

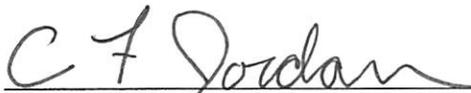
CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS

TITLE 36, CHAPTER 1

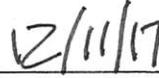
Compendium of Designations, Closures, Request Requirements and Other Restrictions imposed under the discretionary authority of the Superintendent

The following regulatory provisions are established for the proper management, protection, government and public use of Great Smoky Mountains National Park under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service. These are in accordance with regulations and the delegated authority provided in Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Chapter 1, Parts 1 through 7, authorized by Title 54, United States Code, Section 100751. Unless otherwise stated, these regulatory provisions apply in addition to the requirements contained in 36 CFR, Chapter 1 and Section 7.14 Special Regulations.

Written determinations, which explain the reasoning behind the Superintendent's use of discretionary authority, are required by Section 1.5(c) and appear in this document in *italicized* print.



Approved By: Clayton Jordan
Acting Superintendent



Date



Recommended By: Alan Sumeriski
Acting Deputy Superintendent



Date



Recommended By: Steve Kloster
Chief Park Ranger



Date

Compendium Distribution list (additional copies available by request to Chief Ranger's Office)

Administration

Superintendent
Deputy Superintendent
Executive Assistant
Management Assistant
Volunteer Coordinator
Concessions Specialist

Facility Maintenance

Chief
Deputy Chief
DSC Project Supervisor
Cades Cove District Office
North District Office
South District Office

Resource and Visitor Protection

All Commissioned Personnel
Communications Center
Administrative Assistants x 3
Staff Park Ranger
Backcountry Mgmt. Specialist
Sugarlands Backcountry Office

Ranger offices

Abrams Creek
Cades Cove
Cataloochee
Cosby
Deep Creek
Greenbrier
Little River
Oconaluftee

All Campground offices (x7)

Balsam Mountain
Cades Cove
Cataloochee
Cosby
Deep Creek
Elkmont
Smokemont

Resource Management & Science

Chief, Res. Mgt. & Science
Fire Mgt. Office
Cultural Resources Office
Fisheries
Air Quality
Wildlife
Vegetation
Inventory and Monitoring

Resource Education

Chief
Staff Park Ranger
Writer/Visual Info Specialist (i.e. webmaster)
Cades Cove District Supv
Oconaluftee Visitor Center
Oconaluftee District Supv
Sugarlands Visitor Center
North District Supervisor
Librarian
Appalachian Highlands Science Learning Center

Other

Friends of GSMNP
GSMA Publications Specialist
Sugarlands GSMA Bookstore
Tremont Institute
Gatlinburg Welcome Center
Townsend A Walk in the Park

The following items have been modified, added or deleted since the last approval (July 2014).

A variety of minor changes, i.e. spelling, formatting, etc. that do not change the meaning of the text have been made and are not recorded here.

Changes listed bring this compendium up to date with the information currently available to the visiting public in our park brochures and on our park website.

Section 1.5 Closures and Public Use Limits

(a)(1) Closures

- Deletion: All other previous closures pertaining to the historic structures adjacent to the Oconaluftee Visitor Center and known as the Mountain Farm Museum.
- Addition: **Oconaluftee Visitor Center & Mountain Farm Museum** The collection of historic structures adjacent to the Oconaluftee Visitor Center and known as the Mountain Farm Museum, which includes the area within the wooden split-rail fence and all structures, extending from the wooden split-rail fence at the farm area down to the Oconaluftee River (which prohibits access to the walkway on the river side of the Mountain Farm Museum), as well as the Mingus Mill, are closed to public use from sunset to official sunrise. (This closure does not apply to the Oconaluftee River Trail, as it extends from the southern end of farmstead and leads into Cherokee.)
This Closure is to protect the structures from vandalism and unauthorized access after hours.
- Addition: Oconaluftee Housing and maintenance area closures
- Addition: Parsons Branch Road closure
- Addition: Wiley Oakley Drive Bridge closure
- Addition: Whiteoak Sink closure

(a)(2) Public Use Limits

- Deletion: All previous language addressing public use limits of fields located in the North Carolina portion of the park for elk management.
- Addition: **All fields** are closed to pedestrian and horse traffic during the months of May through June and August through October or when elk are present in all of the following areas:
Cataloochee Valley area of the Park;
Either side of US Highway 441 (Newfound Gap Road) in the Cherokee Area of the Park, including the Towstring and Couche's Creek Area (mile 29), areas across from the Oconaluftee Job Corps or Mingus Mill, and the Mountain Farm Museum fields north of the Blue Ridge Parkway and south of the Oconaluftee Visitor Center;
NPS South District Housing and Facilities Area Closure.
The two critical periods of time for wildlife are the elk calving season and the elk rut. During both periods of time elk can become more aggressive and unpredictable. The increase in the size of the local elk herds often has them spread throughout the various fields and open areas. Some of the fields in these areas are smaller than the required 50 yards needed to prevent any disturbance of wildlife established earlier in this section.
Field closures are used as a management tool to better provide for safe and ethical wildlife viewing while mitigating risk of inadvertent contact between visitors and elk, which could lead to disturbance of the elk and or an attack by the elk, which may place an individual at risk for injury or death.
- Deletion: All previous language addressing firewood.
- Addition: **Firewood** The transportation or possession of firewood, imported from outside the park, which is not in the original packaging, and which is not labeled and does not bear a certification seal from the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) or a state agency as heat treated firewood, is prohibited. Campers may collect wood, which is both dead and down, inside the Park to burn at park campsites.
For the purposes of this regulation, firewood is defined as any wood cut, sold or intended for use as firewood, including chips, limbs, branches, etc. with or without bark. Kiln-dried, finished and cut lumber or lumber scraps from which the bark has been cut, like that purchased from a hardware store, and commercially produced compressed wood logs, such as Duraflame, are not considered firewood and are not regulated as firewood.
This closure is intended to prevent or slow the introduction of exotic insects or diseases into the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. For example, the emerald ash borer (EAB) has already killed tens of millions of trees in those states that have been infested. As a result, the movement of firewood within and from infested areas is regulated by the states and the federal government. The USDA has documented that a number of other harmful species can be transported in firewood.
This requirement eliminates the risk of transporting pests, since insects and diseases do not survive heat treatment. Therefore, it has been determined that this action is necessary to protect the natural resources of the park.

- Deletion: Those **Brook trout streams** and their tributaries upstream from the points described in Appendix A, are closed to fishing. *Research indicates that the Brook trout of the Smokies may be a unique genotypic species, worthy of protection status.*
- Addition: Unmanned Aircraft restriction

Section 2.3 Fishing

- Deletion: See Section 1.5 and Appendix A for stream closures.

Section 2.16 Horses and Pack Animals

- Correction: With the deletion of “Appendix A: Closed and Excluded Waters”, the Designated Foot Trails (Closed to Horse Use) now listed in Appendix A, instead of Appendix B.

Section 2.35 Alcoholic Beverages and Controlled Substances

- Addition: *Unrestricted consumption of alcoholic beverages often results in unsightly litter, and disorderly behavior which is disturbing to park visitors, and threatens peace and good order. The NPS strives to provide a safe, clean, family friendly environment for everyone visiting our public lands, as well as to protect the health, safety and welfare of park visitors and employees.*

Section 4.21 Speed limits

- Addition
Listing of park roads having speed limits differing from those limits designated within the Code of Federal Regulations.
Rationale: *These roads having differing speed limits for all or part of their length are winding mountain roads, having little to no shoulder, and steep drop-offs.*

Section 7.14(a)(9) Experimental Fish Management Waters

- Deletion: Appendix A: Closed and Excluded Waters
Lynn Camp Prong and all tributaries upstream from the confluence with Thunderhead Prong (at the north end of Tremont Road), are re-opened to fishing.
Native brook trout populations have been restored to population levels which support fishing and harvesting, in accordance with park fishing regulations.

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Section 1.4 DEFINITIONS

Bear Pepper Spray – Also known as bear deterrent, bear repellent or bear spray. Bear pepper spray is a chemical formula designed specifically to deter aggressive or attacking bears. It must be registered with the Environmental Protection Agency and individual states. It must be commercially manufactured and labeled as “Bear Pepper Spray”. Bear spray must contain between 1% and 2% of the active ingredients capsaicin and related capsaicinoids.

Section 1.5 CLOSURES AND PUBLIC USE LIMITS

Note: See the current Facility Operating Schedule for a listing of opening and closing dates of park facilities.

(a)(1) Closures

Road closures

The following roads are closed to motor vehicles during winter months:

- Heintooga Ridge Road
- Clingmans Dome Road
- Balsam Mountain/Straight Fork Road
- Little Greenbrier Road
- Rich Mountain Road
- Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail
- Forge Creek Road

These roads are closed during the winter months due to weather and road conditions that make them impassable.

The following roads are closed intermittently due to extreme weather conditions:

- Abrams Creek Campground Road
- Big Greenbrier Road
- Cades Cove Loop Road
- Cataloochee Access Road
- Cherokee Orchard Road
- Cosby Campground Access
- Foothills Parkway-East
- Foothills Parkway-West
- Gatlinburg By-Pass
- Lakeview Drive
- Laurel Creek Road
- Little River Road
- Newfound Gap Road (aka U.S. 441)

- Old NC SR 284
- Thomas Branch Road
- Old NC SR 288
- Upper Tremont Road
- Wears Cove Road

These roads are closed intermittently due to extreme weather conditions such as heavy snow or ice.

Travel on the Newfound Gap, Little River, and Laurel Creek roads may be restricted at times to vehicles with specific equipment, e.g. 4-wheel drive or vehicles with tire chains, due to weather/road conditions. Restrictions will be posted and enforced pursuant to 36 CFR 4.12.

Uncompleted sections of the **Foothills Parkway-West** between Walland and Wears Valley are closed to motor vehicles except for official use.

This closure is necessary to protect unsuspecting motorists from the hazards of irregular width, no signage and gravel surface.

The following roads will be closed to motor vehicle traffic daily at official sunset by the closing of access gates, or as indicated by posted signs:

- Cades Cove Loop Road
- Cataloochee Entrance Road beyond the ranger station access gate. Only authorized traffic is allowed beyond the ranger station access gate.

These roads are closed at night to allow undisturbed use of the area along the roads by wildlife species. This closure also provides security for irreplaceable historic structures that could not otherwise be afforded such protection.

Cades Cove Loop Road

The Cades Cove Loop Road will be closed to motorized vehicles from official sunrise until 10 a.m. on Saturday mornings and Wednesday mornings beginning on the Wednesday preceding the second Saturday in May until the Wednesday preceding the last Saturday in September. This restriction applies to all motorized vehicles except those having official business along the Cades Cove Loop Road.

The Saturday and Wednesday morning closures of the Cades Cove Loop Road are in response to a large number of requests from the public to have an opportunity to view wildlife, the historic scene and natural beauty of the Cove without the intrusion of motor vehicles.

Cataloochee Valley Road may be temporarily closed to vehicles on the upper section (i.e. beyond the turn off to the horse camp) as determined by on-site personnel in response to traffic conditions.

The narrow road is sometimes unable to accommodate the volume of traffic generated by visitors watching elk. Temporary closures are intended to improve traffic flow and safety.

Wiley Oakley Drive Bridge

Pedestrian traffic is prohibited on the Wiley Oakley Drive Bridge, known locally as the Legion Field Bridge, which spans the West Prong of the Little Pigeon River on the Foothills Parkway Spur.

The Foothills Parkway Spur is a two-lane divided highway, which runs north and south between the cities of Pigeon Forge, TN., and Gatlinburg, TN. The speed limit on the Parkway is posted 45 mph, though vehicles typically travel between 50 and 55 mph. Wiley Oakley Drive Bridge is a vehicle crossover connecting the north and southbound spur, however, it was not designed for foot traffic. The sidewalk is too narrow and does not provide for safe distance from vehicular traffic. The guardrails are too low and do not provide a safe barrier for pedestrians from vehicular traffic. Intersections at Wiley Oakley Drive and Little Smoky are uncontrolled, having no traffic lights or established pedestrian crosswalks. Pedestrian traffic crossing the southbound spur at Wiley Oakley Drive and the northbound spur at Little Smoky, creates an unreasonable risk of pedestrian versus vehicle accidents.

Parsons Branch Road

Parsons Branch Road is closed to vehicular traffic.

Parsons Branch Road sustained washouts and other damage from several storms which has made it unsafe for vehicular travel. Additionally, an inspection has revealed that there are thousands of roadside trees killed by insects and diseases which pose a hazard to the public.

Area Closures

The following picnic areas are closed at 8:00 p.m. from May 1 through August 31 and closed at sunset from September 1 through April 30.

- Cades Cove (open year round)
- Chimneys (closed during winter months – see current Facility Operating Schedule)
- Collins Creek (closed during the winter months—see current Facility Operating Schedule)

Wildlife, and especially bears, are adversely impacted by abandoned foodstuffs and garbage. Wild bears in picnic areas obtain food or garbage at night before becoming day active. Once habituated, they often cause property damage or personal injury. This closure assures sufficient daylight

to allow picnickers and park personnel to gather up and properly dispose of all food and garbage before darkness falls.

Oconaluftee Visitor Center & Mountain Farm Museum

The collection of historic structures adjacent to the Oconaluftee Visitor Center and known as the Mountain Farm Museum, which includes the area within the wooden split-rail fence and all structures, extending from the wooden split-rail fence at the farm area down to the Oconaluftee River (which prohibits access to the walkway on the river side of the Mountain Farm Museum) are closed to public use from sunset to official sunrise.

This closure does not apply to the Oconaluftee River Trail, as it extends from the southern end of farmstead and leads into Cherokee.)

The Mingus Mill area is closed to public use from sunset to official sunrise. The closure includes all developed areas at or near the Mill including all man made features associated with the Mill as well as all paved walkways which lead to the Mill, beginning behind the restroom structure. The dirt road bed, which leads from Highway 441 to the Mill as well as the trail, which borders the Mill water trough to its origin upstream from the Mill are also part of the closed area. The parking lot and restroom facility and its immediate walkway at the parking lot are not affected by this closure.

This closure is to protect the structures from vandalism and unauthorized access after hours.

Park Headquarters Building

The Park headquarters building is an administrative area used for official business. Access to the building is limited to NPS employees, volunteers, contractors and visitors with official business. Park visitors and guests may ring for assistance at the main door in the front of the Headquarters building.

There is a critical need to provide for the safety and security of employees and government facilities. Access to the park headquarters building will be maintained through the use of automatically locking doors, which require a PIV card to open.

South District Housing & Facilities Area

The following park areas are closed to all public uses and are designated for Official Use Only. Examples of public uses are vehicular traffic, walking, hiking and bicycling.

- The primary Park housing area and South District Maintenance Facility. This area has a looped access Road.

The closed area is the entire housing area along the Oconaluftee Residence Road. The northern section of the Oconaluftee Residence Road with access to the Luten Bridge parking area remains open to the public, but all housing driveways and non-paved areas along the southern road shoulder are closed to parking and all other public use. The interior section of the Oconaluftee Residence Road is closed to all vehicles, walkers and bicyclist. All mowed or maintained areas within the housing area are closed to public use. The South District Maintenance Facility is part of this closure and includes the parking and facility areas south of Oconaluftee Residence Road and the small field and woods between the facility and the primary Park housing area. The closed area boundary is defined by the South District Housing & Facilities Closure Map.

- The temporary Park housing area. This area has a short road access known as the Oconaluftee River Road and provides access to seasonal apartment quarters and Park volunteer housing sites. The Oconaluftee River Road is closed to public access. All mowed or maintained areas within the temporary housing area are closed to public use. The closed area boundary is defined by the South District Housing Closure Map.

Official Use is defined as persons authorized to conduct official business with or for the National Park Service; employees, volunteers, and contractors. Official Use also includes Park housing residents, their family members and/or guests of residents as well as delivery service employees conducting official business. Official users of the Oconaluftee Job Corps Center are staff and students of the facility and those person(s) designated by the Center Director or his/her designee.

Closures may be advertised through public notice and will be implemented by one or more of the following methods: signs, gates, barricades, other traffic control devices, vehicles and/or as directed by authorized persons.

Justification: Due to the layout of the designated area it is increasingly difficult to ensure visitor safety and elk safety with visitor/elk interactions coming at an increased rate due to the ever increasing elk population. Numerous Elk and other Wildlife viewing opportunities currently exist in other nearby park locations. Closing these areas prevents inadvertent contact between elk and visitors which could lead to the disturbance of the elk. Restricting public access to administrative facilities and employee housing areas provides improved security for employees and privacy for residents. Residences are rented and occupied by employees. Allowing visitor access significantly disturbs the privacy and disrupts the residential life of the occupants. Other buildings, facilities, and locations are administrative sites used by the NPS in the management and administration of the park. Visitor use of these areas

interferes with the protection of government property, creates potentially hazardous conditions for visitors and interferes with park operations.

Whiteoak Sink

The Whiteoak Sink area is closed from September 1 to March 31. This closure includes all paths and “manway” routes that lead into the Whiteoak Sink area, as posted on the ground, and all off-trail areas within 0.25 miles of all caves in the area. The closure does not include any trails officially maintained by the National Park Service. Research activity will be permitted on a case by case basis at the discretion of the superintendent.

This closure is intended to protect natural resources and improve public safety. The paths and “manyway” routes to and from Whiteoak Sink are not official trails. Whiteoak blowhole cave is critical habitat for the endangered Indiana bat and other hibernating bats. Cave dwelling bat populations in the United States, including Great Smoky Mountains National Park, have undergone unprecedented declines due to white-nose syndrome (WNS). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has designated Whiteoak blowhole as critical habitat; only one of 11 caves nationally whose protection is critical for the survival of the Indiana bat. They have specified that adequate protection includes forested buffer areas a minimum of ¼ mile surrounding critical habitat caves. Some bats affected by WNS have exhibited sick and or unusual behavior including erratic flight during daylight throughout the winter. Human disturbance causes bats to use reserves necessary to survive winter hibernation. Bats are the only mammal species in Great Smoky Mountains National Park to have tested positive for rabies. Physical skin to skin contact with a bat is considered a potential exposure to rabies and requires immediate medical attention. Therefore, it has been determined that this action is necessary to protect natural resources and public health.

Temporary Public Use Closures

All public use, including hiking, bicycling and horseback riding is prohibited on the Foothills Parkway between the intersection of U.S. 321 and the Foothills Parkway in Wears Valley (Lat/Log N35°43'15", W083°38'42") and the intersection of U.S. 321 and the Foothills Parkway in Walland (Lat/Long N35°43'05", W083°49'11"). The closure will be in effect from December 16, 2010 until further notice.

Public use of the roadway or the pioneer road on the missing link” would expose the public to construction vehicle traffic and/or construction activity, and would create an unreasonable public safety risk. This closure is also intended to minimize the opportunity for vandalism and theft of construction supplies and equipment at isolated sites.

Trail and Backcountry Closures

The rocky ridge adjacent to the Alum Cave Bluff area, commonly known as: “Eye of the Needle”, “Little Duck Hawk”, and “Raven’s Roost” is closed to public access. The closed area is a narrow rocky ledge that runs in a north/south direction. Closure signs will be posted approximately 100 yards from the junction with Alum Cave Trail along a manway leading to the mentioned ridge.

This closure is to prevent disturbance of nesting Peregrine Falcons. The success of Peregrine Falcons in raising their young is significantly decreased by human disturbances. Successful nesting has been observed.

Chimney Tops:

The Chimney Tops Trail is closed to all public use at the 1.75 mile mark from the trailhead. There is a trail closure structure installed at the closure point (GPS coordinates: N35°37.579, W083°28.687), which includes the gate structure to mark the closure of the remainder of the trail to the rock face known as the ‘Chimney Tops.’

The rocky ridge that connects the Chimney Tops Trail with the manway on the North Chimney is closed to all public use.

The path commonly known as the manway” or the “backside of the Chimneys” (located in a north northeast direction between the north side of the North Chimney and the West Prong of the Little Pigeon River) is closed to public use.

The top most 0.25 mile section of the trail to the Chimney Tops pinnacles was heavily damaged by fire. The upper section of trail and rocky pinnacles are not safe for visitors. The manway access to/from the Chimney Tops is not an official trail. Public use of this very steep route has resulted in numerous search and rescue operations, many of which involved the removal of injured persons by litter and one of which involved a fatality. This area is closed to preserve the public health and safety and to preclude resource damage.

The summit of Mt. Le Conte at Cliff Top—approximately a two-acre area west of Sunset Rock, including the ledges—is closed to public use.

Public use of this area has resulted in disturbances which threaten the survival of several populations of Federally endangered species.

Deep Creek and Indian Creek are closed to recreational tubing north of the intersection of the Deep Creek and Indian Creek trails, (approximately .7 miles north of the gate

at the Deep Creek trailhead).

Both Deep Creek and Indian Creek are constricted with hazardous strainers north of the “put-in”, which is approximately .7 miles north of the gate at Deep Creek trailhead on Deep Creek. Two signs are posted; one on Deep Creek just above the “put-in”, and one at the start of the Indian Creek trail which state, “No tubing above this point”. This closure also prevents recreational tubing down Indian Creek Falls, located 100 feet from the intersection of the two trails.

(a)(2) Public Use Restrictions

For Informational Purposes: **Bear Pepper Spray** as defined in Section 1.4 of this document may be carried by individuals within the Great Smoky Mountains National Park for the strict purpose of protecting one’s self or others from bodily harm against aggressive wildlife. It should not be applied to people, tents, packs, or other equipment or surrounding area as a repellent.

Willfully approaching within 50 yards of bear or elk, or within any distance that results in their disturbance or displacement, is prohibited.

Wild animals have behavior that is often unpredictable. Engaging in any activity which places a person in close proximity to wild animals places the person at risk for injury or death. Wildlife may interpret this human behavior as threatening or aggressive, which in turn jeopardizes the well-being of the animal. This restriction does not apply to inadvertent or casual encounters with wildlife in developed areas where foot traffic is normal and routine, e.g. sidewalks and established walkways, campground roads, etc. or in other areas where there is no reasonable alternative travel route.

The open display and/or use of **radio telemetry equipment**, or other similar tracking devices (such as GPS devices and smart phone apps) that are commonly used to track wildlife and hunting dogs, are prohibited in the park without the prior permission of the Chief Ranger’s Office [i.e. a commissioned law enforcement ranger or the Communications Center], and may only be used to expedite the retrieval of a dog that is believed to be running loose in the park. Persons seeking permission to display or use radio telemetry equipment shall, on a daily basis, provide their name, telephone number and vehicle description as well as a description of the dog/s sought and the area in which the search is to be conducted.

Permission to use this equipment to retrieve a loose dog does not exempt a person from any other regulation or law. Persons with a valid Research Permit are exempted from this requirement.

Radio telemetry is an efficient method of catching a dog that has entered the park. However, radio telemetry can also be used to track wildlife or to facilitate a hunt by tracking dogs in pursuit of wildlife. This restriction is intended to facilitate the legitimate use of telemetry equipment in the park and to assist law enforcement personnel in distinguishing legitimate from illegal use.

Entry into caves or mine shafts is prohibited except pursuant to a Scientific Research and Collecting Permit.

Pursuant to a cave advisory issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service dated March 26, 2009, all caves and mine shafts are closed to all visitor activities until further notice. This closure is meant to protect fragile natural resources, including threatened or endangered species, from exposure to White-Nose Syndrome (WNS).

For information about Scientific Research and Collecting Permits see <http://irma.nps.gov/rprs>

All fields are closed to pedestrian and horse traffic during the months of May through June and August through October or when elk are present in all of the following areas:

- Cataloochee Valley area of the Park;
- Either side of US Highway 441 (Newfound Gap Road) in the Cherokee Area of the Park, including the Towstring and Couche's Creek Area (mile 29), areas across from the Oconaluftee Job Corps or Mingus Mill, and the Mountain Farm Museum fields north of the Blue Ridge Parkway and south of the Oconaluftee Visitor Center;
- NPS / Oconaluftee park housing areas
- South District Maintenance Complex

The two critical periods of time for wildlife are the elk calving season and the elk rut. During both periods of time elk can become more aggressive and unpredictable. The increase in the size of the local elk herds often has them spread throughout the various fields and open areas. Some of the fields in these areas are smaller than the required 50 yards needed to prevent any disturbance of wildlife established earlier in this section.

Field closures are used as a management tool to better provide for safe and ethical wildlife viewing while mitigating risk of inadvertent contact between visitors and elk, which could lead to disturbance of the elk and or an attack by the elk, which may place an individual at risk for injury or death.

Unmanned Aircraft

Launching, landing, or operating an unmanned aircraft from or on lands and waters administered by the National

Park Service within the boundaries of Great Smoky Mountains National Park 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.

The compendium closures required to implement this interim policy are necessary to maintain public health and safety in units of the National Park System and to protect park resources and values until the NPS can determine whether specific uses of unmanned aircraft on lands and waters administered by the NPS are appropriate and will not cause unacceptable impacts on park resources and values. This closure by the superintendent implements Section 1.5 of NPS Management Policies 2006, which provides that a new form of park use may be allowed within a park only after a determination has been made in the professional judgment of the superintendent that it will not result in unacceptable impacts on park resources and values. When proposed park uses and the protection of park resources and values come into conflict, the protection of recourse and values must be predominant.

Firewood

The transportation or possession of firewood, imported from outside the park, which is not in the original packaging, and which is not labeled and does not bear a certification seal from the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) or a state agency as heat treated firewood, is prohibited. Campers may collect wood, which is both dead and down, inside the Park to burn at park campsites.

For the purposes of this regulation, firewood is defined as any wood cut, sold or intended for use as firewood, including chips, limbs, branches, etc. with or without bark. Kiln-dried, finished and cut lumber or lumber scraps from which the bark has been cut, like that purchased from a hardware store, and commercially produced compressed wood logs, such as Duraflame, are not considered firewood and are not regulated as firewood.

This closure is intended to prevent or slow the introduction of exotic insects or diseases into the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. For example, the emerald ash borer (EAB) has already killed tens of millions of trees in those states that have been infested. As a result, the movement of firewood within and from infested areas is

regulated by the states and the federal government. The USDA has documented that a number of other harmful species can be transported in firewood.

This requirement eliminates the risk of transporting pests, since insects and diseases do not survive heat treatment. Therefore, it has been determined that this action is necessary to protect the natural resources of the park.

Jumping or diving from bridges is prohibited. Loitering is prohibited within 20 feet of the Laurel Creek Road bridge that spans the Middle Prong of Little River.

Public gatherings in the vicinity of bridges have impeded traffic and created an unreasonable risk of a pedestrian/vehicle accident due to the narrow width of the park roads. Jumping or diving from bridges is prohibited due to the potential hazard of shallow waters and because of the associated hazard on the roadway.

Climbing on and or jumping from cliffs and rock faces of the shoreline of the Little River in the vicinity of the Townsend Wye, specifically from a point one-quarter mile east of the confluence of Little River and the Middle Prong downstream to a point one-quarter mile north of the confluence of the Little River and Middle Prong.

The Townsend Wye is a heavily used area for many water-related recreational activities. Climbing on and or jumping from the rock faces and cliffs into the Little River is a high-risk activity, and unnecessarily jeopardizes the safety of visitors recreating (swimming, tubing, fishing) in the river below.

The possession of **glass containers** is prohibited in all areas of the park where people gather to swim, wade or tube.

Broken glass on the river bottoms and along the river banks has caused a safety problem for persons wading, swimming and walking along the river.

A **special use permit** is required for all “**trail angel**” activities. “Trail angels” or “trail magic” are people or groups who provide some type of unsolicited, free assistance to A.T. thru-hikers, primarily providing food or drink.

Permits are issued for thru-hiker support activities to ensure the supplies and equipment is appropriate for thru-hiker needs, the management of backcountry resources, and compliance with backcountry regulations.

Reservations (via <https://recreation.gov>) are required for the use of the following facilities:

- Twin Creeks Picnic Shelter
- Developed Horse Camps

- Group Camping Areas, including the pavilion at Cades Cove
- Cataloochee Campground

Reservations (via <https://smokiespermits.nps.gov>) are required for use of the following facilities:

- Backcountry Campsites and Shelters

Reservations are required because of the high demand for the limited facilities and/or space available.

Note: Reservations are strongly recommended, and the only way to guarantee access, at the following facilities:

- Picnic pavilions at Collins Creek, Cosby, Deep Creek, Greenbrier, and Metcalf Bottoms.

The use of **generators** in park campgrounds is prohibited between the hours of 8:00 PM and 8:00 AM, except when a waiver has been granted for the powering of medical equipment. Persons who require the use of a generator during quiet hours should obtain a waiver from the campground office or by calling ahead. Generators may not be left running when the campsite is unattended.

Generator use is prohibited at all times in campground loops/sites designated as “**generator free**”, as follows:

- Big Creek Campground
- Cades Cove: All of C loop, except when B loop is closed. When B loop is closed, generator use is permitted in C loop.
- Cosby Campground: A29-41, B1-B21
- Elkmont loops A,B,L,M,N
- Smokemont: A, B and C loops, except when loops C, D, and F are closed. When loops C, D, and F are closed, generator use is permitted in loops A and B.
- Deep Creek Tent Area: Sites 1-42

Generator use is prohibited in group sites.

Generator waivers should not be granted in generator free areas except at sites designated as accessible sites. The use of generators and the idling of engines to recharge batteries is strictly prohibited in designated generator-free areas of campgrounds.

Generator noise is counter to the semi-wilderness atmosphere sought by many campers, especially at certain times of the day or when present for extended periods of time. The lack of discretion displayed by some campers necessitates further restrictions on generators.

The use of **hand-drawn, wheeled carts** is prohibited on all but the following trails:

Hazel Creek from Fontana up to campsite #83;
Noland Creek from Fontana up to campsite #64; and

Forney Creek from Fontana up to campsite #74.

A hand-drawn, wheeled cart is a two-wheeled cart, having tub dimensions no greater than 48”Lx24”Wx18”H. The cart should be easily moved by one person.

The use of wheeled vehicles such as carts and bicycles is counter to NPS management policies for recommended wilderness areas. The designated trails are excluded from the recommended wilderness area, as they are designated as administrative roads. Hand-drawn cart use has been allowed on these designated trails for several years, and provides the opportunity for individuals who may not be physically able to carry a heavy pack, to cart-in their equipment for a backcountry camping experience. The maximum size of the hand carts provides sufficient capacity for the equipment needs of the average backcountry camper.

The use of horse drawn carts is prohibited on all backcountry trails.

Horses are considered a pack animal, have the ability to pack equipment, and can haul a load into the backcountry. Therefore horse drawn carts are not necessary and are prohibited.

Horse drawn wagons are prohibited on all park roads and trails, except those being operated by authorized park concessions operations.

Drivers of commercial passenger-carrying diesel-fueled motor vehicles are prohibited from idling their engines in parking lots of developed areas.

The noise and fumes caused by these engines severely impacts the natural experiences sought by many visitors

The searching of government-owned refuse containers and/or the removal of recyclable materials from these containers by persons other than the official collection contractor or authorized NPS staff is prohibited.

The removal of recyclable materials is contrary to the provisions of the park’s refuse collection contract..

The parking of non-government (private) vehicles within fenced and or gated park compounds or installations is prohibited. An exception to this prohibition may be granted by the Superintendent or his designee. In these instances, employees would be directed where to park their vehicles within the compound.

Park compounds are limited in space and vehicle capacity, must provide for repeated ingress and egress by government vehicles, and must provide for the security of government-owned vehicles and property. The parking of

private vehicles within these compounds increases vehicle traffic congestion, reduces parking areas for government vehicles, decreases work space within the complex, and presents a potential liability for the government should private vehicles incur damage(s) while parked within the complex.

Section 1.6 PERMITS

Pursuant to the provisions of 36 CFR 1.6(f) the following is a compilation of the activities for which a permit is required.

- Trail Angel Activities 1.5(a)(2)
- Specimen Collection Permit 2.5(a)
- Campground Permit (Developed Campground Fee Receipt) 2.10(a)
- Backcountry Camping Permit 2.10(a)
- Fee Waiver 71.13(d)
- Pet Permit (park residents) 2.15E
- Special Event Permit 2.50(a)
- Agricultural Permit 2.60(b)
- Memorialization (Scattering of human ashes) 2.62(b)
- Business Operations Permit 5.3
- Commercial Photography Permit 5.5
- Commercial Vehicle Permit 5.6(c)

Please Note: Some activities under the following sections may require a permit:

- Demonstrations 2.51(b)
- Sale & Distribution of Print Matter 2.52(b)

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, campground fee permit, commercial photography//filming permit. In most other cases a special use permit or letter of authorization will be prepared laying out 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 exhibited to any authorized person upon request.

Recreational Fee Permits for overnight stays in developed area campgrounds will be issued by a self-registration system, or by visitor contact collection system as posted at the campground entrance. In self-registration campgrounds, the application requirement shall be met by completing the fee collection envelope, inserting the required payment into the envelope, and depositing the envelope in the security container at the registration station. In campgrounds that use a visitor contact collection system, the application requirement will be met by purchasing the permit directly

Unless otherwise stated, these regulatory provisions apply in addition to the regulations contained in 36 CFR, Chapter 1 and Section 7.14 Special Regulations. 36 CFR can be found at <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/browse/collectionCfr.action?selectedYearFrom=2016&go=Go>

from the ranger collecting the fee or by having made payment through the National Park Reservation Service (NPRS). For the Cataloochee Campground, group sites, horse camps and picnic shelters that require reservations through the NPRS, the application requirement will be met by purchasing the permit through the NPRS.

(b) **Backcountry permits:** General backcountry, commercial use authorization and AT thru hiker permits may be purchased online at <https://smokiespermits.nps.gov> or by contacting the Backcountry Office. Cross-country permits may be requested and purchased by contacting the Backcountry Management Specialist. Authorized staff may also issue backcountry permits in the field. Visitors have 72 hours from the last day of their backcountry itinerary to contact the Backcountry Office and pay for a field issued permit. Administrative backcountry permits will be issued by the Backcountry Office free of charge for staff and volunteers on official business, with supervisor approval. Permit holders may not transfer permits to another person and must be with the group in possession of the permit.

Section 2.1 PRESERVATION OF NATURAL, CULTURAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

(a)(4) Gathering and possession of **dead and down wood** (dead wood that is on the ground), is permitted in all areas provided such wood is collected as fuel for campfires within the park and will be burned in a designated fire ring.

Collecting only dead and down wood is specified so that living materials are not unnecessarily destroyed.

(a)(5) Public entry to any **historic building or structure**, or part thereof, is permitted, provided the building is open to normal public access.

(c)(1) The following **fruits, berries, nuts** and above ground fruiting bodies of certain **fungi** may be gathered by hand for personal use or consumption (commercial use is prohibited):

- Blueberries (*Vaccinium* spp.)
- Strawberries (*Fragaria virginiana*)
- Blackberries (*Rubus* spp.)
- Grapes (*Vitis* spp.)
- Elderberries (*Sambucus pubens*)
- Gooseberries/Currants (*Ribes* spp.)
- Black raspberries (*Rubus occidentalis*)
- Huckleberries (*Gaylussacia* spp.)

- Cherries (*Prunus* spp.)
- Serviceberries (*Amelanchier laevis*)
- Persimmon (*Diospyros virginiana*)
- Black walnut (*Juglans nigra*)
- Hickory
- American hazelnut (*Coryl&mericanaana*)
- Apples, pears, and peaches
- Red Mulberries (*M. rubra* L.)
- **Mushrooms** are the fruiting bodies of fungi, and may be collected under the following conditions:
 - 1) at least 100 feet away from roads, parking areas, picnic areas, campgrounds, structures or other facilities.
 - 2) must be edible species only
 - 3) may only be the fruiting bodies growing on soil or rotting logs on the ground
 - 4) are limited to 1 pound per person per day for all fungal species combined.
 It is prohibited to collect fungal fruiting bodies from trees that are standing, including dead standing trees, or where fruiting bodies are underground.

(c)(2)(i) The amount of fruits, berries, nuts and fruiting bodies of mushrooms, that are authorized for collection, shall not exceed 1 pound per person per day for each species, except for apples, pears and peaches.

The unrestricted collection of native fruits, berries, nuts and fruiting bodies could adversely impact plant propagation and/or wildlife food sources.

(c)(2)(i) Persons gathering edible fruits and nuts are prohibited from climbing trees, using stools or ladders.

The use of these methods are restricted to protect the vegetation from undue damage (i.e., broken branches, etc.), and allow sufficient supplies of food for wildlife species.

(c)(2)(ii) The gathering of designated fruits, berries, nuts, and mushrooms, is prohibited within 200 feet of nature trails, motor nature trails, handicapped accessible trails and scientific and natural study areas.

Gathering fruits, berries, nuts and mushrooms near nature trails, where visitors view nature, would irreversibly impact the natural scene. Gathering near research areas could negatively impact research results.

The collection of **ramps** is not allowed under 36 CFR or 54 USC. The exception that once existed within an earlier edition of this Compendium has been rescinded.

Section 2.2 WILDLIFE PROTECTION

(d) Game animals lawfully taken outside of Great Smoky Mountains may be transported by vehicle through the park using the following roads:

Any paved section of the Foothills Parkway; Newfound Gap Road from Cherokee Indian Reservation boundary to Gatlinburg, Tennessee, or to U. S. 441 by way of the By-pass; Tow String Road from Newfound Gap Road Cherokee Indian Reservation boundary; U. S. Forest Service Road 288 within park boundary; Old NC 284 from U. S. Forest Service Road 288 North to park boundary; and U.S. 441 between Pigeon Forge and Gatlinburg.

Wildlife taken lawfully outside the park, may be transported through the park on the above approved routes under the following conditions:

1. Persons transporting will have in their possession a valid State/Tribal hunting license.
2. Animal carcasses will display a valid State/Tribal game tag when required and will have been checked through a State/Tribal checking station.
3. Animal carcasses must be covered or out of sight.
4. Animal carcasses will be subject to inspection at any time by an authorized person.

The carcasses of animals legally taken adjacent to the Foothills Parkway outside of the Parkway boundary may not be transported on or across the Parkway without first contacting the Communications Center in Gatlinburg, TN.

The park does not wish to impede those hunting legally in jurisdictions outside the park, nor the transportation of legally taken game. However, the transportation of game through the park, an area closed to hunting, has elicited visitor complaints and could cause confusion with the park's hunting regulations if not managed in this manner.

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

The viewing of wildlife at night with the use of artificial lights temporarily blinds the animals, causing them to become unnaturally easy prey for predators.

Section 2.3 FISHING

See section 7.14 for reference to dropper flies, license exemptions and use of scented baits.

Section 2.5 RESEARCH SPECIMENS

Pursuant to the authority found in 36 CFR 2.5, the Superintendent may issue permits for the collection of plants, fish, wildlife, rocks and minerals for research purposes according to general and park-specific conditions established by the National Park Service for scientific research and collecting permits. These conditions are found online at <http://irma.nps.gov/rprs> and are subject to revision. The guidelines found at that web site are hereby adopted and made a part of these orders.

Section 2.10 CAMPING AND FOOD STORAGE

(a) Camping is prohibited in areas being restored or revegetated and so posted, pursuant to 36 CFR 1.7(a).

Restoration efforts are compromised by camping activities.

Camping in any historic structure or building is prohibited.

Historic structures are fragile and need protection from any activity that could adversely impact the structure or degrade the historic scene.

Frontcountry Camping

Camping is permitted only in designated campgrounds. Campgrounds are designated on a map located in the office of the park Superintendent, by appropriate signing, and by brochures available to the public at ranger stations and visitor centers.

Stay limits: No person or their equipment shall occupy a campground for more than (14) fourteen consecutive days, or more than (60) sixty total days in a calendar year in all campgrounds.

Long periods of stay are inconsistent with the management of public campgrounds, which are intended to provide a short-term national park camping experience to all interested visitors.

Fees: Camping fees, where applicable, are due upon

occupying a campsite. Sites for which required fees are not paid will be considered unoccupied and available for use.

Vehicle limits: No more than two (2) motor vehicles or one vehicle with trailer are allowed per campsite. Vehicle(s) and wheeled camping units must be parked on pavement, when pavement is provided. In the absence of pavement, vehicles and wheeled camping units must be parked on the graveled area of the campsite. Any additional vehicles must be parked in a designated parking area. Campground staff may allow, on a case-by-case basis, more than two vehicles at a campsite when the size of the pad and the size of the vehicles allows for all wheels to be parked on the paved or graveled area.

Camping structure limits: Camping structures must be placed on the tent pad, where a pad is provided. One additional camping structure may be placed off the tent pad on the hardened/impacted area around the picnic table. The intent is to allow those structures which provide overhead protection from weather or protection from insects. All camping structures must be erected within the foot print of the campsite's impacted and hardened area. At those campsites without tent pads, camping structures must be located within the existing impacted/hardened foot print of the campsite. Campers wishing to use additional structures should consider renting two campsites or a group site. (Group sites may be occupied by a minimum of seven (7) persons.)

Tarps, para wings, and wings: Their use is permitted as long as they do not impact, injure or damage park resources by their deployment. Tarps, para wings and wings are not considered camping structures.

The combined use of **portable structures and water-holding containers** for the purpose of showering within developed campgrounds must provide for a way to collect grey water and dispose of it in an approved manner. Such equipment includes, but is not limited to, sun showers, shower shelters and rooms, privacy shelters, porta-showers, and shower systems.

The use of portable shower systems within developed campgrounds presents a sanitation issue if they do not provide for the proper collection and disposal of grey water.

Size limitations: No one camping structure shall exceed a maximum size of 170 square feet. Any one tarp, para wing, or wing may not exceed 625 square feet.

Motorhomes and camping trailers are prohibited in group campgrounds. Pickup mounted campers are permitted only as transportation / storage vehicles, i.e. campers cannot be used for lodging. Whereas the design of the Cataloochee group campground allows for the parking of wheeled units directly adjacent to the sites without adversely impacting

resources, two (2) wheeled camping units are allowed per campsite.

With the exception of the Cataloochee Group campground, group campgrounds are intended to provide for a primitive camping experience by larger groups, particularly youth groups. RVs are inconsistent with that experience. Parking space is also limited.

Occupancy limits: Occupancy of developed campgrounds is limited to one (1) immediate family or six (6) persons per family campsite. **Group sites** may be occupied by a minimum of seven (7) persons; maximum occupancy is site specific and shown in the current Facility Operating Schedule.

Miscellaneous

Tents shall be placed on tent pads where provided.

Entry and occupancy of developed campgrounds is restricted to registered campers and vehicles between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.

The "holding" or "reserving" of additional campsites for other campers that have not yet arrived in campgrounds operating on a "first come first serve" basis, is prohibited. This includes pre-paying for campsites where the proposed occupants have not arrived at the campsite.

The use of campsites within designated campgrounds of the park operating on a first-come, first-serve basis. Individuals may not "hold" sites for individuals or groups who are not on-site, when other campers have a desire to use the site. Large groups should consider using group sites wherein reservations insure space availability.

When the "NO VACANCY" or "FULL" sign is erected at developed campgrounds on the reservation system, camping is limited to reservation holders only.

The **pavilion** in the Cades Cove group camp is closed from 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. Sleeping and camping is permitted in the group site but not within the pavilion.

Tent camping by students and chaperones is permitted at the **Great Smoky Mountains Institute (Tremont)** between June and August as part of a formal Institute program teaching Leave No Trace principles.

This is a short term seasonal educational program restricted to the grounds of the Institute.

Tent camping by education groups and researchers is permitted at the **Purchase Knob Learning Center** as part of the park's science education program. Prior approval must be obtained from the Learning Center staff.

Lodging facilities at the site are inadequate for the numbers of people involved in the program. Until such time as facilities can be developed, limited tent camping will be permitted.

(b)(4) See section 1.5 regarding generator use restrictions.

Sites may not be unattended for more than 24 hours.

Frontcountry Developed Horse Camps:

Parties using developed horse camps must have at least one horse with them.

Reservations through the National Park Reservation Service are required for the use of developed horse camps.

Length of stay shall not exceed fourteen (14) consecutive nights.

Horses must be restrained or under physical control at all times. Horses shall not be tied to trees. Provided stalls or hitchracks must be used. Portable stalls and corrals are prohibited in frontcountry developed horse camps.

The use of portable stalls or corrals would create disturbances (mud holes) within the designated sites, that would require some time to recover and rehabilitate. Allowing the use of portable stalls and corrals that could be repositioned many times has the potential to create a very large disturbed area.

Backcountry Camping:

Reservations are required for all backcountry campsites and shelters.

Permits are required for all overnight stays in the backcountry, except for those nights spent at the Mount LeConte Lodge. The permit must be in the camper's possession while in the backcountry and must be exhibited upon the demand of an authorized person.

Capacity and use limits are necessary to protect resources, promote sustainability and provide an enjoyable visitor experience. Reservations and permits aid the park in distributing and monitoring use and in locating lost/overdue persons. The Mount Le Conte Lodge is a concession operation and therefore has its own guest registration requirements.

Stay limits: Persons may not stay more than one (1) night in a row at any backcountry shelter or campsite 113. Persons may not stay more than three (3) nights in a row at

any other backcountry campsite. . Persons may not stay more than 30 consecutive days in the backcountry or 60 days total in a one year period.

Stay limits at backcountry sites are imposed to minimize the impacts associated with longer-term use and/or to offer additional persons the opportunity to use high-demand sites.

Party size: Backcountry camping parties are limited to a maximum of eight (8) persons, except at campsites 17, 20, 46, 60, 86 and 90, which can accommodate parties of twelve (12). At designated backcountry sites where stock are permitted, the number of animals in any one party is limited to one per person plus one stock animal per person, but shall not exceed a total of ten (10) animals from the same group or exceed the site capacity, whichever is lowest. Site capacities may be more restrictive than eight (8) people and ten (10) animals. For the purpose of this use limit, a party is defined as people and their associated horses/pack animals from the same group who travel together and/or assemble together each night at a common backcountry campsite or shelter. A group is defined as people and their associated horses/pack animals who come from the same organization, come from a common location and/or who otherwise assemble at the park for the purpose of camping *together* in the backcountry.

Groups which exceed eight persons and ten horses or pack animals must divide into two or more camping parties, travel separate itineraries, and stay at separate sites. The number of people and horses/pack animals from the same group who stay at a campsite on any single night cannot exceed eight people and ten horses/pack animals, regardless of the number of parties into which the group is divided.

This limitation is intended to preserve the tranquility of the wilderness setting. Larger parties create a level of social interaction and noise that is not congruent with wilderness values or the wilderness experience and is often disturbing to other visitors. Larger party sizes also create greater resource impact. Small party sizes are in line with currently accepted backcountry ethics, such as Leave No Trace.

CAMPSITE AND SHELTER CAPACITIES AND USE LIMITS.

On the park's backcountry trail map, hiker-only sites are shown in red, hiker-stock sites are shown in green. Site capacities are listed below, with stock use and capacity indicated by an "H".

1	Cooper Road	(12)
2	Cane Creek	(4)

3	Hesse Creek	(8, 2H)	66	Lower Nolen Creek- Boats Only	(4)
5	Rich Mountain	(4, 2H)	67	Gold Mine Branch	(6)
6	Turkey Pen Ridge	(8)	68	Steel Trap	(8)
9	Anthony Creek	(12)	69	Huggins	(8)
10	Ledbetter Ridge	(8)	70	Jonas Creek	(12,8H)
11	Beard Cane	(6)	71	CCC Camp	(12, 12H)
12	Forge Creek	(12)	73	Lone Pine Boats Only	(6)
13	Sheep Pen Gap	(15, 8H)	74	Lower Forney	(12, 8H)
14	Flint Gap	(8)	75	Poplar Flats	(8)
15	Rabbit Creek	(12)	76	Kirkland Creek	(6)
16	Scott Gap	(10)	77	Pilkey Creek	(12, 6H)
17	Little Bottoms	(14)	72	Gunter Branch- Boats Only	(6)
18	West Prong	(12)	78	Double Island- Boats Only	(6)
19	Upper Henderson	(8, 2H)	81	North Shore	(12, 6H)
20	King Branch	(12, 4H)	82	Calhoun	(8, 4H)
21	Mile 53	(12)	83	Bone Valley	(20, 10H)
23	Camp Creek	(12)	84	Sugar Fork	(6)
24	Rough Creek	(15)	85	Sawdust Pile	(10,6H)
26	Dripping Spring Mt.	(10)	86	Proctor	(20, 8H)
27	Lower Jakes Gap	(12, 2H)	87	Jerry Hollow Boats Only	(6)
28	Marks Cove	(12, 6H)	88	Possum Hollow	(12)
29	Otter Creek	(10)	89	Lower Ekaneetlee	(8)
30	Three Forks	(12)	90	Lost Cove	(12, 6H)
31	Porters Flat	(8)	91	Upper Lost Cove	(4)
32	Injun Creek	(8)	92	Upper Flats	(10, 6H)
33	Settlers Camp	(8)	93	20-Mile Creek	(8)
34	Sugar Cove	(10)	95	Dalton Branch	(12, 6H)
35	Gilliland Creek	(12, 4H)	96	Eagle Creek Island	(8)
36	Upr. Walnut Bottoms	(20, 20H)	97	Big Walnut	(8)
37	Lwr. Walnut Bottoms	(20)	98	Chambers Creek	(12, 6H)
38	Mount Sterling	(12)	113	Birch Spring Gap	(12, 6H)
39	Pretty Hollow	(20, 10H)			
40	Big Hemlock	(8)			
41	Caldwell Fork	(12, 6H)			
42	Spruce Mountain	(4)			
44	McGee Springs	(12, 4H)			
46	Estes Branch	(12)			
47	Enloe Creek	(8)			
48	Upper Chasteen	(8)			
49	Cabin Flats	(12, 8H)			
50	Lwr. Chasteen Creek	(15, 6H)			
51	Georges Branch	(12)			
52	Newton Bald	(8, 2H)			
53	Poke Patch	(6)			
54	Nettle Creek	(6)			
55	Pole Road	(15, 15H)			
56	Burnt Spruce	(6)			
57	Bryson Place	(10, 10H)			
58	Nicks Nest Branch	(6)			
59	McCracken Branch	(10)			
60	Bumgardner Branch	(20, 4H)			
61	Bald Creek	(10, 6H)			
62	Upper Ripshin	(8, 6H)			
63	Jerry Flats	(8, 6H)			
64	Mill Creek	(12, 10H)			
65	Bear Pen Branch	(8)			

SHELTERS

Davenport Gap	(12, 12H)
Cosby Knob	(12, 12H)
Tricorner Knob	(12, 12H)
Pecks Corner	(12, 12H)
Icewater Spring	(12)
Mount Collins	(12)
Double Spring Gap	(12)
Silers Bald	(12, 12H)
Derrick Knob	(12)
Spence Field	(12, 12H)
Russell Field	(14, 12H)
Mollies Ridge	(12, 12H)
Mt. Le Conte	(12)
Kephart	(14, 12H)
Laurel Gap	(14, 12H)

Capacity and use limits are necessary to protect resources, promote sustainability and provide an enjoyable visitor experience.

The use of tents at shelters is prohibited except by persons

qualifying as **thru-hikers** on the Appalachian Trail (by definition an Appalachian thru-hiker is a backpacker who is using the Appalachian Trail exclusively while in the park and whose trip begins and ends a minimum of fifty miles outside the park). Thru-hikers may pitch tents in the immediate area around shelters only when all shelter spaces are taken. Thru hikers must always give up shelter space to those holding reservations.

Note: A Compendium of Orders for the Appalachian National Scenic Trail sets forth additional restrictions which apply to specific sections of the A.T. outside Great Smoky Mountains National Park. For information, contact the Appalachian National Scenic Trail office in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia.

Hammocks may be set up in areas where tent use would be suitable and are subject to the same regulations as tent use. Hammocks must be strapped to trees using Tree Saver straps or other wide straps that will not cut into trees. Hammocks may not be set up in areas where resources would be trampled or otherwise compromised. Hammocks may not be set up inside shelters or attached to any part of shelters.

Hammock use limitations are necessary to prevent resource damage, facility damage and to prevent use that creates unsafe conditions for other backcountry users.

Cross-Country Camping

Camping in the backcountry is permitted only at established backcountry sites, except as authorized by a cross-country permit. Cross-country permits are approved and issued through the Backcountry Management Specialist. Proposed cross-country itineraries are reviewed by Resource Management staff prior to approval. Cross-country camping (at other than designated sites) is permitted under the following conditions:

- A desired itinerary is submitted in writing to the Backcountry Management Specialist. The itinerary should include a map pinpointing, as closely as possible, route of travel and proposed campsites.
- The maximum party size is four persons. The use of horses or other stock is prohibited.
- A majority of the trip must be off-trail.
- A majority of the trip must not use established campsite(s) or shelter(s).
- Campsites must be at least one-half mile from any designated trail, designated campsite, shelter and developed area, one mile from any designated road, and 100 feet from the nearest surface water.
- Camping in spruce-fir, beech gaps or on grassy or

heath balds is prohibited.

- The duration of stay at each location cannot exceed one night and the same location cannot be used a second time on the same trip.
- Wood fires are prohibited.
- Campers are required to obliterate all traces of human presence upon leaving a cross-country camp.
- Trips are expected to follow the designated itinerary as closely as possible.

Cross-country hiking is a special use and requires special equipment, training and/or experience. These regulations are an attempt to permit this special use, while minimizing the potential impact on natural resources.

(b)(3) Camping within 100 feet of a flowing stream, river or body of water is permitted only at designated front and backcountry campsites.

Camping within 100 ft. of water normally increases erosion and sanitation problems in water sources.

Food Storage

(d) Food storage requirements apply to all areas within the park boundary.

In locations where cable systems are provided for storage of food, scented items and garbage, such facilities must be used and items properly stored except when being transported, prepared or consumed. This requirement also applies to shelters. When cable systems are full or unavailable, 36 CFR 2.10 (d) applies.

Food scents attract animals. Animals which gain access to human food sources tend to return to those sources and may cause property damage or injury. Subsequent behavior problems often necessitate the removal or destruction of an animal.

Section 2.11 PICNICKING

Picnicking by groups of 15 or fewer persons shall be allowed in all areas except:

- Within 100 feet of:
 - structures or areas considered to be cultural or archeological resources
 - research sites
 - maintenance or administrative compounds
 - government owned housing (except by the current occupant)
- When the activity would interfere with normal

agency functions or visitor use activities already in progress.

- In those areas posted as closed to picnicking.

Picnicking shall be conducted in accordance with all applicable regulations in regard to open fires, food storage and sanitation.

Picnicking by groups of more than 15 people may be considered an event and shall require a Special Use Permit unless done in a designated picnic area.

Picnicking is restricted from those areas that would adversely impact the historic scene or interfere with the operations of the park. Large groups present potential problems with litter, parking and resource damage and for that reason group events will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

The "holding" or "reserving" of additional picnicking sites and or tables, within designated picnic areas, for other individuals, is prohibited. Large groups should consider using picnic shelters available by reservation.

The use of picnic sites and tables within designated picnic areas of the park are based on a first-come, first-served basis. Individuals may not "hold" sites or tables for individuals or groups who are not on-site, when other picnickers have a desire to use the site or table. Large groups should consider using picnic shelters wherein reservations insure space availability.

Section 2.13 FIRES

(a)(1) The kindling of a fire in the fireplace of any historic building or structure is prohibited.

In frontcountry campgrounds and picnic areas fires must be kindled in provided grates, grills or within existing fire rings.

Fires in elevated grills area are restricted to the burning of charcoal only.

The burning of wood or other fuels in elevated grills creates cleaning and maintenance issues, and generates more litter.

The use of **portable stoves, including charcoal burners**, is prohibited in frontcountry areas except in picnic areas and campgrounds.

In backcountry areas, fires must be kindled within existing and established fire rings located at the designated backcountry campsites. Constructing new fire rings is prohibited.

At backcountry shelters, fires are permitted only in the fireplace inside the shelter and at the central, metal fire ring in front of the shelter. Where no metal fire ring exists, fires are permitted only in the fireplace. At the Le Conte shelter, fires are prohibited altogether.

Fires are prohibited in structures to protect those resources. Fires or stoves are prohibited in other areas to reduce litter and ash, minimize wildlife problems associated with food odors or residue and/or to reduce resource impacts from firewood gathering.

(c) The Superintendent may close all or part of the park to fires, except stoves, when the conditions meet the guidelines identified in the "Fire Management Plan" for Great Smoky Mountains National Park as Staffing Class Four (4) or Five (5). That plan is hereby adopted and made part of these orders. Closure notices will be posted at trailheads, campgrounds, visitor centers and through media notification.

The use of open fires in the park is regulated to protect human life, structures and natural resources. During extreme weather conditions, open-pit fires may be restricted to preclude the accidental ignition of wildfires.

Section 2.14 SANITATION AND REFUSE

In non-developed areas more than a quarter of a mile from restroom facilities, **human body waste** must be buried six (6) to eight (8) inches deep in organic soil in an area not frequented by the public, not visible from trails, campsites or developed areas, and at least 100 feet from any water source.

During the winter when organic soil is not exposed, solid human body waste must be buried 100 yards from any campsite or established travel route to a depth of 12 inches in snow whenever possible

Privies must be used in backcountry areas where they are available. Sanitary items may not be buried or thrown in privies and must be packed out.

No garbage of any kind (e.g., food scraps, food containers, discarded clothing or other personal items) may be burned in either the frontcountry or the backcountry.

These regulations minimize the contamination of water supplies, minimize the presence of unsanitary conditions preserve site aesthetics and help prevent wildlife-human conflicts.

test. They also impose liability for non-compliance.

Horses, mules, burros, and llamas are designated as pack animals.

(b) Designated Trails: The official list of “trails, routes or areas designated for [horse] use” is contained in appendix D of the current Backcountry Management Plan. The *current* (i.e. most recent) version of the Trail Map is considered an official but incomplete list because it does not show some trails listed in the Backcountry Management Plan. As a rule of thumb, the use of saddle and pack animals is permitted on official park trails except in the following areas:

- Nature Trails and Quiet Walkways
- Handicapped Access Trails
- Paved Trails
- Designated foot trails as listed in Appendix A

Private horse use is permitted on trails assigned for horse concession use, including those that are concessionaire-maintained, except that the following Smokemont riding stable trails are closed to private horse use during the concession operating season:

- The Smokemont Stables Trail
- The connector trail between the Towstring Horse Trail and the Smokemont Stables Trail.

Deep Creek Trail is closed to horse use from the Deep Creek Trailhead to the Indian Creek/Deep Creek Junction.

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

- Paved portion of Cataloochee access road between the Ranger Station and the access road bridge
- NC 284 north of the Wye-intersection
- Old Cataloochee access road
- Cataloochee Valley Road west of Palmer Creek bridge
- Parson Branch Road, after 6 p.m. and before 10 a.m. and when closed for the season.
- Schoolhouse Gap parking area to Bote Mountain Trailhead.
- Big Creek Access Road from North Carolina 284 to Big Creek Horse Camp.
- Balsam Mountain/Straight Fork Road from the Palmer Creek Trailhead to the Enloe Creek Trailhead.
- The Cades Cove picnic area roadway when en route to or from the Anthony Creek trailhead, provided that riders must dismount and lead their horses and must immediately remove to a trash container any horse excrement dropped en

Section 2.15 PETS

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

- All park roads, including those seasonally closed for public vehicular use, parking areas, established picnic areas, and frontcountry campgrounds including group and frontcountry horse campsites, as well as the Gatlinburg Trail and the Oconaluftee River Trail.
- Pets must be on a leash not to exceed 6 feet in length.

For informational purposes: Guidance on service animals can be found in DO-42 and the Director’s memo dated 9/5/02 and titled “Use of Service Animals by Persons with Disabilities in the National Park System.”

(a)(3) Leaving a pet **unattended** and tied to an object is prohibited, except in developed camping facilities while the owners are away from the campsite for a short period of time. Under no circumstances will a pet be left unattended overnight.

(a)(5) Pet **excrement** must be immediately collected by the pet handler and disposed of in the nearest trash receptacle. *These regulations are not intended to restrict pets from the park but rather to enhance the natural experience of all visitors. Pets are natural predators and their scent alone will scare wild animals into hiding places.*

(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 park’s Housing Management Plan.

Section 2.16 HORSES AND PACK ANIMALS

Coggins test

For informational purposes: Pursuant to both North Carolina and Tennessee state law, all equine brought to or kept at any park horse camp or ridden on any park trail shall be accompanied by either the original or a copy of an official negative test for equine infectious anemia (EIA) (aka “Coggins test”) administered within the previous 12 months. Proof of such test must be provided upon request.

Both North Carolina and Tennessee state law requires this

route.

The use of saddle and pack animals is allowed on the following roads when they are closed to motor vehicle traffic for the season:

- Heintooga Ridge Road
- Forge Creek Road
- Balsam Mountain/Straight Fork Road
- Parson Branch Road
- Rich Mountain Road
- Upper Tremont Road

(g) Horses must be tied to **hitchposts** or **hitchracks** at backcountry locations where they are provided. In backcountry campsites or any backcountry areas with no hitchracks or hitchposts, or if these are full, horses must be **cross-tied** so they cannot chew on or otherwise damage trees or other vegetation. If picket stakes for the cross-tie system are not available, trees of no less than eight (8) inches in diameter should be utilized.

Cross-tying of horses and pack animals is not permitted within 100 feet of established backcountry campsites, fire rings, shelters, or sleeping areas in the backcountry, or within 100 feet from any stream or water source.

Horses are not permitted within one hundred feet of frontcountry campsites, except at developed horse camps.

Party size: At designated backcountry sites where stock are permitted, the number of animals in any one party is limited to one per person plus one stock animal per person, but shall not exceed a total of ten (10) animals. Number of people and number of stock may not exceed designated capacities at reservation only backcountry campsites. These capacities may be more restrictive than eight (8) people and ten (10) animals.

Stock are hereby restricted from stopping, standing, or travelling across or adjacent to any **water spring**.

Stock are restricted from water springs to prevent contamination. Springs do not normally have the water volume necessary to cleanse themselves. It is recommended that pack animals be watered with the use of a container.

Manure scattering: In backcountry areas with hitch racks or stalls, any manure shall be scattered no less than 100 feet from any campsite area before departing the area. In developed horse camps, all manure shall be moved from the stall and hitch rack areas to a designated collection area.

At trailheads, any manure spilled from the trailering unit and any fresh excrement must be replaced in the trailering unit.

This is necessary to prevent the introduction of exotic

plant seeds into the park.

Feed: In the backcountry, the use of loose hay or grain containing viable seeds is prohibited. Stock users are required to carry supplemental feed such as pellets, rolled grains, or dehydrated alfalfa cubes on all trips.

Unloading; trailer parking: Stock will not be unloaded nor shall trailer units be parked in the Deep Creek trailhead parking area. The designated parking and unloading area for stock must be used at the Noland Divide Trailhead.

Stock will not be unloaded nor shall trailer units be parked in the Smokemont Church parking areas. The designated parking and unloading area for stock at Tow String must be used.

Stock will not be unloaded nor shall trailer units be parked in the parking areas at the entrance to the Cades Cove loop road or adjacent to the campground store. A trailer parking and stock unloading area is provided at the entrance to the Cades Cove horse concession.

Section 2.21 SMOKING

(a) Smoking is prohibited in all public buildings and within 25 feet of the entrance to all public buildings pursuant to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park Smoking Policy. That policy is hereby adopted and made part of these orders.

Smoking is prohibited in all historic structures.

Smoking is prohibited within the Cades Cove orientation shelter.

The Cades Cove orientation shelter is an enclosed structure which serves as a point of public contact for individuals visiting the Cades Cove area.

Section 2.22 PROPERTY

For information only: Items found in violation of 36 CFR 2.10(d) are considered to interfere with visitor safety and present a threat to park resources. As such, they may be impounded under 36 CFR 2.22 (b)(2) by Park Rangers, campground employees, campground VIPs or wildlife management staff.

(2) Motor vehicles may be left at trailheads while the vehicle operator is using the park backcountry. Boats maybe

left at water access trailheads while the boat operator is using the park backcountry.

Except for vehicles/vessels left while the operator is in the backcountry on an overnight hike, there should be no reason for objects to be unattended for more than 24 hours.

Section 2.35 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

(a)(3)(i) The possession or consumption of an alcoholic beverage and/or the possession of a bottle, can or other receptacle containing an alcoholic beverage that is open, or that has been opened, or whose seal is broken or the contents of which has been partially removed is prohibited as noted herein. This alcohol prohibition includes all park areas within the park boundary except: government owned housing, overnight lodging facilities, designated picnic areas, the Appalachian Clubhouse, the Spence cabin and frontcountry and backcountry campgrounds and shelters as identified in the current Great Smoky Mountains Trail Map, the official Great Smoky Mountains folder, and the current park newspaper. The Superintendent may authorize the possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages as part of a special event.

Unrestricted consumption of alcoholic beverages often results in unsightly litter, and disorderly behavior which is disturbing to park visitors, and threatens peace and good order. The NPS strives to provide a safe, clean, family friendly environment for everyone visiting our public lands, as well as to protect the health, safety and welfare of park visitors and employees.

Section 2.51 DEMONSTRATIONS

(c)(2) The areas listed below are designated for demonstrations and the sale or distribution of printed matter. These areas may be occupied by groups of 25 or fewer persons without a permit consistent with 36 CFR 2.51 and 2.52. However there are exceptions and, even when not required, a permit is recommended in order to assure space will be available at a particular site. Detail maps of many areas will be furnished upon request and/or with a permit.

- Abrams Creek – The field next to Ranger Station and adjacent to day use parking.
- Balsam Mountain – The grassy area in the center of the loop at Balsam Mountain picnic area parking area.
- Big Creek – The grassy area within the loop at the

Big Creek picnic area, bordered by the approach road and the picnic area parking lot.

- Cades Cove –
 - Cades Cove amphitheater – subject to scheduled activities.
 - The grassy area between the campground office and the store and to the north of the parking area, bordered by the road, the sidewalk and the store and within 30' of the sidewalk.
 - The grassy area adjacent to the parking lot at the entrance to the Cades Cove loop road, and specifically that portion of the area south of and within 30' of the sidewalk and no less than 50' nor more than 100' to the east of the visitor contact station.
- Cataloochee – The sidewalk and grassy area at the perimeter of the parking lot located approximately .1 mile northeast of (i.e. before) the Cataloochee campground and at which are located public information bulletin boards.
- Clingmans Dome – The sidewalk area to the south of the bulletin board (to the left of the board when facing it) located at the far (west) end of Clingmans Dome parking lot and specifically that portion of the sidewalk between the bulletin board and the trash can and within 15' of the edge of the sidewalk. The area designated is intended to leave the majority of the sidewalk nearest the rock bluff clear for pedestrian use.
- Cosby - At the Cosby picnic area, specifically the west end (nearest the campground office) of the grassy area located between the upper and lower picnic/hiker parking lots.
- Deep Creek – The grassy area across the road from (southeast of) the campground office and within 30' of the pavement.
- Elkmont amphitheater – subject to scheduled activities.
- Foothills Parkway West – The grassy area on the south side of the Look Rock tower parking lot, between the parking lot and the sidewalk.
- Headquarters – The lawn area directly in front of the building, bounded on the north by the south edge of the sidewalk, on the east and west by the ends of the building, and on the south by an imaginary line running parallel to and 75' from the south edge of the sidewalk.
- Newfound Gap – The grassy area in front of (to the west of) the Rockefeller Memorial, bordered by the parking lot exit, the stone pavement and the memorial wall, provided that a clear pathway must be maintained for pedestrians to access the plaque on the wall.

- Oconaluftee – The lawn area directly in front of (to the southwest of) the administration building, bordered by sidewalks and the parking lot exit
- Sugarlands Visitor Center – The southeast corner of the stone plaza in front of the Visitor Center.

These areas have been designated pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Register with the intention of providing persons exercising their First Amendment rights with a very public area with the potential for “high visibility.”

Section 2.52 SALE AND DISTRIBUTION OF PRINTED MATERIAL

See section 2.51 above regarding the list of designated areas.

Superintendents are authorized by 36 CFR 2.52 to issue special park use permits for the sale or distribution of “printed matter,” which the regulation defines as “message-bearing textual printed material such as books, pamphlets, magazines, and leaflets, provided that it is not solely commercial advertising.” Sales under this regulation whether authorized by a permit or small group exception, are limited to these defined terms.

To ensure that interpretation of the 36 CFR 2.52 accommodates the exercise of First Amendment rights, and that it is uniformly applied, in interpreting and applying the regulation, superintendents will allow the free distribution of message-bearing items to the public other than printed matter, so long as the activity occurs within the areas designated as available for First Amendment activities, and otherwise complies with 36 CFR 2.52.

Examples of message-bearing items that may be distributed for free include CDs, DVDs, and other readable electronic media. Such items must be distributed free of charge, and individuals may not ask or demand payment or request a donation in exchange for the item, which would violate 36 CFR 5.3.

Section 2.62 MEMORIALIZATION

(b) The scattering of human ashes from cremation will be permitted pursuant to a permit issued by the park and pursuant to the following conditions:

- The chosen site must be no less than 200 feet from any buildings or historic building, structure or cemetery. sites, including historic structures and cemeteries.
- The chosen site must be no less than 100 feet away

from any other structures and developed areas, e.g. visitor centers, roads, trails, campgrounds and picnic areas.

- The chosen site must be no less than 150 feet from a stream or other watercourse.
- The ashes must be scattered and not deposited in any type of container. Cremains may not be buried even without a container.
- No marker or memorial of any sort may be placed or left at the site. The placement or planting of real or artificial flowers, memorial trees, brass markers, wooden crosses, etc. is prohibited.
- A copy of the permit must accompany the person performing the scattering.
- Cremation must be accomplished in accordance with state law.

Section 4.11 VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC SAFETY

For informational purposes: Vehicles which are not manufactured for street use and which do not meet applicable federal motor vehicle safety standards (e.g. golf carts and ATV’s) are prohibited on park roads. When there is doubt about the status of a motor vehicle, it shall be the obligation of the owner to provide documentation from the manufacturer that the vehicle meets federal motor vehicle safety standards. Generally, that can be confirmed by stickers on the vehicle or text in the owner’s manual, or by checking tires for “Not for Highway Use” text.

The licensing of off-road vehicles by some jurisdictions has created confusion about which vehicles are allowed on public roads.

Except by permit, motor homes, buses and vans longer than 25 feet, as well as any passenger vehicles towing a trailer, are prohibited on the following roads:

- Chimneys Picnic Area
- Elkmont Road above the campground
- Balsam Mountain Road
- Little Greenbrier
- Parson Branch Road
- Rich Mountain Road
- Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail
- Tom's Branch Road
- Twin Creeks
- Wear Gap Road from the park boundary to and including the Metcalf Bridge
- West Deep Creek Road from the junction with the Deep Creek Picnic Area
- Greenbrier Road from the Ranger Station

south.

Large vehicles find it difficult to negotiate these narrow winding roads in combination with their steep grades. Some vehicles will find them impassible while others would severely restrict the flow of traffic.

**Section 4.21
SPEED LIMITS**

North Carolina

Balsam Mountain Road (13.0 miles)	15 mph
Cataloochee Campground	10 mph
Cataloochee Entrance Road, Cove Creek Gap to paved section (Sal Patch Gap)	15 mph
Cataloochee Entrance Road, paved section to Palmer Chapel	25 mph
Cataloochee Entrance Road, Palmer Chapel to To Rough Fork TH	15 mph
Cataloochee Creek Road	15 mph
Clingman’s Dome Road (7 miles)	30 mph
Cove Creek Road (1.7 miles)	15 mph
Deep Creek Campground	10 mph
Deep Creek Roads (East and West)	15 mph
Old 284 –Cataloochee to Mt Sterling (5.7 miles)	15 mph
Old 284 Bypass (1.7 miles)	15 mph
Old 284 Connector (2.1 miles)	15 mph
Heintooga Road (5.2 miles)	35 mph
Lake View Drive (5.7 miles)	35 mph
Smokemont Campground	10 mph
Straight Fork Road (3.8 miles)	15 mph
Tom’s Branch Road (1.2 miles)	15 mph
US 441 – EBCI to N of Mingus Mill (2.0 miles)	35 mph
US 441 – MM20 to .1 mile S of Clingman’s Dome Road	35 mph
US 441- .1 mile S of Clingman’s Dome Road to Newfound Gap/State Line (.2 miles)	25 mph

Tennessee

Abrams Creek Campground	10 mph
Cades Cove Campground	10 mph
Cades Cove Loop Road	20 mph
Cades Cove Picnic Area	10 mph
Cherokee Orchard Road (3.5 miles)	25 mph
Elkmont Access Road (1.5 miles)	25 mph
Elkmont Campground	10 mph
Foothills Parkway East	45 mph
Foothills Parkway West (except below)	45 mph
Foothills Parkway West, from ¼ mi north of Lookrock Campground to ¼ mi south of Lookrock Tower parking lot	25 mph
Gatlinburg By-Pass (except below)	35 mph
Gatlinburg By-Pass, NB at Cliff Branch Creek MP1.4-1.2	25 mph
Hyatt Lane	15 mph

Laurel Creek Road – Campground Road to 3.6 miles	35 mph
Laurel Creek Road – MM3.6 to Townsend Wye	30 mph
Little River Road – From NFG Road to MM 3.6	35 mph
Little River Road – From MM 3.6 to MM 4.0 (E)	25 mph
Little River Road – From MM 4.0 to MM 5.0 (E)	35 mph
Little River Road - From MM 5.0 to the Wye (E)	30 mph
Lower Tremont Road – from Laurel Creek Road South 1.9 miles	25 mph
Lower Tremont Road – From 1.9 miles south of Laurel Creek Road to Tremont Institute	15 mph
NFG Road – Boundary south to MM 1.4	35 mph
NFG Road – MM 1.4 (S) to MM 2.0 (S)	25 mph
NFG Road – MM 2.0 (S) to MM 12.6 (S)	35 mph
NFG Road – MM 12.6 (S) to NFG/State Line	25 mph
Park Headquarters Road (.5 miles)	25 mph
Parsons Branch Road	15 mph
Rich Mountain Road	15 mph
Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail (5.0 miles)	10 mph
Sparks Lane	15 mph
TN Hwy 73 – Boundary to .1 mi (.1 miles)	30 mph
TN Hwy 73 - .1 mile to .5 miles	35 mph
TN Hwy 73 - .5 mile to and including the Wye Intersection - East Fork	25 mph
TN Hwy 73 Wye Intersection – West Fork	30 mph
US 441 NB Spur – Gatlinburg City Limit to 0.5 miles north	35 mph
US 441 NB Spur – MM 1.4 to MM 2.0	35 mph
US 441 SB Spur – 4.3 miles south of Pigeon Forge City Limits to Gatlinburg City limits	25 mph
Upper Tremont Road	15 mph
Wears Cove Road (1.2 miles)	25 mph

These roads having differing speed limits for all or part of their length are winding mountain roads, having little to no shoulder, and steep drop-offs.

**Section 4.30
BICYCLES**

(a) The following routes are designated for non- motorized bicycle use.

Park Headquarters

- The Gatlinburg Trail between the Sugarlands Visitor Center and Gatlinburg. (1.9 miles)

Oconaluftee

- The Oconaluftee River Trail between the Oconaluftee Visitor Center and the town of Cherokee. (1.6 miles)

Deep Creek Area

- That portion of the graveled road now existing from the trailhead to the end of the gravel on the:
- Indian Creek Trail (2.9 miles)
- Deep Creek Trail (1.4 miles)

Non-motorized bicycles may travel year-round on the following seasonally closed roads:

- Heintooga Ridge Road
- Clingmans Dome Road
- Forge Creek Road
- Balsam Mountain/Straight Fork Road
- Little Greenbrier Road
- Parson Branch Road
- Rich Mountain Road
- Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail
- Upper Tremont Road

Section 4.31 HITCHHIKING

For the purpose of hiking a park trail, hitchhiking is permitted to obtain transportation back to one's vehicle or from one's vehicle to a trail entry point. Hitchhiking is also permitted to obtain assistance for a disabled vehicle. It shall not be permitted where it creates a traffic hazard.

Many park trails do not loop back to their beginning point but come out some distance from the original entry point. Soliciting a ride for short distances has been an accepted practice for many years without any complaint or history of problems.

Section 5.6 COMMERCIAL VEHICLES

For informational purposes: Passenger-carrying motor vehicles (busses, taxis, etc.) are not specifically prohibited at GSMNP by 36 CFR 5.4. In addition, regulation under 36 CFR 5.3 is made difficult in the absence of entrance stations. Until such time as a Commercial Services Plan is developed and implemented or guidelines are developed to regulate such vehicles under an Commercial Use Authorization, passenger-carrying motor vehicles such as busses and taxis are exempt from 36 CFR 5.6. Passenger-carrying motor vehicles engaged in other business or which are providing a service in addition to simple transportation, e.g. delivering tubers to a put in point on a

river or delivering hikers and a guide to a trailhead, remain prohibited under §5.3 and/or §5.6.

Section 7.14 GSMNP (Fishing)

For informational purposes:

- In order to avoid confusion, the park will recognize the most liberal of North Carolina and Tennessee state regulations with regard to the minimum age required for a fishing license. As of 2004, the **minimum age requirement** is 16 years of age as specified in the North Carolina law. There is no requirement that a licensed adult must accompany a minor who is fishing without a license.
- A license is not required anywhere in the park on Free Fishing Days. Check current state regulations for the specific days declared by each state.
- A license is not required of a person on military leave and carrying a copy of their leave papers. (Pursuant to TN regulations.)

(a)(6)(i) The use of a dropper fly having a single hook attached by ≥ 12 inches of line to a legal lure is permissible. The fly may be attached by a piece of line to the leader or tied to the hook of the fly that is tied to the leader.

The use of a dropper fly is consistent with both Tennessee and North Carolina game regulations and with 36 CFR 7.14(a)(6)(i).

(a)(6)(ii) For informational Purposes: A **liquid, chemical or aerosol product intended as a scented attractant, and any tackle manufactured with an impregnated scent, is considered, "fish bait other than artificial flies or lures" and is therefore prohibited.**

Appendix A: Designated Foot Trails

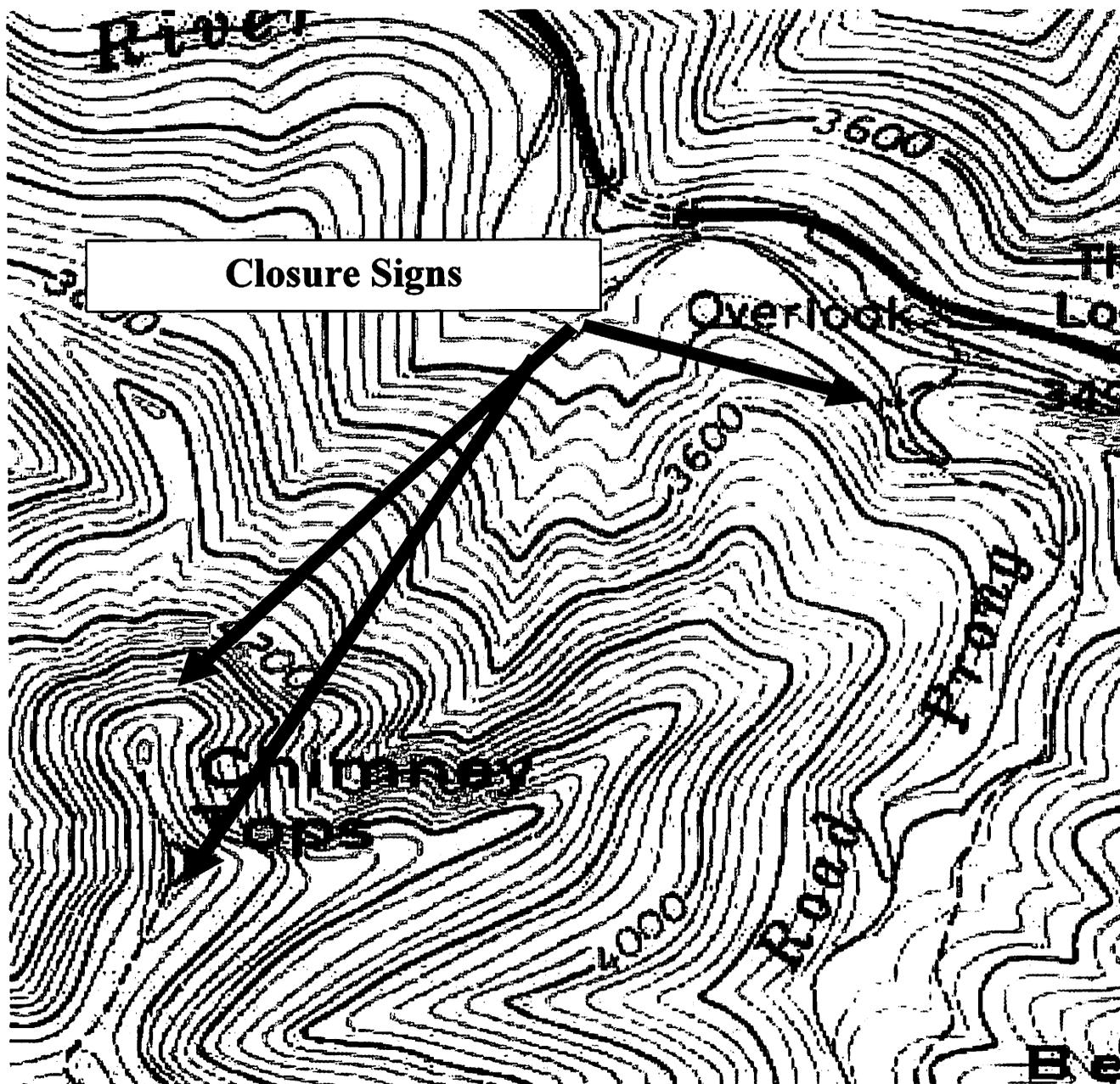
Designated Foot Trails (Closed to Horse Use)

Trail Name	Location:	From - To
All self-guiding nature trails		
All Quiet Walkways		
Abrams Falls Trail	Abrams Falls Parking Area - Hannah Mtn. Trail	
Albright Grove Loop Tr.	Loop off Maddron Bald Trail	
Alum Cave Trail	Newfound Gap Road - Rainbow Falls Trail near Mt. Le Conte	
Appalachian Trail	Fontana Dam – Sassafras Gap	
Appalachian Trail	Bote Mtn Trail – Miry Ridge Trail	
Appalachian Trail	Silers Bald – Hughes Ridge Trail	
Baskins Creek Trail	Trillium Gap Trail - Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail	
Baxter Creek Trail	Big Creek Picnic Area - Mt. Sterling Tower hitch rack	
Boogerman Trail	Loop from Caldwell Fork Trail	
Boulevard Trail, the	Mt. Le Conte - Appalachian Trail near Mt. Kephart	
Brushy Mtn Trail	Trillium Gap to Overlook	
Bull Head Trail	Old Sugar Trail - Rainbow Falls Trail near Mt. Le Conte	
Chestnut Branch Trail	Big Creek Road - Appalachian Trail	
Chestnut Top Trail	Schoolhouse Gap Trail - Townsend Wye	
Chimney Tops Trail	Newfound Gap Road - Chimney Tops	
Clingmans Dome Bypass Tr.	Forney Ridge Trail - Appalachian Trail	
Cove Mountain Trail	Park Headquarters - Cove Mountain Tower	
Cucumber Gap Trail	Little River Trail - Jakes Creek Trail	
Curry Mt Trail	Little River Road - Meigs Mountain Trail	
Deep Creek Trail	Campsite 55 - Newfound Gap Road AND Deep Creek Campground Trailhead to Indian Creek Trail	
Eagle Creek Trail	Lakeshore Trail - Appalachian Trail at Spence Field	
Flat Creek Trail	Heintooga Ridge Road - Heintooga Picnic Area	
Fork Ridge Trail	Clingmans Dome Road - Deep Creek Trail	
Forney Creek Trail	Jonas Creek Trail Junction - Forney Ridge Trail	
Forney Ridge Trail	Clingmans Dome Parking Area - Springhouse Branch Trail	
Gabes Mt Trail	Maddron Bald Trail - Cosby Picnic Area and campground	
Gatlinburg Trail	Sugarlands Vis. Center - Boundary at Gatlinburg	
Goshen Prong Trail	Little River Tr.-Appalachian Tr. at Double Spr. Gap	
Grapeyard Ridge Trail	Greenbrier Road - Big Dudley Trail	
Greenbrier Ridge Trail	Middle Prong Tr.-Appalachian Trail at Sams Gap	
Gregory Ridge Trail	Forge Creek Road - Greg Bald Trail at Rich Gap	
Gunter Fork Trail	Camel Gap Trail - Balsam Mountain Trail	
Hazel Creek Trail	Proctor Creek - Welch Ridge Trail Huskey	
Gap Trail	Newfound Gap Road - Little River Trail	
Kanati Fork Trail	Newfound Gap Road - Thomas Divide Trail	
Laurel Falls Trail	Fighting Creek Gap - Cove Mountain Trail	
Little Bottoms Trail	Cooper Road Trail - Hatcher Mountain Trail	
Little Brier Gap	Little Greenbrier Schoolhouse-L. Greenbrier Trail	
Little Greenbrier Trail	Wear Cove Gap Road - Laurel Falls Trail	
Little River Trail	Barricade - #30	
Maddron Bald Trail	Barricade at Boundary - Snake Den Ridge Trail	
Meigs Creek Trail	Little River Road at Sinks - Meigs Mtn. Trail	
Metcalf Bottoms Trail	Metcalf Bottoms Picnic Area-L. Greenbrier School	
Miry Ridge Trail	A.T. at Buckeye Gap - Lynn Camp Prong Trail	

Mingus Creek Trail
Oconaluftee River Trail
Old Settlers Trail
Porters Creek Trail
Falls Trail
Ramsay Cascades Trail
Road Prong Trail
Rough Creek Trail
Roundtop Trail
Scott Mountain Trail
Smokemont Loop Trail
Spruce Mountain Trail
Sugarland Mountain Tr.
Sweat Heifer Creek Trail
Thomas Divide Trail
Twentymile Loop Trail
Twin Creeks Trail

Newfound Gap Road – Deep Low Gap Trail
Oconaluftee Visitor Center - Park Boundary at Cherokee
Ramsay Cascades Road - Maddron Bald Trail
Brushy Mtn Trail jct - Vicinity of #31 on Porters Creek Rainbow
Rainbow Falls Parking Area at Cherokee Orchard Mt. Le Conte
Barricade - Ramsay Cascades
Chimney Tops Trail - Indian Gap
Little River Trail - Sugarland Mountain Trail
Wear Cove Gap Road - Townsend Wye
Indian Grave Gap Trail - Schoolhouse Gap Trail
Smokemont Campground - Bradley Fork Trail
Balsam Mountain Road - Campsite 42
Fighting Crk. Gap-Appalachian Tr. at Mt. Collins
Kephart Prong Trail - Appalachian Trail near Mt. Kephart
Newfound Gap Road- Junction w/ Sunkota Ridge Trail
Wolf Ridge Trail - Long Hungry Ridge Trail
Park boundary – Cherokee Orchard Road

Appendix B: Chimney Tops closure map



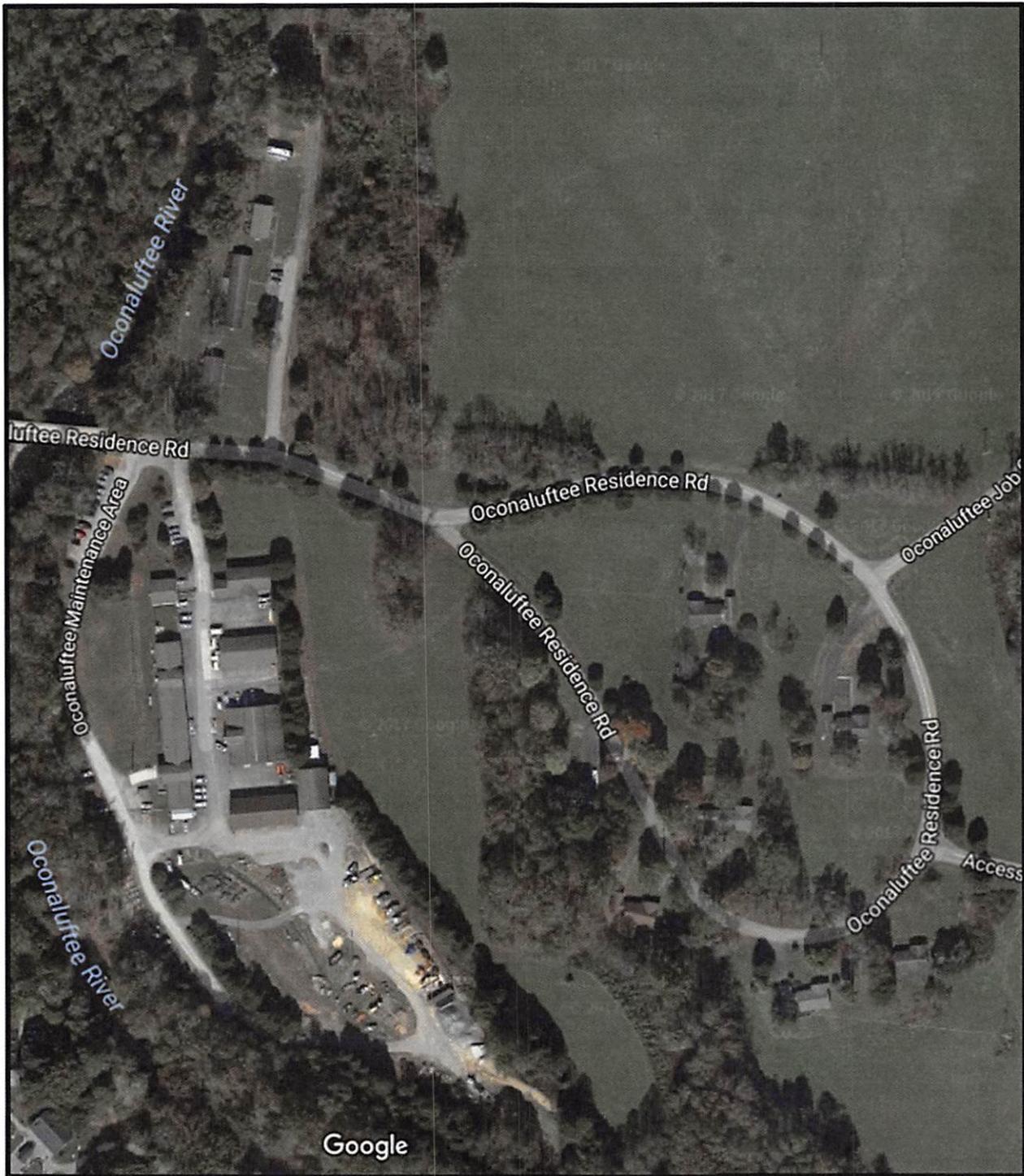
Unless otherwise stated, these regulatory provisions apply in addition to the regulations contained in 36 CFR, Chapter 1 and Section 7.14 Special Regulations. 36 CFR can be found at <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/browse/collectionCfr.action?selectedYearFrom=2016&go=Go>

Appendix C: Oconaluftee Job Corps Area Closure Map



Unless otherwise stated, these regulatory provisions apply in addition to the regulations contained in 36 CFR, Chapter 1 and Section 7.14 Special Regulations. 36 CFR can be found at <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/browse/collectionCfr.action?selectedYearFrom=2016&go=Go>

Appendix D: Oconaluftee Housing and Maintenance Areas



Unless otherwise stated, these regulatory provisions apply in addition to the regulations contained in 36 CFR, Chapter 1 and Section 7.14 Special Regulations. 36 CFR can be found at <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/browse/collectionCfr.action?selectedYearFrom=2016&go=Go>

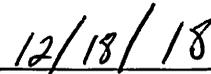
**CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS
TITLE 36, CHAPTER 1**

Amendment to the Compendium

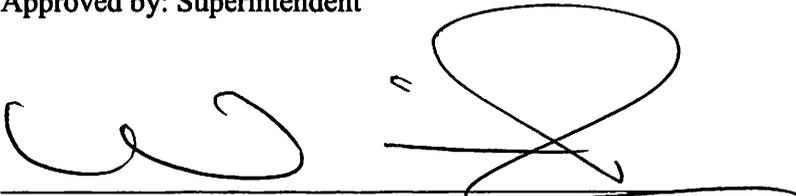
Those portions of the current Superintendent's Compendium, dated 12/11/2017, dealing with 36 CFR§1.5 hereby includes the information below. This amendment, combined with the 2017 Compendium, consitutes the official compendium until such time as the entire document is updated.



Approved by: Superintendent



Date



Recommended by: Chief Ranger (acting)

December 3, 2018

Date

Section 1.5 Closures and Public Use Limits

(a)(1) Closures

Oconaluftee Job Corps Area Closure- The following park areas are closed to all public uses and are designated for **Official Use Only**. Examples of public uses are vehicular traffic, walking, hiking and bicycling.

- The Oconaluftee Job Corps (OJC) Campus. This area is accessed from the Job Corps Road. All areas closed to public use include all buildings and developed areas adjacent to all buildings. Additional OJC campus areas closed to public use include;
 - OJC Entrance Road from the OJC entrance gate near Enloe Floyd Bottoms Road to the OJC facility
 - Basketball court
 - Softball field
 - Track
 - Field area to the south of the OJC complex and extending to the north edge of Enloe Floyd Bottoms Road

The closed area boundary is defined by the Oconaluftee Job Corps Area Closure map which has a black .

Official Use is defined as persons authorized to conduct official business with or for the National Park Service, the US Forest Service, or the Oconaluftee Job Corps, including authorized employees, volunteers, and contractors of those agencies.

Additional access to the OJC campus may be granted on a case by case basis by the Superintendent of Great Smoky Mountains National Park and/or the Center Director of the Oconaluftee Job Corps, or their designee (North Carolina District Ranger or OJC Residential Aide Supervisor). Examples of additional access may include, but are not limited to; invited guests, family members of students, special event attendees, etc.

- Students of the OJC who have their program status suspended, terminated, or under investigation pending a program removal by the Center Director in accordance with OJC Policy and Procedure, are subject to this closure at the discretion of the Center Director and may be deemed unauthorized official users of the facility upon notice. If upon being given notice of their change in status with the OJC Program student(s) and/or employee(s) are in violation of this regulation should they fail to depart from the Center without unreasonable delay.

Closures may be advertised through public notice and may be implemented by one or more of the following methods: signs, gates, barricades, other traffic control devices, vehicles and/or as directed by authorized persons.

Justification: The Oconaluftee Job Corps is a residential US Department of Labor no-cost education and career technical training program that helps young people ages 16 through 24 improve the quality of their lives through career technical and academic training. The Center has an approximate 50 acre campus which serves as a quiet, remote location for young people to prepare for their futures and public use may conflict with the intent of the program. A significant increase in wildlife viewing (elk) activity in the area poses public use conflicts with Center staff and students. An open Center also provides uncontrolled public access to young people on campus, whom the Center has an obligation to provide for their safety and security while residing or working on Center.

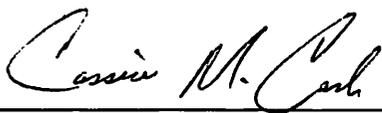
Oconaluftee Job Corps Area Closure Map



**CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS
TITLE 36, CHAPTER 1**

Amendment to the Compendium

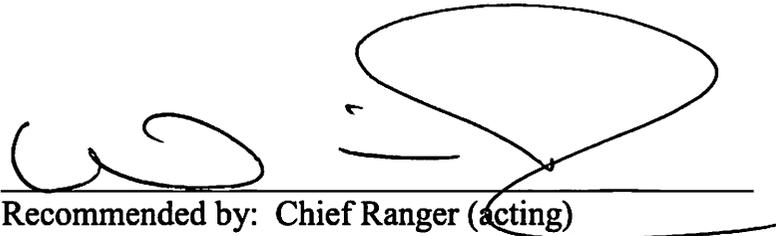
Those portions of the current Superintendent's Compendium, dated 12/11/2017, dealing with 36 CFR§4.21 hereby includes the information below. This amendment, combined with the 2017 Compendium, consitutes the official compendium until such time as the entire document is updated.



Approved by: Superintendent

12/18/18

Date



Recommended by: Chief Ranger (acting)

December 3, 2018

Date

Submitted by L. Slobodzian, Law Enforcement Specialist, November 9, 2018

Section 4.21
SPEED LIMITS

Tennessee

The following speed limits apply to the Foothills Parkway West:

Mile Marker 16.8 to Mile Marker 22.9	35 mph
<i>Eastbound</i>	
Mile Marker 22.9 to Mile Marker 28.9	25 mph
Mile Marker 28.9 to Mile Marker 31.3	35 mph
<i>Westbound</i>	
Mile Marker 22.9 to Mile Marker 28.2	25 mph
Mile Marker 28.2 to Mile Marker 31.3	35 mph
Mile Marker 31.3 to Intersection with Rt. 321	25 mph

The Superintendent may designate speed limits upon any park road to ensure vehicle speeds are reasonable, safe and consistent with the purpose for which the park road was established. Speed limits have been posted using standard traffic control devices – signs.

**CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS
TITLE 36, CHAPTER 1**

Amendment to the Compendium

Pursuant to NPS Policy Memorandum 19-01, dated August 30, 2019, those portions of the current Superintendent's Compendium, dated 12/11/2017, dealing with 36 CFR§1.4 and 36 CFR§4.30 hereby includes the information below. This amendment, combined with the 2017 Compendium, constitutes the official compendium until such time as the entire document is updated.

Clayton F. Jordan
Approved by: Superintendent

10/7/19
Date

/s/ Lisa Hendy
Recommended by: Chief Ranger

10/7/19
Date

Submitted by S. Spanyer, Law Enforcement Specialist, September 19, 2019

Section 1.4 Definitions

Electric bicycle - means a device upon which any person may ride that is equipped with two (2) or three (3) wheels, any of which is twenty inches (20") or more in diameter, fully operable pedals for human propulsion, and an electric motor of less than seven hundred fifty (750) watts, and meets the requirements of one (1) of the three (3) classes of electric bicycles.

Class 1 electric bicycle - means an electric bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of twenty miles per hour (20 mph);

Class 2 electric bicycle - means an electric bicycle equipped with a motor that may be used exclusively to propel the bicycle, and that is not capable of providing assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of twenty miles per hour (20 mph);

Class 3 electric bicycle - means an electric bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of twenty-eight miles per hour (28 mph).

Section 4.30 Bicycles

(a) Park Roads. The use of non-motorized bicycles and electrical bicycles is permitted on park roads and in parking areas that are otherwise open for motor vehicle used by the general public.

(b) The following routes, when closed seasonally to motor vehicles, remain open for non-motorized bicycles and Class 1 and Class 2 electric bicycles year round.

- Heintooga Ridge Road
- Clingmans Dome Road
- Forge Creek Road
- Balsam Mountain/Straight Fork Road
- Little Greenbrier Road
- Parson Branch Road
- Rich Mountain Road
- Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail
- Upper Tremont Road
- The Cades Cove Loop Road (including during the Wednesday and Saturday morning “bicycle closure” events from May thru September)

(d) The following trails are open to non-motorized bicycles and Class 1 and Class 2 electric bicycles.

- The Gatlinburg Trail between the Sugarlands Visitor Center and Gatlinburg. (1.9 miles)
- The Oconaluftee River Trail between the Oconaluftee Visitor Center and the town of Cherokee. (1.6 miles)
- That portion of the graveled road now existing from the trailhead to the end of the gravel on the: Indian Creek Trail (2.9 miles) and Deep Creek Trail (1.4 miles)

(f) (1)(i) Except where the use of motor vehicles by the public is allowed, using the electric motor to move an electric bicycle without pedaling is prohibited.

(f)(1)(ii) The use of Class 3 bicycles is prohibited on the above listed roads and trails.

(g)(1) A person operating an electric bicycle on any park road, parking lot, administrative road or designated trail is subject to Chapter 36 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 4 that apply to an operator of a motor vehicle, except sections 4.4, 4.10, 4.11, 4.14 and 4.15.

(g)(2) Except as specified in this Compendium the use of an electrical bicycle within Great Smoky Mountains National Park is governed by State law. Any violation of State law is prohibited.

Justification: The maximum speeds obtainable with motorized assistance on Class 3 bicycles are not compatible with shared multi-use activities on the above listed routes. They are, therefore, prohibited due to public safety concerns.



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Great Smoky Mountains National Park
107 Park Headquarters Road
Gatlinburg, Tennessee 37738



Amendment to the Compendium

Pursuant to Executive Order 13991, Protecting Federal Workforce and Requiring Mask-Wearing (E.O. 13991) dated January 20th, 2021, those portions of the current Superintendent's Compendium, dated 12/11/2017, dealing with 36 CFR§1.5(a)(2) as pertains to the imposition of conditions for use – specifically government facilities. This amendment, combined with the 2017 Compendium, constitutes the official compendium until such time as the entire document is updated.

CASSIUS CASH

Digitally signed by CASSIUS CASH
Date: 2021.02.04 14:46:52 -05'00'

see dated signature

Approved by: Superintendent

Date

LISA HENDY

Digitally signed by LISA HENDY
Date: 2021.02.04 12:26:07 -05'00'

see dated signature

Recommended by: Chief Ranger

Date

Purpose:

On January 20, 2021, President Biden signed Executive Order 13991, Protecting the Federal Workforce and Requiring Mask-Wearing (E.O. 13991). E.O. 13991 directs federal agencies to: ... immediately take action, as appropriate and consistent with applicable law, to require compliance with [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention] guidelines with respect to wearing masks, maintaining physical distance, and other public health measures by: on-duty or on-site Federal employees; on-site Federal contractors; and all persons in Federal buildings or on Federal lands.

Administration Priorities:

As stated in E.O. 13991, it is the policy of the Administration to halt the spread of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) by relying on the best available data and science-based public health measures. Such measures include mitigations as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Justification:

The Centers for Disease Control has published briefing statements supporting the use of masks to reduce the spread of infectious diseases such as COVID 19. Outdoor areas often experience traffic flow or visitation rates which make compliance with the CDC social

distancing guidelines impossible to maintain and therefore require the utilization of a mask by those occupying these spaces.

Authority:

In order to protect the health and safety of NPS employees, volunteers, partners and contractors, and park visitors, Superintendents must implement mask-wearing requirements for park visitors, using the authority in 36 CFR 1.5(a)(2). This authority allows Superintendents to impose restrictions on activities within park areas for the maintenance of public health and safety.

Effective immediately with Great Smoky Mountains National Park, individuals over the age of two years must wear masks, except when actively eating or drinking, in the following locations:

1. All common areas and shared workspaces in buildings owned, rented or leased by the National Park Service, including, but not limited to, park visitor centers, administrative offices, lodges, gift shops and restaurants.
2. All outdoor areas when physical distancing (staying at least six feet apart) cannot reasonably be maintained between unaffiliated groups or individuals. GRSM experiences crowding parkwide on many park trails, outdoor historic areas, scenic natural features, and overlooks. The level of crowding at specific sites is temporally affected by many factors including holiday periods, wildlife presence, wildflower abundance, and weather. Due to this variation, all outdoor locations are subject to crowding and masks are required when physical distancing cannot be maintained between parties not associated with one another.

Masks must cover the nose and mouth and fit snugly around the nose and chin with no large gaps around the sides of the face. Masks not designed to be protective, masks with ventilation valves, and face shields do not meet the requirement.

This order is effective immediately and will remain in effect until further notice. The effectiveness of this order will be assessed on an ongoing basis and will be modified or removed when conditions warrant.