Why is the park proposing a wolf closure?

Mission Statements

We protect intact, the globally significant Denali ecosystems, including their cultural, aesthetic, and wilderness values, and ensure opportunities for inspiration, education, research, recreation and subsistence for this and future generations.

The Board of Game's role is to conserve and develop Alaska's wildlife resources. This includes establishing ...seasons, areas for taking game, and setting bag limits... The board is also involved with setting policy and direction for the management of the state's wildlife resources.
Alaska House Joint Resolution 25
Passed unanimously on February 14, 2020

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
Tourism is vital to the economy of the state, and outdoor recreation represents one of the fastest growing, sustainable market sectors in the economy of the United States; and

Denali National Park and Preserve is the crown jewel of tourism in the state and is a centerpiece of the outdoor recreation market of the state; ...

Denali’s Visitor Spent: $602M in 2018

Cullinane et al. 2019.
Economic Impact of Denali's Wildlife Tourism

$602M in Visitor Spending

7,370 Jobs

Cullinane et al. 2019.

Economic Impact of Denali’s Wildlife Tourism

$602M in Visitor Spending

7,370 Jobs

$859M Economic Output

Cullinane et al. 2019.
Statewide Economic Impact Wildlife Tourism

ECOnorthwest 2014.

In 2014 Spending on:
Wildlife Viewing Contributed $2.2B and Hunting Contributed $1.2B

Alaska’s wildlife is important to Alaskans and visitors alike. Surveys...constantly show that wildlife contribute significant to residents quality of life and is one of the main reasons people visit Alaska.

75% of Visitors Participate in Wildlife Viewing
What species of wildlife do visitors hope to see:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Important Wildlife Viewing</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wolf</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bear</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dall sheep</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pika</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moose</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golden eagle</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caribou</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Keller 2019

How does wolf viewing fit with Alaska's Crown Jewel of Tourism?

![Graph showing proportion of bus trips where a wolf was seen over years](image-url)
How does the proposed wolf closure benefit Alaska's Crown Jewel of Tourism?

Wolf sightings were more than twice as likely during a period with a no harvest zone than in years without the closure.

*Borg et al. 2016*

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**Denali's viewable wolves, summer:**

*Denali wolf collar relocation data: 2004-2018*
Denali’s viewable wolves, winter-spring:

Denali wolf collar relocation data: 2004-2018

Denali’s viewable wolves: Harvest -winter-spring:

Collar wolves harvested data: 1986 -2018 – AKF&G sealing data show 1-3 people
What is the park proposing for wolf closure?

WHEN is the park proposing for wolf closure?

- A seasonal closure from February 1 to August 10
- Hunting would proceed August 11 to January 31
- Trapping would proceed November 1 to January 31
WHERE is the park proposing for wolf closure?

Option 1: 128,742 Acres

WHERE is the park proposing for wolf closure?

Option 2: 97,310 Acres
WHERE is the park proposing for wolf closure?
The full closure proposal of 128,742 acres is 1.7% of GMU 20C

The 2020 NPS wolf closure proposal

- A seasonal closure from February 1 to August 10
- Hunting and trapping would proceed August 11 to January 31
Alaska’s large, intact landscapes can provide opportunities for both consumptive and non-consumptive wildlife objectives.

Proposal 152 enhances the opportunity for wolf encounters in Denali National Park.

Thanks for your consideration!