

THE
FUTURE
OF
AMERICA'S
NATIONAL
PARKS

First Annual
Centennial Strategy for

"Katmai NP

August 2007

CENTENNIAL INITIATIVE



Site: KATM

Year: 2007

Vision Statement

Katmai National Park and Preserve protects for future generations the landscape resulting from the 1912 eruption of Novarupta, the largest volcanic eruption of the twentieth century. In addition, the 15 active volcanoes that line the Shelikof Strait make this park one of the world's most active volcanic centers today, providing unparalleled research and educational opportunities. Katmai National Park and Preserve protects the largest concentration of brown bears in the world, and the more than one million salmon that return each summer to spawn in its waters.

By 2016, Katmai National Park and Preserve will put into place mechanisms by which the park's resources, the visitors' experiences, and park operations will be sustainable for future generations. Stewardship of the park's cultural and natural resources is assured through completion of baseline inventories and implementation of monitoring protocols. Through vigilant annual efforts, non-native species are removed, giving visitors the opportunity to observe virtually intact ecosystems and natural processes. By partnering with The Conservation Fund, the NPS will work to obtain conservation easements for land parcels essential to protecting the health of park fish and wildlife populations. Through environmental leadership at the park, alternative energy and fuels will be used, reducing the impact to park resources at Brooks Camp through increased use of a cleaner energy source (propane) to replace diesel fuel. Brooks Camp provides world-class bear-viewing opportunities, a recreational experience without equal in Alaska. Through creative management there combined with a relocation of facilities to the south side of the river, these opportunities will be sustained and enhanced. Visitor satisfaction is currently 98%, and through continued development of innovative techniques and delivery methods to learn about park resources presented by well-trained staff, this satisfaction rate will be maintained. The park must continue to increase public understanding of the NPS mission. Through strategic planning and dynamic leadership, the park will take the passion of its employees and channel it into professional excellence. The sustainability of the park itself depends upon an extensive educational and partnership outreach effort, both online and through a variety of media, to foster broad public commitment for protecting the outstanding resources within Katmai National Park and Preserve.

Park/ Superintendent/ Program Manager

Ralph Moore, Superintendent, Katmai NP and Preserve, Aniakchak NP&P, Alagnak Wild River

Site: KATM

STEWARDSHIP

Provide inspiring, safe, and accessible places for people to enjoy - the standard to which all other park systems aspire.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

- Relocate facilities at Brooks Camp in accordance with the DCP.
- Promote Brooks Lake access.
- o Develop new maintenance facility and housing away from the river corridor at Brooks Camp.
- o Relocate bridge to minimize built environment along Brooks River and reduce intrusion into bear feeding zones by human traffic.
- o Identify preferred visitor access modes for Brooks Camp.

The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: KATM

STEWARDSHIP

Improve the condition of park resources and assets.

Restore native habitats by controlling invasive species and reintroducing key plant and animal species.

- o Remove known exotic plant infestations.
- o Establish greenhouse for native seeds to use in restoration of disturbed areas.
- o Inspect contract equipment for potential seed contamination.

The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Improve high-priority assets to acceptable condition, as measured by the Facility Condition Index.

- o Improve utilities in disrepair at Brooks Camp (sewer, water, electric).
- o Relocate fuel tanks away from water bodies and airplane activities.
- o Rehabilitate and restore the Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes Road and the Ukak Falls Trail.
- o Replace failing King Salmon dock.
- o Replace inadequate maintenance shops.
- o Rehabilitate marina building.

The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Improve the natural resources in parks, as measured by the vital signs developed under the Natural Resource Challenge.

- I. Restore beaches impacted by marine debris.
- Restore lower Brooks River natural hydrology.

The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

- * Work with partners to identify and acquire high-priority private parcels whenever approached by willing sellers.
- * Partner with the Conservation Fund to identify private land holdings that are essential to the health of fish and wildlife within the park, and work cooperatively to obtain conservation easements to protect these areas.

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Site: KATM

STEWARDSHIP

Assure that no compelling chapter in the American heritage experience remains untold and that strategically important landscapes are acquired, as authorized by Congress.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Work with local planning councils to identify the feasibility of heritage area/corridor designation associated with the migration path used by salmon returning to the park.

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Site: KATM

STEWARDSHIP

Serve as the Preeminent resource laboratory by applying excellence in science and scholarship to understand and respond to environmental changes.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

• Identify and plan for effects of backcountry use.
• Identify missing baseline inventories and data needs.
• Track human activity within the park.
• Promote research opportunities in the park.
o Document extent and nature of backcountry campsites throughout the park.
o Document incidences of visible human waste impact throughout the park.
o Prepare brochure documenting issues of research interest to the park as well as the contact information for the park permitting staff in order to better advertise the research opportunities and available park assistance to potential researchers.

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Site: KATM

ENVIRONMENT

Reduce environmental impacts of park operations.

Reduce the environmental impacts of park operations on air and water quality.

KATM will communicate and promote pollution prevention and best environmental practices used in the Katmailand Brooks Camp concessions operation. During the Katmailand contract renewal, NEPA/PEPC review process, Park staff will examine and seek additional best environmental practices to apply to the 10-year contract. For example, older, noisy, fuel-inefficient vehicles could be replaced on a more frequent schedule.

KATM will examine current fuel storage and handling practices used by Park staff and cooperators to see if improvements could be made, thereby setting a higher standard and demonstrating good examples to other Park users.

Existing programs such as the KATM Environmental Management System Plan, with associated recommendations for improved energy efficiency and reduction of environmental impacts, the NEPA Minimum Requirements/Minimum Tool Analyses for Park projects, and local recycling opportunities will be more fully utilized to encourage cooperation among parties and implement more efficient and environmentally-friendly practices.

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Site: KATM

ENVIRONMENT

Inspire an environmental conscience in Americans.

Demonstrate environmental excellence through increased use of alternative energy and fuels at every park.

The park will provide energy efficient power generation and heating at the NPS housing area and shop near Brooks Lake by replacing the current diesel power generating system with a hybrid battery/solar/propane power system.

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Serve as a model for energy efficiency, under Executive Order 13423, by ensuring Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards.

Through proper design, contracting, procurement and construction methods, KATM will continue to ensure that all new park facilities (Brooks Lake Maintenance Facility and King Salmon Maintenance Facility) achieve at least the silver rating equivalent under the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards.

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Site: KATM

ENVIRONMENT

Engage partners, communities, and visitors in shared environmental stewardship.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Existing programs such as the KATM Environmental Management System Plan, with associated recommendations for improved energy efficiency and reduction of environmental impacts, the NEPA Minimum Requirements/Minimum Tool Analyses for Park projects, and local recycling opportunities will be more fully utilized to encourage cooperation among parties and implement more efficient and environmentally-friendly practices.

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Site: KATM

RECREATION

Encourage collaboration among and assist park and recreation systems at every level—federal, regional, state, local—to help build an outdoor recreation network accessible to all Americans.

Rehabilitate over 2,000 miles of trails within or connected to national parks, including trails accessible to those with disabilities.

The park will repair trails by working with Youth Corps or similar group.

The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

The park will work with commercial operators to develop a Commercial Services Plan to determine what services are necessary and appropriate, and to what levels these services will be provided in different areas.

The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: KATM

EDUCATION

Cooperate with educators to provide curriculum materials, high-quality programs, and park-based and online learning.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Restore funding for lapsed Education coordinator; build effective programs as,
o Invite local teachers to our training, create training opportunities
o Partner with NASA when feasible
o Participate in FWS Science Camp
o Establish Artist in Residence Program
o Re-establish Naturalist Training Camp
o Establish Outreach Education Corps

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Site: KATM

EDUCATION

Introduce young people and their families to national parks by using exciting media and technology.

Increase the number of web hits through the introduction of advanced, interactive features that attract young people to national parks.

Encouraging and adopting innovation in appropriate technologies, by expanding more frequent podcasts, radio broadcasts, User2User content, Web 2.0.

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Site: KATM

EDUCATION

Promote life-long learning to connect generations through park experiences.

Enroll an additional two million children in the Junior Ranger program.

Establishing and maintaining interpretation and education partnerships
Increase opportunities for interpretive and educational contacts at a variety of park locations
Re-establish Naturalist Training CamEstablish Outreach Education Corps
Partner with Ferry/Cruise Lines

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Site: KATM

EDUCATION

Impart to every American a sense of their citizen ownership of their national parks.

Increase visitors' satisfaction, understanding, and appreciation of the parks they visit.

Designing interpretation and education programs to serve all Americans,
o create new park film
o Create interpretive publication for sale in time for 100th Anniversary of the 1912 Novarupta eruption
o Create product to celebrate the creation of the park, Partner with National Geographic
o Expand publications/Exhibits program
o modify auditorium for AV program presentation throughout the day

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Site: KATM

PROFESSIONALISM

Be one of the top 10 places to work in America.

Attain the highest employee satisfaction rate of all federal agencies, as measured by Office of Personnel Management surveys.

Initiate a mentoring program within the park allowing employees to learn and grow in their positions. Introduce a cross divisional training program to allow employees it see the beauty of their parks.

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Site: KATM

PROFESSIONALISM

Use strategic planning to promote management excellence.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Increase training in the parks by bringing trainers to the parks thus allowing the maximum number of managers to benefit from supervisory and business training.

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Site: KATM

PROFESSIONALISM

Promote a safety and health culture for all employees and visitors.

Reduce the number of employee lost-time incidents and serious visitor injuries by 20 percent.

Ensure that all tasks have safety appropriate equipment, and all employees have essential training across the board.

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Site: KATM

PROFESSIONALISM

Model what it means to work in partnership.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

.Expand our training to include the community. Being an isolated village we can bring the community together by offering training they would not otherwise be able to attain. Reward employees that volunteer in the community, for they are the front line in communication and understanding of who we are.

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