Fact Sheet

Purpose

Lake Clark was established to protect a region of dynamic geologic and ecological processes that create scenic mountain landscapes, unaltered watersheds supporting Bristol Bay red salmon, and habitats for wilderness dependent populations of fish & wildlife, vital to 10,000 years of human history.

Established

December 1, 1978...................... Designated as a National Monument by President Carter
December 2, 1980...................... Designated as a National Park and Preserve and enlarged through the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act.

Size

Total .... 4,030,006 acres or ~ 6,297 square miles
National Park .... 2,619,713 acres or ~ 4,093 square miles
National Preserve .... 1,410,293 acres or ~ 2,204 square miles

For comparison, the state of Hawaii is 4.11 million acres or 6,423 square miles.
Rhode Island and Connecticut combined are only 3.77 million acres or 5,890 square miles.

Additional Designations

2.61 million acres........................ National Wilderness Preservation System
4 .... National Register of Historic Places
  Dr. Elmer Bly House listed in 2006
  Dick Proenneke Site listed in 2007
  Libby's No. 23 Bristol Bay Double-Ender listed in 2013
  Wassillie Trefon Dena'ina Fish Cache listed in 2013
3 .... National Wild Rivers
  Chilikadrotna River - 11 miles listed in 1980
  Mulchatna River - 24 miles listed in 1980
  Tlikakila River - 51 miles listed in 1980
2 .... National Natural Landmarks
  Redoubt Volcano listed in 1976
  Iliamna Volcano listed in 1976
1 .... National Historic Landmark
  Kijik Archeological District listed in 1994

Employment

NPS Permanent Employees 25
NPS Temporary Employees 15
NPS Volunteers 42

Budget

2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
$3,301,000	$3,297,300	$3,101,300	$3,272,000	$3,255,000	$3,383,172

Trails

6.9 miles
The only developed and maintained trails in the park are part of the Tanalian Trails network near park headquarters in Port Alsworth. The Telaquana Trail, which appears on some maps running from Lake Clark to Telaquana Lake is, in fact, only a route. Hiking is allowed anywhere in the park not otherwise closed to public use. Lake shores, coastal beaches, and high tundra are excellent areas for that activity.

Roads

0 miles
To visit Lake Clark is to venture into a roadless wilderness. Access is possible via float plane into remote lakes, wheeled plane into Port Alsworth or on the coastal beaches, or via boat from Port Alsworth and along the 126 miles of the park's Cook Inlet coastline.

Plants

Species	Endangered	Non-Native
~ 800	0	30

Wildlife

	Species	Endangered	Non-native
Terrestrial Mammals	37	0	0
Birds	190	0	0
Amphibians	1	0	0
Freshwater & Anadromous Fish	25	0	0

147,000 to 3.1 million per year	Number of red salmon that migrate into Lake Clark via the Kvichak watershed as recorded at the Newhalen Counting Station.
13,000 per year	Average number of red salmon that are harvested by subsistence users up-stream of the Newhalen Counting Station.

Points of Interest with Elevations and Lake Depths

	Elevation	Lake Depth
Chinitna Bay	0 ft	
Silver Salmon Creek	0 ft	
Lake Clark	254 ft	870 ft
Crescent Lake	599 ft	110 ft
Telaquana Lake	1,219 ft	435 ft
Dick Proenneke's Cabin on Upper Twin Lake	2,041 ft	276 ft
Tanalian Mountain	3,960 ft	
Iliamna Volcano	10,016 ft	
Redoubt Volcano	10,197 ft	

Land Cover

	Percentage	Acres	Miles^2
Sparsely Vegetated Gravel and Bedrock	24%	973,350	1,521
Snow and Glacial Ice	20%	800,419	1,251
Shrubland	19%	771,706	1,206
Tundra	15%	616,159	963
Forest	11%	440,459	688
Freshwater Rivers and Lakes	4%	151,955	237
Salt Marshes, Sedge Meadows, and Bogs	2%	93, 029	145
Grassland	1%	40,640	63
Not measurable due to cloud cover	4%	142,956	223

Geology

2	Active volcanoes sit on the Pacific Ring of Fire.
4	Confirmed eruption events in recorded history (all Mt. Redoubt: 1902, 1966, 1989, 2009).
880,000 years	Approximate age of Redoubt Volcano.
3.6 cubic miles	The combined ice volume of Iliamna Volcano's four largest glaciers, which is triple the amount of ice and perennial snow on Mt. Rainier in Mount Rainier National Park.
81,000 +	Acres of glacial ice that have melted since the mid 1950s (measured as surface area).

Human History

≥ 10,000 BP	The first human settlers arrive in the region some time after the close of the last great ice age.
≥ 1,700 BP	Sea mammal hunters and gatherers camp at and possibly create the red ochre rock paintings at Clam Cove in Chinitna Bay. Similar paintings in Tuxedni Bay represent rituals associated with large sea mammal hunting. These are the only two rock painting sites known in the Alaska National Park system.
~AD 1000	Dena'ina Athabascans are living in permanent settlements in the Kijik area near the shores of Lake Clark itself, intensively salmon fishing and storing surplus.
1741	Russian explorers reach Alaska. The following century holds rapid change for Alaskan Natives in the Lake Clark region.
1891	Lake Clark itself (known to the Dena'ina as Qizhjeh Vena) is named after John W. Clark of Nushagak, AK after he travels to the area with Albert B. Schanz and Vasili Shishkin.
1902 to 09	Following outbreaks of flu & measles, Dena'ina Athabascans leave Kijik after ~900 years of occupation to settle in Old Nondalton further down lake.
1911	The first permanent, year-round settlement at Tanalian Point on the shores of Lake Clark is established as a mixed community of Euro-Americans and Dena'ina Athabascans.
1930	The first aircraft lands on Lake Clark at Tanalian Point.
1950	The name Port Alsworth is given to the settlement Babe & Mary Alsworth founded a few years earlier on the shores of Lake Clark at Hardenburg Bay. With access for float planes and a hardened landing strip for wheeled planes, it soon eclipses Tanalian Point as it is better suited to the modern age of air travel.
1968	Dick Proenneke completes and moves into his cabin at Upper Twin Lake.
Today	Citizens of resident zone communities adjacent to the park and those who live on private land within the park boundaries continue to practice a traditional subsistence lifestyle by harvesting the area's rich resources for food and other needs.