



2011 Fact Sheet

Superintendent Paul R. Anderson

Established February 26, 1917 (as Mount McKinley National Park)
December 2, 1980 (increased in size and name changed to Denali National Park and Preserve)
Denali is the Athabaskan name for Mount McKinley, and means "The High One." Although McKinley is the mountain's official name, "Denali" is the name favored by most Alaskans.
Park was designated as an International Biosphere Reserve in 1976.

Size

| | | | |
|----------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Park | 4,740,911.37 acres | 7,407.67 sq. miles | 1,918,579 hectares |
| Preserve | <u>1,334,117.87 acres</u> | <u>2,084.56 sq. miles</u> | <u>539,898 hectares</u> |
| | 6,075,029.24 acres | 9,492.23 sq. miles | 2,458,477 hectares |
| | | (24,584.77 sq. kilometers) | |

(For comparison: State of New Hampshire = 9,351 sq. miles and Massachusetts = 10,555 sq. miles)

- Wilderness designation (most of original Mount McKinley National Park):
2,123,977 acres; 3,318.7 sq. miles; 8,595.4 sq. kilometers; 859,543 hectares
- Perimeter (boundary, including new park and preserve): 606 miles or 975 kilometers

Visitation

2010: 378,571 visitors
2009: 358,040
2008: 432,301
2007: 458,307

Base Budget \$14,061,000

NPS Staffing

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Permanent | 96 |
| Term | 26 |
| Seasonal | 210 |
| Volunteers (2010) | 410 (contributed 51,139 hours of work) |

Campgrounds

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| RVs and/or tents: | 3 campgrounds (232 sites) |
| Tents only: | 3 campgrounds (42 sites) |

Park Road

| | | |
|----------------|------------|------------------|
| Total length: | 92.0 miles | 148.0 kilometers |
| Paved section: | 14.8 miles | 23.8 kilometers |

Landmarks and Elevations

| | <u>Elevations above sea level</u> | |
|---|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Denali Visitor Center | 1,746 feet | 532 meters |
| Highway Pass (highest point on road) | 3,980 | 1213 |
| Eielson Visitor Center | 3,733 | 1138 |
| Wonder Lake Campground | 2,055 | 626.3 |
| Mt. Foraker | 17,400 | 5303.5 |
| Mt. McKinley--South Peak (highest point in North America) | 20,320 | 6193.5 |
| -- North Peak | 19,470 | 5934 |
| Lowest point (Yentna River at boundary) | 223 | 68 |

Wildlife Species

| | |
|------------|--|
| Amphibians | 1 (wood frog) |
| Mammals | 39 |
| Birds | 169 species recorded; 122 documented as breeding and 16 recorded as accidental |
| Fish | 14 (including 3 salmon species) |
| Reptiles | 0 |

| | |
|--|---|
| Flora | <p>Vascular plants: 758 species documented Tree species: 8 Approximately 600 species of mosses, lichens and liverworts currently listed. <i>Erioderma pedicellatum</i> , a lichen discovered in 2007, was previously known only from limited areas in Scandinavia and southeastern Canada. It is currently classified as Critically Endangered.</p> |
| Paleontology | <p>Thousands of trace fossils (tracks, footprints, or body prints) have been found since the first discovery in 2005, all dating from 65-100 million years ago. They include those of dinosaurs such as Theropods, Hadrosaurs, Certopsians, and Pterosaurs, as well as bird tracks, fish traces, crayfish burrows, and insect trackways. <i>Myirospirifer breasei</i>, a species of extinct marine mollusk-brachiopod that has been found only in Denali, is named after Phil Brease. He was the park geologist from 1986 until his untimely death in May 2010.</p> |
| Lakes and Streams | <p>Largest is Chilchukabena Lake: 2.6 miles long, 2 miles wide, 2056 acres Wonder Lake: 2.7 miles long, 1/2 mile wide, 649 acres, 280 feet maximum depth Approximately 12,206 lakes and ponds in the park and preserve; 18,679 miles of streams</p> |
| Glaciers | <p>17% of park's land area is covered with glaciers. Largest glaciers are on south side of Alaska Range: Kahiltna, Ruth, Eldridge, Tokositna, Yentna (35-40 miles in length). Largest glacier on north side of Alaska Range is the Muldrow Glacier (34 miles long). Deepest measured glacier: Ruth Glacier, 3805 feet or 1160 meters.</p> |
| Earthquakes | <p>Number per year: about 700 Average magnitude: 2.0. The 7.9 quake on November 3, 2002 was largest interior Alaska earthquake in state history. Depth: Over 50% between 0-15 km, but 32% between 90-130 km Location: most events occur within the Kantishna seismic cluster, in the foothills north of Denali</p> |
| Weather | <p>Average annual precipitation = 15 inches (park headquarters) Wettest months are June, July and August. Average annual snowfall = 80 inches (park headquarters) Coldest temperature recorded at headquarters: -54° F, February 5, 1999 Coldest year on record: 1956 Highest temperature recorded at headquarters: 91° F, June 22, 1991 Warmest year on record: 1926 Average January temperature = 2°F Average July temperature = 55°F Shortest day (December 21) = 4 hours, 21 minutes of daylight Longest day (June 21) = 20 hours, 49 minutes of daylight Number of years in cooperation with the National Weather Service: 86</p> |
| Sled Dog Kennels | <p>Number of dogs: 33 (14 females and 19 males) Miles patrolled by sled per winter (average): 3,000 Kennels building constructed in 1929; Sled dog demonstrations inaugurated in 1939 2010 dog demonstration attendees: 45,429</p> |
| Mt. McKinley Mountaineering Statistics (2011) | <p>Number of climbers: 1,232 (record was 1,340 in 2005) Number of climbers who reached top or "summit": 651 Summit percentage: 53% (Average summit percentage: 52%) Rescues: 13 Fatalities: 9 (Total number of fatalities since 1932: 117)</p> |
| Notable Ascents | <p>First summit of South Peak (true summit): June 7, 1913; Harper, Karstens, Stuck, Tatum First summit of North Peak: April 3, 1910; Anderson, Taylor First woman to summit: June 6, 1947; Barbara Polk Washburn First solo ascent: August 26, 1970; Naomi Uemura First winter ascent: February 28, 1967; Johnston, Davidson, Genet First solo winter ascent: February 12, 1984; Uemura (died on descent) First successful winter solo ascent completed: March 7, 1988; Vern Tejas Oldest person to summit: June 29, 2007; Michio Kumamoto, 76 Youngest person to summit: June 17, 2001; Galen Johnston, 11 years old</p> |