

Fact Sheet

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Wrangell-St. Elias National Park & Preserve

Wrangell-St. Elias National Park & Preserve
PO Box 439, Copper Center, AK 99573
www.nps.gov/wrst

Superintendent Rick Obernesser

Established December 1, 1978 Designated National Monument
October 24, 1979 Designated World Heritage Site
December 2, 1980 Designated National Park and Preserve

Size Largest national park in the United States.

Park	8,323,148 acres	13,004.9 square miles	(33,683 square kilometers)
Preserve	4,852,753 acres	7,582.4 square miles	(19,637 square kilometers)
Total	13,175,901 acres	20,587.3 square miles	(53,602 square kilometers)

Wilderness	9,078,675 acres	14,185.4 square miles	(36,739 square kilometers)
------------	-----------------	-----------------------	----------------------------

Visitation Approximately 87,000 people per year

NPS Staffing Permanent: approximately 40
Seasonal: approximately 75

Park Roads Nabesna Road: 42 miles (68 kilometers) in length, gravel
McCarthy Road: 59 miles (98 kilometers) in length, gravel

Landmarks/Elevations	Elevation above Sea Level	
Wrangell-St. Elias Visitor Center	1150 feet	350.5 meters
Kennecott Mines National Historic Landmark	2000 feet	609.6 meters
Slana Ranger Station	2198 feet	670.0 meters
Mt. St. Elias	18,008 feet	5488.8 meters
Mt. Bona	16,421 feet	5005.1 meters
Mt. Blackburn	16,390 feet	4995.7 meters
Mt. Sanford	16,237 feet	4949.0 meters
Good Neighbor Peak	15,979 feet	4870.4 meters
Mt. Churchill	15,638 feet	4766.5 meters

Flora Vascular Plants: 1318 taxa documented
Tree Species: 8
Lichens: 133 species documented
Bryophytes (mosses and liverworts): 187 documented

Wildlife Species Mammals: 54
Birds: 239
Fish: 88
Amphibians: 2 (wood frog and boreal toad)
Reptiles: 0
Insects: 56

The Copper River Only major river to penetrate the Chugach Mountain Range.
It is 290 miles (467 km) in length.
Carries 750,000 cubic feet (21,238 cubic meters) of sediment daily. Fourth siltiest river in the world.
Spawning corridor for famous Copper River Sockeye and Chinook Salmon.
It has a 3,600 feet (1,097 meters) elevation drop from source to sea.
Discharge is estimated at 61,000 cubic feet (1,727 cubic meters) per second.

Mountain Ranges Alaska Mountain Range
Chugach Mountain Range
Wrangell Mountain Range
St. Elias Mountain Range (highest coastal range in the world)

Volcanoes The Wrangell volcanic field is composed of 12 volcanoes, one of which, Mt. Wrangell (14,163 feet / 4,317 meters), is still active. Mt. Wrangell, with 250 cubic miles (1,042 cubic km) of available lava, is the highest and largest active volcano in Alaska.

Glaciers Greatest concentration of glaciers in North America. About 25% of Wrangell-St. Elias is covered by glacial ice.
Nabesna Glacier: At 75 miles (120 km) in length, it's one of the longest valley glaciers in the world.
Malaspina Glacier: Largest piedmont glacier in North America at 1,500 square miles (3,885 square km).
Bagley Icefield: Largest sub-polar icefield in North America. 127 miles (204 km) in length and estimated to be 3,000 feet (914 meters) deep.
Hubbard Glacier: At 76 miles (122 km), it's the longest tidewater glacier in Alaska.

Weather

Winter:

Average January minimum temperature	-13.9 F	-25.5 C
Record January minimum temperature	-65.0 F	-53.9 C

Summer:

Average July maximum temperature	68.0 F	20.0 C
Record July maximum temperature	91.0 F	32.8 C

Rain:

Average annual rainfall	10.9 in	27.7 cm
Record annual rainfall	14.9 in	37.8 cm

Snow:

Average annual snowfall	50.4 in	128.0 cm
Record annual snowfall	93.9 in	238.5 cm

(Weather data collected from Gulkana Airport.)