

**Denali National Park and Preserve  
Commercial Use Authorization Activity-Specific Stipulations**

**2016 GUIDED OVERNIGHT HIKING**

1. Guided Overnight Hiking is authorized in the 1980 park additions and preserve.
2. The group size is limited to 12, inclusive of guides/CUA holder staff.
3. Guided Overnight Hiking includes Backpacking and Basecamp Hiking.
  - a. Backpacking is defined as hiking and camping in a different location each night.
  - b. Basecamp Hiking is defined as setting up a camp in one location, day hiking from the location, and returning to the camp for overnight stay.
4. A bear fence in good working order shall be placed around a basecamp.
5. Campsites in the Backside Lake area must be located at least 100 yards from and out of site from the lake.
6. Participants are required to use Service approved Bear Resistant Food Containers (BRFC).
7. Basecamp tents must be removed from the backcountry when not in use overnight (must not be left unattended between trips).
8. Hiking activity away from the lake shall be dispersed to the greatest degree possible to minimize resource damage.
9. Hiking activity that is near the lake shall take place on routes designated with unobtrusive small rock cairns.
10. Leave No Trace:
  - a. Guides must have a minimum certification of "Leave No Trace Trainer". They must demonstrate through action and teach Leave No Trace (LNT) etiquette to their clientele as appropriate to their activity.
  - b. Guides and clients may be asked to demonstrate to NPS staff their knowledge and practice of LNT and that guides are actively teaching LNT to the clients.
  - c. All trash, including micro-trash and human waste must be removed from the area in a timely manner. Accumulation of trash and/or human waste in the area is prohibited.
  - d. Hiking activity that is near the lake (in the recent moraine areas with gravelly soil and pioneer vegetation) shall take place on routes/visitor-created social trails designated with unobtrusive small rock cairns.
  - e. The NPS will work with CUA holders to identify problem areas (excessive muddiness, standing water, active erosion, and/or unnecessarily braided/duplicate routes) on the social trails near the lake and identify re-routes to alleviate those problems and not create new ones.

- f. If the NPS detects significant growth from 2014/2015 levels in length/area and/or degradation of the visitor-created social trails (2014) and camping areas (2015) near the lake, the NPS will seek to apply measures that will limit the impacts to the area.
- g. Hiking activity away from the lake (the older alpine meadow vegetation) shall be dispersed to the greatest degree possible to **prevent the formation of visitor-created social trails** and minimize resource damage at camping areas.
- h. If the NPS detects visitor-created social trails or resource damage at camping areas away from the lake, the NPS will seek to apply measures that will limit the impacts to the area.
- i. The NPS will use the Decision Guide for Addressing Social Trail formation from Denali's Backcountry Management Plan to limit impacts to social trails and camping areas in the area.

11. Employees and their Role while in the park:

- a. CUA holders and employees (guides) are not allowed to accompany clients in areas **closed to CUA activities** and will be assumed to be conducting guiding activities and considered to be in non-compliance of these terms of the CUA.
- b. CUA holders and employees (guides) may accompany their clients on the park transportation system, but must conduct themselves as a park visitor and not as a guide. Any actions such as providing expertise and/or support to clients will be deemed a violation of this stipulation.

12. First Aid:

- a. CUA employees (guides) leader must possess, at a minimum, current basic First Aid and CPR certification. Agencies that provide qualifying certifications include: American Red Cross, American Heart Association, American Safety and Health Institute, National Safety Council and National Ski Patrol.
- b. Documentation must be presented upon request from NPS personnel.
- c. Each hike leader shall carry and be familiar with, at a minimum, a basic first aid kit appropriately sized for the group.

13. Incident Reporting:

- a. Any incident involving a fatality or serious injury must be reporting immediately by calling the Denali Communication Center at 907-683-9555.

14. Employee Performance:

- a. All employees will maintain the highest professional standards of conduct, treating each guest/client with respect.

15. Entrance Fees:

- a. CUA holders are required to ensure that their clients have paid the park entrance fee.

- b. The park entrance fee may be paid in conjunction with the purchase of a bus ticket, or in person at the Denali Visitor Center or Talkeetna Ranger Station.
- c. Contact the Fee and Revenue Business Manager at 907-683-9532 if you would prefer to collect and remit the park entrance fee directly to the park.
- d. Remitting fees directly to the park does not eliminate any in-person check in requirements for your activity.

16. Interpretation:

- a. Employees will use effective interpretive techniques and skills that convey information about Denali National Park and Preserve and its mission.  
Information about the park can be found at:  
<http://www.nps.gov/dena/learn/index.htm>

17. Monitoring Costs:

- a. The CUA holder will be responsible to reimburse the NPS for monitoring costs, including travel cost and salaries for park staff to assess quality of services and resource conditions.

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## **Other General Park CUA Information**

### **Authorized Activities**

Denali National Park and Preserve (DENA) authorizes the following commercial activities that may be provided pursuant to obtaining a Commercial Use Authorization (CUA):

- Air Taxi
- Group Camping (Savage River Campground only)
- Guided Overnight Hiking
- Guided Mountaineering
- Guided Winter Activities
- Guided Day Hiking - Frontcountry and Triple Lakes Trails
- Guided Day Hiking – Backcountry
- Road-Based Winter Tour
- Dog Sled Freight Hauling

The commercial service(s) that your company is authorized to provide within DENA is indicated on the front of your CUA. Engaging in a commercial activity other than that specifically authorized is prohibited.

### **Areas Open to Commercial Services**

- 1980 Park and Preserve Additions, excluding Backcountry Units 40, 41, 42, 43
- Kantishna Airstrip
- Savage Campground Group Sites
- Frontcountry Trails
- Park Road to Mountain Vista Turnout for Road-Based Commercial Vehicle Use – February through May 10 only

### **Areas Closed to Commercial Services**

- Former Mt. McKinley National Park, including Backcountry Units 40, 41, 42, 43
- Windy Creek drainage, northwest of Cantwell in the former Mt. McKinley National Park
- Glaciers in the 1980 Park and Preserve Additions are closed to air taxi landings, including lakes on glaciers

(See attached map for more details)

### **Commercial Road Access to Denali National Park and Preserve**

Commercial passenger-carrying motor vehicles are allowed within the boundaries of Denali National Park and Preserve on the George Parks Highway and on the Denali Park Road as far west as the Denali Visitor Center complex and Alaska Railroad Depot.

A commercial operator may therefore bring passengers into the park and stop within the developed area of the road corridor up to the Denali Visitor Center complex. This allows commercial operators to access the following: Wilderness Access Center, Backcountry Information Center, Riley Creek Mercantile store, showers and laundry, McKinley Park airstrip, Horseshoe Lake trailhead parking area, Denali Visitor Center complex, U.S. Post Office, and the Railroad Depot. **No permit is required for this access.**

### **Road-Based Winter Tour**

The Denali Park Road is open at a date in early February<sup>1</sup> through May 10 to the Mountain Vista Turnout at mile 12 for commercial entities that have a CUA for Road-Based Winter Tour activities. Contact the park at (907) 683-9532 for road condition updates.

**No commercial vehicle may proceed west beyond the Denali Visitor Center complex except under one of the following scenarios:**

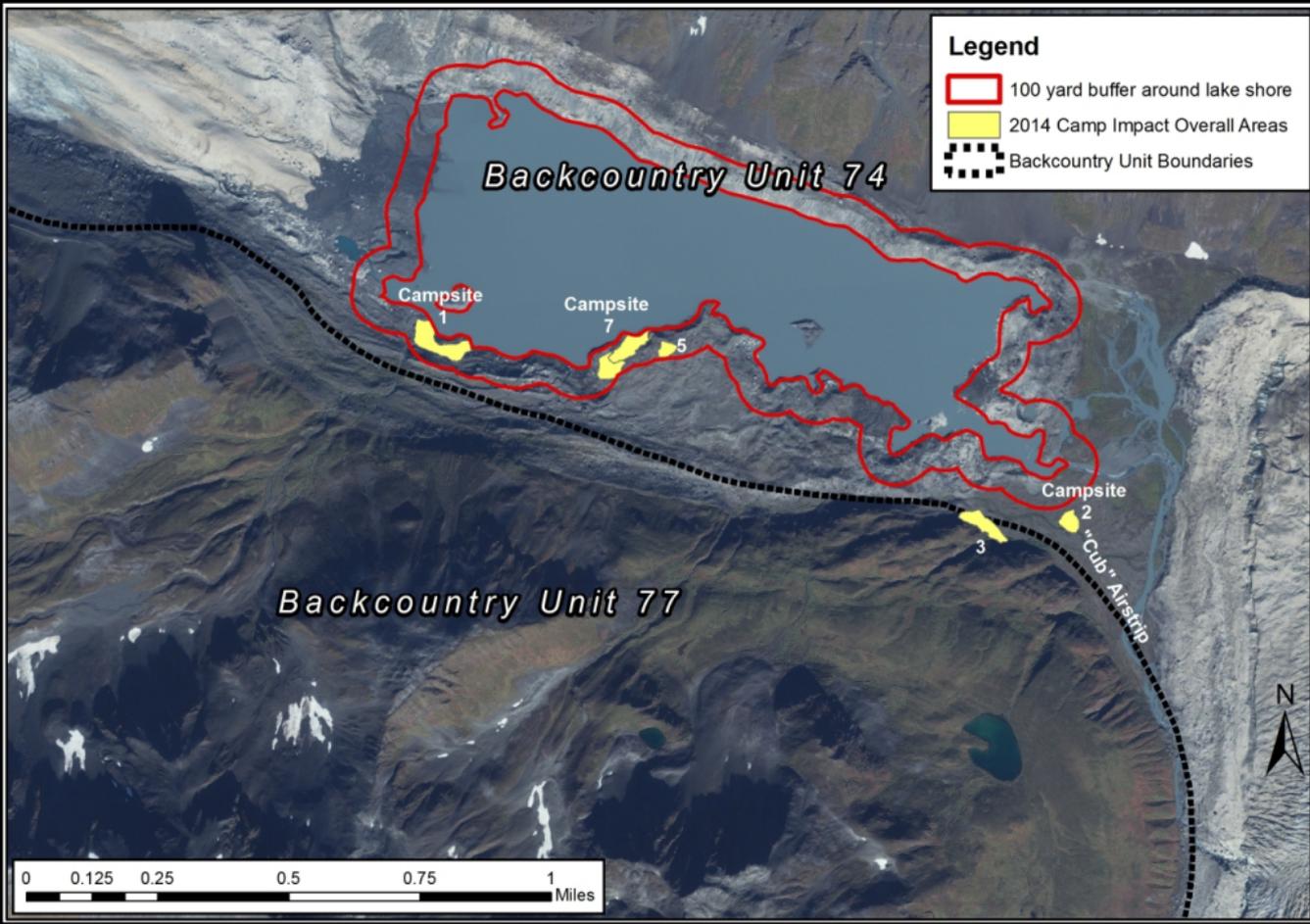
1. Possess a Group Camping CUA AND their travel is related to a current campground reservation;

OR

2. Possess a Road-Based Winter Tour CUA AND they are traveling during the time period of early February through May 10 when the Denali Park Road is open to Mountain Vista Turnout for this activity.

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<sup>1</sup> Road opening date in February to Mountain Vista Turnout varies based on weather and road conditions.



### Legend

- 100 yard buffer around lake shore
- 2014 Camp Impact Overall Areas
- Backcountry Unit Boundaries

