

Chugach National Forest - Developed Camping Program Accessibility Transition Plan

Draft 7/14/04

There are 16 developed campgrounds, three rustic boat-in campsites, and designated or user-created backcountry campsites along trails and beaches on the Chugach National Forest. Camping facilities range from highly developed RV facilities with flush toilets, to remote walk-in tent pads with tables and fire rings, to minimally cleared areas for pitching a tent and building a campfire. Assessment of accessibility needs at each site includes all the primary activities associated with each site as indicated in the chart below. Where interpretive exhibits are included at developed sites, this program area only considers the accessibility of the facility housing the exhibit. The accessibility of the exhibits themselves is assessed under the communications program.

Accessibility standards for camping are defined in the FSORAG¹. As campgrounds and campsites are renovated they will be brought into compliance with FSORAG. Toilets will meet ADAAG standards for buildings. All constructed features provided in camp living areas (tables, grills, etc.) will be accessible. The minimum number of accessible parking spurs provided at developed campgrounds will be consistent with FSORAG, based on the total number of campsites provided in each campground. Outdoor recreation access routes (ORAR) will be provided between accessible parking spurs and associated camp living areas and nearby toilets.

The major recreation facilities associated with each campground will meet accessibility standards as campgrounds are reconstructed, unless doing so would cause harm to natural features, change the nature of the setting, be inconsistent with the Forest Plan, or not be feasible due to terrain. Typical associated facilities are fishing platforms, boat docks, and interpretive exhibits. Hunting is among the activities that campers participate in, but no improvements are provided to facilitate this activity. There are no plans at this time to provide developed facilities for hunting associated with the campgrounds; therefore this activity was not addressed as a recreation program in the transition plan.

Of the 16 developed campgrounds on the forest, Quartz Creek Campground and Childs Glacier Recreation Site meet current accessibility standards. Some campgrounds were reconstructed in the 1990s to be fully accessible or to have accessible facilities, such as Williwaw Campground. However, many of the improvements made for accessibility in the 1990s do not meet the latest FSORAG standards. Actions necessary to improve accessibility at each campground or campsite are shown below. These range from retrofit actions to complete replacement, depending upon current facility conditions. The target numbers of accessible sites shown are minimums. If site conditions allow, more sites will be designed to accessible standards at each campground as it is renovated.

¹ See Introduction for previously defined acronyms.

We anticipate that seven more developed campgrounds will meet or exceed minimum accessibility standards by 2008 (including one newly constructed campground). By 2015 the remaining seven developed campgrounds and three boat-in campsites are planned to meet or exceed minimum accessibility standards. In addition, by 2007 one new accessible backcountry campsite will be constructed.

I concur with the strategy outlined in this accessibility transition plan.

Rebecca Nourse

Cordova District Ranger

Jim Fincher

Glacier District Ranger

Debora Cooper

Seward District Ranger

Date

Date

Date

Geographic Area - Kenai Peninsula							
Location/ recreation experience/ attraction	Number of sites/ features	Number of accessible sites/ features	Target number of accessible sites/ features	Obstacles to accessibility target	Planned actions	Year planned	Responsible Official
Bertha Creek CG/ rustic vehicle and tent camping, hunting	12	0	2	Lack of accessible parking spurs, camp living areas and furnishings, access routes.	Reconstruct two campsites and parking spurs and access routes to accessibility standards.	2010	Glacier District Ranger
Black Bear CG/ rustic vehicle and tent camping on Williwaw Creek, hunting	13	0	2	Lack of accessible parking spurs, camp living areas and furnishings, access routes.	Reconstruct two campsites and parking spurs and access routes to accessibility standards.	2010	Glacier District Ranger
Coeur d' Alene CG/ walk in tent camping	6	0	2	Lack of accessible parking area, camp living areas and furnishings, access route between campsites and parking.	Reconstruct parking area, access route from parking to campsites, and two camp living areas to accessibility standards.	2015	Seward District Ranger
Cooper Creek CG/ heavily used mostly by RV campers	26	0	3	Lack of accessible parking spurs, fire grills, access routes, and restroom.	Provide accessible restroom and access routes to 3 accessible campsites. Provide 3 accessible parking spurs at accessible campsites and install accessible fire grills.	2010	Seward District Ranger
Crescent Creek CG/ rustic tent and pick-up truck camping	9	0	1	Lack of accessible parking spur, restroom, camp living area and furnishings, access route, hiking trail, and fishing facilities	Provide accessible restroom, reconstruct one campsite and parking spur and access route to accessibility standards.	2010	Seward District Ranger

Geographic Area - Kenai Peninsula

Location/ recreation experience/ attraction	Number of sites/ features	Number of accessible sites/ features	Target number of accessible sites/ features	Obstacles to accessibility target	Planned actions	Year planned	Responsible Official
Granite Creek CG/ rustic vehicle, RV, and tent camping on Granite Creek, fishing, hunting	19	0	2	Lack of accessible parking spurs, restrooms, camp living areas and furnishings, access routes. Lack of accessible fishing opportunities.	Provide accessible restroom; reconstruct two campsites and parking spurs and access routes to accessibility standards. Conduct survey to determine feasibility of constructing accessible fishing facility.	2010	Glacier District Ranger
Meadow Creek CG/ rustic camping, access by boat/ float plane	3	0	1	Lack of accessible camp living area and furnishings, toilet, access route, and boat/ float plane dock. <i>It is not feasible to provide accessible boat or float plane dock because compliance with accessibility standards for these facilities would substantially alter the nature of the setting.</i>	Provide accessible toilet and camp site.	2015	Seward District Ranger

Geographic Area - Kenai Peninsula

Location/ recreation experience/ attraction	Number of sites/ features	Number of accessible sites/ features	Target number of accessible sites/ features	Obstacles to accessibility target	Planned actions	Year planned	Responsible Official
Porcupine Creek CG/ rustic camping, hiking	24	0	2	Lack of accessible parking spurs, restrooms, camp living areas and furnishings, access routes. Lack of accessible hiking opportunities on Gull Rock Trail.	Provide accessible restrooms; reconstruct two campsites and parking spurs and access routes to accessibility standards. Conduct an assessment of feasibility of improving a portion of Gull Rock Trail to FSTAG standards.	2005	Seward District Ranger
Porcupine Island CG/ rustic camping, access by boat/ float plane	3	0	1	Lack of accessible camp living area and furnishings, toilet, access route, and boat/ float plane dock. <i>It is not feasible to provide accessible boat or float plane dock because compliance with accessibility standards for these facilities would substantially alter the nature of the setting.</i>	Provide accessible toilet and camp site.	2015	Seward District Ranger
Primrose CG/ rustic tent and pick up truck camping, fishing	10	0	1	Lack of accessible parking spur, camp living area and furnishings, access route. Lack of accessible fishing opportunities.	Reconstruct one campsite and parking spur and access route to accessibility standards. Provide access route and accessible fishing facility.	2010	Seward District Ranger

Geographic Area - Kenai Peninsula

Location/ recreation experience/ attraction	Number of sites/ features	Number of accessible sites/ features	Target number of accessible sites/ features	Obstacles to accessibility target	Planned actions	Year planned	Responsible Official
Ptarmigan Creek CG/ rustic camping, hiking trail, fish viewing, fishing	16	0	2	Lack of accessible parking spurs, restroom, camp living areas and furnishings, access routes. Lack of accessible hiking, and fish viewing opportunities.	Reconstruct entire campground. Provide accessible restroom and reconstruct at least 2 campsites and parking spurs and access routes to accessibility standards. Provide accessible fish viewing and fishing facility. Conduct an assessment of feasibility of improving a portion of a nearby trail to FSTAG standards.	2007	Seward District Ranger
Quartz Creek CG/ highly developed camping, dump station, fishing, fish viewing, boardwalk trail	45	3	3	None	None	Done	Seward District Ranger
Rainbow Lake Campsite/ hiking, fishing	0	0	1	Reconstruct one campsite	Provide one accessible campsite on the lake along with accessible trail from parking to campsite and accessible fishing facility.	2007	Seward District Ranger

Geographic Area - Kenai Peninsula

Location/ recreation experience/ attraction	Number of sites/ features	Number of accessible sites/ features	Target number of accessible sites/ features	Obstacles to accessibility target	Planned actions	Year planned	Responsible Official
Russian River CG/ highly developed camping, dump station, interpretive shelter, access to Russian River Angler Trail	84	1	5	Narrow parking spurs. Lack of accessible restrooms, camp living areas and furnishings, access routes, and fishing facilities.	Provide accessible restrooms; reconstruct five campsites and parking spurs and access routes to accessibility standards. Provide access route and accessible fishing platform.	2005 restroom and campsite improvements; 2010 fishing improvements	Seward District Ranger
Ship Creek CG/ rustic camping, access by boat/ float plane	2	0	1	Lack of accessible camp living area and furnishings, toilet, access route, and boat/ float plane dock. <i>It is not feasible to provide accessible boat or float plane dock because compliance with accessibility standards for these facilities would substantially alter the nature of the setting.</i>	Provide accessible toilet and camp site.	2015	Seward District Ranger
Tenderfoot CG/ rustic camping on Summit Lake, boating, fishing	27	0	3	Lack of accessible parking spurs, restrooms, camp living areas and furnishings, access routes. Lack of accessible boat launch transfer and fishing facilities.	Provide accessible restrooms; reconstruct three campsites and parking spurs and access routes to accessibility standards. Provide access route and accessible boat launch transfer and fishing facilities.	2007	Seward District Ranger

Geographic Area - Kenai Peninsula

Location/ recreation experience/ attraction	Number of sites/ features	Number of accessible sites/ features	Target number of accessible sites/ features	Obstacles to accessibility target	Planned actions	Year planned	Responsible Official
Trail River CG/ rustic camping including one group site, on Kenai Lake	85 indiv. / 1 group	0	at least 4 indiv. / 6 double in group area	Group site is accessible except for restroom. Individual sites lack accessible parking spurs, restroom, camp living areas and furnishings, access routes.	Reconstruct and expand entire campground. Provide accessible restrooms and reconstruct at least 4 individual campsites and parking spurs and access routes to accessibility standards. Provide access route to Kenai Lake shoreline for viewing lake.	2005	Seward District Ranger
Williwaw CG/ moderately developed camping, access to Begich, Boggs Visitor Center, nature trail, fish viewing, glacier viewing	60	0	4	Fire grates do not meet accessibility standards and parking spurs are too narrow.	Relocate all fire grates to allow for required clear spaces. Convert 4 existing double sites into 4 accessible campsites.	2007	Glacier District Ranger

Geographic Area – Prince William Sound							
Location/ recreation experience/ attraction	Number of sites/ features	Number of accessible sites/ features	Target number of accessible sites/ features	Obstacles to accessibility target	Planned actions	Year planned	Responsible Official
Backcountry Camping - Prince William Sound/ rustic beach camping	numerous	0	1	Lack of accessible camp living areas and furnishings, access routes.	When campsites and access routes must be modified to protect natural resources, they will be made accessible as terrain and setting allows.	As needed	Glacier District Ranger, Cordova District Ranger

Geographic Area – Copper River							
Location/ recreation experience/ attraction	Number of sites/ features	Number of accessible sites/ features	Target number of accessible sites/ features	Obstacles to accessibility target	Planned actions	Year planned	Responsible Official
Childs Glacier Recreation Site/ remote tent and RV camping, glacier viewing, access to Childs Glacier Trail	5 (15 proposed)	5	5 tent/ 10 vehicle	Existing camping, glacier viewing, and hiking opportunities meet accessibility standards.	Complete reconstruction and expansion to maximize accessibility. Ten new accessible vehicle campsites and restrooms.	2006	Cordova District Ranger