



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Arches National Park

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Moab, UT 84532

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## **SUPERINTENDENT'S COMPENDIUM:** Of Designations, Closures, Permit Requirements and Other Restrictions Imposed Under Discretionary Authority - 36 CFR 1.7(b)

June, 2009

As provided in 16 USC, Section 3, and Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Chapter I, Parts 1-7, the following Superintendent's Orders are established for Arches National Park. Unless otherwise noted, these orders apply in addition to the regulations contained in Parts 1-7 of Title 36 CFR.

I have determined that these actions are necessary for the maintenance of public health and safety, protection of environmental or scenic values, protection of natural or cultural resources, aid to scientific research, implementation of management responsibilities, equitable allocation and use of facilities, or the avoidance of conflict among visitor use activities.

Visitors may obtain a copy of this compendium, additional information or permit applications by contacting: Office of the Superintendent, Arches National Park, 2282 SW Resource Blvd., Moab, Utah 84532-3298.

A copy of this compendium is also available for public review at the following locations:

Arches Visitor Center  
Arches National Park

Chief Ranger's Office  
2282 SW Resource Blvd, Moab, Utah 84532-3298.

The Arches National Park Internet Web Site:  
<http://www.nps.gov/arch>

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kate Cannon, Superintendent  
South East Utah Group

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## 1.5 Closures and Public Use Limits.

### ROADS

The following roads and parking areas are closed to all public vehicle traffic except for those on official government business:

- HQ administrative roads
- Balanced Rock maintenance area access
- Devils Garden maintenance area access

Invited guests of employees residing in government housing may access administrative roadways in housing areas.

All park roads are subject to temporary closures as indicated by signs or other means of notification during periods of adverse weather, natural disaster, emergency, or implementation of management responsibilities.

### ROCK CLIMBING

Definitions:

**Technical Rock Climbing** is defined as ascending or descending a rock formation utilizing rock climbing equipment.

**Canyoneering** is defined as cross country travel involving occasional ascending or descending a rock formation utilizing rock climbing equipment.

**Free Climbing and Clean Aid Climbing** are minimum impact approaches that employ chocks, stoppers, nuts and camming devices, rather than pitons or bolts, for protection or direct support. These are climbing aids that are removable and do not damage the rock.

**Slacklining** is defined as walking on a rope or other line that is anchored between rock formations, trees, or any other natural features. Height of the rope above the ground is immaterial.

The following closures, conditions, and restrictions apply to rock climbing or similar activities such as, but not limited to, technical rock climbing, free climbing and clean aid climbing within Arches National Park:

### Closures

- Any arch or natural bridge named on the United States Geological Survey topographical map covering Arches National Park.
- Balanced Rock - Closed to climbing year-round

- Bubo - Closed from January 1st through June 30<sup>th</sup>
- Any arch or natural bridge named on the United States Geological Survey 7.5 minute topographical maps covering Arches National Park is closed to climbing year-round.
- Industrial Disease on the Devil Dog Spire is closed from January 1st through June 30<sup>th</sup>

### **Restrictions**

Climbing and canyoneering within Arches National Park shall be either free climbing or clean aid climbing, except as described below.

- No new permanent climbing hardware may be installed in any fixed location. If an existing bolt or other hardware item is unsafe, it may be replaced. This will limit all climbing to existing routes or new routes not requiring placement of fixed anchors.
- Climbing anchors and/or protection points may not be placed with the use of a hammer except to replace existing belay and rappel anchors and bolts on existing routes, or for emergency self-rescue.
- If an existing software item (slings, runners, etc.) is unsafe, it may be replaced.
- Software (webbing, accessory cords, etc.) that is left in place shall match the rock surface in color.
- The intentional removal of lichen or plants from rock is prohibited.
- The physical altering of rock faces such as chiseling, glue reinforcement of existing holds, and gluing of new holds is prohibited.
- The use of motorized power drills is prohibited.
- Fixed ropes may not be left in place for more than 24 hours. Fixed ropes left in place longer than 24 hours shall be considered "abandoned property" and removed.
- Slacklining is prohibited.

### **USE LIMITS, CONDITIONS, AND RESTRICTIONS**

The area known as the Fiery Furnace (see map, Appendix A) is closed to entry except by those who have secured a permit from a uniformed park employee. Visitors entering the Fiery Furnace with a park employee (ie. on a guided hike, during emergency operations, etc.) are exempt from this requirement.

## **HANG GLIDERS, ATVs, AND ORVs**

All motor vehicles operated within the boundaries of Arches National Park must have a valid state registration, display a valid state license plate(s), and be operated by someone in possession of a valid state issued operator's license. 36 CFR 4.2.

Any off highway vehicles (OHV); all terrain vehicles (ATV); or other motorized conveyance manufactured for recreational non-highway, off road, or all terrain travel (all-terrain type I or type II vehicles, as defined by Utah State Code Annotated 41-22-2) are prohibited. 36 CFR 1.5

No use of vehicles is allowed off of designated roads. 36 CFR 4.10(a), (b).

Arches National Park is closed to the use of hang gliders, paragliders, and parachutes. BASE jumping is prohibited in Arches National Park. 36 CFR 2.17 (a)(3); NPS Management Policies 2006, 8.2.2.7.

## **COMMERCIAL VEHICLES**

Drivers of motor vehicles are prohibited from idling their engines in parking lots of developed areas, with the following exceptions: 1) after long uphill grades, engines may be idled for up to 15 minutes in order to cool; 2) engines may be left running to provide cooling or heating for disabled passengers who have difficulty in disembarking.

### **1.6 Permits.**

(c) The following permits are required within Arches National Park:

- Carry or possess a weapon, trap, or net - 2.4(d)
- Specimen collection - 2.5
- Backcountry use permit - 2.10
- Audio disturbance - 2.12
- Aircraft and air delivery - 2.17
- Unattended property - 2.22
- Fee waiver - 2.23
- Noncommercial soliciting - 2.37
- Explosives - 2.38
- Special Events – 2.50
- Public assemblies, meetings – 2.51
- Sale or distribution of printed material - 2.52
- Residing on Federal lands - 2.61
- Memorialization - 2.62
- Load, weight and size limits - 4.11
- Business operations - 5.3
- Commercial photography - 5.5
- Commercial vehicles - 5.6

- Construction of buildings or other facilities - 5.7
- Fiery Furnace Day Use Permit - 1.6

Permits will be specific in nature to the activity being permitted. In those cases where permit use is frequent a specific permit form has been designed, i.e. backcountry permit, entrance and campground fee permits and commercial filming permits. In most other cases a special use permit or letter of authorization will be prepared which will articulate the specific conditions under which the permitted activity is authorized. In all cases a permit or letter of authorization must be in the permittee's possession at all times and must be presented to any authorized person upon request.

Recreational Fee Permits for overnight stays in Devils Garden Campground will be issued as posted. The receipt must be inserted in the box located at the appropriate campsite within 30 minutes of occupying a campsite.

(e) Terms and conditions of the Fiery Furnace permit system are as follows:

- 1] Walking anywhere except on rocks or in washes is prohibited.
- 2] Walking (stepping) on vegetation is prohibited.
- 3] One member from each group must openly display the permit (Form 10-404) while in the Fiery Furnace (ie. attached to pack or clothing).
- 4] All members of a group hiking together must be on a single permit. Multiple permitted parties may not join up and hike together.
- 5] Transfer of the permit is prohibited.
- 6] The maximum group size is 25 people.
- 7] The maximum daily limit is 75 people.

## **2.1 Preservation of natural, cultural and archaeological resources**

- (b) Leaving a trail or walkway to shortcut between portions of the same trail or walkway or to shortcut to an adjacent trail or walkway is prohibited.

## **2.2 Wildlife Protection.**

(d) Wildlife lawfully taken outside of Arches National Park may be transported non-stop through the Park using the following roads and in the following directions. (Outbound from the park only):

Cache Valley Road from the east boundary to the Delicate Arch road;  
Delicate Arch Road between Cache Valley Road and the Main Park Road;  
Main Park Road from the Delicate Arch road to the Main park entrance near the Visitor Center.

Vehicles transporting lawfully taken wildlife being transported as outlined above will not be allowed to stop at designated pullouts, road shoulders or parking lots except in cases of emergency.

Wildlife carcasses will display a valid state game tag. Animals must be covered or out of sight. Persons transporting will have in their possession a valid state hunting license.

Those using the above route and carrying weapons are subject to the provisions of 36 CFR, Sec. 2.4(a)(3): Traps, nets, and unloaded weapons may be possessed within a temporary lodging or mechanical mode of conveyance when such implements are rendered temporarily inoperable or are packed, cased or stored in a manner that will prevent their ready use. 36CFR2.4(a)(3) is valid until 2/20/10 at which time these restrictions will be replaced by pending legislation

- (e) The viewing of wildlife or areas frequented by wildlife using a hand-held light, vehicle headlight or any other type of mounted light within the Park is prohibited.

## **2.10 Camping and Food Storage.**

- (a) Camping is permitted within Arches National Park subject to the following conditions:

### **Devils Garden Campground:**

- General provisions: No person or their equipment shall occupy the campground for more than seven (7) nights (consecutive or non-consecutive) in any thirty (30) day period or a total of fourteen (14) nights per year.
- Camping fees are to be paid within 30 minutes of occupying a campsite.
- Sites for which required fees are not paid and/or the registration receipt is not displayed in the campsite receipt box will be considered unoccupied and available for use by other campers.
- Sites may not be left unattended for more than 24 hours. All motor vehicles (includes all wheeled vehicles, R.V.'s, camp trailers etc.) must be parked within the striped lines at each campsite and on the paved/graveled area of the campsite. Parked vehicles must not extend into the roadway.
- Occupancy of the Devils Garden Developed Campground is limited to ten (10) persons per campsite for the individual campsites (Children under the age of six years excluded).
- The first 24 individual campsites will be operated on a first come-first served basis. The remaining 28 campsites may be reserved through a national reservation

service for nights from March 1 to October 31 inclusive. Any unreserved sites will be available on a first-come, first-served basis each day.

- Sites may not be held for late arriving parties or individuals.
- It is prohibited for visitors to go through the campground requesting campers to allow them to share any campsite.
- Check-out time for campsites at Devils Garden Campground is 10:00 A.M.
- The use of generators in Devils Garden Campground is restricted to the following hours: between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m., and between 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.
- Entry and occupancy of developed campgrounds is limited to registered campers and vehicles only between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.

#### **Devils Garden Campground Group Campsite:**

- Two group campsites are available by reservation only for a minimum of eleven (11) persons. The Juniper Basin Site will accommodate a maximum of fifty-five (55) persons and ten (10) vehicles. The Canyon Wren Site will accommodate a maximum of thirty-five (35) persons and ten (10) vehicles.
- Camping in group sites is limited to walk-in (tent) camping only. Camping in motorhomes or other similar recreational vehicles is not allowed in the group campsites. (Exceptions can be made at the discretion of NPS staff in order to accommodate the needs of handicapped persons.)
- Group Campsites may not be reserved more than two times per year by the same group. For the purposes of this section, a User Group is defined as a "department" in colleges and universities.

#### **Backcountry Areas:**

- A backcountry permit is required for all overnight stays in the park's backcountry.
- Backcountry permits must be obtained from the Arches National Park Visitor Center.
- Backcountry permits will not be issued within one hour prior to sunset for the current date.
- The backcountry permit must be in the camper's possession while in the backcountry and must be presented to any authorized NPS personnel upon request.
- Persons are limited to seven (7) consecutive nights per backcountry zone. Total trip duration can be extended by moving to a different zone.

- Groups camping in the park's backcountry are limited to a maximum of ten (10) persons per group and ten (10) head of riding and pack animals per group. Groups must locate camps at least one (1) mile apart.
  - The limit for stock groups for any individual site is one night.
  - The following backcountry areas are closed to camping either year-around or for a portion of the year:
    - Salt Valley, up to 5,040 foot contour on the east and west sides including entire valley floor. No camping year-around due to visual impact of campsites. (See Appendix B)
    - Backcountry campsites must be at least one (1) mile from any designated road and one-half (1/2) mile from any designated trail. Campsites must be out of sight of roads, trails and any arches named on the USGS topographical maps. (Note: The entire Klondike Bluffs section lies within 1 mile of roads and is closed year-round.) See map appendix B.
    - Campsites must be located three-hundred (300) feet from water sources and recognizable archeological sites. Three-hundred (300) feet is recommended from flowing water and one-hundred (100) feet is required, except for the Colorado River Corridor (see (b)(3) below).
    - Horse and stock campsites and tethering must be a minimum of three-hundred (300) feet from any non-flowing water source.
    - Ground fires are not permitted, stoves should be used for cooking.
    - Human waste must be buried four to six inches deep in mineral soil and at least 100 feet from any water source. Toilet paper and feminine hygiene products must be carried out.
    - Swimming or washing in potholes is not allowed.
- (b)(3)** Camping within 100 feet of a flowing stream, river or body of water is permitted in the Colorado River Corridor only.
- (d)** In the Devils Garden campground, garbage must be disposed of in designated receptacles and may not be left in bags or other soft containers. Food must be stored in vehicles or hardened containers except when being prepared or consumed

## **2.11 Picnicking**

Picnicking shall be allowed in all areas except:

- Within the Devils Garden Campground as posted.
- When the activity would interfere with normal agency functions or visitor use activities already in progress.

## **2.13 Fires.**

- (a)(1) On-the-ground wood or charcoal fires are prohibited park-wide, except that fires may be kindled in firepits provided within the Devils Garden campground and the designated picnic areas at Devils Garden and Balanced Rock. Open fires may be lit in portable fire pans designed to contain all fire ash and residue along the Colorado River Corridor. All ashes from the river corridor are to be removed from the park.

The use of the fire pit at the Devils Garden Amphitheater is restricted to NPS personnel only. Any other use of this fire pit must be approved in advance by the superintendent.

The use of portable stoves, including charcoal burners, is permitted in the picnic areas and campground.

Fires may not be kindled in backcountry areas; only portable, self-contained stoves are allowed.

The collection of firewood and tinder (including dead-fall) from the park is prohibited, except that the collection of driftwood from within 100 feet of banks of the Colorado River is permitted along the river corridor.

## **2.14 Sanitation and Refuse**

- (b) In non-developed areas more than a quarter of a mile from rest room facilities, human body waste must be buried four (4) to six (6) inches deep in the soil in an area not frequented by the public, not visible from trails, campsites, developed areas, and at least 100 feet from any water source. The burning of toilet paper is prohibited. Toilet paper and feminine hygiene products must be carried out.

Burial of human waste along the Colorado river corridor is prohibited. Solid human waste must be containerized and carried out of the park by all boaters camping along the river corridor.

## **2.15 Pets:**

- (a)(1) Dogs (except service animals), cats, and other pets, are prohibited on any Park land or trail (including buildings) except in those locations identified below:

FRONTCOUNTRY - All park roads open for public vehicular use, parking areas, established picnic areas, and the Devils Garden Campground.

(a)(3) Leaving a pet unattended and tied to an object is prohibited except in the following circumstances:

- Pets may be left unattended by vehicle owners under the following conditions:
  1. Pets must be secured in a location where they will not interfere with wildlife or with normal travel by other visitors.
  2. Pets which bark excessively or exhibit aggressive behavior may not be left unattended.
  3. Pets may not be left unattended if temperature or conditions could endanger the pet's health.
  4. No pet may be left unattended overnight.
  5. Pets must be secured in a manner which will avoid resource damages (e.g. No nails or anchors in trees, avoid cryptogamic soils, etc.)
- Pet may be left unattended and tied to an object in Devils Garden Campground while the owners are away from the campsite. Pets may not be left unattended overnight.

(a)(5) Pet excrement must be immediately collected by the pet handler and disposed of in the nearest trash receptacle or toilet facility.

(e) Pets kept by residents of the park will be maintained consistent with the provisions of this section and in accordance with provisions established in the Superintendent's Directive. This directive is hereby adopted and made a part of these orders.

## **2.16 Horses and Pack Animals.**

(a) Horses, mules and burros are designated as pack animals. No other animals, including llamas and goats, are designated as pack animals.

(b) The use of saddle and pack animals is permitted in the following roadless areas:

- Salt Wash upstream from the Delicate Arch road, Courthouse Wash and Seven Mile Canyon
- All travel in roadless areas is confined to the wash bottoms. Leaving wash bottoms to avoid quicksand when it is present is an exception to this regulation.

(c) The use of saddle and pack animals on park roads is prohibited except as follows:

- Use is permitted on all designated four-wheel roads within the park, which include: The Willow Springs road, the "Four-wheel-drive road" (From Salt

Valley to Willow Flats including the Tower Arch loop road) and the Cache Valley road.

- Use is permitted on the following two-wheel drive non-paved roads:  
Salt Valley road from the Main park road to the park's west boundary and the Klondike Bluffs road.
- (g)
- Horse and pack stock users are required to obtain a backcountry permit at the Arches Visitor Center for overnight trips.
  - Maximum group size for overnight and day trips is ten (10) people and ten (10) pack animals.
  - Campsites must be one (1) mile from and out of sight of frontcountry facilities and roads, and one-half (1/2) mile from any designated trail.
  - Campsites must be three-hundred (300) feet from any recognizable archaeological sites.
  - Campsites and tethering must be a minimum of three-hundred (300) feet from any non-flowing water source. The same distance is recommended from continuously flowing water, but one-hundred (100) feet is the required distance from flowing water.
  - Where possible, horses will be watered downstream from the source. All manure dropped in or near any spring or non-flowing water source must be immediately removed to avoid contamination.
  - At trailheads and other loading areas, any manure spilled from the trailering unit, fresh excrement, or feed **MUST** be picked up prior to departing..
  - Horses must be picketed in locations which least damage the vegetation. Animals may not be directly tied to trees and other vegetation **EXCEPT** tamarisk (saltcedar). Animals may be tied directly to this exotic species.
  - Grazing, or loose herding of pack and saddle stock is not allowed in the park and horse and pack stock users are required to carry feed for overnight trips. In the backcountry, the use of loose hay or grain containing viable seeds is prohibited. Stock users are required to carry supplemental weed free feed on all trips.
  - All parties are required to scatter manure upon vacating a campsite. Animals that remain "camped" in an area longer than twelve (12) hours should be rotated to a new picket site and any manure at the old site scattered no less than one-hundred (100) feet from any campsite or water source.

- Pack and saddle stock may not be ridden or kept overnight in any established roadside campground.
- Any commercially guided horse or pack stock trip must be provided by an outfitter authorized to operate under the commercial use procedures within Arches National Park.

### **2.21 Smoking.**

- (a) Smoking is prohibited in all public use and administrative buildings and facilities, and in all government-owned or leased vehicles.

### **2.22 Property.**

- (a)(2) Park visitors may leave their vehicles unattended in excess of 24 hours for the period of time specified on their backcountry camping permit.

Traditional geocaches are prohibited. Geocaching is defined as the placement of a cache within the park boundaries and distributing the coordinates, or other clues to the coordinates, for the purpose of locating the cache at a later date.

Virtual caches or waymarks are permitted in areas open to the public.

### **2.35 Alcoholic Beverages and Controlled Substances.**

- (a)(3)(i) All public use buildings of the park are closed to the consumption of alcoholic beverages except during officially sanctioned activities when the building is closed to the general public.

### **2.51 Public assemblies, meetings.**

- (a) Activities governed by this section will be authorized under the conditions of a Special Use Permit issued by the superintendent.

### **2.52 Sale or distribution of printed matter.**

- (a) Activities governed by this section will be authorized under the conditions of a Special Use Permit issued by the superintendent.

### **2.62 Memorialization.**

All undeveloped areas are open to the scattering of human ashes from cremation, pursuant to conditions of a special use permit issued by the Superintendent, with the exception of archeological sites and standing pools of water.

Human ashes may not be scattered in any standing pools of water, potholes, or side

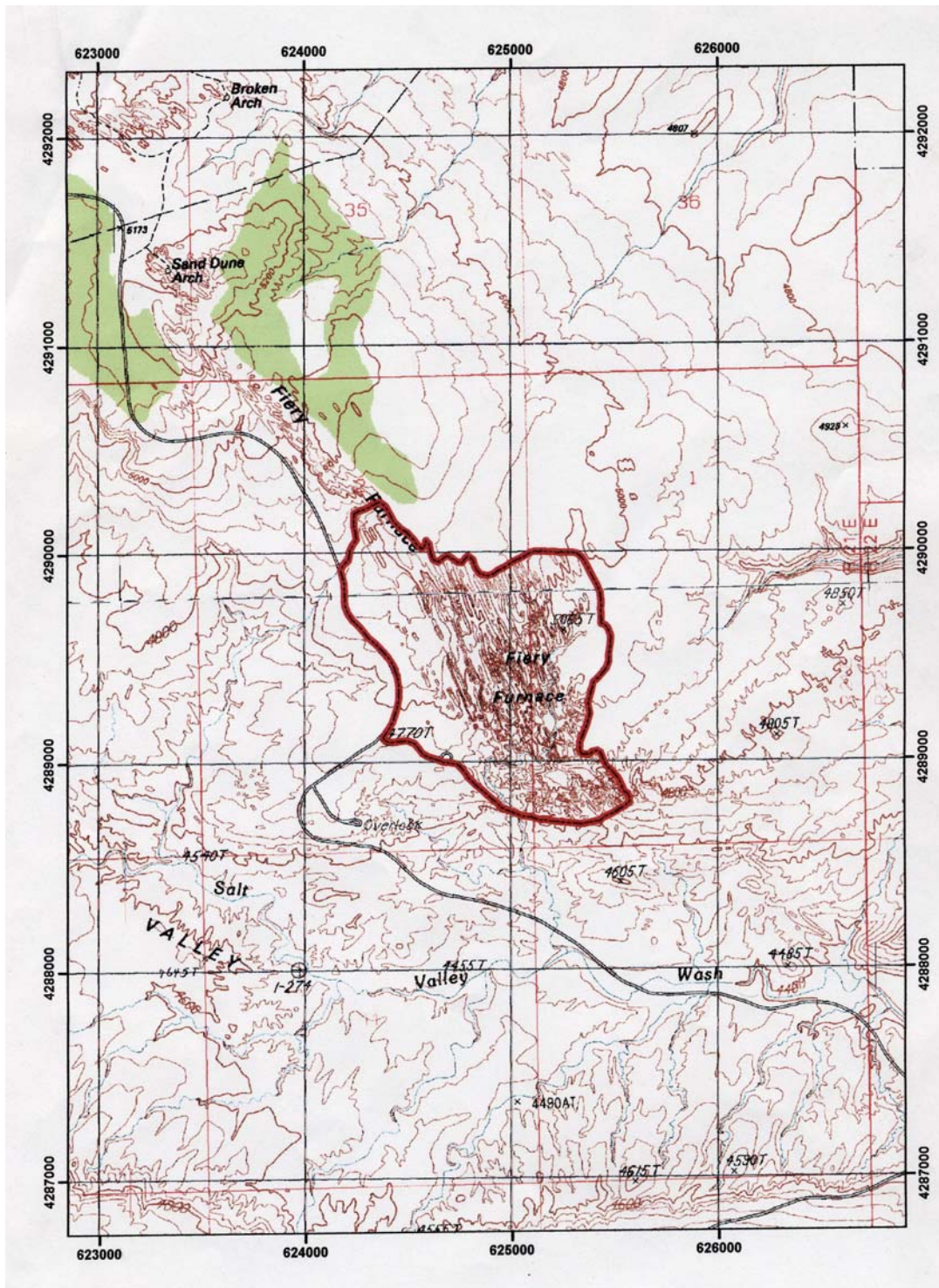
streams and creeks.

#### **4.30 Bicycles.**

(c) The use of bicycles is permitted on all public roadways within the Park. The possession of a bicycle off a public roadway is prohibited.

(d)(3) Bicycles are prohibited from operating abreast of another bicycle on all roadways within the Park.

#### **APPENDIX A (1)**



APPENDIX A (2)

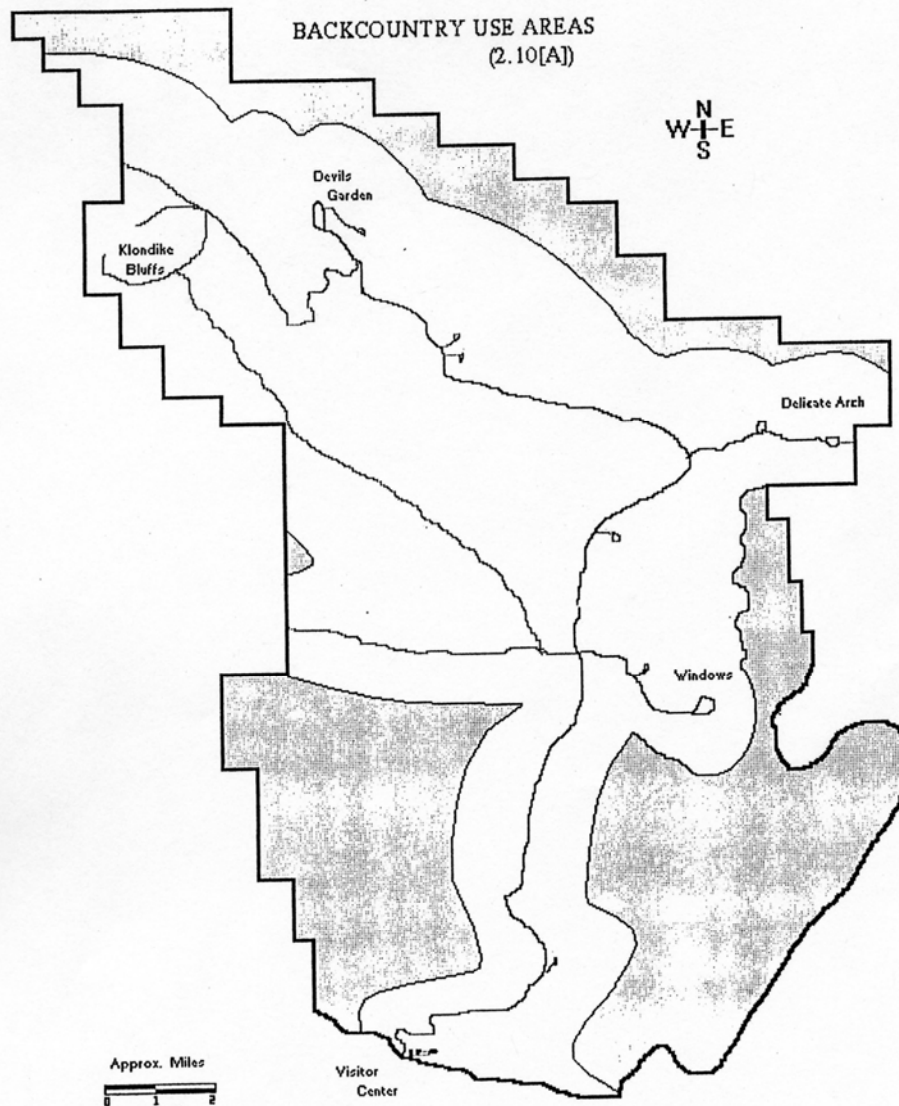


**APPENDIX B**

APPENDIX D

ARCHES NATIONAL PARK

BACKCOUNTRY USE AREAS  
(2.10[A])



\*Shaded areas are open to overnight backcountry use as described in section 2.10(a) of the Arches Compendium.

A scaled topographic map of the backcountry use areas is on display at the Arches Visitor Center desk.