RESPONSE TO COMMENTS SUPERINTENDENT'S COMPENDIUM 2025

DENALI NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE

The compendium is a list of designations, closures, permit requirements and other authorizations and restrictions adopted pursuant to authority in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) applicable to areas administered by the National Park Service (NPS). On February 7, 2025, the NPS published proposed changes for the 2025 compendium and invited public comment on those proposed changes through March 8, 2025. Two submissions were received (from one individual and the State of Alaska); a summary of substantive comments and NPS responses is provided below. No response or summary is provided for general statements in support of or in opposition to a proposed change.

2.10(d) Food storage: designated areas and methods

Comment: The State of Alaska provided comments regarding the change in food storage distance requirements from 100 feet to 100 yards and stated this change is excessive, unnecessary, and represents over-regulation that will negatively impact visitor experience. These comments emphasized concern with this change being inconsistent with other park units in Alaska.

NPS Response: In response to public comment, this reference and the implications of making this change have been examined more closely. The proposed change to require 100 yards between food storage and campsite locations will be adopted in the 2025 Compendium. Bears, bear habitat, and human-bear management vary across public land management units in Alaska, and there is precedent for regulations to vary accordingly across park units (for example, wildlife distance conditions are different for Denali 36 CFR 13.920(a) and Katmai 36 CFR 13.1206(a)). 100 yards has consistently been the recommendation and practice for backcountry camping in Denali. No changes to safety or visitor experience are currently expected as this change will only reinforce the long history of successful visitor and wildlife safety in Denali's backcountry. On March 26, 2025, the Office of Management and Budget issued M-25-20: Guidance Implementing Section 3 of Executive Order 14192, Titled "Unleashing Prosperity Through Deregulation". This guidance states that the requirement to identify ten deregulatory actions for every regulatory action issued only applies to significantly regulatory actions, as defined in Executive Order 12866. This compendium action is not a significant regulatory action issued by an agency and therefore is not subject to the 10-for-1 requirement.