservation the SW. ¼ SE. ¼ Sec. 4, and NW. ¼ NE. ¼ Sec. 9, T. 14 S., R. 7 W., F. B. M.. and the same are hereby temporarily withdrawn from settlement, location, sale, or entry, except as provided in said Acts.

WARREN G. HARDING  
THE WHITE HOUSE,  
March 2, 1923.

1924

Executive Order 3946  
by President of the United States

Removing Lands from Mt. McKinley National Park, and Reserving Those and Adjoining Lands for Construction and Operation of Railroad Lines

It is hereby ordered that Executive Order No. 3617, dated January 13, 1922, withdrawing a certain unsurveyed area in Alaska near Mt. McKinley National Park for use in the administration thereof, be, and the same is hereby, revoked in so far as it affects the N $\frac{1}{2}$  of N $\frac{1}{2}$  and SW $\frac{1}{4}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 4, T. 14 S., R. 7 W., F. B. M.

And it is further ordered, pursuant to the provisions of the act of Congress approved March 12, 1914 (38 Stat, 305), that the above-described tract and certain adjoining land, to wit: N  $\frac{1}{2}$  of N $\frac{1}{2}$ , SW $\frac{1}{4}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , N $\frac{1}{2}$  SE $\frac{1}{4}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$  and N $\frac{1}{2}$  SW $\frac{1}{4}$  NE $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 4, T. 14 S., R: 7 W., F. B. M., be, and the same are hereby, withdrawn from settlement, location, sale, entry or other disposition and reserved for use in connection with the construction and operation of railroad lines under said act, under such regulations as have been or may hereafter be prescribed.

CALVIN COOLIDGE  
THE WHITE HOUSE,  
January 21, 1924.



Appendix A



# Appendix B.

## General Law and Policy Guidance

*These general laws (listed in chronological order), executive orders, and policy guidance are applicable to, but not specific to, the management of Denali National Park and Preserve.*

### General Laws

- Antiquities Act of 1906
- National Park Service Organic Act of 1916
- Clean Air Act (1963, as amended)
- The Wilderness Act of 1964
- National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended
- National Environmental Policy Act of 1969
- Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended
- American Indian Religious Freedom Act (1978, as amended)
- Archeological Resources Protection Act (1979, as amended)
- Federal Cave Resources Protection Act of 1988
- Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (1990)
- National Parks Omnibus Management Act of 1998
- The Paleontological Resources Preservation Act (2003)

### Executive Orders

- Executive Order 13007 American Indian Sacred Sites (1996)
- Executive Order 13175 Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments (2000)

## Policy

- National Park Service Management Policies (2006)
- National Park Service Director's Orders—see complete list of Director's Orders at <http://www.nps.gov/applications/npspolicy/DOrders.cfm> (includes Natural Resource Management Reference Manual #77 (2004))

- Code of Federal Regulations, Title 43—Public Lands: Interior
- Code of Federal Regulations, Title 13—National Park System Units in Alaska, with special reference to 13.900s (Special Regulations—Denali National Park and Preserve) and 13.400s (Subsistence)

*Regulations for Denali are included in 36 CFR Part 13 subpart L (13.900 – 13.999). These regulations provide guidance for park-specific issues and are subject to change. The park-specific regulations include such items as: definitions for subsistence resident zones, limits to climbers on Denali, parameters of the Sable Pass Wildlife Viewing Area, rules for motor vehicle permits on the restricted section of the Denali Park Road, and restrictions on snowmobile use in the former Mount McKinley National Park.*

## Standards and Guidelines

- Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Regulations for the Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties
- Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation
- Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties
- Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes



## Appendix B

# Appendix C.

## Planning Portfolio

*Appendix C includes an annotated list of planning documents (pages 64-67), a diagrammatic representation of their relationship to the Foundation Statement and the Consolidated General Management Plan (page 68), and a timeline of laws and plans for Denali (page 69). Some of the plans are completed and others are being prepared or considered for preparation.*

### Vision Documents

#### **General Management Plan (1986)**

The General Management Plan (GMP) has been amended three times by the following plans:

- Entrance Area and Road Corridor Development Concept Plan (1997)
- South Side Denali Development Concept Plan (1997)
- Backcountry Management Plan (2006)

Each amendment included an Environmental Impact Statement prescribed by the National Environmental Policy Act, including extensive public scoping and public hearings and public comment on a draft plan.

#### **Entrance Area and Road Corridor Development Concept Plan (1997)**

This plan amends the 1986 General Management Plan for Denali for the entrance area and road corridor of the park to provide specific direction for road management and facility development proposals to meet a wide range of visitor interests and needs.

#### **South Side Denali Development Concept Plan (1997)**

This plan amends the 1986 General Management Plan for Denali for the development of visitor facilities on the south side of the park. Specific direction for expanded visitor facilities and recreational opportunities was given in the 2006 South Denali Implementation Plan.

#### **Backcountry Management Plan (2006)**

This plan updates and expands the 1976 Backcountry Management Plan and amends the 1986 General Management Plan for Denali. It provides specific direction for backcountry management and guides backcountry management decisions for Denali for 20 years. This plan specifically addresses new park and preserve lands, current resource protection, and user conflict issues, and provides information on management areas, access, wilderness management, commercial services, backcountry facilities, administrative and scientific activities, and easements and boundary changes.

This plan also serves as a Soundscape Preservation and Noise Management Plan as required by NPS Director's Order 47, a Wilderness Stewardship Plan (a.k.a. wilderness management plan) as required by NPS Director's Order 41, and a Commercial Services Plan for the backcountry. This plan addresses management of all park and preserve lands, except the park road corridor and adjacent development zones and backcountry day use areas, which were addressed in the 1997 Entrance Area and Road Corridor Development Concept Plan.

### **Consolidated General Management Plan (2008)**

This document integrates the original GMP with the extensive amendments for the entrance area and road corridor, South Side development, and backcountry management. The document reviews the park purposes and significance, outlines the planning history for the three amendments, and provides information about management zones, transportation and access, visitor facilities and services, backcountry management, subsistence management, resource management, and park operations.

## **Strategy Documents**

### **Resource Stewardship Strategy (2009)**

Denali's Resource Stewardship Strategy (RSS) is a 20-year program strategy document that serves as a bridge between the qualitative statements of desired conditions established in the General Management Plan and the goals and implementation actions determined through park strategic planning. The RSS addresses the natural character of wilderness and also the "other features" character of wilderness. The RSS is not a decision-making document. It is an analytical document that focuses on identifying and tracking indicators of desired conditions for park resources and values. It prioritizes 99 projects within 19 comprehensive strategies to achieve and maintain the desired condition. This working document is designed to be reviewed and updated periodically, based on new information and the results of completed activities, and includes budget and staffing information.

### **Visitor Services Strategy (not yet completed)**

The Denali National Park and Preserve Visitor Services Strategy will provide further definition to the range of optimal visitor services offered by the National Park Service, park partners, and commercial operators over the next 20 years. While not a decision document, the Visitor Services Strategy will identify and track key indicators that reflect the desired and appropriate condition for the visitor experience, while maintaining park purpose and wilderness character. This strategy for Denali will include a Wilderness Character Narrative and will address three of the qualities of wilderness (untrammled, undeveloped, and has outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation). This working document will be reviewed and updated periodically to reflect current management goals, budget scenarios, and staffing plans.

## **Implementation Documents**

*(listed in same order as on the diagram on page 68)*

### **Fire Management Plan (2004, updated annually)**

Denali's Fire Management Plan (FMP) is a strategic plan that summarizes elements of law, policy, and requirements from higher level park planning efforts (e.g., General Management Plan, Resource Stewardship Strategy) and relates those elements to expertise, specific knowledge of park resources, local weather patterns, visitor use patterns, and fire history and ecology. The FMP lays out how fire management strategies and tactics will protect values-at-risk and provide the necessary tools to meet fire and resource management objectives. The FMP is based on professional fire management and park management goals and objectives. The plan is supplemented by operational plans such as preparedness plans, hazard fuels plans, prescribed fire plans, and monitoring plans.

# Appendix C (cont'd)

## **Paleontological Resources Management Plan (draft 2010)**

The purpose of the Paleontological Resources Management Plan is to provide specific guidelines concerning the park's management objectives and goals with respect to fossils. NPS identifies park responsibilities for the management of paleontological resources in statements addressing the broader category of geologic resources, and identifies specific resource issues and priorities for management.

## **Wildlife Management Plans (2007)**

The goal of both wildlife management plans—the Bear-Human Conflict Management Plan and the Wolf-Human Conflict Management Plan—is to provide general guidelines that minimize wildlife-human conflicts and therefore increase visitor safety, minimize the effects of park visitation on the distribution, abundance, and behavior of bears and wolves in Denali, and ensure opportunities for visitors to observe, understand, and appreciate these wildlife species. Specifically the Wolf-Human Conflict Management Plan describes four program elements: education, closures of active den and rendezvous sites within areas frequented by visitors, removal of attractants, and management actions in response to wolf-human interactions.

## **Subsistence Management Plan (2004)**

The Subsistence Management Plan is intended to provide clarification in the management of subsistence uses in the park by addressing major topics related to subsistence such as timber cutting and use, shelters and cabins, trapping and trapline management, eligibility and residence zones, access, acquisition of resource data, and resolution of user conflicts and possible closures. As Denali's Subsistence Resource Commission makes changes to the subsistence program for the park, those changes will be incorporated into the plan.

## **Museum Management Plan (2005)**

The Museum Management Plan reviews existing museum conditions in 2005 and suggests programmatic changes and improvements for museum management (e.g., review the appropriateness of certain collections in the museum and improve access to museum collections).

## **Denali Park Road Vehicle Management Plan (2012)**

The Vehicle Management Plan (VMP) amends the 1986 GMP and 1997 Entrance Area and Road Corridor Development Concept Plan and sets measureable indicators and standards to protect resources and values of the park. The indicators include crowding standards for the number of vehicles at wildlife stops, in a viewscape, and at a rest area; the spacing of vehicles to ensure time for sheep crossings; restrictions to night-time traffic volumes; and restrictions to large (construction-related) vehicle traffic. This plan changes the road limit on vehicle traffic from a seasonal limit of 10,512 from Memorial Day to a week after Labor Day, to a limit of 160 vehicles per 24-hour period. The topics considered in analyses are visitor access, use, and experience, transportation system and traffic, wildlife and wildlife habitat, wilderness, park management and operations, and socioeconomics.

**Cultural Landscape Plans (not yet completed)**

Currently there are three large-scale cultural landscapes recorded in the park: Headquarters Historic District Cultural Landscape, Kantishna Mining District Cultural Landscape, and The Park Road Cultural Landscape. A plan and treatment guidelines have been approved for Headquarters Historic District; plans and treatment guidelines are being developed for the other two cultural landscapes.

**Park Asset Management Plan (2008, revised in 2013)**

The Park Asset Management Plan was revised based on the 2013 asset priority index (API) rating for all park assets. The API rating (used as a tool to identify the relative importance of the various infrastructure components at a park) is based on the asset's contribution to natural resource preservation, cultural resource preservation, visitor use, and park operations, and on the impact if the asset were lost.

**Toklat River Plan (not yet completed)**

This plan would consider the short- and long-range needs in the Toklat area as they relate to the natural system of the Toklat River, the administrative road camp, gravel extraction from the river, and visitor services.

**South Denali Implementation Plan (2006)**

See South Side Denali Development Concept Plan in Vision Documents section above.

**Kantishna (West Side) Plan (not yet completed)**

This plan would consider the protection of resources and the quality of the visitor experience in the Kantishna area. An administrative site also would be considered as part of this planning process.

**Education Plan (2009)**

The Denali Education Plan describes a 20-year vision for the development of an exemplary education and interpretation program at Denali. This plan communicates the park's long-term vision, key interpretive themes, educational priorities, and strategies to three primary audiences, each of which has a vital role in the future of education at Denali.

**Commercial Services Plan (not yet completed)**

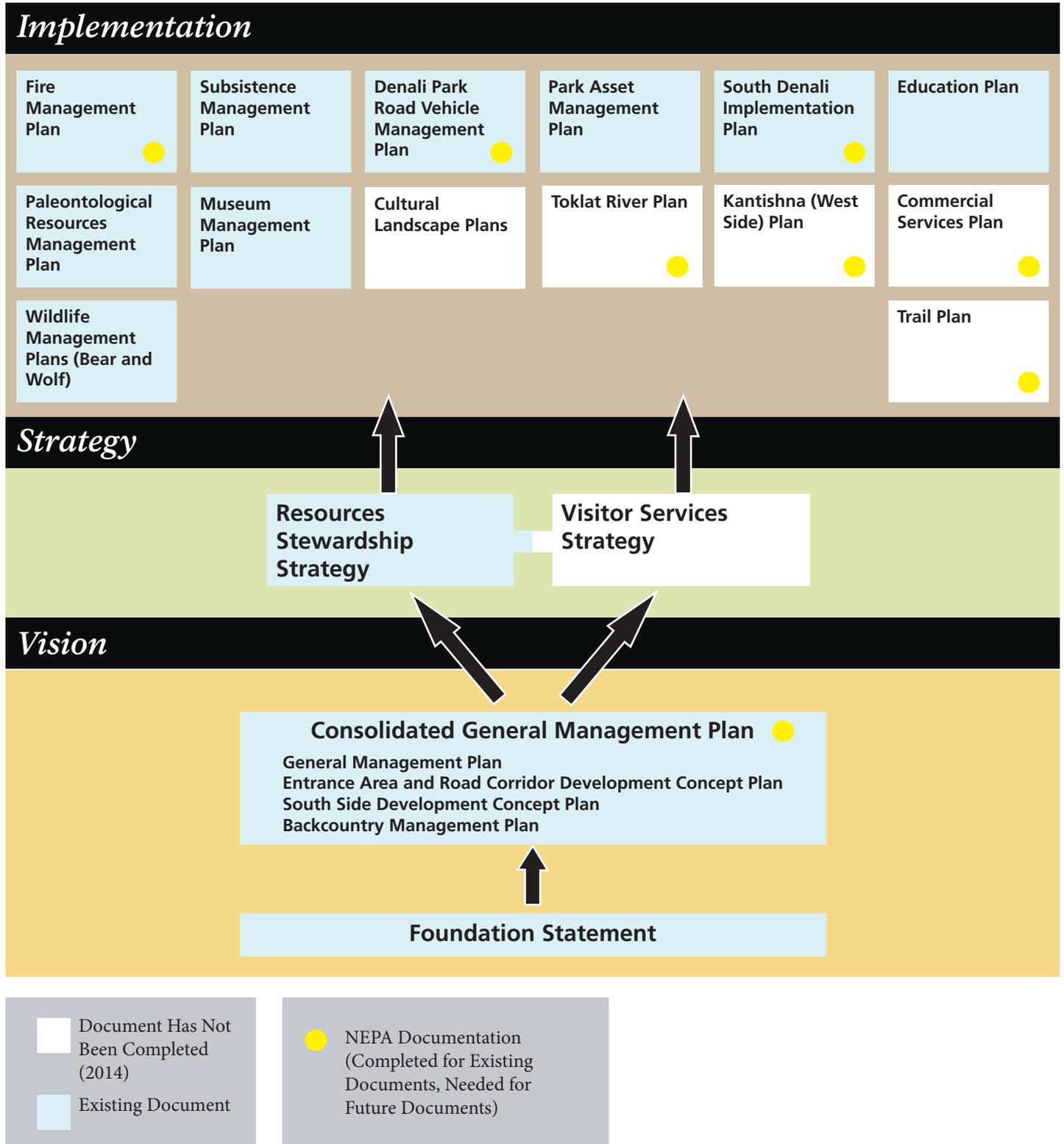
This plan would consider the necessity and appropriateness of commercial services within the park and would provide direction when considering commercial service proposals.

**Trail Plan (not yet completed)**

Denali's Trail Plan describes the long-term goals for trail creation, rehabilitation, and regular annual maintenance and monitoring in relation to other relevant plans and strategies. It will recommend immediate corrective actions and will identify a process to address future social trails and changing use patterns.

# NPS Planning Framework: Planning Portfolio for Denali National Park and Preserve

The graphic below presents the names and relationships among the documents that (1) provide the vision for the park and lay the foundation for park planning (Foundation Statement, General Management Plan), (2) provide overall strategic direction and guidance on a number of issues, and (3) provide additional program guidance for implementing the strategies.



# Timeline of Laws and Plans for Denali

Listed along the timeline are legislation (left side) and park plans and other key events (right side). For more details about the legislation, refer to Appendix A, pages 42-61. For more details about Denali's planning portfolio, refer to pages 64-67.

