

Hunter Responsibilities

Know the hunting regulations in the area you plan to hunt. There are regulations specific to Wood-Tikchik State Park and you will be expected to adhere to these regulations. Permits are required for camping around Nishlik, Upnuk, Slate and Chikuminuk lakes and floating the Tikchik River.

You can purchase the required hunting license and harvest tickets online or from a local vendor. You must carry these documents with you while hunting.

Expect a law enforcement officer to visit your kill site if you harvest an animal. The following photograph depicts a properly dressed out animal.



Hunter Ethics

You have an obligation to properly care for any meat harvested. You must also remove all meat from the field of any animal you harvest. This includes keeping the meat clean and hauling it from the kill site as quickly as possible. Be sure to bring large quality game bags to keep the meat clean and free of insects.

- Properly store the meat close to camp and hang it if possible. Protect the meat from getting wet. Plastic tarps can be used and can double as shelter if necessary.
- Know and obey all hunting regulations for Wood-Tikchik State Park. They are available online at www.wildlife.alaska.gov

Safe Trip Guidelines

File a trip plan with a friend, your Air Taxi or with the Wood-Tikchik Ranger Station. Include your names, route, destination, and when you plan to return. Don't forget to close your plan when you return safely.

You will need shelter, meaning both your tent and your clothing must keep you warm while in cold, wet and windy weather.

Check your supplies. Be sure to have extra food and water for an unanticipated extended stay. Bad weather can shut down aviation operations for days at a time. Bring supplies to treat or filter water. Giardiasis and other water-borne intestinal diseases are present in the waters of the Park.

A survival kit with fire starters, signaling devices, water purifier and first aid supplies doesn't take up much space and is always a good idea to have.

Information

For additional information or help planning a trip to Wood-Tikchik State Park please contact the rangers at:

Ranger Bill Berkhahn- Area Ranger
Bill.Berkhahn@alaska.gov

Ranger Johnny Evans- Ranger/Pilot
Johnny.Evans@alaska.gov

Wood-Tikchik State Park
P.O. Box 1822
Dillingham, Alaska 99576
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Alaska State Parks

WOOD-TIKCHIK STATE PARK

The largest state park in the nation, at 1.6 million acres, is located about 30 miles north of Dillingham and 330 miles southwest of Anchorage. Wood-Tikchik State Park was created in 1978 for the purpose of protecting the area's fish and wildlife breeding and support systems and preserving continued subsistence and recreational activities. The management philosophy is one of non-development and maintenance of the area's wilderness character.

Park facilities are rustic and few, with great emphasis placed upon low impact camping and "pack it in, pack it out" practices.

Wood-Tikchik State Park is Brown Bear Country



Bears should be treated with respect and treated with caution. Do not harass or feed any wildlife. Wild animals, especially moose, can be dangerous if you surprise them, come too close or if they are protecting their young.

Store all scented items such as food, insect repellent, sunscreen and toothpaste away from your clothing and sleeping areas. Remember bears will bite boats with fish slime dried on them. Rinse off all slime after catching fish and store fish and tackle away from sleeping areas.

Be aware of your surroundings at your kill site should you harvest an animal. Be especially careful if you are returning to the kill site to retrieve harvested meat.

Plan Ahead and Prepare

Wood-Tikchik State Park is a primitive park in the wild Alaskan bush. Plan accordingly. It is remote and the weather can change quickly; it is important to carry quality equipment and plan for adverse conditions because help can be days away.

Know the area you are planning to visit including the inherent risks, regulations, and local customs. We highly recommend bringing topographical maps of the area. Maps can be found at the US Geological Survey and it is best to study them before arriving.

We strongly suggest bringing a GPS and a satellite phone. Local air charters rent satellite phones and it is recommended to reserve one in advance. Also, it is important to have a working knowledge of your GPS prior to your arrival.



Camping at Wood-Tikchik

We ask you make as little “footprint” as possible when camping. Choose a campsite that will not damage the area by your stay.

- It is illegal to have a fire unless it is on an unvegetated beach or gravel bar.
- **Absolutely no fires on the tundra.**
- It is illegal to cut down live trees.

- Keep pollutants away from water sources.
- There is a 10 day stay limit at all camp sites. After 10 days you must move at least 1 mile from your previous location.
- Bring appropriate shelter as there are no public facilities within Wood-Tikchik State Park.

Pack It In, Pack It Out.

It is important for our visitors to have a pristine wilderness experience. Everything brought into the Park **MUST** be packed out. Rangers are vigilant while checking campsites. A discarded cigarette butt could find you with a citation.

- Pack out all trash, even partially burned scraps and garbage left by others.
- Do not bury trash. It is an attractant for bears and other wildlife.
- Repacking your food into re-useable containers will eliminate excess packaging and leave you less litter to contend with.
- Deposit human waste into latrines dug 6-8 inches deep and at least 200 feet any surface water. Burn all toilet paper or pack it out.
- Protect wildlife and your cache by storing food securely and pick up any spilled food.
- Carefully inspect your campsite for any discarded litter before leaving.

Leave What You Find

Please treat our natural heritage with respect. Leave all plants, rocks, and historical artifacts as you find them. Good campsites are found, not made. Altering a site should not be necessary. Do not build structures, furniture or leave a fire ring behind. Help us to give other visitors an untouched wilderness experience too.

Minimize Campfire Impacts

Bring a stove for cooking. It is faster and more reliable than a fire and easier on your cookware.

Fires are only permitted on unvegetated beaches or gravel bars.

Use small firewood that will burn completely.

Gather dead wood such as drift wood. Do not break off branches from live trees or cut down live trees of any size.

Put out fires completely. Scatter ashes and charred wood from your fire.

Leave no visual impact behind.



Be Considerate of Wildlife and other Hunters

Avoid other hunters. Wood-Tikchik is the largest park in the nation; there is no reason to crowd another party. Insist that your air taxi place you away from other camps.

Please Avoid Trespassing

There are a number of privately owned lands inside Wood-Tikchik State Park. Native allotments are found throughout the Park. They may be marked, but any alteration of the land such as signs, building sites, or meat drying racks should be an indicator of an allotment.