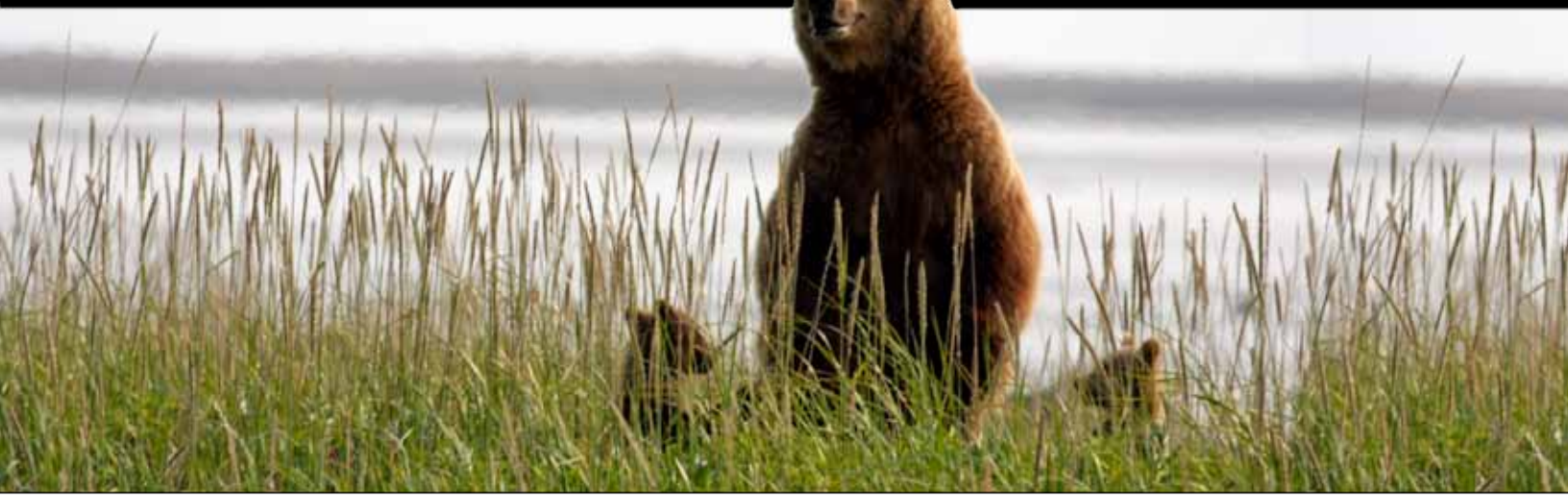
Silver Salmon Creek

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Lake Clark National Park and Preserve



Visiting Silver Salmon Creek

The following guidelines have been established to provide for your safety; to allow bears to naturally use this site for feeding and other activities; and to ensure the continued opportunities for wildlife viewing and sport fishing. Enjoy your visit!

Bear Safety

Minimize disturbance of bears

Bears depend on fish and other food sources at Silver Salmon Creek for their survival. All efforts should be made to reduce disruptions of the bears' behavior or habitat.

Respect a bear's space.

Never approach, crowd, pursue or displace bears. You shouldn't interfere with a bear's movement or behavior.

While viewing bears, stay in groups and minimize noise and movement.

Be Bear Aware

Reduce the chances of surprise encounters; stay alert, be visible, and make noise while in areas of low visibility.

Give bears room to pass. NEVER RUN from a bear.

Respond appropriately to aggressive or serious bear encounters. If a bear begins to challenge you after you have attempted to give it the right-of-way, you should assert yourself by holding your ground, raise your arms and wave them above your head to appear bigger, and speak to the bear in a calm voice. It is important that bears (especially sub-adult bears) do not learn to push people around.

Please keep all fishing gear and backpacks immediately with you. Don't leave any gear unattended.

Prevent bears from getting food

All food, food containers, garbage and harvested fish must be stored in a bear-resistant container, or secured within a locked building; within a lockable hard-sided section of a vehicle, vessel or aircraft; or by caching a minimum of 100 ft. from camp and suspended at least 10 ft. above the ground. This regulation does not apply to food that is being consumed, transported, or prepared for consumption.

The intent of these requirements is to prevent bears and other wildlife from obtaining food and garbage and becoming food-conditioned, and to protect you and the park wildlife.

Fishing in Bear Country

Don't teach bears that anglers can provide an easy meal!

Splashing fish attract bears.

- If a bear is near enough to notice a fish splashing---STOP FISHING!
- If a bear approaches while you have a fish on the line, give it slack or cut the line to eliminate splashing.

Secure your catch in a bear-resistant container. Containers are available from the ranger station.

Fish remains attract bears.
Clean your fish at the ocean beach and cast all remains into the ocean.

Allow bears access to the creek.
Fish are a critical food source for bears; give them plenty of time and room to fish.

Abide by all State of Alaska fishing regulations.

Park Regulations

Off-Road Vehicle Use:
Landowners at Silver Salmon Creek are permitted to operate on designated existing trails. Specific permit stipulations aim to protect park resources, preserve public safety and minimize use conflicts.

Firearms: The carriage of firearms for self-protection is allowed in Lake Clark National Park. However, hunting is not permitted within the National Park boundaries.

Defense of Life and Property:
State law allows a person to defend themselves and their property from a wild animal; however, the law expressly prohibits killing an animal to protect legally taken fish and game. We ask that you conduct yourself in a manner that minimizes any potential conflict with bears.

Pets: Visitors are encouraged to leave pets at home for their safety and for the health of the wildlife and other natural resources. If you do bring a pet, it must be leashed at all times and you must properly dispose of its waste.

Sanitation: Human waste should either be removed as trash or deposited in cat-holes dug at least 100 ft. from any freshwater source and at least 6 inches deep. Toilet paper must be removed as trash.

Questions?
Please contact the ranger at Silver Salmon Creek or the Lake Clark National Park Field Headquarters in Port Alsworth: 907-781-2218.