



United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service
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MEMO

Date: August 11, 2026
To: Whom it may concern
From: Mark Sturm, Superintendent

Subject: Access eligibility by residents of Igiugig and Kokhanok to Katmai National Preserve for subsistence purposes after traditional and customary determination.

On May 14, 2024, the National Park Service (NPS) documented its recent determination that residents of the villages of Igiugig and Kokhanok traditionally employed off-road vehicles (ORVs) as a means of accessing subsistence resources within the area that today comprises Katmai National Preserve (Katmai). Section 811(b) of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) states, “Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act or other law, the Secretary shall permit on the public lands appropriate use for subsistence purposes of snowmobiles, motorboats, and other means of surface transportation traditionally employed for such purposes by local residents, subject to reasonable regulation.”

§36 CFR 13.460 (a) states that “... the use of snowmobiles, motorboats, dog teams, and other means of surface transportation traditionally employed by local rural residents engaged in subsistence uses is permitted within park areas except at those times and in those areas restricted or closed by the Superintendent.” Katmai’s 2026 compendium currently prohibits ORV access under §36 CFR 13.460, however this memo clarifies that since the effective date of the aforementioned determination this prohibition has no longer applied to qualifying residents of Igiugig and Kokhanok engaged in subsistence related activities. Katmai intends to update its compendium accordingly during the 2027 compendium cycle.

Residents of the villages of Igiugig and Kakhanok may access Katmai National Preserve using ORVs under appropriate ground conditions for the purposes accessing subsistence resources. Katmai will monitor for adverse impacts associated with this newly reestablished activity and may establish further access restrictions as needed, pursuant §36 CFR 13.460, to address concerns relating to public health and safety, resource protection, protection of historic or scientific values, subsistence uses, conservation of endangered or threatened species, or the purposes for which the park area was established.