

**Katmai National Park and Preserve, Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve, and  
Alagnak Wild River**

**2026 Proposed Changes to Superintendent's Compendium**

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

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

**36 CFR 1.6(f) Compilation of activities requiring a permit**

*Proposed Language [additive only]:*

- Some filming, still photography, and audio recording (depends upon the facts and circumstances; contact the park for more information). 36 CFR 13.50 and 54 U.S.C. 100905.

*Justification for proposed change:*

NPS management has directed parks to include this guidance in park compendia to support enforcement of filming, still photography, and audio recording permit requirements.

*Proposed Language [additive only]:*

- Brooks River Corridor, permit required yearly after June 15, to access within 50 yards of the river (see website for specifics [nps.gov/katm](https://nps.gov/katm)).

*Justification for proposed change:*

This addition is proposed for consistency with 36 CFR 13.1242 Brooks Camp Developed Area (BCDA): closures and restrictions. Specifically, it aligns with the Brooks River Corridor permit system, which was approved in 2023.

**36 CFR 2.11 Picnicking: designated areas**

*Current Language:*

Superseded by 13.26.

*Proposed Language:*

Superseded by 13.26 and 13.1238.

*Justification for proposed change:*

This addition corresponds with the proposed change in 36 CFR 13.1238 Brooks Camp Developed Area (BCDA): designated area in employee housing for picnicking. Refer to the justification in 13.1238, below.

### **36 CFR 2.13(a)(1) Conditions on Lighting or Maintaining a Fire**

*Proposed Language [additive only]:*

A fire may be ignited and maintained only by using fuel sources designed and commonly used for warmth or the preparation of food, such as charcoal briquettes or natural firewood. Lighting or maintaining a fire with other materials including, but not limited to, flammable liquids, garbage, fireworks, plastics, aerosol canisters, batteries, or other manufactured or synthetic materials, is prohibited.

*This action is necessary for the maintenance of public health and safety, protection of environmental or scenic values, protection of natural or cultural resources, and the implementation of management responsibilities. Materials other than approved combustibles – especially fire accelerants and substances prone to wind transport or explosion – creates serious risks when used to light or maintain fires. These combustibles can ignite or spread wildfires that directly threaten people and valuable resources and assets. The burning of manufactured or synthetic materials can contribute to air pollution, contaminate soil and water, and be toxic to humans and the environment. Less restrictive measures, such as an education campaign informing visitors of the risks of using certain materials to light or maintain a fire, would not be commensurate with the substantial risks associated with those activities and could lead to adverse outcomes that might be prevented by establishing an enforceable condition.*

*Justification for proposed change:*

On September 12, 2025, the Comptroller, Exercising the Delegated Authority of the Director, issued a Memorandum to add language to the Superintendent's Compendium. This Memorandum directs superintendents to take action to restrict the types of fuel that visitors can use to light and maintain fires in park areas, including in campsites. These restrictions will safeguard our natural spaces, protect natural and cultural resources, defend physical infrastructure and facilities, promote public health and safety, and reinforce responsible outdoor practices.

### **36 CFR 2.14(a)(9)(b) Sanitation: disposal, carrying out of human waste**

*Proposed Language [additive only]:*

In the area commonly referred to as “Crosswinds,” human feces must be deposited in a “cat hole” dug 6-8 inches deep in soil, at least ½ mile from the shoreline of Funnel Creek and Moraine Creek or packed out, when closer than ½ mile of Funnel Creek and Moraine Creek.

Crosswinds, and the area surrounding the confluence of Funnel and Moraine Creek has seen a dramatic rise in visitation in recent years. Groups are digging large cat holes collecting large deposits of human waste for weeks at a time, inside frequently used camp sites. Even when covering cat holes, with ½ mile of the Funnel and Moraine, bears dig it up and spread it over a wide area, creating unsanitary conditions.

*Justification for proposed change:*

Katmai management has determined that this requirement is necessary to maintain sanitary conditions in frequently-used sites within the Crosswinds area.

### **36 CFR 2.15(a)(1) Areas designated as closed to pets**

*Current Language:*

The Brooks Camp Developed Area is closed to pets(including service animals) pursuant to 13.123.

*Proposed Language:*

The Brooks Camp Developed Area is closed to pets (including service animals) pursuant to 13.1234.

*Justification for proposed change:*

Edited for accuracy.

### **36 CFR 3.8(b)(3) Operating a vessel in excess of flat wake speed in designated areas**

*Current Language:*

Designated no-wake zones are established in the following areas:

1. Naknek Lake within 200 yards of Naknek Lake beach within the Brooks Camp Developed Area, as marked by white and red No Wake buoys.

*Proposed Language:*

Designated no-wake zones are established in the following areas:

1. Naknek Lake within 200 yards of Naknek Lake beach within the Brooks Camp Developed Area, as marked by white and red, or orange, “No Wake” buoys.

*Justification for proposed change:*

Edited to reflect existing buoy colors.

**36 CFR 13.50 Closures and restrictions**

*Current Language:*

Launching, landing, or operating an unmanned aircraft from or on lands and waters administered by the National Park Service is prohibited except as approved in writing by the superintendent.

The term "unmanned aircraft" means a device that is used or intended to be used for flight in the air without the possibility of direct human intervention from within or on the device, and the associated operational elements and components that are required for the pilot or system operator in command to operate or control the device (such as cameras, sensors, communication links). This term includes all types of devices that meet this definition (e.g., model airplanes, quadcopters, drones) that are used for any purpose, including for recreation or commerce.

In Park areas where use of model aircraft for hobbyist or recreational use has been previously authorized, such use may continue under a permit issued by the Superintendent.

This restriction does not affect the primary jurisdiction of the Federal Aviation Administration over the National Airspace System.

*Proposed Language:*

Launching, landing, or operating an uncrewed or remotely piloted aircraft from or on lands and waters administered by the National Park Service within the boundaries of Katmai National Park and Preserve, Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve, and Alagnak Wild and Scenic River, is prohibited except as approved in writing by the superintendent.

14 CFR 1.1 defines aircraft as any device intended to be used for flight in the air. The term "uncrewed aircraft" means a device used for flight in the air without direct human input from being onboard the aircraft. Therefore, Uncrewed Aircraft Systems (UAS) are considered aircraft regardless of size or weight. The “system” incorporates associated

operational components including flight controller, flight software, communication radios, cameras, and sensors. UAS comprises all types of single-rotor, multi-rotor, fixed-wing, and vertical take-off and landing (VTOL) aircraft that meet this definition and are used for any purpose, from recreation to commerce.

Note: The terms Uncrewed Aircraft Systems and Unmanned Aircraft Systems in external documentation may be used interchangeably.

In Park areas where use of model aircraft for hobbyist or recreational use has been previously authorized, such use may continue under a permit issued by the Superintendent.

This restriction does not affect the primary jurisdiction of the Federal Aviation Administration over the National Airspace System.

*Justification for proposed change:*

This change is proposed for consistency with the definition of ‘uncrewed aircraft’ in 14 CFR 1.1.

### **35 CFR 13.50 Closures and restrictions**

*Proposed Language [additive only]:*

Filming, still photography, and audio recording activity may require a permit, consistent with 54 U.S.C. 100905.

Filming, still photography, and audio recording activity that occurs in closed areas, requires exclusive use of a site or area, or involves a set or staging equipment other than handheld equipment (such as a tripod, monopod, and handheld lighting equipment) requires a permit, unless the activity is affiliated with an activity or event that has been allowed under a written authorization, such as a special use permit.

Filming, still photography, and audio recording that involves more than eight individuals requires a permit, unless the NPS has specifically notified an individual or group that a permit is not required, or if the activity is affiliated with an activity or event that has been allowed under a written authorization, such as a special use permit.

If a permit is required for the reasons stated above, or if the NPS otherwise determines and then notifies an individual or group that a permit is required for a filming, still photography, or audio recording activity, then engaging in that activity without a permit is prohibited. Violating a term or condition of a permit issued by the NPS for a filming, still photography, or audio recording activity is prohibited, and may result in the suspension or revocation of the permit, in addition to any penalties that may apply under 36 CFR 1.3.

*Federal law at 54 U.S.C. 100905 states that permits and fees are not required for filming, still photography, or audio recording in park areas if certain requirements are met. These requirements address various topics, including, but not limited to, group size, location, equipment, potential impacts to resources and visitors, and the likelihood that the NPS will incur related administrative costs. If any of these requirements are not met, the law allows the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the NPS, to require a permit for the subject activity. Permit requirements are imposed by the superintendent under discretionary authority provided by 36 CFR 13.50, which allows the superintendent to restrict activities in NPS areas in Alaska. The general regulations for permits in 36 CFR 1.6 and 13.55 do not apply to permits issued for filming, still photography, and audio recording, which instead are governed by the statutory provisions in 54 U.S.C. 100905. The imposition of permit requirements, on a case-by-case basis, for filming, still photography, or audio recording does not require rulemaking under 36 CFR 13.50(c). Requiring a permit with reasonable terms and conditions in accordance with statutory requirements at 54 U.S.C. 100905 will not result in a significant alteration in the public use pattern of the area, will not adversely affect the area's natural, aesthetic, scenic or cultural values, or require a long-term or significant modification in the resource management objectives of the area, because the permit requirement is limited in time and scope to the specific activities authorized by the permit, which contains terms and conditions that protect the values, resources, and visitors of the area.*

*Justification for proposed change:*

NPS management has directed parks to include this guidance in park compendia to support enforcement of filming, still photography, and audio recording permit requirements.

### **36 CFR 13.1238 Brooks Camp Developed Area (BCDA): designated area in employee housing for picnicking**

*Current Language:*

For purposes of this section, picnicking is defined as the consumption or preparation of any food items (other than water) outside of established buildings and attached structures (i.e., porches). Food items include any products intended for human consumption.

At the Lake Brooks Housing area, the outdoor propane grill between housing units BL1 and BL2, within an electric fence, may be utilized by park and lodge staff to prepare food. The grill must be cleaned and washed after use to mitigate the potential for it becoming a food source attractant.

*Proposed Language:*

For purposes of this section, picnicking is defined as the consumption or preparation of any food items (other than water) outside of established buildings and attached structures (i.e., porches). Food items include any products intended for human consumption.

At the Lake Brooks Housing area, the outdoor propane grill between housing units BL1 and BL2, and also the Admin area in VRAA, within an electric fence, may be utilized by park and lodge staff to prepare food. The grill must be cleaned and washed after use to mitigate the potential for it becoming a food source attractant.

*Justification for change:*

This change is necessary to provide an additional designated cooking area for staff and would be consistent with best practices for human-bear management within the Brooks Camp Developed Area.