



## 2010 Fact Sheet

**Superintendent** Paul R. Anderson

**Established** February 26, 1917 (as Mount McKinley National Park)  
December 2, 1980 (increased in size and name changed to Denali National Park and Preserve)  
*Denali is the Athabaskan name for Mount McKinley, and means "The High One." Although McKinley is the mountain's official name, "Denali" is the name favored by most Alaskans.*  
Park was designated as an International Biosphere Reserve in 1976.

<b>Size</b>	Park	4,740,911.32 acres	7,407.67 sq. miles	1,918,578 hectares
	Preserve	<u>1,334,117.87 acres</u>	<u>2,084.56 sq. miles</u>	<u>538,898 hectares</u>
		6,075,029.19 acres	9,492.23 sq. miles	2,457,476 hectares

(24,584.79 sq. kilometers)

(For comparison: State of New Hampshire = 9,351 sq. miles and Massachusetts = 10,555 sq. miles)

- Wilderness designation (most of original Mount McKinley National Park):  
2,123,977 acres; 3,318.7 sq. miles; 8,595.4 sq. kilometers; 859,543 hectares
- Perimeter (boundary, including new park and preserve): 606 miles or 975 kilometers

**Visitation**  
2009: 358,040 visitors  
2008: 432,301  
2007: 458,307

**Base Budget** \$13,976,000

**NPS Staffing**

Permanent	96
Term	24
Seasonal	175
Volunteers (2009)	340 (contributed 42,389 hours of work)

**Campgrounds**

RVs and/or tents:	3 campgrounds (232 sites)
Tents only:	3 campgrounds (42 sites)

**Park Road**

Total length:	92.0 miles	148.0 kilometers
Paved section:	14.8 miles	23.8 kilometers

<b>Landmarks and Elevations</b>	<u>Elevations above sea level</u>	
Denali Visitor Center	1,746 feet	532 meters
Highway Pass (highest point on road)	3,980	1213
Eielson Visitor Center	3,733	1138
Wonder Lake Campground	2,055	626.3
Mt. Foraker	17,400	5303.5
Mt. McKinley--South Peak (highest point in North America)	20,320	6193.5
-- North Peak	19,470	5934
Lowest point (Yentna River at boundary)	223	68

**Wildlife Species**

Amphibians	1 (wood frog)
Mammals	39
Birds	169 species recorded; 116 documented as breeding and 16 recorded as accidental
Fish	14 (including 3 salmon species)
Reptiles	0

<b>Flora</b>	<p>Vascular plants: 756 species documented  Tree species: 8  Approximately 600 species of mosses, lichens and liverworts currently listed.  <i>Erioderma pedicellatum</i> , a lichen discovered in 2007, was previously known only from limited areas in Scandinavia and southeastern Canada. It is currently classified as Critically Endangered.</p>
<b>Paleontology</b>	<p>Thousands of trace fossils (tracks, footprints, or body prints) have been found since the first discovery in 2005, all dating from 65-100 million years ago.  They include those of dinosaurs such as Theropods, Hadrosaurs, Certopsians, and Pterosaurs, as well as bird tracks, fish traces, crayfish burrows, and insect trackways.  <i>Myrospirifer breasei</i>, a species of extinct marine mollusk-brachiopod that has been found only in Denali, is named after Phil Brease, the park's geologist.</p>
<b>Lakes and Streams</b>	<p>Largest is Chilchukabena Lake: 2.6 miles long, 2 miles wide, 2056 acres  Wonder Lake: 2.7 miles long, 1/2 mile wide, 649 acres, 280 feet maximum depth  Approximately 12,206 lakes and ponds in the park and preserve; 18,679 miles of streams</p>
<b>Glaciers</b>	<p>17% of park's land area is covered with glaciers.  Largest glaciers are on south side of Alaska Range: Kahiltna, Ruth, Eldridge, Tokositna, Yentna (35-40 miles in length).  Largest glacier on north side of Alaska Range is the Muldrow Glacier (34 miles long).  Deepest measured glacier: Ruth Glacier, 3805 feet or 1160 meters.</p>
<b>Earthquakes</b>	<p>Number per year: about 700  Average magnitude: 2.0. The 7.9 quake on November 3, 2002 was largest interior Alaska earthquake in state history.  Depth: Over 50% between 0-15 km, but 32% between 90-130 km  Location: most events occur within the Kantishna seismic cluster, in the foothills north of Denali</p>
<b>Weather</b>	<p>Average annual precipitation = 15 inches (park headquarters)  Wettest months are June, July and August.  Average annual snowfall = 80 inches (park headquarters)  Coldest temperature recorded at headquarters: -54° F, February 5, 1999  Coldest year on record: 1956  Highest temperature recorded at headquarters: 91° F, June 22, 1991  Warmest year on record: 1926  Average January temperature = 2°F (-2.4°F change in average Jan. temps from 1926-2009)  Average July temperature = 55°F (+1.4°F change in average July temps from 1926-2009)  Shortest day (December 21) = 4 hours, 21 minutes of daylight  Longest day (June 21) = 20 hours, 49 minutes of daylight  Number of years in cooperation with the National Weather Service: 85</p>
<b>Sled Dog Kennels</b>	<p>Number of adult dogs: 33 (16 females and 17 males)  Miles patrolled by sled per winter (average): 3,000  Kennels building constructed in 1929; Sled dog demonstrations inaugurated in 1939  2009 dog demonstration attendees: 42,741</p>
<b>Mt. McKinley Mountaineering Statistics (2009)</b>	<p>Number of climbers: 1,161 (record was 1,340 in 2005)  Number of climbers who reached top or "summit": 682  Summit percentage: 59% (Average summit percentage: 52%)  Rescues: 16  Fatalities: 4 (Total number of fatalities since 1932: 106)</p>
<b>Notable Ascents</b>	<p>First summit of South Peak (true summit): June 7, 1913; Harper, Karstens, Stuck, Tatum  First summit of North Peak: April 3, 1910; Anderson, Taylor  First woman to summit: June 6, 1947; Barbara Polk Washburn  First solo ascent: August 26, 1970; Naomi Uemura  First winter ascent: February 28, 1967; Johnston, Davidson, Genet  First solo winter ascent: February 12, 1984; Uemura (died on descent)  First successful winter solo ascent completed: March 7, 1988; Vern Tejas  Oldest person to summit: June 29, 2007; Michio Kumamoto, 76  Youngest person to summit: June 17, 2001; Galen Johnston, 11 years old</p>