



**National Park Service**  
**U.S. Department of the Interior**

**Rocky Mountain**  
**National Park**

1000 U.S. Highway 36  
Estes Park, CO 80517

**Superintendent's Compendium**  
Of Designations, Closures, Permit  
Requirements and Other Restrictions  
Imposed Under Discretionary Authority.

Approved:

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Superintendent or Designee

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In accordance with regulations and the delegated authority provided in Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations ("36 CFR"), Chapter 1, Parts 1-7, authorized by Title 16 United States Code, Section 3, the following provisions apply to all lands and waters administered by the National Park Service, within the boundaries of Rocky Mountain National Park. Unless otherwise stated, these regulatory provisions apply in addition to the requirements contained in 36 CFR, Chapter 1, Parts 1-7.

The Rocky Mountain National Park Compendium as dated is hereby approved and will remain in effect until either rescinded or superseded.

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## 36 CFR § 1.4: DEFINITIONS

***Bear Pepper Spray*** means a chemical formula designed specifically to deter aggressive or attacking bears. It must be registered with the Environmental Protection Agency and individual states. It must be commercially manufactured and labeled as “Bear Pepper Spray.” Spray must contain between 1 percent (1%) and 2 percent (2%) of the active ingredient’s capsaicin and related capsaicinoids. Also known as bear deterrent, bear repellent, or bear spray.

***Commuter*** means someone who resides in Grand, Larimer, or Boulder counties, and their owned residence or property is within 50 road miles of a park entrance station. A “commuter” is one who takes trips over Trail Ridge Road for non-recreational purposes.

***Electronic Bikes (e-bike)*** means a two- or three-wheeled cycle with fully operable pedals and an electric motor of not more than 750 watts that meets the requirements of one of the following three classes:

- “Class 1 electric bicycle” shall mean an electric bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour.
- “Class 2 electric bicycle” shall mean an electric bicycle equipped with a motor that may be used exclusively to propel the bicycle, and that is not capable of providing assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour.
- “Class 3 electric bicycle” shall mean an electric bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 28 miles per hour.

***Electronic Personal Assistive Mobility Devices (EPAMD)*** means a device that has two non-tandem wheels, is self-balancing, and is designed to transport only one person with an electric propulsion system that limits the maximum speed of the device to 12.5 mph. It is defined as a motor vehicle in 36 CFR §1.4. Also known as a Segway.

***Firearm*** means a loaded or unloaded pistol, rifle, shotgun or other weapon, which is designed to, or may be readily converted to, expel a projectile by the ignition of a propellant.

***Forage*** means hay, straw, or mulch.

**Noxious weeds** mean weeds, including any weed seed or propagative plant parts, designated by the Colorado Commissioner of Agriculture as noxious and which are prohibited pursuant to CRS § 35-27.5-103.

**RV (recreational vehicle)** means a van or utility vehicle used for recreational purposes, such as camping, and often equipped with living facilities.

**Unloaded weapon (excluding firearms)** means bows, crossbows, spear guns, or any implement capable of discharging a missile or similar device by means of a loading or discharging mechanism, when that loading or discharging mechanism is not charged or drawn.

**Unmanned Aircraft** means a device that is used or intended to be used for flights in the air without the possibility of direct human intervention from within or on the device, and the associated operational elements and components that are required for the pilot or system operator in command to operate or control the device (such as cameras, sensors, communication links.) This term includes all types of devices that meet this definition (e.g., model airplanes, quad copters, drones) that are used for any purpose, including for recreation or commerce.

**Weapon** means a firearm, compressed gas or spring-powered pistol or rifle, bow and arrow, crossbow, blowgun, speargun, hand-thrown spear, slingshot, irritant gas device, explosive device, or any other implement designed to discharge missiles, and includes a weapon the possession of which is prohibited under the laws of the State in which the park area or portion thereof is located.

**Weed free** means free from propagative plant parts or weed seed from plants identified in state and regional lists of weeds published by Colorado Department of Agriculture Weed Free Forage Crop Certification Act, CRS § 35- 27.5-103(1.01) -(1.02) (1993).

**Weed free** certification means those crops inspected and certified as free of noxious weeds by a Commissioner of Agriculture from either Colorado or those states identified in CRS § 35-27.5-103 (1.02): Regional List.

**Winter road status** means park roads that have been gated off in the winter months, not maintained, and closed to public motor vehicle travel, but where leashed pets, and bicycles are permitted. Motorized Administrative Travel may still be allowed in emergencies or designated functions.

## 36 CFR § 1.5: CLOSURES AND PUBLIC USE LIMITS

- (a) Consistent with applicable legislation and Federal administrative policies, and based upon a determination that such action is necessary for the maintenance of public health and safety, protection of environmental or scenic values, protection of natural or cultural resources, aid to scientific research, implementation of management responsibilities, equitable allocation and use of facilities, or the avoidance of conflict among visitor use activities, the superintendent may:
- (a)(1) Establish, for all or a portion of a park area, a reasonable schedule of visiting hours, impose public use limits, or close all or a portion of a park area to all public use or to a specific use or activity.
- The following park administrative areas are designated for **official use only**, where public use is restricted or prohibited, particularly after normal business hours (authorized personnel means persons authorized to conduct business with the National Park Service and guests and family of park residents):
    - All employee housing and residential areas
    - All park utility, storage, and water supply and treatment facilities
    - Beaver Meadows Administrative and Maintenance Areas and Facilities
    - Bighorn Ranger Station & adjacent structures
    - Colorado River District Maintenance and Utility Areas
    - Grand Ditch Breach Restoration area
    - Kawuneeche Administrative Area
    - Mill Creek Ranger Station & adjacent structures
    - Moraine Park, Pontiac Pit, and Glacier Basin Material Disposal Areas
  - **Elk and Vegetation Management Plan Closures**
    - As necessary for the protection of persons and property, temporary short-term area, road, trail, and/or site-specific closures may be implemented in support of lethal reduction actions taken as part of the approved Elk and Vegetation Management Plan. Closures may include, but are not limited to, the following areas:
      - Areas adjacent to the Bear Lake, Fall River, and Trail Ridge Road corridors
      - Hollowell Park
      - Hondius Park

- Horseshoe Park
    - Little Horseshoe Park
    - Moraine Park
    - Upper and Lower Beaver Meadows
  - Closures will be advertised through public notice and will be implemented by one or more of the following methods: signs, gates, barricades, other traffic control devices, vehicles and/or as directed by authorized persons.
  - To effectively manage and meet resource objectives identified in the Elk & Vegetation Management Plan, it has been determined through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that removal of elk from park herd(s) may be necessary. As one conservation tool in helping to achieve the goals and objectives for herd reduction and distribution, lethal reduction (culling) with the use of firearms by qualified volunteers has been approved at times and locations to be determined necessary. To help ensure the safety of persons and property, temporary and short-term closures that would coincide with this activity will also occur.
- **Trail Closures**
    - All park roads, trails, and other facilities are subject to temporary closure as indicated by signs or other means of notification during periods of construction, maintenance, adverse weather, natural disaster, emergency or other public safety concerns.
    - Current Trail Closures to Public Stock Use due to Damage (Closures are subject to change based on conditions):
      - **Aspen Brook**  
*Trail is disintegrated in some areas and is extremely unstable in other areas*
      - **Dunraven Trailhead/North Fork**  
*National Park Service trail open to all users. Forest Service trail remains closed to stock use*
      - **North Longs Peak**  
*Trail in poor shape*
      - **Sun Valley Trail**  
*Only main trail is open, surrounding areas are closed. The river/angler access trail is closed*

- **Timber Lake Trail**  
*Due to trail damage from landslide, trail closed to public stock above the landslide area*
- **Twin Sisters**  
*Trail has disintegrated in some areas and is extremely unstable in other areas due to landslide*
- Permanent Trail Closures:
  - **Crater Trail**  
*For natural and cultural resource protection*
  - **East Shoreline social trail on Finch Lake**  
*For protection of Rocky Mountain Capshell*
  - **Gore Range Overlook**  
*Social trail leading from the overlook to Forest Canyon Pass is closed for tundra rehabilitation*
  - **Marmot Point**  
*Social trail leading from Old Fall River Road is closed for tundra rehabilitation*
  - **Trail to Nowhere/Alpine View Trail**  
*For natural resource protection*
- **Seasonal Road Closures**
  - The following roads are seasonally closed to motor vehicle traffic, including snowmobiles, as posted:
    - **Trail Ridge Road**  
*Closed from Many Parks Curve to Timber Lake Trailhead from approximately mid-October to Memorial Day weekend*
    - **Old Fall River Road**  
*Closed from Endovalley Picnic Area to Fall River Pass approximately early-October to July 4th weekend*
    - **Upper Beaver Meadows Road**  
*Closed approximately mid-October to Memorial Day weekend*

- **Wild Basin Road**  
*Closed from winter parking area to Wild Basin Ranger Station approximately mid-October to Memorial Day weekend*
- **Twin Sisters Road**  
*Closed from the Lily Lake east parking lot to Twin Sisters Trailhead, approximately mid-October to Memorial Day weekend*
- **Fern Lake Road**  
*Closed from winter turnaround area (west of the Cub Lake Trailhead) to Fern Lake Trailhead approximately mid-October to Memorial Day weekend*
- **Kaley Cottage Road**  
*Closed year-round with exception to inholders*
- **High Drive**  
*Closed year-round with exception to inholders*
- **Park Campground Roads**  
*Closed when park campgrounds are closed for the season*
- **Inholder Access Road**  
*In the Colorado River District, near the Gaskil site. Closed year-round from Trail Ridge Road to gate*
- **Bowen-Baker Access Road**  
*Closed from the paved parking area at Bowen-Baker Trailhead to the dirt parking area across the meadow. Closed year-round and designated as a trail except during hunter access season*
- **Coyote Valley Parking Area**  
*Closed from the winter parking area (within 25 yards of Trail Ridge Road) to the trailhead. Closed approximately mid-October to Memorial Day weekend*
- **North Inlet Parking Area**  
*Closed from park boundary to the trailhead. Closed approximately mid-October to Memorial Day weekend*

○ All service and administrative roads so designated by signs and/or locked gates.

- After autumn seasonal road closures have taken effect, the following roads convert to winter road status (see § 1.4 of this document for definition of winter



road status) and are open to bicycles, e-bikes, and pets on a leash beyond winter gate or road closures:

- All park campground roads
- Bowen-Baker Access Road (unpaved portion)
- Coyote Valley Parking Area
- Endovalley Road
- Fern Lake Road
- High Drive
- Inholder Access Road
- Kaley Cottage Road
- North Inlet Parking Area
- Old Fall River Road\*
- Trail Ridge Road\*
- Twin Sisters Trailhead Access Road
- Upper Beaver Meadows Road
- Wild Basin Road

\*Once the autumn seasonal road closures have taken effect on Trail Ridge Road and Old Fall River Road will remain open to bicycles, e-bikes, and leashed pets, except during road maintenance operations and emergency closures as posted. Cyclists and pet owners may utilize the road at their own risk.

*See §§ 4.30 and 7.7 of this document for bicycle and pet exceptions*

- All seasonally closed roads are closed to dog sledding and all-terrain vehicles (ATVs).
  - The purpose of this closure is to maintain public health and safety and avoidance of conflict among visitor use activities on non-maintained winter road, trail, and snowmobile routes.

*See § 7.7 for currently approved snowmobile routes*

- **Cycling Groups/Events**

- In the interest of public safety and to manage for non- conflicting uses along narrow, steep, winding mountain roads, the Superintendent has determined that large groups of cyclists (defined as more than 25 riders) must be regulated by permit, with established conditions. A Special Use Permit is required when any of the following conditions exist:
  - Group size exceeds 25 riders
  - Aid stations are designated
  - Traffic control is required
  - Vault toilets for human waste are necessary
  - NPS involvement, oversight, and/or management is necessary

*For details related to cycling event permit applications, refer to the park Special Use Permit criteria.*

- **Wildlife Protection**

- To assist in avoiding wildlife habituation, protect wildlife from injury or death, minimize and prevent visitor injuries because of preventable wildlife encounters, and provide a means to assist park staff for determining acceptable wildlife viewing opportunities, the following activities are prohibited:
  - Willfully approaching, remaining, viewing, or engaging in any activity within 300 feet (100 yards) of wolves, 120 feet (36 yards) of moose and black bears, and 75 feet (23 yards) of all other wildlife, including nesting birds; or within any distance that disturbs, displaces, or otherwise interferes with the free unimpeded movement of wildlife, or creates or contributes to a potentially hazardous condition or situation.
  - Failure to remove one-self to prescribed distances during inadvertent, accidental, casual or surprise encounters with wildlife.
  - Failure to comply as directed by NPS staff engaged in administering wildlife management operations or managing wildlife viewing opportunities.
  - The prohibitions in this paragraph do not apply to persons who are in compliance with written protocol approved by the Superintendent; in accordance with the terms and conditions of a permit from the Superintendent or park personnel acting within the scope of approved management activities.

- For the protection of Bighorn Sheep, The Crater and surrounding open tundra slopes on Specimen and Shipier Mountains, as identified in the attached map, are closed to public access.

*See Figure 1: Specimen Mountain Bighorn Sheep Protection Closure Map*

- Horseshoe Park and the West Alluvial Fan areas are closed to the following acts, annually from April 15 through August 31:
  - Foot travel off established roadways or designated trails.
  - Stopping or parking vehicles with the Bighorn Crossing Zone, unless otherwise directed by park staff.
- The purpose of this closure is to prevent disturbance and harassment of wildlife, particularly bighorn sheep, while enroute to/from, or while using the natural mineral lick at Sheep Lakes, and to enhance visitor wildlife viewing opportunities.
- Definitions for Closure:
  - Horseshoe Park is the area extending from the west end of U.S. Highway 34 to .5 miles north of U.S. Highway 34 on the slopes of Bighorn Mountain; to approximately .3 miles west of the Cascade Cottages Road; then to and along the north edge of the Fall River to its intersection with U.S. Highway 34, and as indicated by posted signs.
  - Bighorn Crossing Zone is the area which begins .2 miles east of the intersection of U.S. Highway 34 and the Endovalley Road and which extends east for .5 miles on U.S. Highway 34.

*See Figure 2: Horseshoe Park Bighorn Sheep Protection Closure Map*

- West Alluvial Fan is the area extending west of the Roaring River to the entrance of Old Fall River Road; from Endovalley Road north .5 miles above the road.

*See Figure 3: West Alluvial Fan Bighorn Sheep Protection Closure Map*

- Areas Excluded from Closure:
  - The short trail section which runs north to south from the loop parking area across the Endovalley Road to where the trail crosses U.S. Highway 34.
  - Fishing on Fall River only when accessed from outside the closure from the riverbed or designated gate of elk exclosure fencing (river areas only).

*Note: During periods of closure, unless otherwise noted here or signed, designated trails remain open.*

- **Bighorn Sheep Closures**

- The Sheep Lake and West Horseshoe Park parking areas are subject to temporary closures, as delineated by signs, for the protection of bighorn sheep. Trails and meadows in the area may also be included in these closures.

- **Elk Rut Closures**

- Horseshoe Park, Moraine Park, Upper Beaver Meadows, Harbison Meadow and Holzwarth Meadow are **closed** to the following acts annually during the period of September 1 through October 31:
  - Foot travel off established roadways and designated trails, **daily from 5 pm to 10 am.**
  - Fishing in those sections of Fall River, Thompson River, or Colorado River within the areas listed, **daily from 5 pm to 10 am.**
- The purpose of the closure is to prevent disturbance and harassment of elk during the fall mating period and to enhance visitor elk-viewing opportunities. They are defined as follows:

- **Horseshoe Park** is the area extending from Fall River Entrance to Little Horseshoe Park from the west edge of the Aspenglen Campground Road, Aspenglen-Deer Mountain Cutoff Trail, and the Little Horseshoe Park Trail, continuing along the edge of U.S. Highway 34 and back around the north side of Horseshoe Park to the Fall River Entrance.

The area also includes a portion of West Horseshoe Park extending west from the West Horseshoe Parking lot along the tree line to the Fall River, then continuing back east along the southern bank of the Fall River to U.S. Highway 34.

This closure does not include the Fall River waterway and bank west of U.S. Highway 34.

*See Figure 4: Horseshoe Park Elk Protection Closure Map*

- **Upper Beaver Meadows** is the area extending along the tree line from the Bear Lake Road Junction west along the North Lateral Moraine to the Upper Beaver Meadows Trailhead; continuing north along tree line to the Beaver Mountain

Trail; and east to the Deer Mountain-Upper Beaver Meadows Connector Trail and to the Upper Beaver Meadows Road. Continue east along the Upper Beaver Meadows Road, then along U.S. Highway 36 to Bear Lake Junction.

*See Figure 5: Upper Beaver Meadows Elk Protection Closure Map*

- **Moraine Park** is the area extending from Bear Lake Road at the Fern Lake Junction west to Cub Lake Trailhead, excluding Moraine Park Campground; south along the east side of the Cub Lake Trail to the South Lateral Moraine; then easterly along the tree line of the lateral moraine, then North on Kaley Cottage Road to Mailbox Junction and Bear Lake Road; then north along Baer Lake Road back to Fern Lake Junction. The east/west trail from Mailbox Junction across to Moraine Park Campground is included in this closure.

*See Figure 6: Moraine Park Elk Protection Closure Map*

- **Harbison Meadow** is the area bordered by Harbison Meadow Picnic Area and the Valley Trail on the north; Trail Ridge Road on the east (except for the small portion of meadow directly west of Harbison Meadow Picnic Area, which is **included** in this closure); the tree line adjacent to and extending west of the Grand Lake Entrance Station on the south; and Sun Valley Road (County Road 491) and the tree line adjacent to the section line between Range 76 West and Range 75 West on the west; and as indicated by posted signs.

*See Figure 7: Harbison Meadow Elk Protection Closure Map*

- **Holzwarth Meadow** is the area bordered by the southern edge of Holzwarth Historic Site Road on the north (the road itself is excluded from the closure); the tree line adjacent to Trail Ridge Road on the east; the northern edge of the Bowen-Baker Trail on the south; and the western park boundary on the west, and as indicated by posted signs.

*See Figure 8: Holzwarth Meadow Elk Protection Closure Map*

- **Bald Eagle Closures**

- The following area is **closed** annually from November 15 through March 15 for the protection of feeding and roosting bald eagles:
  - Parklands 300 yards east of the Colorado River and Lake Granby, starting approximately 200 yards below Shadow Mountain Dam on the north, to the area known as the Narrows in Columbine Bay, and as posted by signs.

*See Figure 9: Colorado River Bald Eagle Protection Closure Map*

- **Snowfield Closures**

- The following snowfields are closed to all public use and travel during the spring, summer, and fall visitor use seasons, to prevent visitor injury or loss of life where steep and unstable snow and/or avalanche hazards exist (most of these snowfields are located within Tundra Protection Areas and therefore inaccessible):
  - The snowfield adjacent to Trail Ridge Store and the Alpine Visitor Center on Trail Ridge Road as indicated by posted signs.
  - The snowfields above Iceberg Lake in the Lava Cliffs cirque on Trail Ridge Road as indicated by posted signs. Access to Iceberg Lake is possible via the outlet.
  - Other snowfields, when necessary due to snow conditions, and as indicated by posted signs.

- **Raptor Closures**

- Seasonal closures of portions of trails, climbing routes or other areas, delineated by signs, may be placed in effect to protect the sensitive breeding areas of raptors and other sensitive bird species. Closures will be implemented and posted accordingly during the critical time periods concerning nesting, breeding and related activity and phenomena.

- **Lumpy Ridge**

Twin Owls, Rock One, Batman Rock, Batman Pinnacle, Thunder Buttress, The Parish, Lightning Rock, Checkerboard Rock, Sundance Buttress, The Book, Bookmark Pinnacle, The Left Book, Bookmark, The Needle Summit and Access Trails are closed February 15 through July 31. The closures include the named rock formations on all sides. This includes all climbing routes, outcroppings, cliffs, faces, ascent, and descent routes. Access trails near these features will remain open to access for hikers and climbers utilizing open features. However, if human activity on the trails impacts breeding activity, these trails may be subject to further closure.

*See Figure 10: Lumpy Ridge Raptor Protection Closures Map*

- **Loch Vale and Sky Pond Area**

The Cathedral Wall Formation in the Loch Vale area is closed from February 15 through July 31. This includes all climbing and ice climbing routes, outcroppings, cliffs, faces and ascent and descent routes.

The scree slopes above Loch Vale/Sky Pond Trail to the base of the formation will be closed to public access. Off trail travel to the southwest of the Andrew's Creek Trail, on the western side of the Cathedral Wall Formation is closed.

*See Figure 11: Cathedral Wall Raptor Protection Closure Map*

- Areas not listed above are presumed to be open. These closures will be lifted or extended as conditions dictate.
- Additional closures of other formations may be necessary if nesting raptor activity is observed. These will be announced as needed.

- **Baby Strollers**

- The use of baby strollers, including “jog strollers,” on front country trails is limited to:
  - Alluvial Fan Trail
  - Bear Lake Trail
  - Beaver Ponds Boardwalk
  - Coyote Valley Trail
  - Forest Canyon Overlook Trail
  - Hidden Valley Trail
  - Holzwarth Historic Site Access Road
  - Lake Irene Trail
  - Lily Lake Trail
  - Sprague Lake Trail
  - Tundra Communities Trail
- The use of baby strollers on front country paved or hardened trails does not significantly degrade or impact natural resources and allows accommodation for the freest recreational use of those trails. These trails are located outside of Wilderness areas.

- **Electric Personal Assistance Mobility Devices (EPAMD)**

- An EPAMD is described as a two-wheeled, electrically propelled human transport device. The rider stands on a platform mounted between the wheels and operates the device with the use of handlebar-mounted controls. The maximum operating speed normally does not exceed 12.5 mph.

- Pursuant to instructions from the Director's Office, National Park Service, the following interim policies, and practices regarding the use of Segways™ and other Electric Personal Assistance Mobility Devices (EPAMD) are in effect as of July 2007.
- Until such time as the NPS and Department of Justice provide additional guidance, EPAMD use by disabled visitors will not be permitted outside of the areas described below or by those not qualifying as disabled, as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990. This decision is consistent with instructions provided in the May 24, 2007, memorandum from the Director and with the rulemaking process mandated by 36 CFR § 1.5(b). Any regulatory changes regarding motorized vehicles or motorized wheelchairs should follow the rulemaking process, which includes public involvement.
- EPAMD Use by Persons without Mobility Disabilities
  - EPAMDs meet the definition of vehicles and motorized vehicles under 36 CFR § 1.4, but because these devices are new technology, they are not specifically addressed in the CFR. These devices are not consistent with the CFR or the 42 U.S.C definitions of wheelchair or motorized wheelchair because they are not designed solely for and used by a mobility-impaired person for locomotion, that is both capable of and suitable for use in indoor pedestrian areas.
- 36 CFR § 4.2(a) states, "Unless specifically addressed by regulations in this chapter, traffic and the use of vehicles within a park area are governed by State law. State law that is now or may later be in effect is adopted and made a part of the regulations in this part."
- Currently, Colorado state law does not specifically define nor address EPAMDs, however, the Colorado State Patrol utilizes Title 33 and 42 of the Colorado Revised Statutes to regulate Segways™ and similar devices. Rocky Mountain National Park will assimilate these same statutes until regulations are promulgated that specifically address the use of Segways™ and other EPAMDs in units of the National Park System.
- For purposes of traffic enforcement, the Colorado State Patrol has defined an EPAMD as a "motor driven cycle", which is considered a street legal device. As such, the following regulations apply when being operated on public roadways:
  - Vehicles must be equipped with the following:
    - A minimum of one headlamp, a red taillight, and a red rear reflector (can be either separate or integrated into taillight), when operated between sunset and sunrise and/or under reduced visibility conditions.



- A red stop (brake) light
- A horn or other audio warning device
- A minimum of one rear-view mirror
- Emergency flashers or a triangular slow-moving vehicle emblem on the rear, since its maximum operating speed is under 25 mph.
- Vehicle is required to be registered with the state (renewed every 3 years) and display a license plate, unless it is being operated in areas with speed limits posted as under 30 mph.
- Operator must possess a valid driver's license
- Operator must wear goggles or eyeglasses with lenses made of safety glass or plastic.
- No motor vehicle insurance is required.
- **Persons without disabilities are not allowed** to use an EPAMD on the following park trails:
  - Coyote Valley Trail
  - Holzwarth Historic Site Access Road
  - Lily Lake Trail
  - Sprague Lake Trail
- EPAMD Use by Persons with Mobility Disabilities
  - In addition to the requirements outlined for operating EPAMDs on public roadways, Segways™ and other EPAMDs are also permitted in the following areas when being operated as an assistance device by persons with mobility disabilities:
    - Sidewalks and parking areas
    - Roads closed to motor vehicles unless otherwise posted
    - The following accessible park trails:
      - Coyote Valley Trail
      - Holzwarth Historic Site Access Road

- Lily Lake Trail
- Sprague Lake Trail
- Use of EPAMDs on park trail systems, other than those accessible trails listed above is prohibited because of increased potential for injury to visitors, damage to natural resources, increased hazard of surprising wildlife, and hazards to EPAMD operators in steep, loose, or slippery conditions that are consistently encountered on park trails. **EPAMDs do not meet the legal definition of a wheelchair.**
- Verification of Disability
  - Rangers may contact EPAMD users and inquire if the device is being used as an assistive device for a disability. No written verification of a disability will be required for the use of EPAMDs within permitted areas of the park.
  - The park Superintendent reserves the right to close any or all the above areas to EPAMD use for the protection of visitors and park resources, as authorized in 36 CFR § 1.5.

*Note: Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, wheelchairs are permitted on all trails (anywhere foot travel is allowed), including Wilderness, if the device is “designed solely for use by a person who has mobility impairment for their locomotion, and is suitable for use in an indoor pedestrian area.” This includes “mechanized” wheelchairs, e.g. battery-powered, as long as it is suitable for indoor use (gasoline powered is not suitable for indoor use).*

- **Boreal Toad Protection**

- Seasonal closures of portions of trails or other areas, delineated by signs, may be placed in effect to protect the sensitive breeding areas, fragile egg masses, tadpoles, young and adult populations of the Boreal Toad, a State of Colorado Endangered Species, during critical time periods concerning breeding and related activities or phenomena. **Spruce Lake** is closed as posted to the public for Boreal Toad protection annually **from May 15 through September 30.**

*See Figure 12: Spruce Lake Boreal Toad Protection Closure Map*

- **Unmanned Aircrafts**

- Launching, landing or operating an unmanned aircraft from or on lands and waters administered by the National Park Service within the boundaries of Rocky Mountain National Park is prohibited except as approved in writing by the Superintendent.
  - **Justification:** NPS Management Policies require caution when a park is confronted with a new park use such as unmanned aircraft. The majority of Rocky Mountain National Park is designated Wilderness where the use of motorized equipment is prohibited. Additionally, in 1998 Congress passed the Rocky Mountain National Park Overflights Act which prohibits commercial air tours over the park, the intent of which is to aid in the protection of park resources and values from such intrusions.
  - The 2013 Foundation Document identifies fundamental resource values that are essential to achieving the purpose of the park and maintaining its significance. Among these are the protection of wildlife in a natural setting, maintaining wilderness character such as opportunities for solitude, prevention of unreasonable noise that might interfere with public enjoyment, and protection of outstanding scenic vistas. Accordingly, consistent with Service-wide interim policy and until the National Park Service can determine whether specific uses of unmanned aircraft are appropriate and will not cause unacceptable impacts, this closure will remain in place.

*The definition of “unmanned aircraft” can be found in § 1.4 of this document*

**(a)(2)** Designate areas for a specific use or activity or impose conditions or restrictions on a use or activity.

- **Filming, still photography, and audio recording activity may require a permit, consistent with 54 U.S.C. § 100905.**
  - Filming, still photography, and audio recording activity that occurs in closed areas, requires exclusive use of a site or area, or involves a set or staging equipment other than handheld equipment (such as a tripod, monopod, and handheld lighting equipment) requires a permit, unless the activity is affiliated with an activity or event that has been allowed under a written authorization, such as a special use permit.
  - Filming, still photography, and audio recording that involves more than eight individuals requires a permit, unless the NPS has specifically notified an individual or group that a

permit is not required, or if the activity is affiliated with an activity or event that has been allowed under a written authorization, such as a special use permit.

- If a permit is required for the reasons stated above, or if the NPS otherwise determines and then notifies an individual or group that a permit is required for a filming, still photography, or audio recording activity, then engaging in that activity without a permit is prohibited. Violating a term or condition of a permit issued by the NPS for a filming, still photography, or audio recording activity is prohibited, and may result in the suspension or revocation of the permit, in addition to any penalties that may apply under 36 CFR § 1.3.
- Federal law at 54 USC § 100905 states that permits and fees are not required for filming, still photography, or audio recording in park areas if certain requirements are met. These requirements address various topics, including, but not limited to, group size, location, equipment, potential impacts to resources and visitors, and the likelihood that the NPS will incur related administrative costs. If any of these requirements are not met, the law allows the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the NPS, to require a permit for the subject activity. Permit requirements are imposed by the superintendent under discretionary authority provided by 36 CFR § 1.5(a)(2), which allows the superintendent to impose conditions or restrictions on a use or activity, consistent with applicable legislation, to implement management responsibilities. The general regulations for permits in 36 CFR § 1.6 do not apply to permits issued for filming, still photography, and audio recording, which instead are governed by the statutory provisions in 54 USC § 100905. The imposition of permit requirements, on a case-by-case basis, for filming, still photography, or audio recording does not require rulemaking under 36 CFR § 1.5(b). Requiring a permit with reasonable terms and conditions in accordance with statutory requirements at 54 USC § 100905 is not highly controversial, will not result in a significant alteration in the public use pattern of the System unit, will not adversely affect the System unit's natural, aesthetic, scenic or cultural values, or require a long-term or significant modification in the resource management objectives of the System unit, because the permit requirement is limited in time and scope to the specific activities authorized by the permit, which contain terms and conditions that protect the values, resources, and visitors of the System unit, and implements federal law.

- **Metal equipment at Hidden Valley Snow Play Area**

- For public safety reasons, the use of metal sleds (runner type or otherwise) or any metal edged equipment is prohibited in the Hidden Valley Snow Play Area.

- **Research Natural Areas**

- Portions of Specimen Mountain, West Creek, and Paradise Park are managed as Research Natural Areas; natural processes are allowed to predominate and act as baseline for man-caused changes measured elsewhere. Foot traffic is allowed but not encouraged. Only day use activities are authorized, with overnight stays and stock use prohibited.

- **Specimen Mountain**

- Specimen and Shippler Mountains above 10,800 feet elevation and Willow Creek drainage to the northwest boundary of the park at about 9,880 feet; an area of approximately 9,056 acres. Specimen Mountain (12,489 feet) lies on the Continental Divide draining both directions, while Willow Creek drains into the Cache la Poudre River, which flows east.

- **Paradise Park**

- Paradise Park includes the drainage of Paradise Creek above the 10,000 feet elevation level and covers approximately 6,032 acres. Paradise Creek lies west of the Continental Divide in the southwest corner of the park and drains into a tributary of the Colorado River.

- **West Creek**

- This area includes West Creek and Fox Creek drainage on the east slope of the Mummy Mountain Range. Elevations range from 8,000 feet at the east boundary of the park to 13,425 feet on Mummy Mountain, an area of approximately 9,043 acres. These drainages flow into a tributary of the Big Thompson River.

- **Bear Pepper Spray**

- The carriage of pepper spray for the strict purpose of defense against bodily harm from aggressive wildlife is permitted within Rocky Mountain National Park, per order of the Superintendent. It must be commercially manufactured and labeled as “Bear Pepper Spray”, and its active ingredients must contain between one percent (1%) and two percent (2%) capsaicin and related capsaicinoids. Carriage of commercially made non-wildlife pepper sprays like Mace®, contain a higher percentage of active ingredients and are prohibited.

- **Day Use Picnicking**

- Day use picnicking is prohibited in the following campgrounds from the Friday before Memorial Day through the end of September:
  - Aspenglen Campground
  - Glacier Basin Campground
  - Longs Peak Campground
  - Moraine Park Campground
  - Timber Creek Campground
- Any picnicking which interferes with overnight campers is **prohibited at all times**.

- **McGraw Ranch/Cow Creek Trailhead Parking Lot**

- The McGraw Ranch/Cow Creek Trailhead Parking Lot is designated as a first-come, first-served parking facility, which requires a parking permit for overnight parking associated with wilderness camping. No parking fee is charged.
- The facility will accommodate fifteen (15) passenger vehicles and one (1) horse trailer, parked parallel where posted signs allow, with all tires on the graveled roadway.
- The purpose of this public use limit is to manage visitor use for an area accessed by a private road. The facility borders a major wildlife corridor and is adjacent to the Comanche Peaks Wilderness Area.

- **Car Idling**

- Idling a diesel engine or any vehicle engine which produces noxious exhaust is restricted to loading or unloading passengers. This does not preclude a vehicle from a reasonable warm-up period away from concentrated visitor use areas.

- **Tundra Closure Areas**

- “Tundra Closure Areas:” The purpose of restricting use in these areas is to protect fragile alpine tundra from damage caused by heavy, concentrated foot travel.
- **Off-trail hiking is prohibited within 100 yards of the trails and parking lots in these areas unless otherwise designated.**

Note: All areas above tree line, along Trail Ridge Road and Old Fall River Road, are designated as Tundra Protection Area. An additional focus on this area will be completed through outreach programs to ensure that this fragile resource is protected and utilized appropriately to ensure its protection commensurate with visitor enjoyment.

- The six (6) designated **Tundra Closure Areas** are described as:
  - **Alpine Visitor Center**  
Adjacent to the parking area and Alpine Ridge Trail.
  - **Forest Canyon**  
Adjacent to the parking lot and trail on the south side of Trail Ridge Road.
  - **Gore Range Overlook**  
Adjacent to and below the parking area on the south side of Trail Ridge Road.
  - **Lava Cliffs**  
Areas on the north side of the Trail Ridge Road adjacent to the parking lot and areas accessing the summit of Lava Cliffs.
  - **Rock Cut**  
Adjacent to the parking areas on both north and south side of Trail Ridge Road and along Tundra Communities Trail corridor. Alpine View Trail is closed for restoration.
  - **Tundra Communities Trail**  
All areas on either side of the Tundra Communities Trail and its terminus at Toll Memorial.

*See Figures 13-16: Tundra Protection Closure Area Maps*

- **Timed Entry Permits**
  - A two-option vehicle timed entry permit system has been put in place for the entirety of Rocky Mountain National Park between May 23 through October 13, and for the Bear Lake Road Corridor through October 19.
    - One option will require a permit to enter the Bear Lake Road Corridor between 5 am - 6 pm.
    - A second option will require a permit for all areas of Rocky Mountain National Park, excluding the Bear Lake Road Corridor between 9 am - 2 pm.

- This timed entry permit system has been enacted due to visitor crowding and congestion within Rocky Mountain National Park, which has led to increased negative impacts to visitor and staff safety, resource protection, visitor experience, and operational capacity.

- **Traction Laws**

- During storms or when other dangerous driving conditions exist, park roadways may be closed to public travel or prohibited to use thereof, unless motor vehicles are either:
  - Four-wheel drive or all-wheel drive vehicle equipped with any tires with a tread depth at least 3/16 inches.
  - Any vehicle equipped with winter tires, all-weather tires, or tires with a “mud and snow” designation from the manufacturer with a tire tread depth of at least 3/16 inches.
  - Any vehicle equipped with tire chains, cables, or a state-approved traction control device.
- Such prohibition or restriction of use shall be effective when signs, including temporary or electronic signs, giving notice thereof are erected upon such portion of said roadway, and it shall be unlawful to proceed in violation of such notice.
- Any person who operates a motor vehicle in violation of the restrictions where the result of the violation is an incident that causes the closure of a travel lane in one or both directions, or causes damage to government or personal property, or if the vehicle is involved in a motor vehicle collision, shall be found in violation of 36 CFR § 1.5(f).

### **36 CFR § 1.6: PERMITS**

(f) A compilation of those activities requiring a permit shall be maintained by the superintendent and available to the public upon request.

- **Activities Requiring a Permit**

- Annual Commercial Vehicle Permit
  - Contact: Concessions Office
  - *Reference 36 CFR § 4.11 (2011)*
- Annual Commuter Vehicle Permit (non-commercial)
  - Contact: Concessions Office
  - *Reference 36 CFR § 4.11 (2011)*
- Auto Camping



- Contact: Recreation.gov
  - *Reference 36 CFR § 2.10(a)*
- Wilderness Camping/Associated Overnight Parking
  - Contact: Wilderness Office
  - *Reference 36 CFR § 2.10(a)*
- Business Operations
  - Contact: Management Specialist
  - *Reference 36 CFR § 5.3*
- Ceremonies/Weddings
  - Contact: Chief Park Ranger
  - *Reference 36 CFR § 2.50*
- Collecting (research)
  - Contact: Research Office
  - *Reference 36 CFR §§ 1.2 and 2.50*
- Commercial Trucking
  - Contact: Chief Park Ranger
  - *Reference 36 CFR §§ 4.11(b)(2) and 5.6*
- Cycling Events
  - Contact: Chief Park Ranger
  - *Reference 36 CFR § 1.5*
- Memorialization
  - Contact: Chief Park Ranger
  - *Reference 36 CFR § 2.62*
- Filming, still photography, and audio recording
  - Some filming, still photography, and audio recording (depends upon the facts and circumstances; contact the park for more information)
  - Contact: Concessions Office
  - *Reference 36 CFR § 1.5(a)(2) and 54 USC § 100905*
- Sale/Distribution of Printed Matter
  - Contact: Chief Park Ranger
  - *Reference 36 CFR § 2.52*
- Special Events/Public Assemblies
  - Contact: Chief Park Ranger
  - *Reference 36 CFR §§ 2.50 and 2.51*
- Temporary Timed-Entry
  - Contact: Public Affairs Officer
  - *Reference 36 CFR § 1.5*

- Transportation of Game
  - Contact: Chief Park Ranger
  - *Reference 36 CFR § 2.2*
- Wood Sales/Collection
  - Contact: Chief Park Ranger
  - *Reference 36 CFR § 2.1*

### **36 CFR § 2.1: PRESERVATION OF NATURAL, CULTURAL, AND ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

- (a)(4) Using or possessing wood gathered from within the park area: Provided, however, That the superintendent may designate areas where dead wood on the ground may be collected for use as fuel for campfires within the park area.
- Dead wood on the ground may be collected for firewood only within 100 feet of designated front country campsites, for use at those respective campsites. Only registered or permitted campers may collect dead wood on the ground for firewood. All other park areas are closed to the collection of firewood unless authorized by special use permit.
- (b) The superintendent may restrict hiking or pedestrian use to a designated trail or walkway system pursuant to 36 CFR §§ 1.5 and 1.7. Leaving a trail or walkway to shortcut between portions of the same trail or walkway, or to shortcut to an adjacent trail or walkway in violation of designated restrictions is prohibited.
- Within closed areas where vegetative restoration projects are in progress or have been completed, travel is restricted to designated, signed routes; when temporary walkways or routes are provided to protect vegetation, pedestrian traffic is restricted to designated, signed walkways and routes.
- (c)(1) The superintendent may designate certain fruits, berries, nuts, or unoccupied seashells which may be gathered by hand for personal use or consumption upon a written determination that the gathering or consumption will not adversely affect park wildlife, the reproductive potential of a plant species, or otherwise adversely affect park resources.
- The following edible fruits and berries may be gathered with a limit of one quart per person per day to be used for personal consumption:
    - Blueberries
      - Sub-alpine blueberry (*Vaccinium cespitosum*)

- Myrtleleaf blueberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus ssp. oreophilum*)
- Broom huckleberry (*Vaccinium scoparium*)
- Chokecherries (*Padus virginiana ssp. melanocarpa*)
- Red Elderberries (*Sambucus microbotrys*)
- Raspberries (*Rubus idaeus ssp. melanolasius*)
- Rose Hips
  - Say rose (*Rosa sayi*)
  - Wild Rose (*Rosa woodsii*)
- Strawberries
  - Woodland strawberry (*Fragaria vesca ssp. bracteata*)
  - Wild strawberry (*Fragaria Virginiana ssp. glauca*)

*Note: Edible mushrooms are not permitted to be gathered or consumed, as they are protected under this section.*

## **36 CFR § 2.2: WILDLIFE PROTECTION**

**(a)** The following are prohibited:

**(a)(2)** The feeding, touching, teasing, frightening or intentional disturbing of wildlife nesting, breeding or other activities.

- **Artificial or Natural Means of Attracting or Disturbing Wildlife**

- All park areas are closed to the use of elk bugles, varmint calls, audio attractions or other artificial or natural means of attracting or disturbing wildlife, including rattling antlers or verbal imitations.

**(d)** The superintendent may establish conditions and procedures for transporting lawfully taken wildlife through the park area. Violation of these conditions and procedures is prohibited.

- **Retrieval of Game**

- Conditions for retrieval of legally hunted and wounded wildlife which enters the park:
  - Under no circumstances may a hunter pursue and shoot wildlife in the park.
  - Hunters must contact the park immediately if they wound an animal and it enters the park.

- If an animal dies inside the park as the result of being legally shot and wounded outside the park, a park ranger will determine if the animal carcass can be tagged and removed from the park by the hunter.
- If a wounded animal enters the park, the hunter may be required to show a park ranger the location outside the park from which the animal was shot.
- Hunters must present their hunting license, carcass tag, and driver's license to a park ranger upon request.
- Hunters will be responsible for the removal of the animal as directed by a park ranger. In most cases, the entire animal must be removed from the park. In cases where the animal is field dressed within the park, no part of the animal will be left within 200 yards of a trail, foot path, water source, roadway, parking lot, campground or other developed area.
- Except for signed Federal facilities, such as visitor centers and other buildings open to the public where park employees conduct business, hunters may carry loaded firearms into the park.

- **Transportation of Game**

- Wildlife legally taken outside the park in accordance with Colorado hunting laws and regulations, and properly tagged and identified, may be transported through the park via the following:
  - U.S. Highway 34 and U.S. Highway 36.
  - Hunter Access Corridors, located at Twin Sisters Trail, North Boundary Trail via Cow Creek Trail, Bowen Gulch/Continental Divide Trail, Baker Gulch Trail, and Holzwarth Historic Site Access Road.
  - Commuter Hunter Access Corridors: Columbine Lake Road (County Road 49) and Sun Valley Road (County Road 491).
  - Hunters must pay all applicable entrance fees.

- **Conditions of transport on U.S. Highway 34 and U.S. Highway 36:**

- Hunters must obtain a "Hunting Season Permit for the Transportation of Game" at any park entrance station to transport legally taken game through the park by motor vehicle during normal work hours. No such permit is required during off-hours.

- Hunters must show their hunting license, carcass tag, and driver's license when obtaining a Hunting Season Transportation Permit and/or when requested by a park ranger.
- Hunters must pay regular park entrance fees for cross-park transport.
- Except for firearms, hunters must possess only weapons that meet the definition of "unloaded" during cross-park transport.

*See § 1.4 of this document for definition*

- **Conditions of transport specific to Hunting Access Corridor:**

- Hunters must self-register for use of Hunter Access Corridors at the trailhead access points.  
See 36 CFR § 2.4(d)(4)(i)
- Hunters are not required to contact the park prior to transporting legally taken game through the park on the Hunter Access Corridors, provided self- registration as described above has occurred.
- Hunters must show their hunting license, carcass tag and driver's license when requested by a park ranger.
- Hunters must pay applicable park entrance fees when required to pass through any park entrance gate to use hunter access corridors.
- Except for firearms, hunters must possess only weapons that meet the definition of "unloaded" during cross-park transport.

*See § 1.4 of this document for definition*

- **Conditions of transport on Commuter Hunter Access Corridor:**

- The Columbine Lake (County Road 49) and Sun Valley (County Road 491) Roads traverse the park for a very short distance. No hunter access corridor signs are posted in these areas. The transport of game and weapons through these areas is authorized. No pre-registration or permit is required, and no park entrance fees are applicable.
- Park rangers may contact any hunters on these road corridors within the park boundary.
  - Hunters must show hunting license, carcass tags and driver's licenses when requested by a park ranger.

- Except for firearms, hunters must possess only weapons that meet the definition of “unloaded” during cross-park transport.

*See § 1.4 of this document for definition*

- Hunters must be able to explain exactly where and how the animal was taken.

(e) The Superintendent may designate all or portions of a park area as closed to the viewing of wildlife with an artificial light. Use of an artificial light for purposes of viewing wildlife in closed areas is prohibited.

- **Artificial Light for Wildlife Viewing**

- All areas within the bounds of the park are closed to the viewing of wildlife with an artificial light, **including** motor vehicle headlights.

### **36 CFR § 2.10: CAMPING AND FOOD STORAGE**

(a) The superintendent may require permits, designate sites or areas, and establish conditions for camping.

- **Camping Activities Requiring a Permit**

- The following camping activities require a permit with specific location or area, user nights, and number in the party limitations, for overnight camping:
  - Designated and dispersed individual and group campsite camping
  - Designated individual and group stock campsite camping (dispersed stock camping is **not** permitted)
  - Cross-country area camping
  - Winter area camping
  - Bivouac camping (overnight stay in connection with technical climbing or ski mountaineering)
  - All overnight parking
- The purpose of this regulation is to implement the Backcountry and Wilderness Management Plan as it relates to ecological and carrying capacity concerns.

- **Designated Auto Campgrounds**

- The following are designated as auto campgrounds with overnight use or camping permitted, and based on carrying capacity and ecological concerns:

- Aspenglen Campground
- Glacier Basin Campground
- Longs Peak Campground
- Moraine Park Campground
- Timber Creek Campground

- **Generators**

- Generator use is permitted **only** in auto campgrounds and is generally permitted within the hours of 7:30 am - 10 am and 4 pm - 8:30 pm. Generator use is prohibited in:
  - Moraine Park Campground Loop D
  - Glacier Basin Campground Loop C
  - Aspenglen Campground Loops A and B and
  - In all other areas of the park.

*The operation of any generator which creates unreasonable levels of noise and/or noxious exhaust is prohibited at all times.*

- **Campground Regulations**

- The following regulations apply to Aspenglen, Moraine Park, Glacier Basin and Timber Creek Campgrounds:
  - Each camping site is limited to:
    - One (1) camping unit (i.e., a tent, RV, or trailer/tow vehicle) plus one (1) additional tent. All tents shall be located on the tent pad. All additional camp structures must be self-standing without impacts to vegetation or trees.
    - Eight (8) person limit per site.
    - Parking is limited to two (2) vehicles per site. A vehicle is defined as one (1) vehicle, one (1) trailer, one RV, or one (1) towed unit.

- Each vehicle must be parked on the gravel or paved parking pad causing no resource degradation or encroachment onto the paved access road. Some sites will accommodate only one vehicle on the graveled parking pad.

- **Longs Peak Campground**

- Longs Peak Campground is closed to travel trailers, motor homes and recreational vehicles. Conversion vans, pickup trucks and other small passenger vehicles are permitted. Each site is limited to:
  - A maximum of two (2) vehicles (parked with all wheels on the gravel pad only)
  - With no more than eight (8) persons and two (2) tents
  - Some sites will accommodate only one (1) vehicle on the graveled parking pad
 Care must be given to vehicle parking, with no resource degradation incurred or encroachment onto the paved loop access road, or obstruction of traffic.

- **Glacier Basin Group Camping Area**

- A maximum of five (5) vehicles per site are permitted at the Glacier Basin Group Camping Area.
- Glacier Basin Group Camping Area is closed to motor homes, travel trailers, tent trailers and cab-over campers.
- Glacier Basin Group site occupancy limits are as follows:
  - **Small sites:** 10 to 15 people
  - **Medium sites:** 16 to 25 people
  - **Large sites:** 26 to 40 people

*Only tent camping is allowed.*

- **Campground Stay Limits**

- There is a 7-night stay limit in all campgrounds during the reservation period. The 7-night stay limit also applies to Longs Peak Campground during its operational period.
- Moraine Park Campground has a 14-night stay limit for the period outside of the reservation period. This 14-night stay limit cannot be combined with the 7-night stay limit.



- **Campground Check-out Time**
  - Check-out time for all auto campgrounds is 12 noon.
- **Campground Use for Hunters**
  - Auto campgrounds and designated and dispersed Wilderness campsites and areas are closed to hunter use as a base camp. Alternative facilities are available on private and other public lands outside the park.
- **Hammocks**
  - Hammocks are only allowed within the designated footprint of the campsite. Hammocks may not overhang or cause damage to vegetation. Hammock use is prohibited in Timber Creek Campground due to the lack of mature trees in the campground.
- **Hanging Tents**
  - Hanging tents are **prohibited** in all auto campgrounds.
- **Wilderness Campsite Check-out Time**
  - Check-out time for all wilderness campsites is 12 noon.
- **Wilderness Campsites**
  - Wilderness campsites are either designated campsites or areas (dispersed, cross- country, bivouac or winter) with overnight use or camping permitted, based on carrying capacity and ecological concerns as specified by the Backcountry and Wilderness Management Plan.
- **Wilderness Campsite Locations**
  - Current wilderness camping designated and dispersed campsites and cross-country, bivouac or winter area listings, maps, and seasonal permit conditions are maintained by the Wilderness Office Manager. Applicable park plans and Superintendent's directives are followed.
- **Wilderness Campsite Stay Limits**
  - Wilderness camping (including bivouacs) has a 7-night stay limit per person from June through September, with an additional 14-night stay limit allowed from October through May.

*Limits are on a park basis rather than on a per campsite basis.*

- **Wilderness Group Campsite Stay Limits**
  - Wilderness camping at designated and dispersed individual and group campsites, including stock campsites, is limited to three (3) consecutive nights at any one campsite.
- **Cross-country Area Camping Stay Limits**
  - Cross-country area camping is limited to one (1) night per campsite and two (2) nights per area. Cross-country campers must move their site at least one mile each night.
- **Wilderness Winter Area Camping Stay Limits**
  - Wilderness winter area camping is limited to three (3) consecutive nights at one location; then the camp must be moved at least one mile.
- **Wilderness Winter Area Camps**
  - Wilderness winter area camps must be established within the designated winter area and on rock or on 4 inches or more of snow only.
- **Wilderness Winter Area Camping Restrictions**
  - Wilderness winter area camping is prohibited as follows:
    - Within one mile of any trailhead, road or developed area
    - Within 200 feet (70 adult steps) of any water source, and
    - Within 200 feet (70 adult steps) of any Wilderness designated site, which is covered by more than 4 inches of snow.
- **Wilderness Camping Party Size**
  - Wilderness Camping party size is limited to seven (7) people in designated individual campsites and twelve (12) people in designated group campsites. Winter area camping party allows twelve (12) people.
- **Wilderness Stock Camping Party Size**
  - Wilderness Stock Camping party size is limited to six (6) people and eight (8) stock in designated individual stock campsites, and twelve (12) people and sixteen (16) stock in designated group stock campsites.
- **Overnight Boat Mooring**
  - Overnight boat mooring at any high-water mark area within the park is considered camping and as such is prohibited.

- **Bivouacs**
  - A bivouac is a temporary, open-air encampment established between dusk and dawn and closed to the use of erected type shelters (i.e. tents and tarps) or any site manipulation.
- **Bivouac Permits**
  - A bivouac permit is issued to accommodate safe climbing and ski mountaineering practices, and to control environmental damage. The permit provides ski mountaineers with the ability to bivouac on long ski descents, and technical climbers with an advanced position on one-day climbs and/or climbs that require an overnight stay on the rock face.
- **Bivouac Permit Regulations**
  - The permit is issued **only** to technical climbers and ski mountaineers. Any climbing party using a bivouac permit is limited to a maximum of 4 people, all of whom must climb.
  - **From October 1 through May 15**, skiers will comply with the backcountry winter camping regulations. **From May 16 through September 30**, skiers may receive bivouac permits if conditions permit and must comply with the same general rules and regulations as climbers.
- **Bivouac Permit Criteria**
  - A bivouac permit will be issued **only if**:
    - The climbing or ski descent area/site is 3.5 miles, or more, from the trailhead. There is no requirement for the length of ski descent.
    - The climb is 4 or more pitches, roped technical climbing.
- **Designated Bivouac Areas**
  - Climbers and ski mountaineers are both limited to “designated bivouac areas”, at or near the base of the route, or on the face of the climb. Maps of each of the designated bivouac areas are available at the Wilderness Office or Kawuneeche Visitor Center.
- **Bivouac Site Size**
  - Within a “designated bivouac area”, a bivouac site need only be large enough for one (1) person to roll up in a sleeping bag, bivy sack, or ground cloth.
- **Bivouac Sites Near Vegetation**
  - Bivouac sites must be off all vegetation and are restricted to rock and snow only.

- **Bivouac Sites Near Water**

- Bivouac sites must be at least 200 feet (70 adult steps) from water.

- **Restricted Bivouac Areas**

- The following areas are restricted to the total numbers of climbers allowed to bivouac:

- **Black Lake Area**

- McHenry's Peak above Black Lake base: six (6) climbers
- Arrowhead above Solitude Lake base: six (6) climbers
- Upper Glacier Gorge (includes the Spearhead & Chief's Head-Pagoda, and extending to the NW, N & E of the Spearhead, excluding the lake areas: twelve (12) climbers

- **Longs Peak Area**

- Broadway, below the Diamond-on the wall: six (6) climbers
- Chasm View: six (6) climbers
- Mills Glacier-for Longs Peak: fourteen (14) climbers
- Meeker Cirque-for Mt. Meeker: eight (8) climbers

- **Sky Pond/Andrews Glacier Area**

- Sky Pond: eight (8) climbers
- The Sharkstooth in the Gash: six (6) climbers

- **Notchtop Peak**

- Base of Notchtop: eight (8) climbers

- **Non-Restricted Bivouac Areas**

- The following designated climbing areas have no restrictions to the total number of climbers allowed to bivouac:

- **Colorado River District**

- Ptarmigan Towers  
*Base of climb*

- All other Colorado River District bivouac sites
- **Glacier Gorge and Bear Lake Areas**
  - Zowie and Wham  
*On north side of Andrews Creek*
  - Otis Peak to Chaos Canyon
- **Hayden Gorge Area**
  - Hayden Pinnacle and East Pinnacle  
*Base of climb*
- **Mummy Range Area**
  - Ypsilon Mountain  
*Above Spectacle Lake base of climb*
  - Fairchild Mountain  
*Above Crystal Lake base of climb*
- **Odessa Gorge Area**
  - Little Matterhorn  
*Base of climb*
- **Wild Basin Area**
  - Mt. Alice  
*Base of climb*
  - Pilot Mountain  
*Above Falcon Lake base of climb*

**(d) Food Storage**

- The superintendent may designate all or a portion of a park area where food, lawfully taken fish or wildlife, garbage, and equipment used to cook or store food must be kept sealed in a vehicle, or in a camping unit that is constructed of solid, non-pliable material, or suspended at least 10 feet above the ground and 4 feet horizontally from a post, tree trunk, or other object, or shall be stored as otherwise designated. Violation of this restriction is prohibited. This restriction does not apply to food that is being transported, consumed, or prepared for consumption.

- For the following food storage restrictions, "food scented items" means food, all drinks and drinking containers (including water bottles), cleaning supplies, toiletries, cosmetics, pet food and bowls, and odoriferous attractants. Garbage (including empty cans, food wrappers, etc.) must be stored or disposed of consistent with these regulations. Hummingbird feeders and bird feeders, which are attractants for raccoons, elk, deer, and bears, are not allowed. Coolers, stoves, grills, tableware, and cookware must be washed and clean or stored in the same manner as food scented items.

*These regulations apply parkwide to include park housing and developed areas.*

- **Food Storage Regulations**

- Visitors parking overnight in the Wild Basin area and on the Fern Lake Road are **required** to use food storage lockers for storage of all food items. It is prohibited to leave food items or garbage within a vehicle when parking overnight in these two areas.
- At all other trailheads, park housing, and administrative areas, visitors and staff parking overnight must store all food items and garbage by one of the following methods:
  - Inside vehicle trunks
  - In vehicles with no trunk, such items may be placed as low in the vehicle passenger compartment as possible and covered from sight, with all windows and doors closed and locked.
- Day use visitors parking at trailheads must store all food items and garbage by one of the following methods:
  - Inside vehicle trunks
  - In vehicles with no trunk, such items may be placed as low in the vehicle passenger compartment as possible and covered from sight, with vehicle doors and windows closed and locked.
- In developed campgrounds, if food storage lockers are full, the other food storage methods listed above are acceptable.
- In residences and lodgings, including all seasonal and permanent staff housing areas, such items must be stored in secure storage containers which are not visible from the exterior of the structure.
- In all auto campgrounds, all food must be secured in a food storage locker, or in a closed and locked vehicle.

- **Wilderness Camping Food Storage Regulations**

- Due to recurring wildlife incidents, food storage regulations exist for all park Wilderness camping areas below tree line and in the Boulder Field on Longs Peak and are in effect **from May 1 through October 31**. All food items and garbage must be secured inside an approved, commercially made carry in/carry out bear-resistant food storage container that is either hard-sided or has a non-crushable insert. When not in use, the locked container and all associated food items must be stored 200 feet (70 adult steps) from the campsite. Other methods of food storage are not permitted in the backcountry during this period.
- Wilderness campers must provide the commercially made carry in/carry out bear-resistant food storage container themselves, and possession of such a canister is also a condition of obtaining a wilderness camping permit.
- **From November 1 through April 30**, while not required, it is recommended that food and garbage still be stored using wildlife-resistant methods, such as:
  - Inside a commercially made carry in/carry out bear-resistant food storage canister.
  - Suspended at least 10 feet above the ground and 4 feet out horizontally from a tree trunk or other vertical support, using the counterbalance technique.
- Backpackers or climbers camping in bivouac areas above tree line are exempt from this requirement year-round, but are still required to maintain a clean, low impact camp.

- **Food Storage Exceptions**

- The foregoing food storage regulations do not apply to food, drink, or similar organic materials that are attended, being consumed, or prepared for consumption.
- The primary purpose of these regulations is to maintain public health and safety, and to avoid conflict between visitor use activities and natural resources.

## 36 CFR § 2.13: FIRES

- (a)(1) Lighting or maintaining a fire, except in designated areas or receptacles and under conditions that may be established by the superintendent.

A fire may be ignited and maintained only by using fuel sources designed and commonly used for warmth or the preparation of food, such as charcoal briquettes or natural firewood. Lighting or maintaining a fire with other materials including, but not limited to, flammable liquids, garbage, fireworks, plastics, aerosol canisters, batteries, or other manufactured or synthetic materials, is prohibited.

*This action is necessary for the maintenance of public health and safety, protection of environmental or scenic values, protection of natural or cultural resources, and the implementation of management responsibilities. Materials other than approved combustibles – especially fire accelerants and substances prone to wind transport or explosion – creates serious risks when used to light or maintain fires. These combustibles can ignite or spread wildfires that directly threaten people and valuable resources and assets. The burning of manufactured or synthetic materials can contribute to air pollution, contaminate soil and water, and be toxic to humans and the environment. Less restrictive measures, such as an education campaign informing visitors of the risks of using certain materials to light or maintain a fire, would not be commensurate with the substantial risks associated with those activities and could lead to adverse outcomes that might be prevented by establishing an enforceable condition*

- **Campfires Regulations**

- Campfires are permitted in auto campgrounds, designated picnic areas, and at permanent and term employee housing and other residential areas as approved by the Superintendent, and only in metal fire grates provided by the park for such use.
- The use of disposable or portable charcoal grills, portable gas firepits, wood fuel camp stoves, petroleum fuel/gas stoves, and gas grills are allowed for food preparation as adjuncts to fire grates provided by the park in auto campgrounds and picnic areas, and residential areas. Used charcoal and ash must be completely extinguished and disposed of in a trash receptacle.
- Petroleum fuel/gas camping stoves are authorized in designated wilderness sites for food preparation.

- **Campfires and portable grills are permitted in the following areas:**



- Campgrounds:

- Aspenglen Campground
- Glacier Basin Campground
- Longs Peak Campground
- Moraine Park Campground
- Timber Creek Campground

- Picnic Areas

- Beaver Ponds Picnic Area

*In Kawuneeche Valley **only**. Beaver Ponds Picnic Area below Hidden Valley has been removed and rehabilitated.*

- Bowen-Baker Picnic Area
- Colorado River Picnic Area
- Copeland Lake Picnic Area
- Endovalley Picnic Area
- Harbison Meadow Picnic Area
- Hidden Valley Picnic Area
- Hollowell Park Picnic Area
- Holzwarth Historic Site Picnic Area
- Lake Irene Picnic Area
- Lily Lake Picnic Area

*Only in self-contained cooking grills and under the conditions of a special use permit.*

- Sprague Lake Picnic Area
- Timber Lake Picnic Area
- Tuxedo Park Picnic Area
- Upper Beaver Meadows Picnic Area
- West Alluvial Fan Picnic Area
- Wild Basin Trailhead Picnic Area

- Employee Housing Areas

- All permanent, term, and seasonal employee housing areas where designated

(a)(3) Lighting, tending, or using a fire, stove or lantern in a manner that threatens, causes damage to, or results in the burning of property, real property or park resources, or creates a public safety hazard.

- The use of open flame torches (e.g., “tiki” torches) is prohibited due to the increased associated fire hazard.

### **36 CFR § 2.15: PETS**

(a)(5) Failing to comply with pet excrement disposal conditions which may be established by the superintendent.

- Pet excrement must be picked up from all areas within Rocky Mountain National Park.

(e) Pets may be kept by residents of park areas consistent with the provisions of this section and in accordance with conditions which may be established by the superintendent. Violation of these conditions is prohibited.

- Park staff residing in the park may keep pets in accordance with park Office Order No. 3.

### **36 CFR § 2.16: HORSES AND PACK ANIMALS**

(a) The use of animals other than those designated as “pack animals” for purposes of transporting equipment.

- **Pack Animals**

- Horses, mules, ponies, llamas, and burros are designated as “pack animals” and are permitted on park trails. **Goats are not designated** as pack animals and therefore not permitted on park trails.

(g) Violation of conditions which may be established by the superintendent concerning the use of horses or pack animals.

- **Horses and Pack Animals Road Use Exceptions**

- Horses and other pack animals are not permitted on park roads, with the following exceptions:

- Bowen-Baker Road  
*From paved parking area to park boundary*
- Fern Lake Road  
*Between winter closure point and trailhead to reach Fern Lake Trail*
- Kaley Cottage Road
- McGraw Ranch Road
- Upper Beaver Meadows Road  
*To reach Beaver Mountain, Beaver Meadows, Moraine Park, and Deer Ridge Trails*
- North Inlet Road to Summerland Park
- Twin Sisters Trail Access Road
- Wild Basin Road  
*Access trails open to horses in the Wild Basin area*

- **Horses and Pack Animals Trail Use Exceptions**

- Horses and pack animals may be used **only** on park trails designated for stock use. However, llamas are permitted on the Jim's Grove unimproved trail for purposes of administrative use, but only when emergency conditions warrant. Cross-country areas and Research Natural Areas are **closed** to stock and pack animal use.
- Seasonal and emergency closures of trails to horse and pack animals may be in effect at various locations throughout the park when necessary for environmental or safety reasons. Guided horse concessions will be notified when these closures are in effect.

- **Horses and Pack Animals Seasonal Closure Areas**

- To prevent resource damage, as well as possible injuries to stock and riders/users, those portions of Flattop, Tonahutu Creek, and North Inlet trails which are above tree line are closed to all stock use annually from **October 15 through July 31**.
- These trails may be opened to stock use prior to or after August 1, depending on environmental conditions and as announced by the Superintendent.
- Seasonal closures of any trail to horse and pack animal use may be in effect at various locations throughout the park when necessary for resource protection or safety reasons. Such closures will be posted and published.

- **Horses and Pack Animals Closures**

- The following trails are **closed** to the use of horses and pack animals (exceptions are provided, as indicated, for use of llamas):

- **Bear Lake Area**

- Bear Lake Nature Trail
- Emerald Lake Trail  
*Includes spur trails to Dream Lake and Nymph Lake*
- Lake Haiyaha Trail and connection to The Loch-Mills junction
- Loch Vale Trail  
*Beyond The Loch-Mills junction*
- Mills Lake Trail  
*Beyond hitch rail near The Loch-Mills junction*

- **Colorado River District**

- Specimen Mountain Trail
- Poudre River Trail  
*Chapin Creek to Milner Pass*
- Chapin Creek Primitive Trail (cross-country route)
- Poudre River to Chapin Pass
- Mirror Lake Trail  
*Beyond Comanche Peak Trail junction*
- Haynach Lake Trail  
*Beyond Tonahutu Creek Trail*  
*Open to llama use from Tonahutu Creek trail to Haynach Lake campsites*
- East Inlet Trail  
*Beyond west end of Lake Verna*
- Long Meadow  
*Between Onahu Creek and Timber Creek Trails*
- All trails above Grand Ditch (except Thunder Pass Trail)

- Willow Creek drainage to Long Draw Reservoir (unconstructed)
- Timber Lake Trail  
*Due to a landslide in 2011*
- **Fern Lake Area**
  - Spruce Lake Trail
  - Odessa Lake Trail  
*From Fern Lake Trail junction with Odessa Lake Trail*
- **Longs Peak**
  - Lily Lake and Lily Ridge
  - Jim's Grove  
*From Battle Mountain Junction to Granite Pass*
  - Chasm Lake  
*Beyond hitch rail on Mills Moraine*
  - Boulder Field  
*Beyond hitch rail*
  - North Longs Peak Trail  
*From Boulder Brook junction to Glacier Gorge Trail*
  - Storm Pass Junction to Estes Cone Summit
- **Mummy Range**
  - Lawn Lake Trail  
*Beyond hitch rail at east end of lake*
  - Ypsilon Lake Trail  
*Beyond hitch rail at south end of lake*
  - Mummy Pass Trail  
*Beyond Mummy Pass Creek Junction*
  - Mirror Lake Trail  
*Beyond Koenig hitch rail*
- **North Fork**

- Lost Lake Trail  
*Beyond hitch rail*
- Bridal Veil Fall  
*Beyond hitch rail*
- **Sprague Lake Area**
  - Boulder Brook Primitive Trail
  - Sprague Lake Nature Trail
- **Ute Trail**
  - Upper Beaver Meadows to Milner Pass  
*Open to llama use from Upper Beaver Meadows to Ute Meadows campsite*
- **Wild Basin**
  - Bluebird Lake  
*Beyond hitch rail at east end of lake.*
  - Finch-Pear Lake Trail  
*Beyond hitch rail at east end of Pear Lake*
  - Lion Lakes  
*Beyond the junction with Thunder Lake Trail*
  - Lookout Mountain  
*From Meeker Park, Sandbeach Lake, Lookout Mountain Trail junction*
  - Ouzel Lake Trail  
*Beyond hitch rail near the northeast end of the lake.*
  - Sandbeach Lake Trail  
*Beyond hitch rail at north end of lake*
  - North St. Vrain Fire Trail  
*Open to llama use*
  - Thunder Lake Trail  
*Beyond hitch rail in woods at the east end of lake.*
- **Stock Drawn Equipment**
  - Use of stock-drawn equipment is not permitted in the park.

- **Horses and Pack Animals in Auto Campgrounds and Picnic Areas**
  - Horses and other stock are not permitted in auto campgrounds or picnic areas.
- **Horses and Pack Animal Speed Restrictions**
  - The riding of horses and other stock at a speed greater than a trot is not permitted.
- **Horses and Pack Animals Group Size**
  - Maximum number of animals permitted in one group or "string" is twenty (20) for day use.
- **Forage**
  - Possessing, storing, or transporting **either** certified **or** non-certified weed free forage beyond any park trailhead is prohibited within the boundaries of Rocky Mountain National Park.
  - Exclusions:
    - Persons with a permit specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act.
    - Any Federal, State or local law enforcement officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.
    - Persons possessing or using pelletized feed, hay cubes, or grain products.

### **36 CFR § 2.17: AIRCRAFT AND AIR DELIVERY**

**(d)** The use of aircraft shall be in accordance with regulations of the Federal Aviation Administration. Such regulations are adopted as a part of these regulations.

- **Commercial Air Tours**
  - Pursuant to an Act of Congress (Omnibus Appropriations Act, Section 126 (1988)), Commercial Air Tour operations are permanently banned in the vicinity of Rocky Mountain National Park. This prohibition is regulated by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).
  - "Commercial Air Tour" is defined as any flight conducted for compensation or hire in a powered aircraft where a purpose of the flight is sightseeing.
  - Determination factors include:

- Whether there was a holding out to the public of willingness to conduct a sightseeing flight for compensation or hire.
- Whether a narrative was provided that referred to areas or points of interest on the surface.
- The area of operation.
- The frequency of flights.
- The route of flight.
- The inclusion of sightseeing flights as part of any travel arrangement package.
- Whether the flight or flights in question would or would not have been canceled based on poor visibility of the surface.

*Note: For guidance on the prohibition of Unmanned Aircraft or drones, refer to § 1.5(a)(1)(xv) of this document*

### **36 CFR § 2.19: WINTER ACTIVITIES**

(c) Failure to abide by area designations or activity restrictions established under this section is prohibited.

- **Use of Sleds, Tubes, and Snow Saucers**

- Sledding, tubing, and/or use of snow saucers is restricted to the Hidden Valley Snow Play Area. Designated areas are delineated by posted signs. Use of metal sleds or sledding and/or tubing outside established areas is prohibited in the Hidden Valley Snow Play Area.

*See § 1.5(a)(2) of this document*

- The purpose of this designation is to focus winter snow-play activities (sledding, tubing, sliding) at the developed Hidden Valley area where amenities and area modifications have been established to enhance the visitor experience, improve safety, and limit resource impacts.

### **36 CFR § 2.21: SMOKING**

(a) The superintendent may designate a portion of a park area, or all or a portion of a building, structure or facility as closed to smoking when necessary to protect park resources, reduce the risk of fire, or prevent conflicts among visitor use activities. Smoking in an area or location so designated is prohibited.

- **Non-smoking Area Designations**



- All non-residential federal buildings within Rocky Mountain National Park are designated as non-smoking areas. Effective in 2012, all government-furnished quarters are also designated as non-smoking units.

### **36 CFR § 2.51: DEMONSTRATIONS AND DESIGNATED AVAILABLE PARK AREAS**

#### **(b) Permits and the Small Group Exception**

Demonstrations are allowed within park areas designated as available under paragraph (c)(2) of this section, when the superintendent has issued a permit for the activity,

- Permits for public assemblies, meetings, gatherings, demonstrations, parades and other public expressions of views for groups of **26 persons or more** are required and will be issued by the Superintendent, through the Chief Park Ranger. Permit requests may be made for all areas of Rocky Mountain National Park. All requests are subject to denial based on criteria established in 36 CFR § 2.51 (b-c) and (e-j).

**(b)(1)** Demonstrations involving **25 persons or fewer** may be held **without** a permit within designated park areas, if conditions are met as established in 36 CFR § 2.51 (b)(1).

**(b)(3)** The 25-person maximum for a small group permit exception may be reduced for a designated available area, if conditions are met as established in 36 CFR § 2.51 (b)(3).

**(c)(2)** The superintendent must designate on a map, which must be available in the office of the superintendent and by public notice under 36 CFR § 1.7, the locations designated as available for demonstrations, the sale or distribution of printed matter, and the free distribution of other message bearing items

- The following locations are designated and clearly posted as available for public assemblies, meetings, gatherings, demonstrations, parades and other public expressions of views with a permit issued under the terms of 36 CFR § 2.51(b):
  - Alpine Visitor Center
  - Beaver Meadows Visitor Center
  - Kawuneeche Visitor Center
  - Moraine Park Discovery Center

*See Figures 17-20: First Amendment Area Maps*

*Note: All other areas in the park have been determined by the superintendent to be inappropriate for these activities.*

### **36 CFR § 2.52: SALE OF PRINTED MATTER AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF PRINTED MATTER AND OTHER MESSAGE-BEARING ITEMS**

#### **(b) Permits and the Small Group Permit Exception.**

The sale or distribution of printed matter, and the free distribution of other message-bearing items without asking for or demanding payment or donation, is allowed within park areas if it occurs in an area designated as available under 36 CFR § 2.51(c)(2) and when the superintendent has issued a permit for the activity.

- The sale or distribution of printed matter for groups of **26 persons or more** requires a permit issued under the terms of 36 CFR § 2.52(b). Permits will be issued by the Superintendent, through the Chief Park Ranger. Permit requests may be made for all areas of Rocky Mountain National Park. All requests are subject to denial based on criteria established in 36 CFR § 2.52 (b-c) and (e-j).

**(b)(1)** Sale or distribution activity by 25 persons or fewer may be conducted without a permit within designated park areas. The following locations are identified as designated as available under 36 CFR § 2.51(c)(2):

- That portion of the sidewalk adjacent to the visitor parking area at the Moraine Park Museum/Visitor Center (visitor parking area and entrances to parking area not included) as specifically described to the permittee by the Chief Park Ranger or designee.
- That portion of the sidewalk adjacent to the visitor parking area at the Beaver Meadows Visitor Center (visitor parking area and entrances to parking area not included) as specifically described to the permittee by the Chief Park Ranger or designee.  
*Same location as described under § 2.51*
- That portion of the sidewalk between the Trail Ridge Store and the Alpine Visitor Center (visitor parking area and entrances to parking area not included) as specifically described to the permittee by the Chief Park Ranger or designee.  
*Same location as described under § 2.51*
- That portion of the sidewalk south of the public rest room and adjacent to the visitor parking area at the Kawuneeche Visitor Center (visitor parking area and entrances to parking area not included) as specifically described to the permittee by the Chief Park Ranger or designee.

Same location as described under § 2.51

*Note: All other park areas have been determined by the superintendent to be inappropriate for these activities.*

**(b)(3)** The 25-person maximum for the small group permit exception may be reduced for a designated available area if conditions are met as established in 36 CFR § 2.52 (b)(3).

### **36 CFR § 3.16: MAY I SWIM OR WADE IN PARK WATERS**

Swimming or wading is allowed in waters, subject to closures or restrictions designated by the superintendent in accordance with 36 CFR §§ 1.5 and 1.7.

- Bear Lake is **closed** to swimming and bathing.

### **36 CFR § 3.18: MAY I SNORKEL OR UNDERWATER DIVE IN PARK WATERS?**

**(a)** Snorkeling and underwater diving is allowed in park waters, subject to closures or restrictions designated by the superintendent in accordance with 36 CFR §§ 1.5 and 1.7.

- **SCUBA Diving and Snorkeling Closures**
  - Bear Lake is closed to SCUBA diving and snorkeling.

### **36 CFR § 4.11: LOAD, WEIGHT, AND SIZE LIMITS**

**(a)** Vehicle load, weight and size limits established by State law apply to a vehicle operated on a park road. However, the superintendent may designate more restrictive limits when appropriate for traffic safety or protection of the road surface. The superintendent may require a permit and establish conditions for the operation of a vehicle exceeding designated limits.

- **Old Fall River Road**
  - Old Fall River Road is closed to motor vehicles over 25 feet in length and any trailer use. Signs are posted which set limits.
- **Bear Lake Road**
  - Old Bear Lake Road is closed west of Park & Ride to vehicles over 21 feet in length.

### **36 CFR § 4.21: SPEED LIMITS**

- (b) The superintendent may designate a different speed limit upon any park road when a speed limit set forth in 36 CFR § 4.21(a) is determined to be unreasonable, unsafe or inconsistent with the purposes for which the park area was established. Speed limits shall be posted by using standard traffic control devices.

### **36 CFR § 4.30: BICYCLES**

#### **(a) Park Roads**

The use of a bicycle is permitted on park roads and in parking areas that are otherwise open for motor vehicle use by the general public.

- Determination has been made that bicycle use on designated roads within Rocky Mountain National Park is consistent with the protection of the natural, scenic and aesthetic values, safety considerations and management objectives and will not disturb wildlife or park resources.

*See § 1.5 of this document for exceptions on cycling group size and other criteria.*

#### **(b) Administrative Roads**

Administrative roads are roads that are closed to motor vehicle use by the public, but open to motor vehicle use for administrative purposes. The superintendent may authorize bicycle use on an administrative road.

- Bicycles are permitted on specific roads during that period of the year when the roads concerned are closed to motor vehicles and convert to winter road status. Roads that convert to winter road status and are **open** to bicycles beyond winter gate or road closures:
  - All park campground roads
  - Bowen-Baker Access Road
  - Coyote Valley Parking Area
  - Endovalley Road
  - Fern Lake Road
  - High Drive
  - Inholder Access Road

- Kaley Cottage Road
- North Inlet Parking Area
- Old Fall River Road  
*Except during road maintenance operations and emergency closures as posted.*
- Trail Ridge Road  
*Except during road maintenance operations and emergency closures as posted.*
- Upper Beaver Meadows Road
- Wild Basin Road
- Twin Sisters Trailhead Access Road

### **(i) Electric Bicycles**

**(i)(1)** The use of an electric bicycle may be allowed on park roads, parking areas, and administrative roads and trails that are otherwise open to bicycles. The Superintendent will designate the areas open to electric bicycles, or specific classes of electric bicycles, and notify the public pursuant to 36 CFR § 1.7.

- Except for the East Shore Trail, electric bicycles are allowed in Rocky Mountain National Park where traditional bicycles are allowed. Electric bicycles are prohibited where traditional bicycles are prohibited.

**(i)(2)** The use of an electric bicycle is prohibited in locations not designated by the Superintendent under paragraph (i)(1) of this section.

**(i)(3)** Except where use of motor vehicles by the public is allowed, using the electric motor exclusively to move an electric bicycle for an extended period of time without pedaling is prohibited.

**(i)(5)** A person operating or possessing an electric bicycle is subject to the following sections of 36 CFR that apply to bicycles: §§ 4.12-1313, 4.20-23, and 4.30(h)(3)-(5).

**(i)(6)** Except as specified in this chapter, the use of an electric bicycle is governed by State law, which is adopted and made a part of this section. Any act in violation of State law adopted by this paragraph is prohibited.

### **36 CFR § 4.31: HITCHHIKING**

Hitchhiking in the park is allowed and restricted to the road shoulder.

## **36 CFR § 5.6: COMMERCIAL VEHICLES**

### **(a) Commercial Vehicle Permits**

- (a)(1)** An annual Commercial Vehicle Permit is required to operate local commercial vehicles within the park. This permit provides an alternative to the single trip “trucking permit” that is provided for in 36 CFR § 7.7. Holders of this permit will meet the same requirements as an annual Commuter Permit holder. This permit is valid for one (1) year and is valid for the business vehicle fleet (not specific to one vehicle.)

## **36 CFR § 7.7: SPECIAL REGULATIONS**

### **(a) Fishing**

- (a)(1)** Fishing restrictions, based on management objectives described in the park Resources Management Plan, are established annually by the Superintendent.

- **North Saint Vrain River Regulations**

- That portion of North Saint Vrain River outside the area of exclusive jurisdiction and within administrative jurisdiction will be managed in accordance with state regulations. Park regulations apply at Copeland Lake.

- **Artificial Fly or Lures**

- "Artificial fly or lure" means devices made entirely of, or a combination of, materials such as wood, plastic, glass, hair, metal, feathers, or fiber, and designed to attract fish.

This definition does not include:

- Any hand moldable material designed to attract fish by the sense of taste or smell.
- Those devices less than 1.5 inches in length to which scents or small attractants have been externally applied.
- Molded plastic devices less than 1.5 inches in length.
- Foods
- Traditional organic baits such as worms, grubs, crickets, leeches, minnows and fish eggs.
- Manufactured baits such as imitation fish eggs, dough baits or stink baits.

(a)(2) The Superintendent may impose closures and establish conditions or restrictions, in accordance with the criteria and procedures of 36 CFR §§ 1.5 and 1.7, on any activity pertaining to fishing, including, but not limited to species of fish that may be taken, seasons and hours during which fishing may take place, methods of taking, size, creel, and possession limits.

- **Lures**

- Only artificial flies or lures with one hook that has a common shank with a single double or treble hook may be used for angling in park waters open to fishing. The park allows for fly fishers to utilize a two-hook system, where one hook is utilized as an “attractant” and is usually a nymph.
- Children 12 years old and under may use bait (no live bait or worms) in all park waters open to fishing and not designated as catch and release areas.

- **Possession Limits**

- No person may have in their possession more than eighteen (18) trout, the combination of which must consist of one of the following:
  - Eighteen (18) brook trout
  - Sixteen (16) brook trout and two (2) additional trout species (rainbow, brown, or cutthroat).
    - The two (2) additional trout must be at least 10 inches (2.5cm)

- **Greenback Cutthroat Trout Protection**

- All parklands are closed to the possession of greenback cutthroat trout, a Federal and State Threatened Species. As such, when taken, this species must be immediately returned to the water unharmed.

- **Catch and Keep Waters**

- All creeks and rivers not listed as Catch and Release or Closed waters are designated as Catch and Keep and are subject to the possession limits listed above.
- Catch and Keep Waters Include:
  - Black Lake
  - Box Lake
  - Fourth Lake
  - Glass Lake

- Haynach Lake
- Lake Haiyaha
- Hidden Valley Creek
- Lake Nanita  
*Outlet closed*
- Lake Solitude
- Lake Verna
- Loch Vale
- Lone Pine Lake
- Mills Lake
- Mirror Lake
- Ouzel Lake  
*Above Ouzel Falls*
- Peacock Lake
- Pettingell Lake
- Poudre Lake
- Sky Pond
- Spirit Lake
- Sprague Lake
- Ten Lake Park Lakes
- Thunder Lake

- **Catch and Release Waters**

- Brook trout may be kept in Catch and Release waters, subject to the limits above. All other species are catch and release only. Colorado River cutthroat trout must be immediately returned to the water.
- Catch and Release Waters:
  - Adams Lake  
*Includes outlet stream down to Paradise Creek*
  - Arrowhead Lake
  - Beaver Ponds Picnic Area
  - Bench Lake and Ptarmigan Creek  
*Above War Dance Falls*
  - Big Crystal Lake
  - Big Thompson River



*Above The Pool*

- Boundary Lake
- Caddis Lake
- Cony Creek

*Above Calypso Cascades*

- Dream Lake
- Fern Lake
- Gorge Lakes and Stream

*Includes Rock Lake and Little Rock Lake and continues from Arrowhead Lake to the confluence with the Big Thompson River.*

- Hunters Creek
- Hutcheson Lakes
- Lake Husted
- Lake Louise
- Lawn Lake
- Loomis Lake
- Lost Lake
- North Fork of the Big Thompson

*Above Lost Falls*

- Odessa Lake
- Ouzel Creek

*Above Ouzel Falls to the barrier at 10,127 feet elevation*

- Ouzel Lake
- Paradise Creek Drainage
- Pear Lake and Creek
- Roaring River
- Sandbeach Lake and Creek
- Spruce Lake

*East and southeast portions of lake, shoreline, and adjacent wetlands is closed year-round for Boreal Toad protection*

- Timber Lake and Creek
- Upper Onahu Creek
- West Creek
- Ypsilon Lake and Stream

- **Barbless Hooks**

- Barbless hooks must be used to protect and maintain the fish populations found in waters designated as catch and release.

- **Closed Waters**

- Closed waters include:
  - Bear Lake, including the inlet and outlet streams  
*Extending 200 yards above and below Bear Lake.*
  - Fern Creek  
*Closed from Fern Lake outlet down to The Pool.*
  - Hague Creek  
*Above junction with Mummy Pass Creek*
  - Kettle Tarn
  - Lake Nanita  
From outlet to 100 yards downstream
  - Shadow Mountain Reservoir  
*Below spillway to the southern park boundary, including Columbine Bay.  
Closed October 1 through December 31.*
  - South Fork of the Cache la Poudre River  
*Above Pingree Park*
  - Upper Columbine Creek  
*Above 9,000 feet elevation (indicated by barrier structure on creek)*

**(a)(3)** Fishing in closed waters or violating a condition or restriction established by the Superintendent is prohibited.

**(b) Trucking**

**(b)(1)** The Superintendent may issue a permit for trucking on a park road when the load carried originates and terminates within the counties of Larimer, Boulder, or Grand, Colorado.

- A “truck” refers to any motor vehicle equipped with a body designed to carry property and which is generally and commonly used to carry and transport property. This includes two axle pick-ups, trucks (two or three axle, able to carry 36,000-54,000-pound loads) and semi-tractor trailers (more than three axles, able to carry up to 85,000-pound loads).

**(2)** The fee charged for such trucking over Trail Ridge Road is the same as the single visit entrance fee for a private passenger vehicle. A trucking permit is valid for one round trip, provided such trip is made in one day, otherwise the permit is valid for a one-way trip only.

(3) The fee provided in this paragraph also apply to a special emergency trucking permit issued pursuant to 36 CFR § 5.6(b).

**(c) Boats**

(c)(1) The operation of motorboats is prohibited on all waters of the park.

(c)(2) All vessels are prohibited on Bear Lake.

**(d) Dogs, Cats, and Other Pets**

In addition to the provisions of 36 CFR § 2.15, dogs, cats, and other pets on leash, crated, or otherwise under physical restraint are permitted in the park only within 100 feet of the edge of established roads or parking areas, and are permitted within established campgrounds and picnic areas; dogs, cats, and other pets are prohibited in the backcountry and on established trails.

- **Leashed Pets and Winter Road Status**

- Leashed pets are permitted on specific roads during that period of the year when the roads concerned are closed to motor vehicles and convert to winter road status.
- Roads that convert to winter road status and are open to leashed pets beyond winter gates or road closures:
  - All park campground roads
  - Roads that convert to winter road status and are open to leashed pets beyond winter gate or road closures:
    - All Park Campground Roads
    - Bowen-Baker Access Road
    - Coyote Valley Parking Area
    - Endovalley Road
    - Fern Lake Road
    - High Drive
    - Inholder Access Road
    - Kaley Cottage Road

- North Inlet Parking Area
- Old Fall River Road  
*Except during road maintenance operations and emergency closures as posted.*
- Trail Ridge Road  
*Except during road maintenance operations and emergency closures as posted.*
- Twin Sisters Trailhead Access Road
- Upper Beaver Meadows Road
- Wild Basin Road

**(e) Snowmobiles**

**(e)(1) On what route may I operate a snowmobile?**

- All parts of Rocky Mountain National Park are closed to recreational snowmobile use except for the following:
  - Administrative needs for emergencies or administrative functions requiring access.
  - Snowmobiles may be operated on the North Supply Access Trail solely for the purpose of gaining access between national forest lands on the west side of the park and the town of Grand Lake. Use of this trail for other purposes is not permitted. This trail will be marked by signs, snow poles or other appropriate means.
    - The North Supply Access enters the south park boundary adjacent to U.S. Highway 34 from the town of Grand Lake and travels north to Sun Valley Road (County Road 491).
  - Trail adjacent to Sun Valley Road (County Road 491) as delineated by orange pylons to the western park boundary (west bank of the Colorado River).
- The speed limit on all designated snowmobile routes is 25 mph, unless changed by posted signs.

**(e)(2) When may I operate a snowmobile on the North Supply Access Trail?**

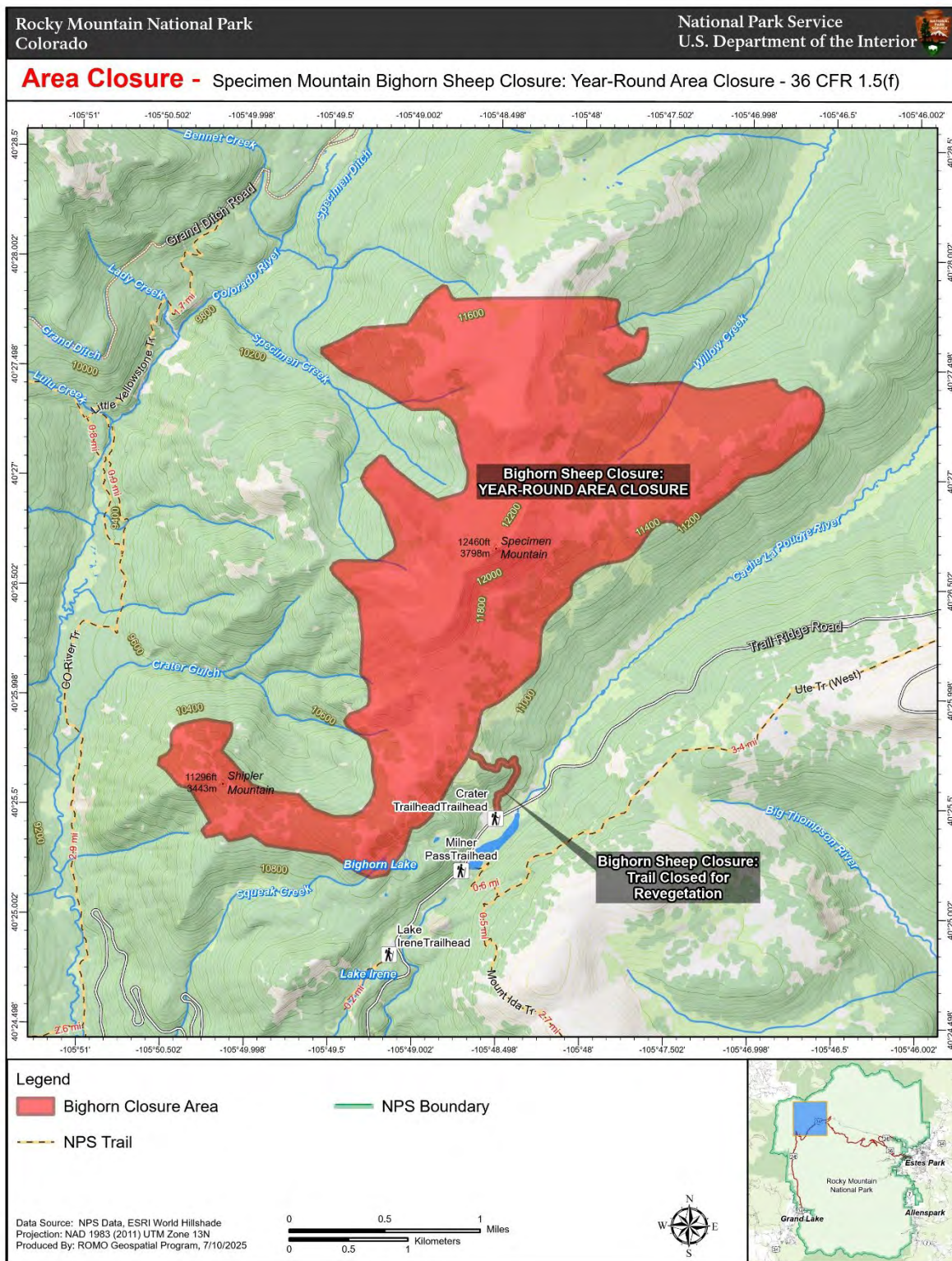
- The Superintendent will determine the opening and closing dates for use of the North Supply Access Trail each year, taking into consideration the location of wintering wildlife,

appropriate snow cover, and other factors that may relate to public safety. The Superintendent will notify the public of such dates through one or more of the methods listed in 36 CFR § 1.7(a). Temporary closure of this route will be initiated through the posting of appropriate signs and/or barriers.

**(f) Bicycle Use on the East Shore Trail**

The Superintendent may designate all or portions of a 2-mile segment of the East Shore Trail, extending north from Shadow Mountain Dam to the park boundary, as open to bicycle use. A map showing portions of the East Shore Trail open to bicycle use will be available at park visitor centers and posted on the park website. The Superintendent will provide notice of all bicycle route designations in accordance with 36 CFR § 1.7. The Superintendent may limit, restrict, or impose conditions on bicycle use, or close any trail to bicycle use, or terminate such conditions, closures, limits, or restrictions in accordance with 36 CFR § 4.30.

## APPENDIX: MAPS





## APPENDIX: MAPS

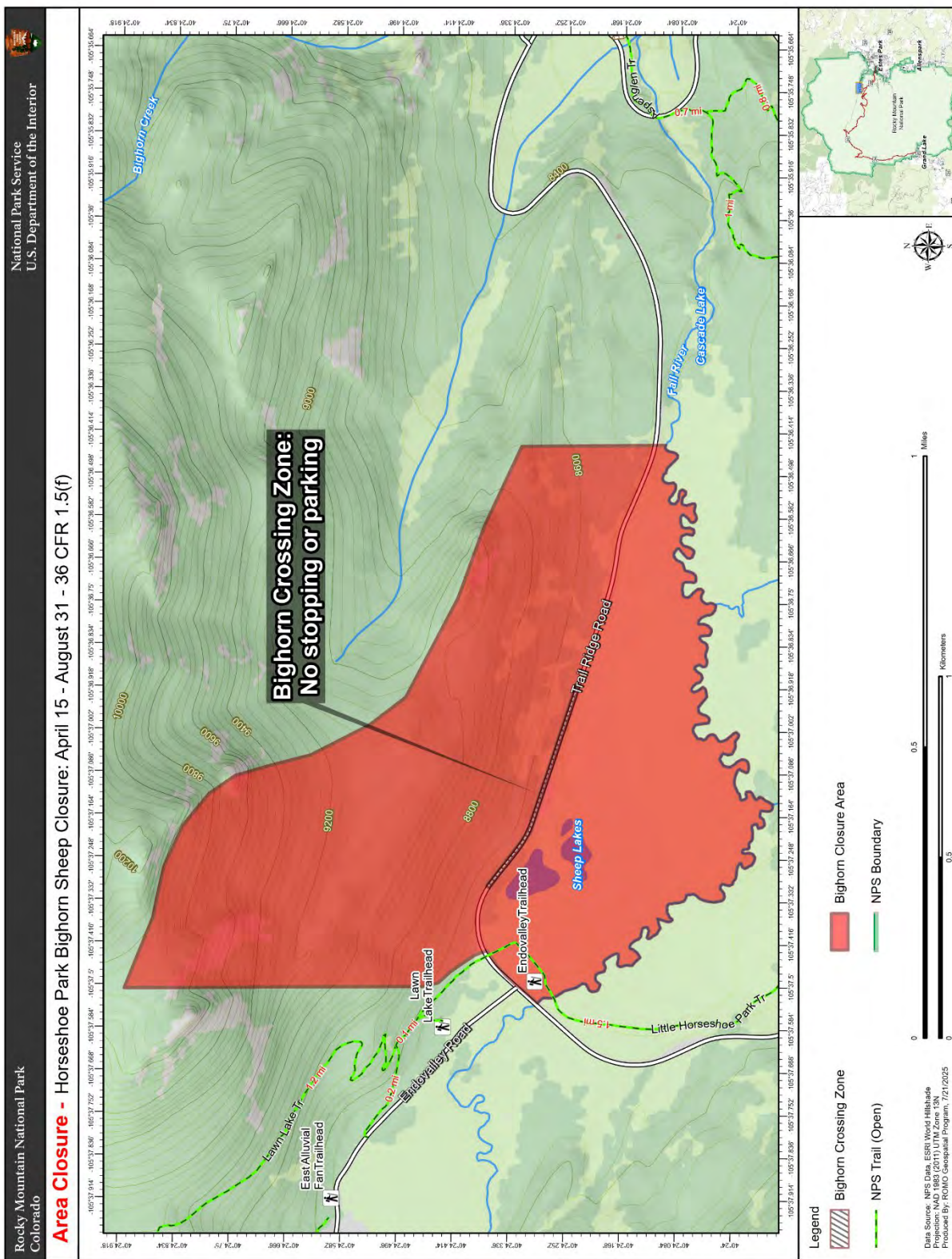


Figure 2: Horseshoe Park Bighorn Sheep Protection Closure Map



## APPENDIX: MAPS

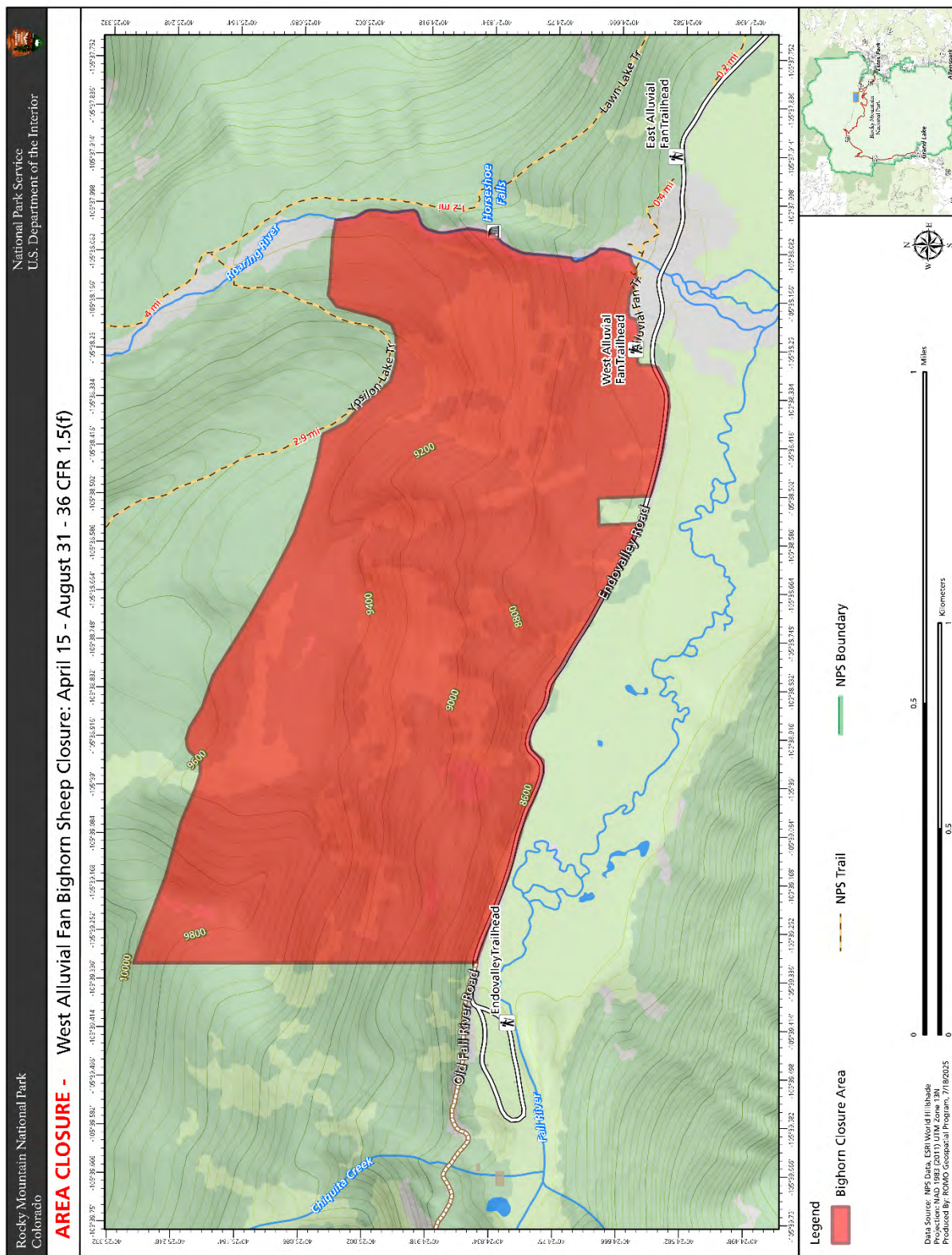


Figure 3: West Alluvial Fan Bighorn Sheep Protection Closure Map



## APPENDIX: MAPS

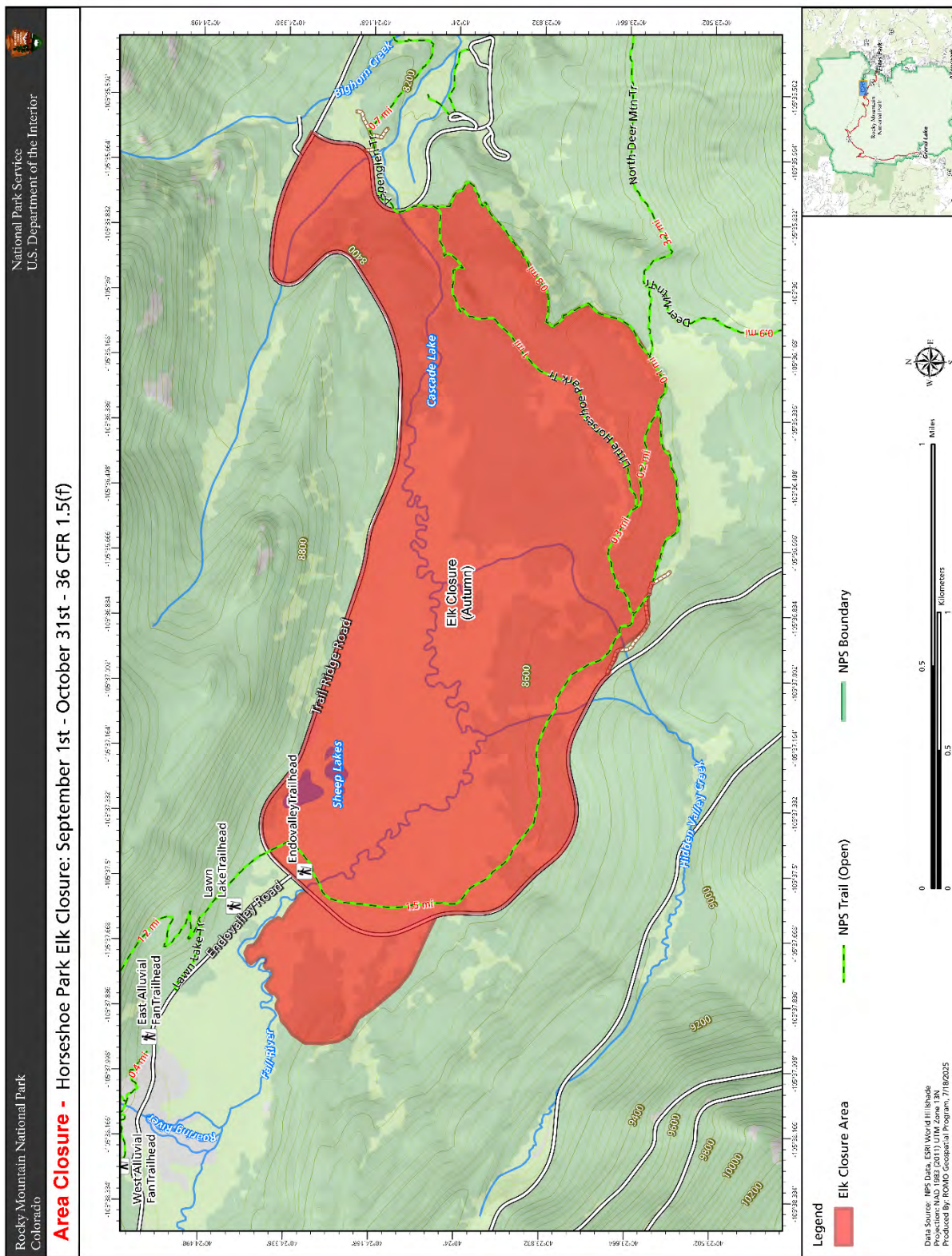


Figure 4: Horseshoe Park Elk Protection Closure Map



## APPENDIX: MAPS

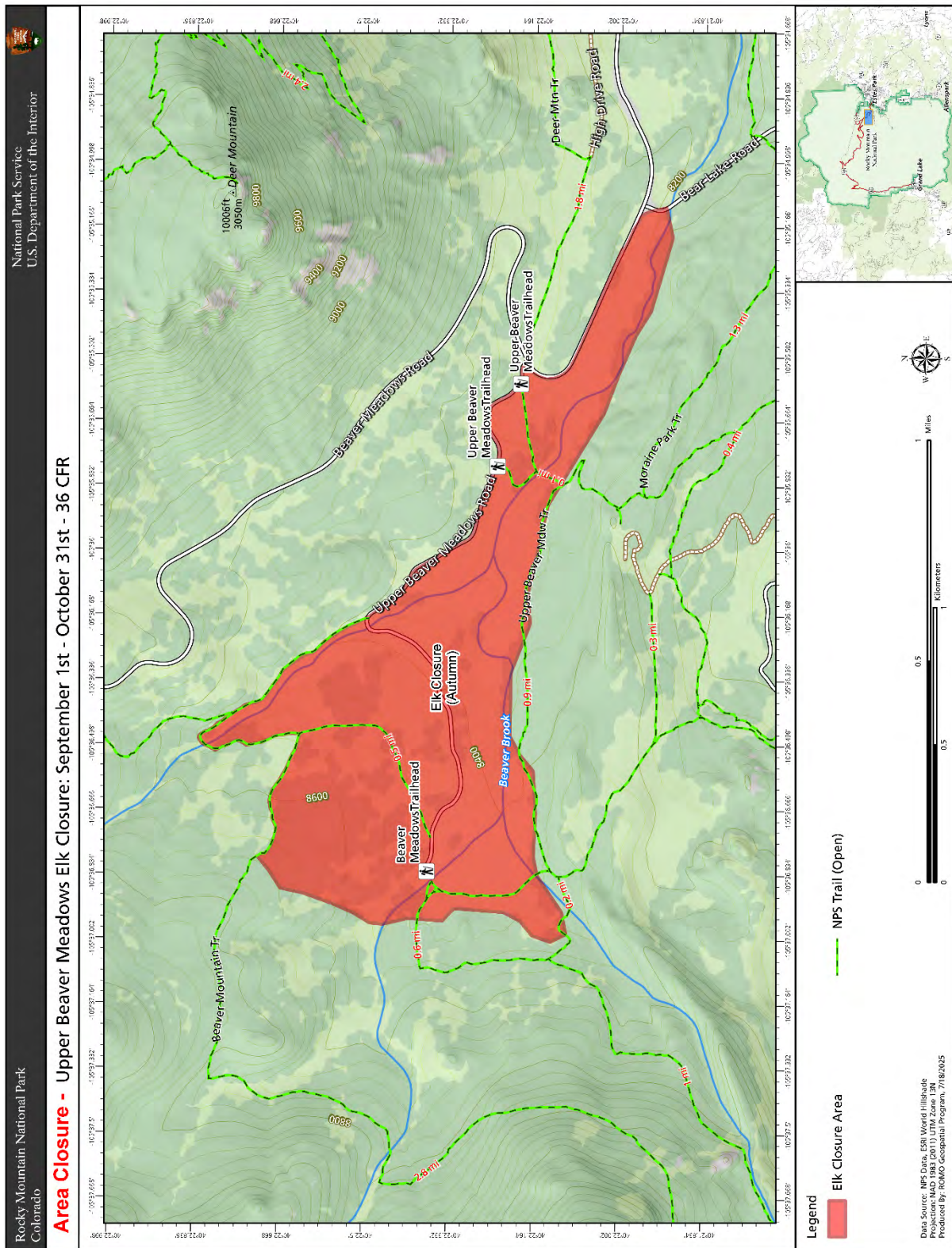


Figure 5: Upper Beaver Meadows Elk Protection Closure Map



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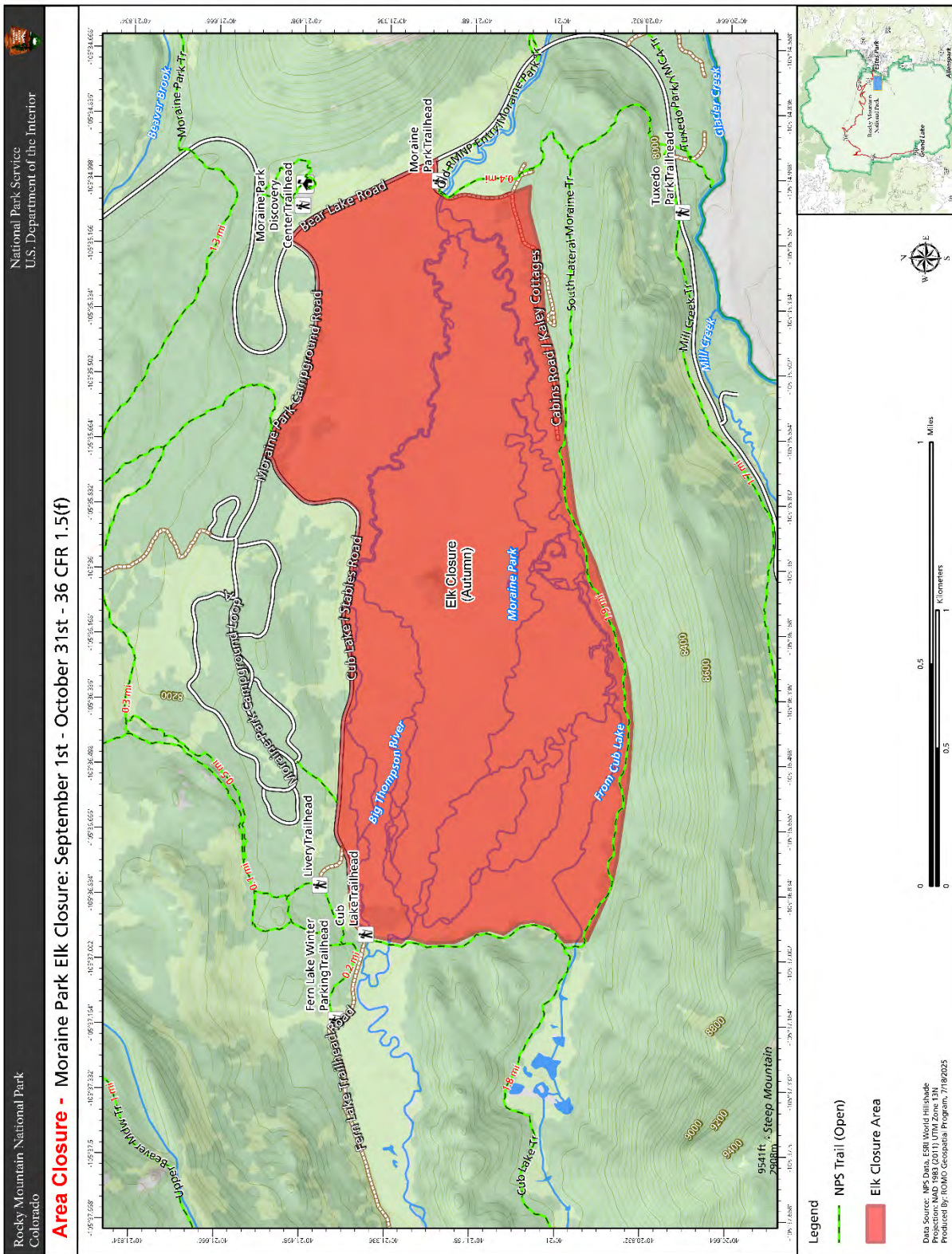


Figure 6: Moraine Park Elk Protection Closures Map

## APPENDIX: MAPS

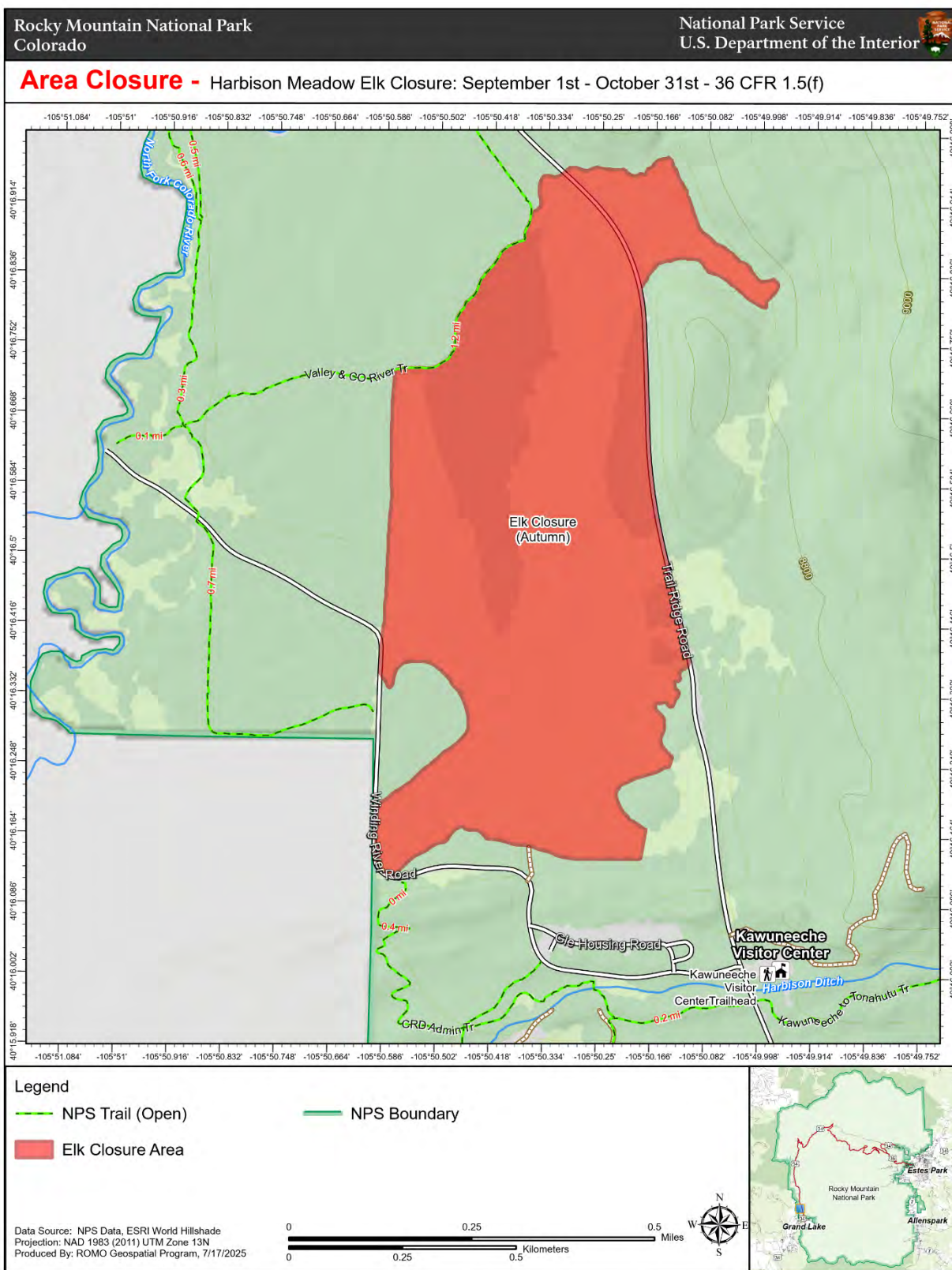


Figure 7: Harbison Meadows Elk Protection Closure Map



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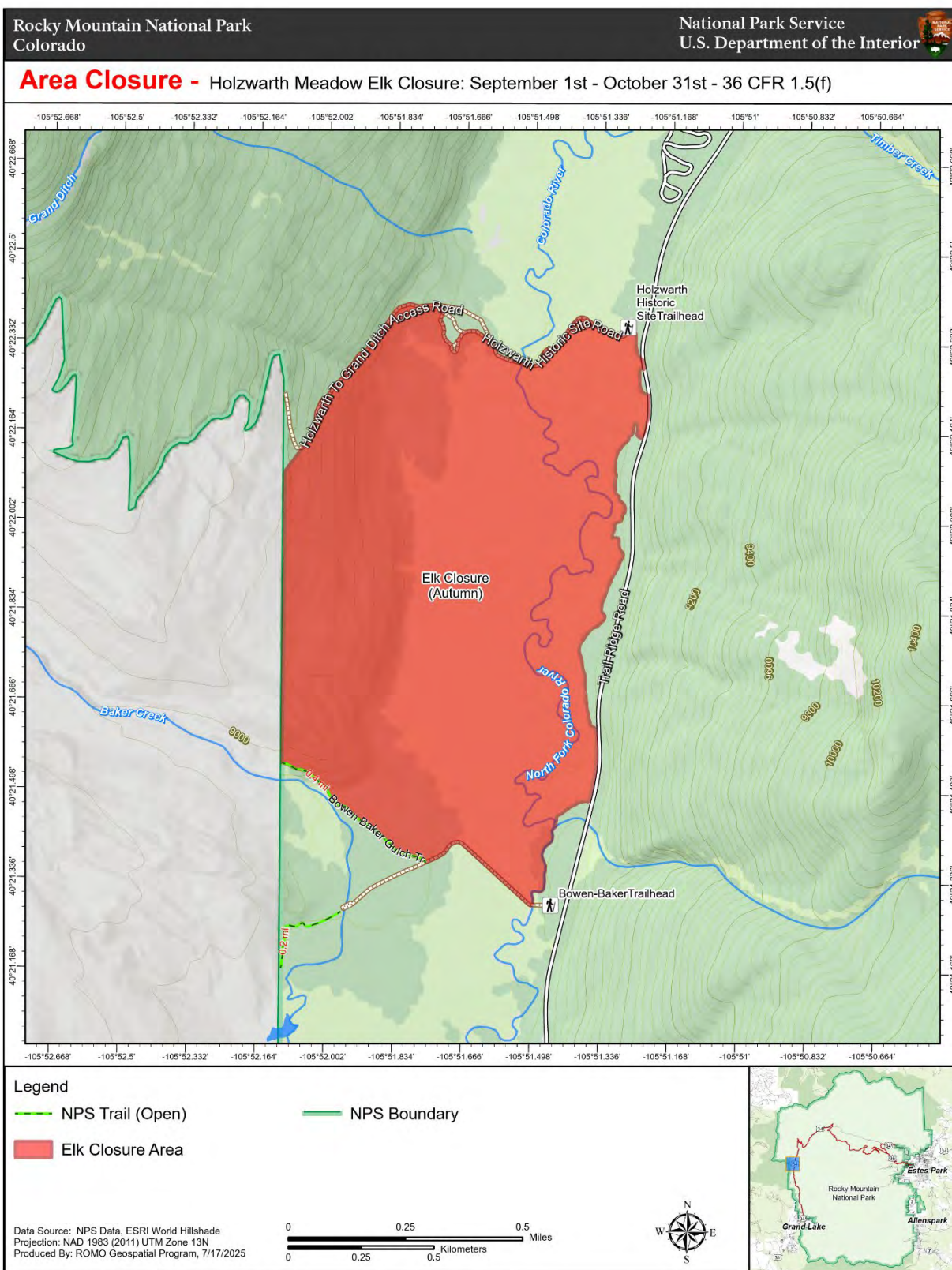


Figure 8: Holzwarth Meadow Elk Protection Closure Map

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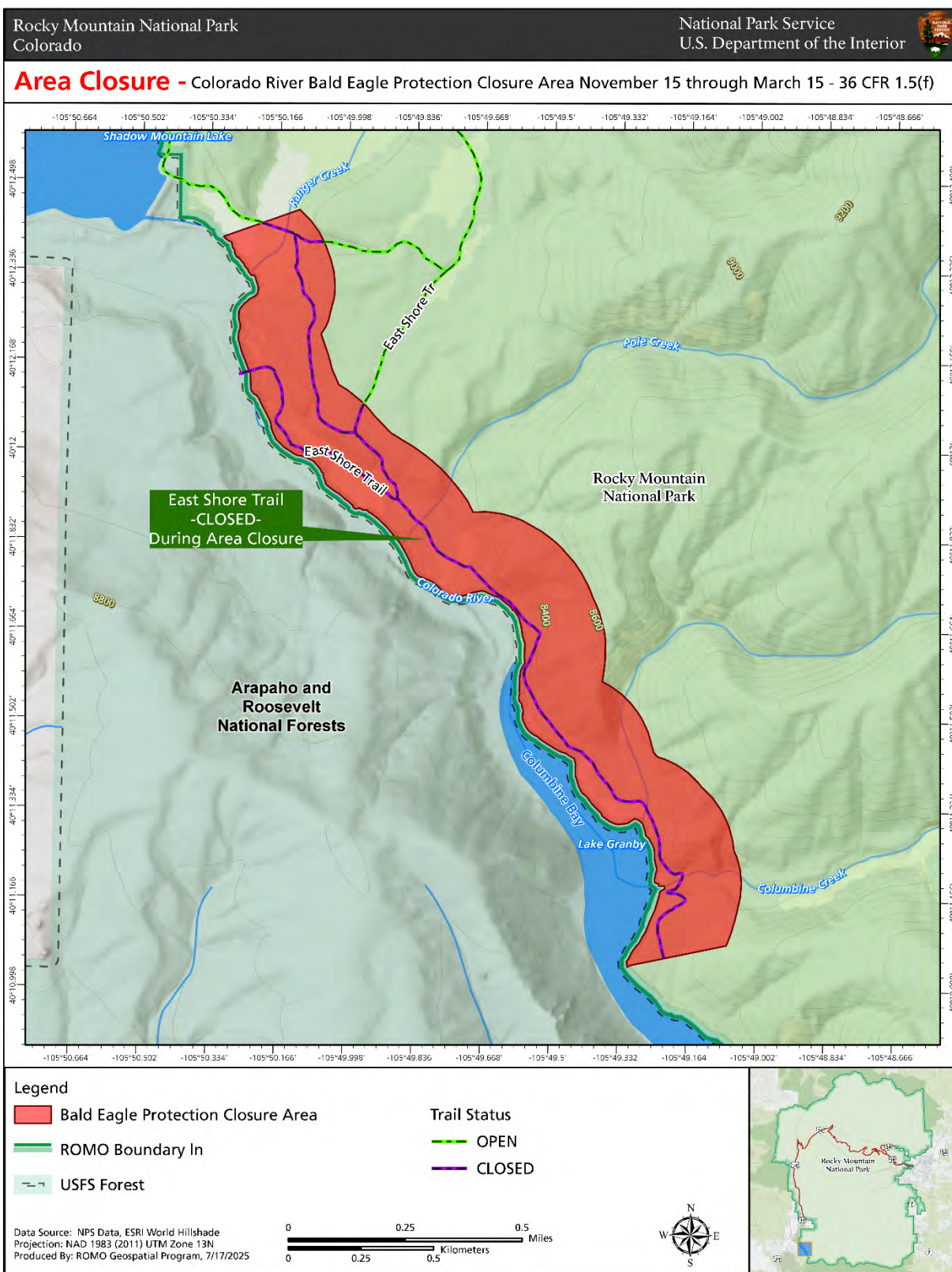


Figure 9: Colorado River Bald Eagle Protection Closure Map



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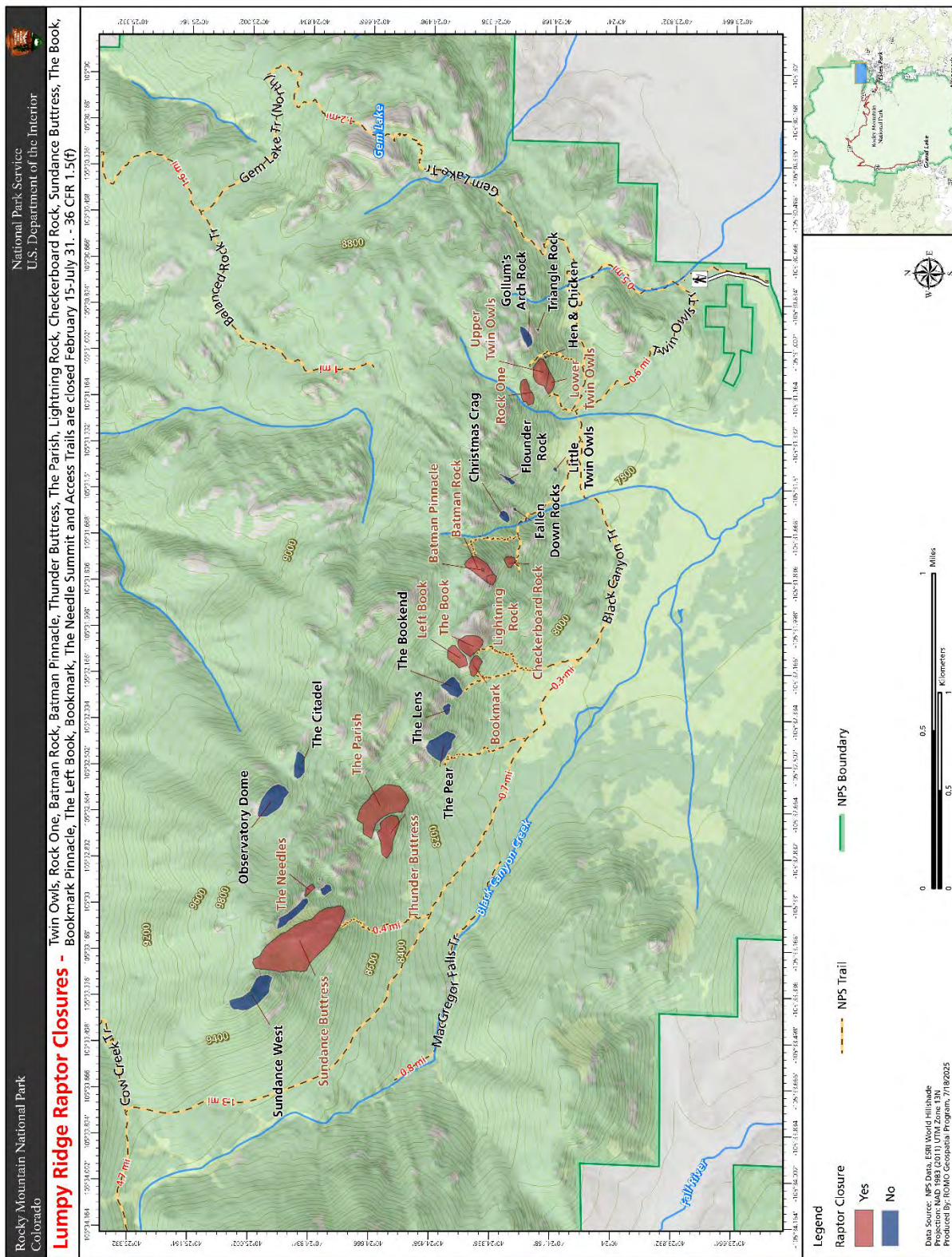
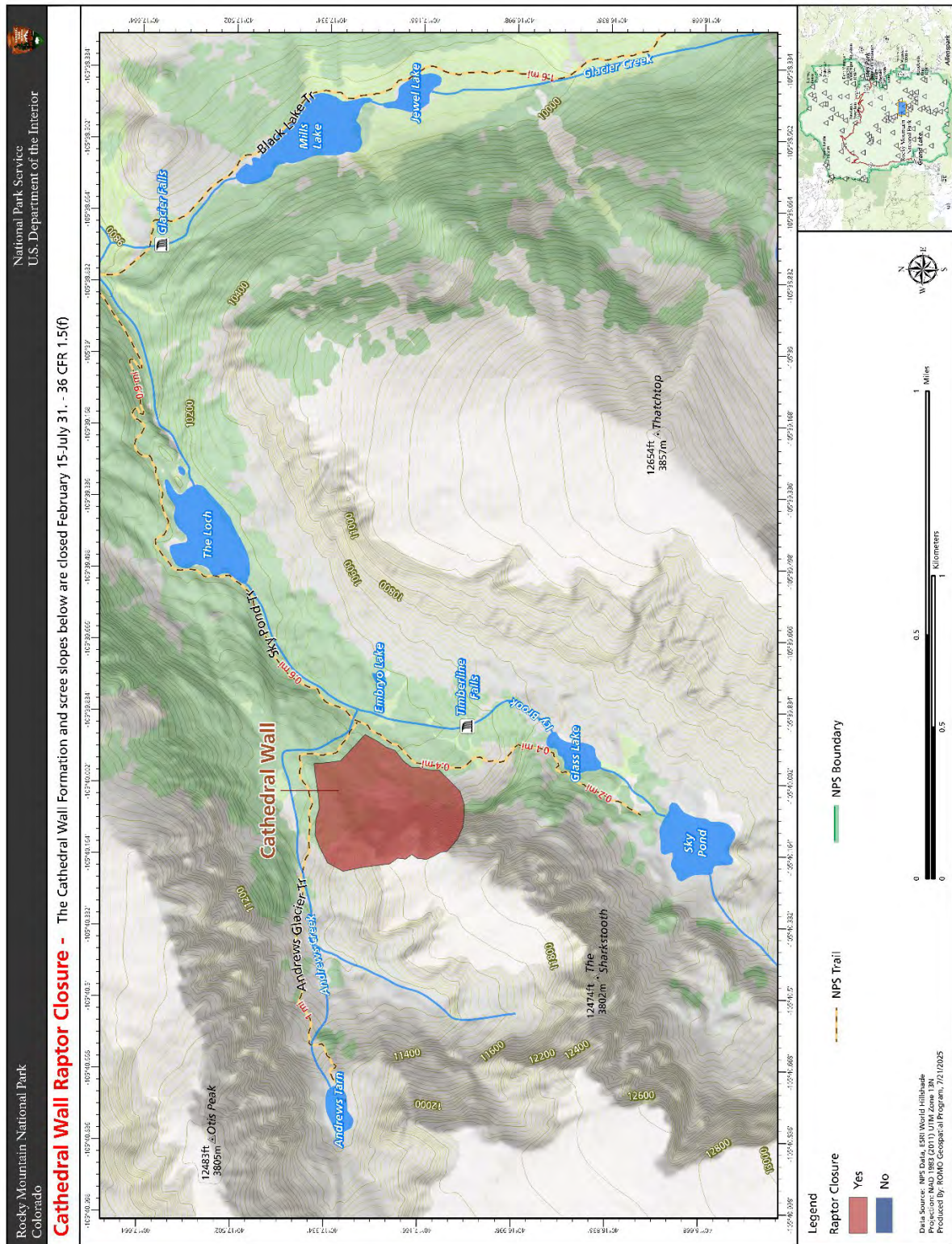


Figure 10: Lumpy Ridge Raptor Protection Closures Map



## APPENDIX: MAPS



*Figure 11: Cathedral Wall Raptor Protection Closure Map*



## APPENDIX: MAPS

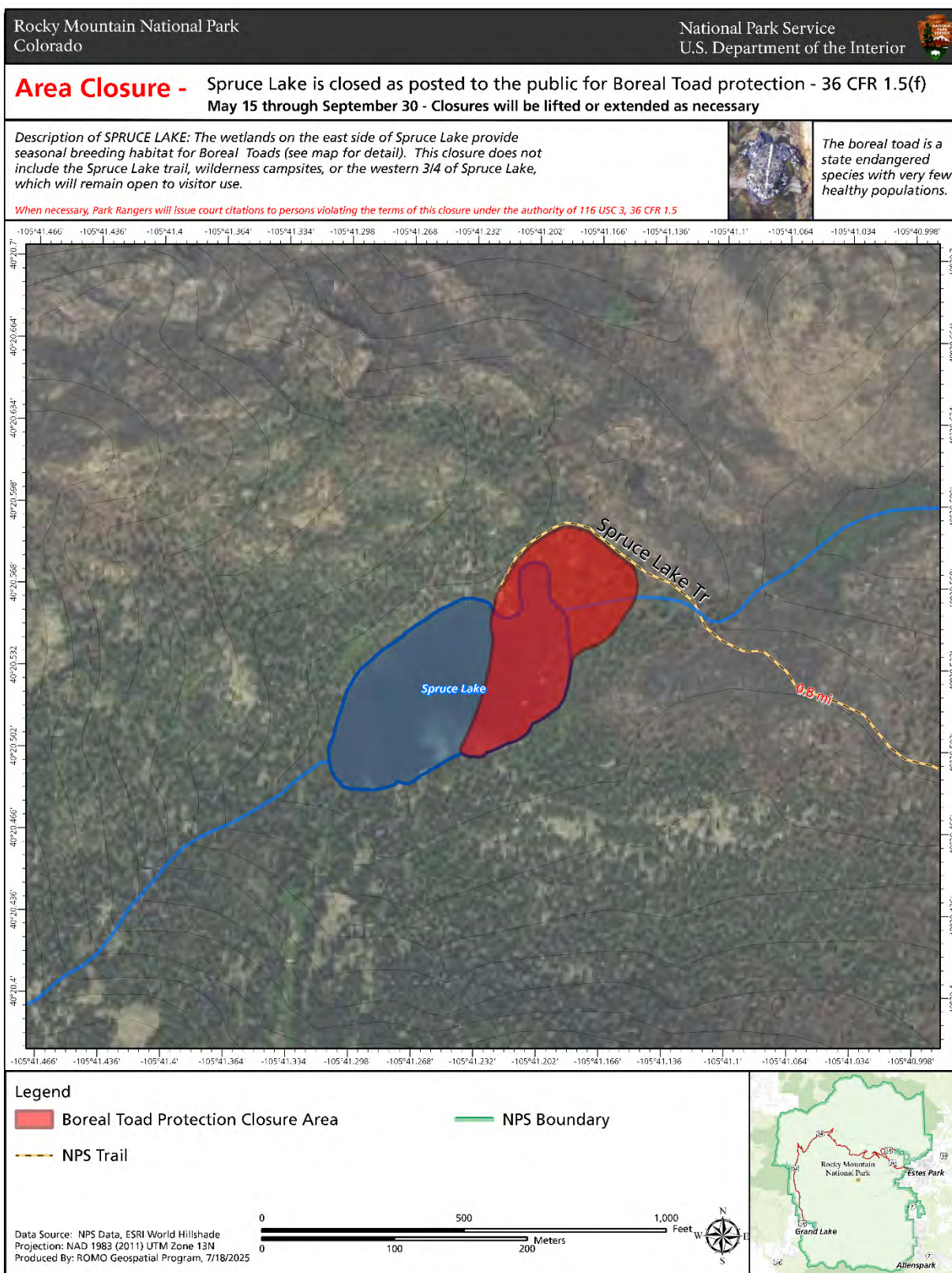


Figure 12: Spruce Lake Boreal Toad Protection Closure Map



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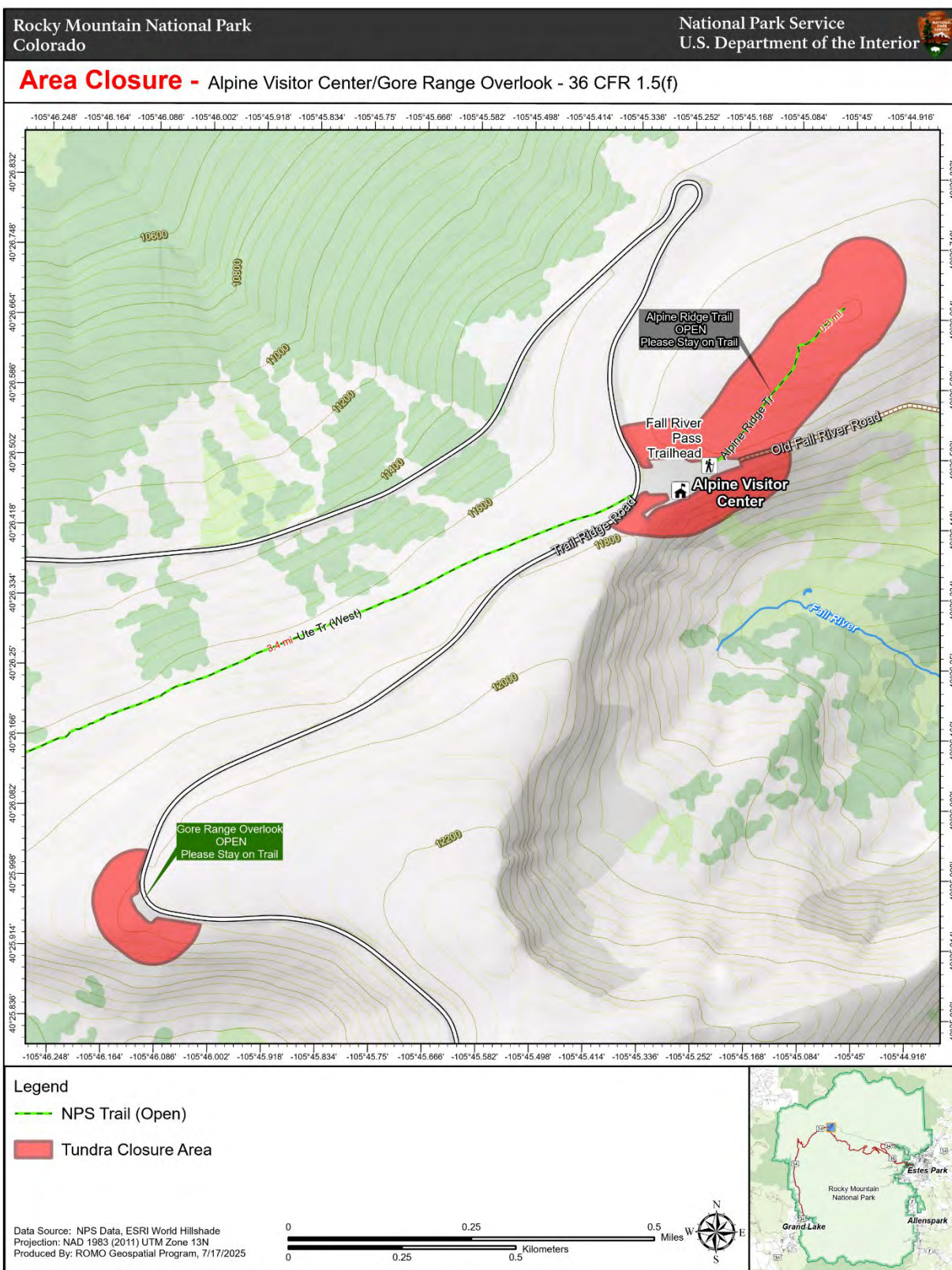


Figure 13: Alpine Visitor Center and Gore Range Overlook Tundra Protection Closures Map

## APPENDIX: MAPS

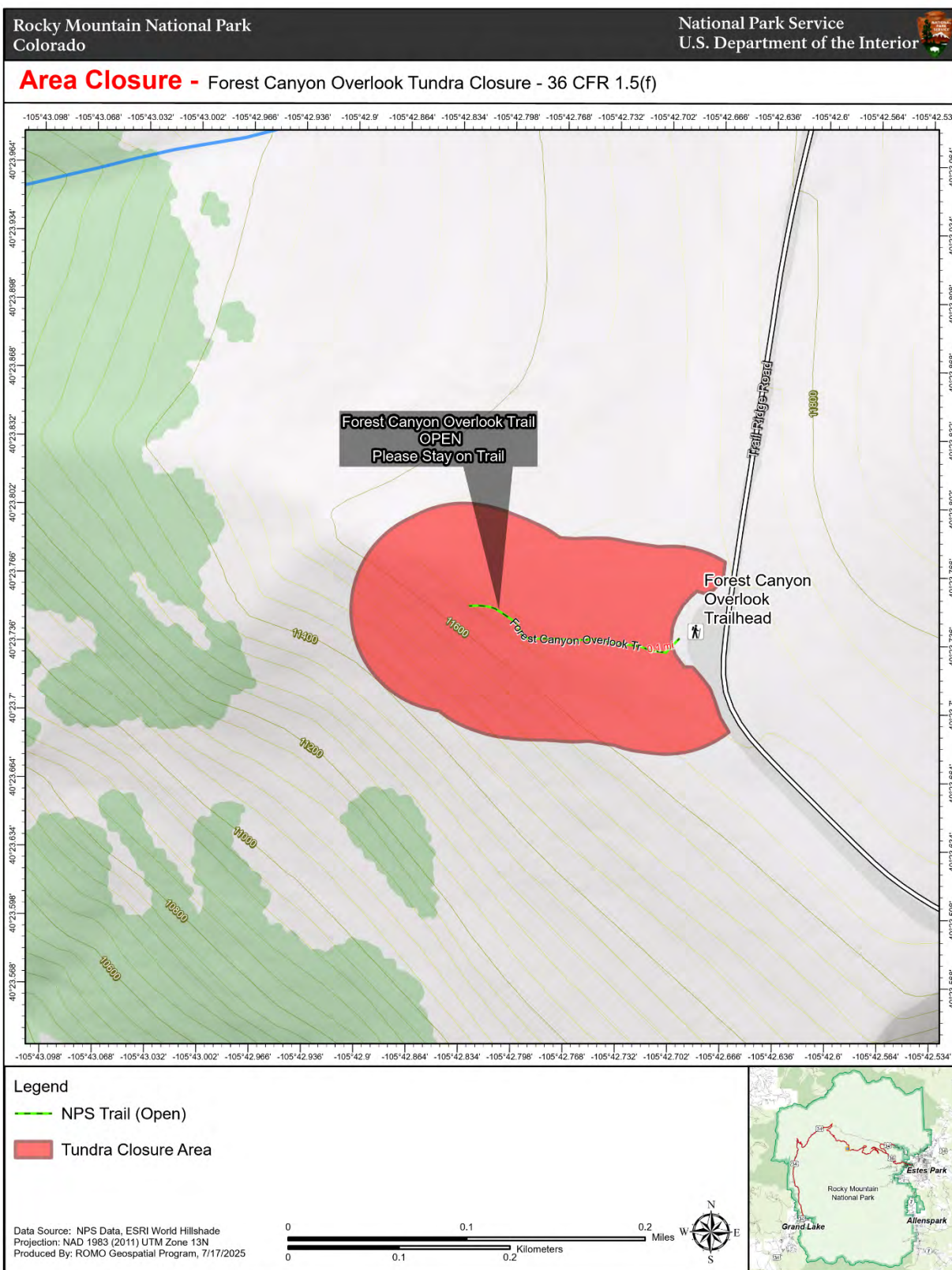


Figure 14: Forest Canyon Overlook Tundra Protection Closure Map



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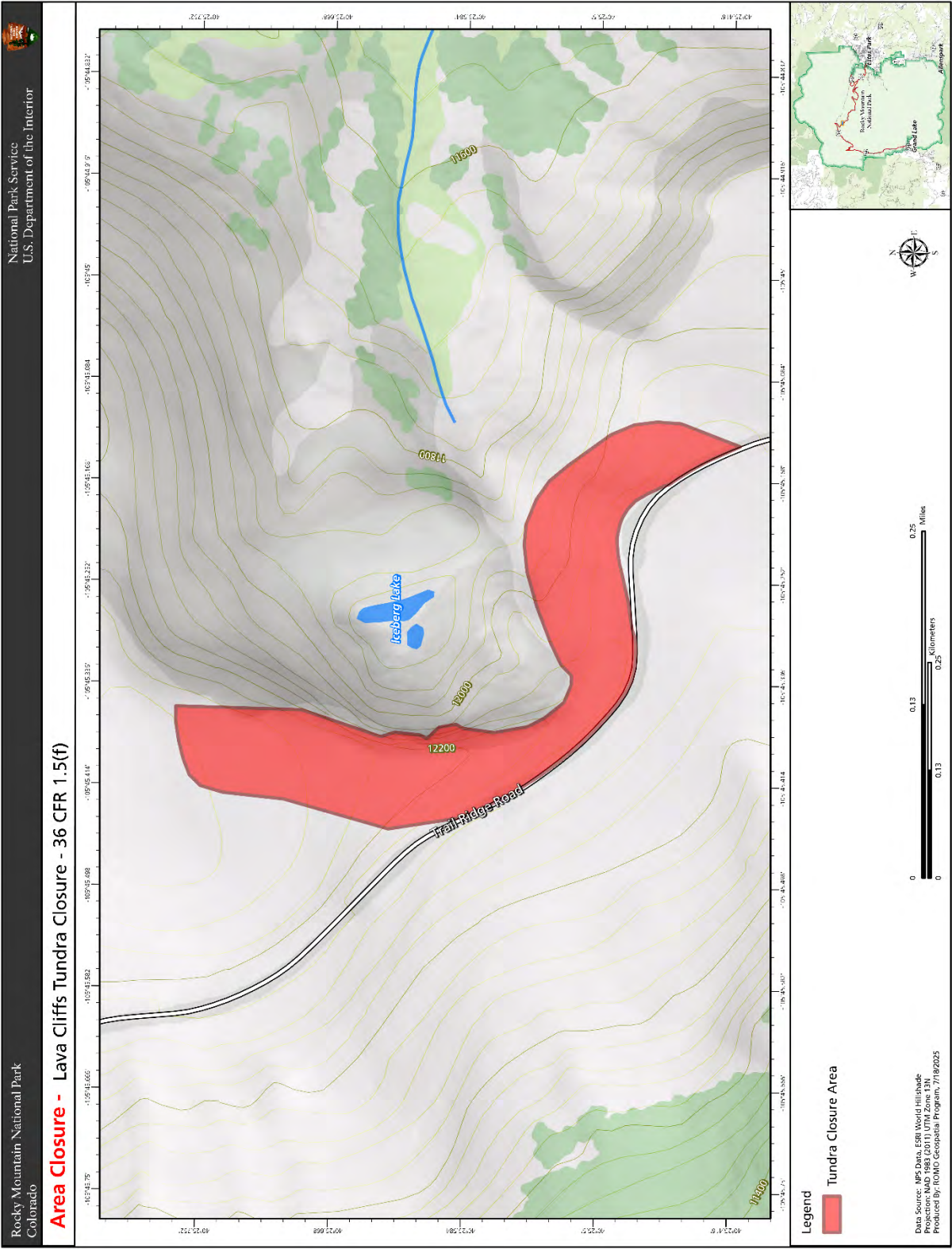


Figure 15: Lava Cliffs Tundra Protection Closure Map

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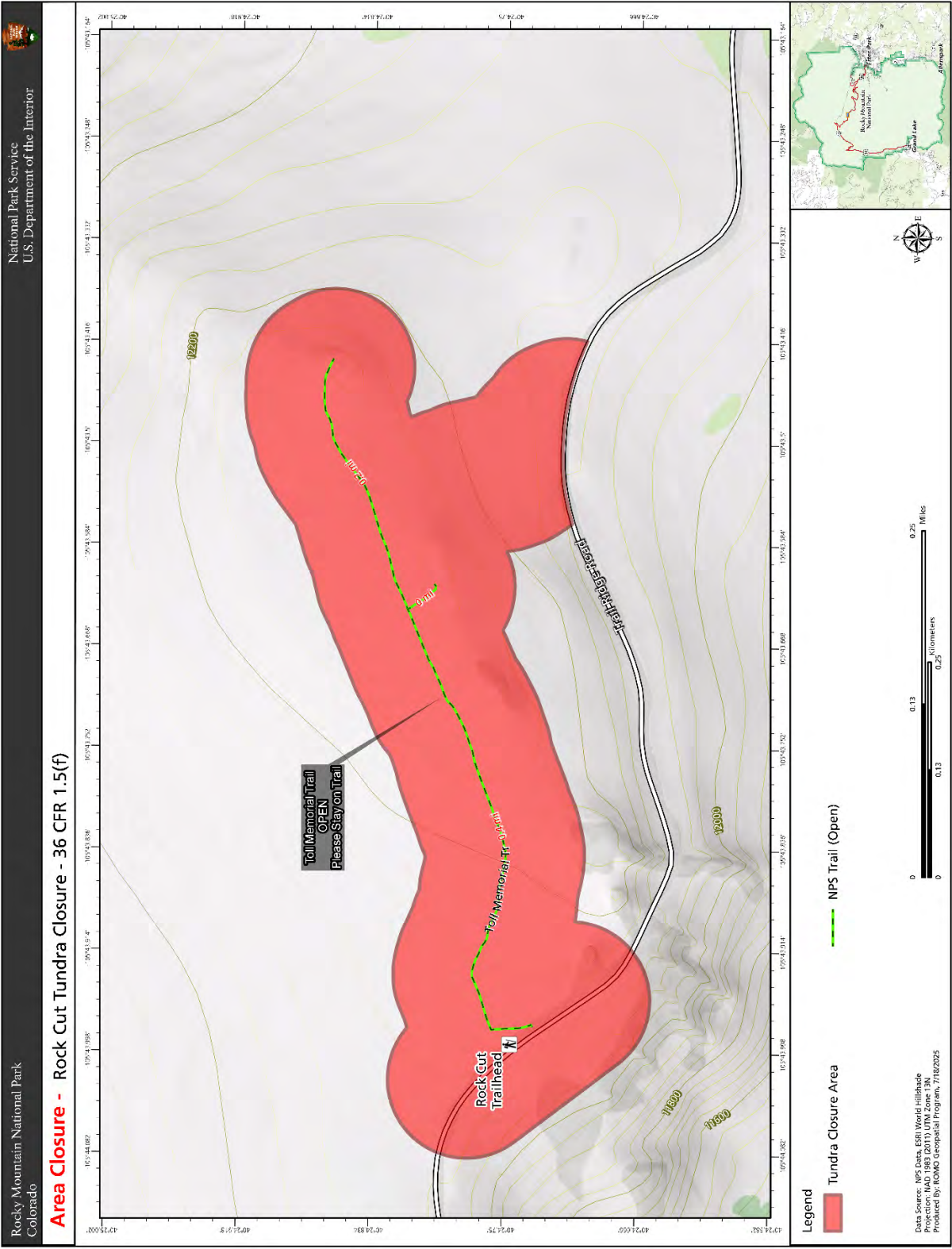


Figure 16: Rock Cut and Tundra Communities Trail Tundra Protection Closures Map



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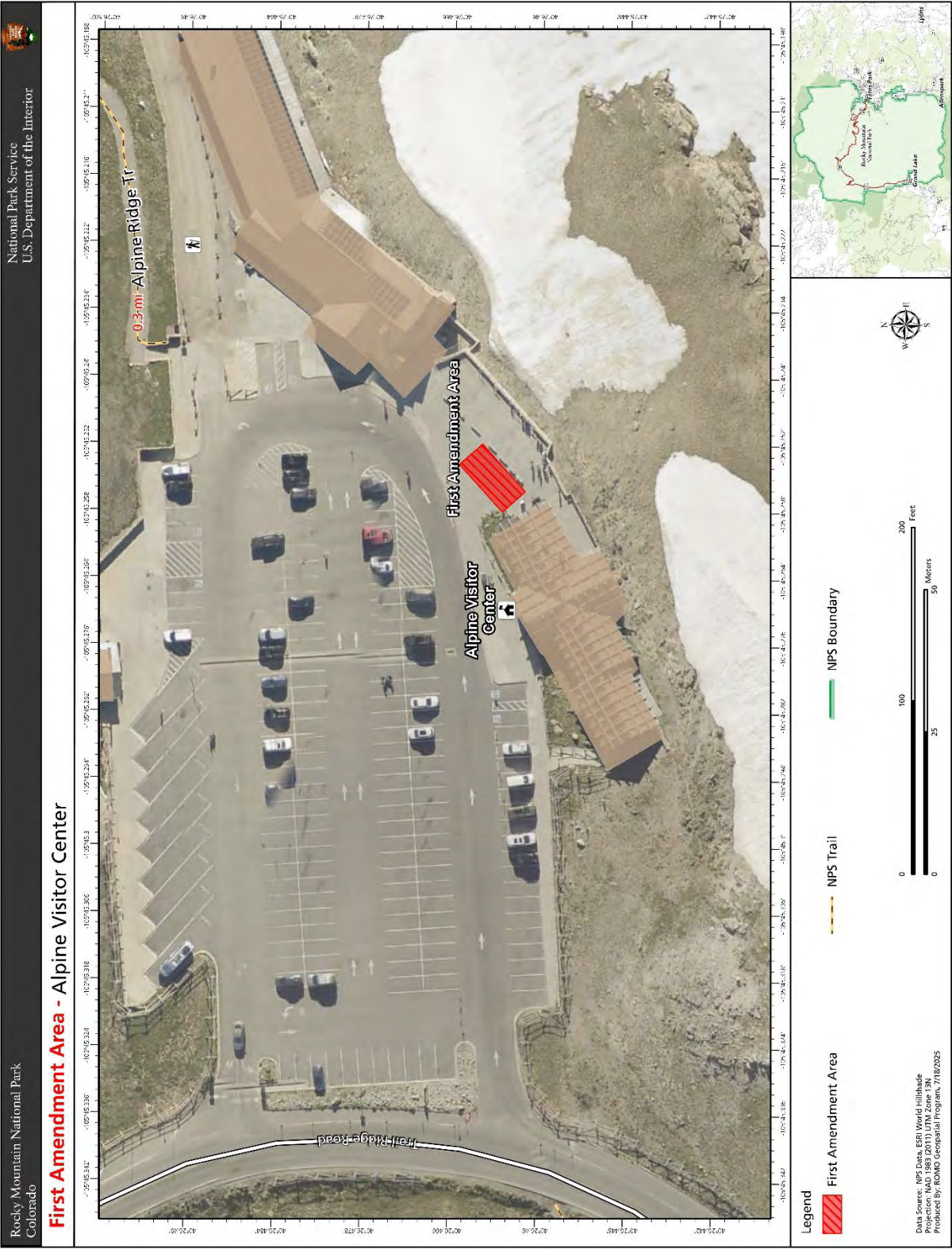


Figure 17: Alpine Visitor Center First Amendment Area Map



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Figure 18: Beaver Meadows Visitor Center First Amendment Area Map



APPENDIX: MAPS



Figure 19: Kawuneeche Visitor Center First Amendment Area Map



APPENDIX: MAPS

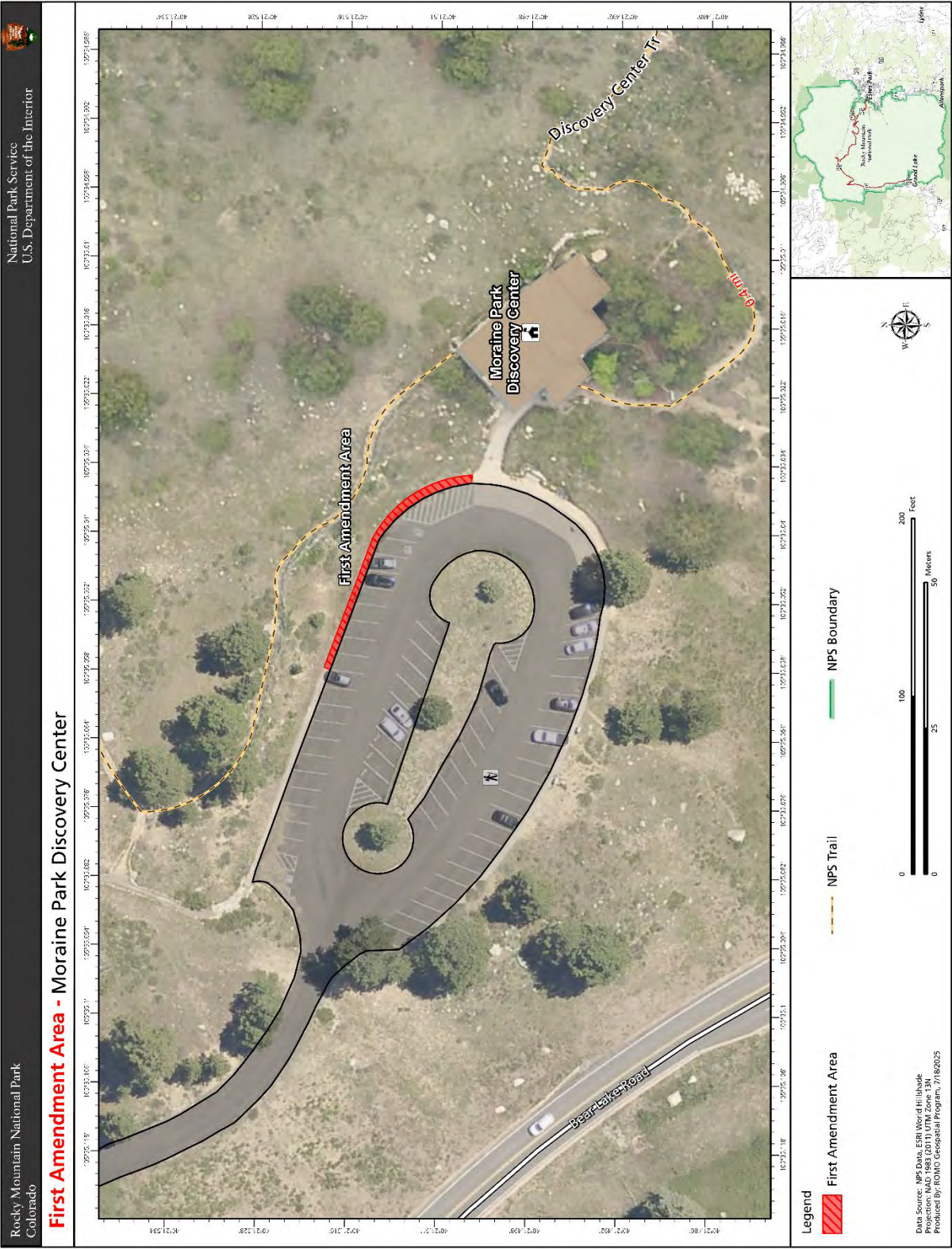


Figure 20: Moraine Park Discovery Center First Amendment Area Map