

**SB**

**13**

<TARGET><BILL>SB 13</BILL><SUBJECT>SB  
13</SUBJECT><COMM>HRES27</COMM></TARGET>



## **Senator Hollis French**

### **Sponsor Statement**

#### **CSSB 13 (FIN) – Waive Park Fees for Disabled Veterans**

Alaska's veterans served our country with pride. This legislation shows a small token of our appreciation, by providing disabled veterans who are residents of the state with free and discounted access to state park facilities.

Our parks provide all Alaskans with the opportunity to explore and recreate in Alaska's wild places. To provide these opportunities to those with disabilities, many park facilities are compliant with ADA standards. Six cabins have been modified to include features like wheelchair ramps. Two boat launches, 14 campgrounds, 10 historic sites and dozens of day use locations provide handicap accessible facilities. Regardless of disability, the system is truly open to all Alaskans.

In 1991, Alaska passed a law which created a special disabled veteran camping permit, providing disabled veterans with free camping in state park campgrounds. Senate Bill 13 extends this free benefit to boat ramps, RV facilities and day parking, and provides at least a 50 percent discount for public use cabins.

Please join me and support this meaningful piece of legislation.

## Senator Hollis French

Capitol Room 417  
465-3892  
465-6595 fax



February 6, 2012

### **Explanation of Changes in CS for Senate Bill 13**

In the Senate Resources Committee, a new subsection (g) was added to SB 13 in response to concerns raised by the Department of Natural Resources. The Division of Parks testified that for public use cabin reservations, when someone cancels a reservation, they are issued a credit they can use for future reservations. The division expressed concern that with a full fee waiver, there would be no incentive for a veteran to cancel a reservation and this would tie up a cabin that could be used by someone else.

Sec. 41.21.026(g) was added to provide a discounted fee for a disabled veteran for rental of a public use cabin. Under subsection (g), the fee that may be charged or collected from a disabled veteran for rental of a public use cabin may not be more than 50 percent of the fee that would be charged or collected from a person that is not a disabled veteran.

In regard to the addition of subsection (g), conforming amendments were made to Sec. 41.21.026(a) and Sec. 4, subsection (f).

In the Senate Finance Committee, subsection (g) was changed in the committee substitute to make clear the sponsor's intent that the discount on public use cabins applies only to disabled veterans who are residents of the state.

# FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA  
2012 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Bill Version CSSB 13(FIN)  
Fiscal Note Number 2  
(S) Publish Date 2/6/12

Identifier (file name) CSSB013-DNR-PM-1-27-12 Dept. Affected Natural Resources  
Title Waive park fees for disabled vets Appropriation Parks & Recreation Management  
Allocation Parks Management  
Sponsor Senator French  
Requester Senate Resources Committee OMB Component Number 3001

**Expenditures/Revenues** (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

	FY13 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY13 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates					
			FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>								
Personal Services		206.0						
Travel								
Services	6.0		6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0
Commodities	4.0		4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
Capital Outlay								
Grants, Benefits								
Miscellaneous								
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>206.0</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>10.0</b>

FUND SOURCE		(Thousands of Dollars)						
1002	Federal Receipts							
1003	GF Match							
1004	GF	216.0		216.0	216.0	216.0	216.0	216.0
1005	GF/Prgm (DGF)	(206.0)	206.0	(206.0)	(206.0)	(206.0)	(206.0)	(206.0)
1037	GF/MH (UGF)							
1178	temp code (UGF)							
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>10.0</b>	<b>206.0</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>10.0</b>

POSITIONS								
Full-time								
Part-time								
Temporary								

<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES 1005</b>	<b>(206.0)</b>	<b>(206.0)</b>	<b>(206.0)</b>	<b>(206.0)</b>	<b>(206.0)</b>	<b>(206.0)</b>	<b>(206.0)</b>	<b>(206.0)</b>
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Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY12) operating costs 0.0 (separate supplemental appropriation required)  
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY13) costs 0.0 (separate capital appropriation required)  
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

**Why this fiscal note differs from previous version (if initial version, please note as such)**

A previous fiscal note for this proposed legislation was submitted by the department 3/18/2011 and included an estimate of revenue loss of \$252.0. This figure included combined revenue loss from day use, boat launch and dump station fees (\$160.0) and public use cabin reservation fees (\$92.0). An amendment to SB 13 approved by the Senate Resource committee changed the fee exemption for public use cabin reservations from 100% to 50%. The previous fiscal note included a one time \$10.0 in services to make programming changes to the online cabin reservation system.

Prepared by Ben Ellis, Director  
Division Parks and Outdoor Recreation  
Approved by Daniel S. Sullivan, Commissioner  
Department of Natural Resources

Phone 269-8700  
Date/Time 1/27/12 / 9:00 AM  
Date 1/27/2012

FISCAL NOTE #2

STATE OF ALASKA  
2012 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. CSSB 13(FIN)

**Analysis**

Current statute provides that the "department shall issue free of charge to disabled veterans of this country an annual state park developed campsite permit" (AS 41.21.026(d)). The department issued a total of 2,962 DAV camping passes in 2010 and 2011.

The version of SB 13 that advanced from the Senate Resources committee on January 19, 2012 provides for an exemption to disabled veterans for 50% of fees for a public use cabin reservation. In addition, SB 13 would expand the exemption from state park fees for disabled veterans to include the following:

- Use of an RV dump station
- Admission or guided tours to a visitor center or historic site
- Use of an improved boat ramp
- Day use and
- Attendance at educational programs

This proposed legislation will result in an estimated loss of \$206.0 in fee revenue. This includes a loss of \$160.0 in day use, boat launch and dump station fees and \$46.0 in public use cabin reservation fees. This fiscal note includes \$206.0 in general funds to replace the anticipated loss in fee revenue and to allow the same level of service to be provided by state park staff. If the loss in fee revenue is not replaced, the division could lose approximately three positions that provide direct service to the public.

The fee exemptions provided for in this proposed legislation will be administered in the same way as the camping passes in order to prevent fraud. That is, disabled veterans will be asked to provide documentation of their status in person at one of the department's public information centers. The \$6.0 services cost is for the administration of the fee exemption program. The \$4.0 in commodities is an estimate of the cost of making a tag to hang on a vehicle's rear view mirror when the disabled veteran visits a state park facility that is road accessible and charges a fee.

The number of disabled veterans receiving free overnight camping passes has increased an average of 10% over the past four years.



# 2010 ALASKA STATE PARKS FEES

*Fees subject to change.*



Revised March 2010

ANNUAL PASSES		
Alaska Resident Disabled Vet Camping (1 Only)	Free	
Daily Parking	\$40*	
Second Daily Parking (Same household)	\$20*	
Boat Launch	\$75*	
Second Boat Launch (Same household)	\$40*	
Combination (Day Use/Boat Launch)	\$100	
NOTE: 2 <sup>nd</sup> & subsequent passes \$100.		
*Purchase of 3 <sup>rd</sup> and subsequent passes are at full price.		
There is a \$10 decal fee to replace unsalvageable decals. Damaged decal must be presented.		
CAMPING	Charge	Per
<b>Anchorage Area</b>		
Chugach State Park		
- Bird Creek CG	\$15	Site
- Bird Creek Overflow	\$15	Vehicle
- Eagle River CG/Executive Site	\$15/\$30 C*	Site
- Eklutna Lake CG	\$10	Site
<b>Mat-Su / Copper Basin Area</b>		
Big Lake North & South SRS	\$15 C*	Vehicle
Denali State Park		
- Byers Lake CG	\$10	Site
- Denali View North & South CG	\$10	Vehicle
- Lower Troublesome CG	\$10	Vehicle
Finger Lake SRS	\$15 C*	Vehicle
Hatcher Pass Gold Mint/Gov Peak	\$10	Vehicle
Kepler-Bradley SRA (Tents Only)	\$10 C*	Site
King Mountain SRS	\$15 C*	Site
Matanuska Glacier SRS ** C*	\$15/\$10	Site/Vhcle
Montana Creek**	\$20	Vehicle
Nancy Lake SRA-South Rolly L.	\$10	Site
Nancy Lake SRS	\$10	Site
Rocky Lake SRS	\$15 C*	Site
Willow Creek SRA	\$10	Vehicle
Dry Creek SRS **	\$12 C*	Site
Lake Louise SRA / Walk-In	\$5	
- Army Point CG	\$15 C*	Vehicle
- Lake Louise CG	\$15 C*	Vehicle
Liberty Falls SRS** (CLOSED 5/08)	\$12 C*	Vehicle
Porcupine Creek SRS **	\$12 C*	Vehicle
Squirrel Creek SRS **	\$12 C*	Site
<b>Northern/Interior Area</b>		
Big Delta SHP	\$5	Vehicle
Birch Lake	\$10	Vehicle
Chena River SRA		
- Red Squirrel CG	\$10	Vehicle
- Rosehip CG	\$10	Site
- Tors Trail CG	\$10	Site
Chena River SRS		
- Hook-Up Sites (Elec & water)	\$28 C*	Site
- No Hook-Up Sites	\$17 C*	Site
- Sites W1 – W5 (Walk In Camping)	\$10 C*	Site
Clearwater SRS	\$10	Site
Delta SRS	\$10	Site
Donnelly Creek SRS	\$10	Site

C\* = Contracted

Northern/Interior Area Con't		
Eagle Trail SRS	\$15	Site
Harding Lake CG	\$10	Site
- Harding Lake Parking Area	\$10	Vehicle
Lower Chatanika River SRA	Passively	Managed
Moon Lake SRS	\$15	Site
Quartz Lake SRA		
- Lost Lake CG	\$10	Site
- Quartz Lake CG	\$10	Site
- Quartz Lake Camping/ Parking Area	\$10	Vehicle
Salcha River SRS	\$10	Vehicle
Tok River SRS	\$15 C*	Site
Upper Chatanika River SRS **	\$13 C*	Vehicle
<b>Southeast Area</b>		
Chilkat SP	\$10	Site
Chilkoot Lake SRS	\$10	Site
Eagle Beach SRS	\$10	Site
Mosquito Lake SRS	\$10	Site
Portage Cove SRS	\$5	Site
Settlers Cove SRS	\$10	Site
<b>Kenai Area</b>		
Anchor River SRA		
- Coho CG	\$12 C*	Site
- Halibut CG	\$12 C*	Site
- Silver King CG	\$12 C*	Site
- Slidehole CG	\$12 C*	Site
- Steelhead CG	\$12 C*	Site
Blueberry Lake SRS **	\$14 C*	Site
Captain Cook SRA - Discovery	\$12 C*	Site
Clam Gulch SRA	\$10	Site
Crooked Creek SRS	\$10	Site
Deep Creek SRA		
- Deep Creek Beach CG	\$10	Site
- Deep Creek North CG	\$10	Site
- Deep Creek South CG	\$10	Site
Johnson Lake SRA	\$10	Site
Kasilof River SRS	\$10	Site
Kenai River SMA		
- Bing's Landing CG	\$10	Site
- Funny River CG	\$10	Vehicle
- Izaak Walton CG	\$10	Site
- Morgan's Landing CG	\$10	Site
Ninilchik SRA		
- Ninilchik Beach CG	\$10	Vehicle
- Ninilchik River CG	\$10	Site
- Ninilchik Scenic CG	\$10	Site
- Ninilchik View CG	\$10	Site
Stariski SRS	\$12 C*	Site
<b>Kodiak Area</b>		
Buskin River SRS**	\$10	Site
Fort Abercrombie SHP**	\$10	Site

\*\*The fee for self-registration ("iron ranger") for overnight camping at these contract-managed facilities is as listed above. If Park staff or the contract manager's staff has to collect the fee due to non-payment, an additional fee will be charged as follows:  
 \$2 at Montana Creek & Upper Chatanika  
 \$3 at Chena River, Matanuska Glacier, & Porcupine Creek  
 \$5 at Buskin River, Dry Creek, Ft. Abercrombie, Liberty Falls, & Squirrel Creel

DAILY PARKING	Per Vehicle
Anchor River SRA	\$5 C*
Big Lake North / South SRS	\$5 C*
Birch Lake SRS	\$5
Chena Rvr SRA (Angel Rocks & Tors)	\$5
Chugach State Park-All Access Points	\$5 (C*-Eagle River)
Captain Cook SRA	\$5 C*
Clam Gulch SRA	\$5
Crooked Creek SRS	\$5
Deep Creek SRA (North & South)	\$5
Dry Creek SRS	\$5 C*
Eagle Beach SRS	\$5
Eagle River Nature Center	\$5 (Decal not accepted)
Ermine Hill TH/Little Coal Creek (Denali)	\$5
Finger Lake SRS	\$5 C*
Harding Lake SRA	\$5
Hatcher Pass East Mgmnt Area	\$5
Independence Mine SHP	\$5
Kasilof River SRS	\$5
Kenai River SMA-Bings Landing, Izaak Walton, Cooper & Morgan's Landing, (Slikok Crk/Flats (July)	\$5
The Pillars (KRSMa)	\$5 (Decal not accepted)
Johnson Lake SRA	\$5
Kepler-Bradley Lakes	\$5 C*
King Mountain	\$5 C*
Lake Louise SRA	\$5 C* (\$3 w/decal)
Liberty Falls SRS	\$5 C*
Lowell Point SRS	\$5
Matanuska Glacier SRS	\$5 C*
Montana Creek (**see page 1)	\$10 C*
Nancy Lake SRA	\$5
Ninilchik Beach & Overlook	\$5
Quartz Lake SRA	\$5
Rocky Lake SRS	\$5 C*
Scout Lake SRS	No Charge
Squirrel Creek SRS	\$5 C*
Willow Creek SRA	\$5

BOAT LAUNCHING	Charge
Big Lake North / South SRS	\$10 C*
Birch Lake SRS	\$10
Chena River SRS	\$5 C*
Chilkat	\$5
Clearwater SRS	\$5
Deep Creek SRA	\$5
Deep Creek/Anchor River Tractor	\$55 C*(Decal not accepted)
Finger Lake SRS	\$10 C*
Harding Lake SRA	\$10
Kasilof River SRS	\$5
Kenai River SMA	
- Bing's Landing & Izaak Walton	\$10
- Cooper Landing	\$5
- The Pillars	\$10 (Decal not accepted)
Lake Aleknagik SRS	\$10
Lake Louise SRA	\$10 C* (\$7 w/decal)
Nancy Lake SRS	\$10
Old Sitka SHP	\$10
Quartz Lake SRA	\$10
Salcha River SRS	\$10

SANITARY DUMP STATIONS	Charge
Big Delta SHP	\$5
Byers Lake	\$5
Chena River SRS	\$5 C*
Chugach SP - Eagle River CG	\$5 C*
Harding Lake SRA	\$5
Ninilchik SRA	\$5

**NOTE:** Nightly campers may dump free at Chena River SRS, & Harding Lake SRA

PUBLIC USE CABINS	Peak / Non-Peak
<b>Anchorage Area</b>	
Chugach State Park	
- Eklutna Lake (1 cabin)	\$50 \$40
- Serenity Falls Hut (Call PIC 269-8400)	
- Eagle River Nature Center (3 cabin/yurts)	694-2108
<b>Whittier - Decision Point Cabin</b>	\$65 \$50
<b>Kenai / PWS Area/Seward/Homer/Valdez</b>	
Caines Head SRA (Seward) (2 cabins)	\$65 \$50
Thumb Cove SMP (Seward) (2 cabins)	\$65 \$50
Kachemak Bay SP (Homer)	
- Halibut Cove Lagoon (3 cabins)	\$65 \$50
- China Poot Lake (1 cabin)	\$65 \$50
- Mooses Valley (1 cabin)	\$35 \$25
- Sea Star (Tutka Bay) (1 cabin)	\$65 \$50
- 6 Yurts (C* Nomad Shelter @235-0135)	
Shoup Bay SMP (Valdez) (3 cabins)	\$65 \$50
<b>Gulf Coast Cabins</b>	
-Midtimber Lake & Vitus Lake	\$65 \$50
<b>Kodiak Area</b>	
Afognak Island SP (2 cabins)	\$35 \$25
Shuyak Island SP (4 cabins)	\$75 \$60
<b>Mat-Su Area</b>	
Denali State Park-Byers Lake (3cabins)	\$60 \$45
Nancy Lake SRA	
- James Lake - (1 cabin)	\$45 \$30
- Lynx Lake - (3 cabins)	\$35 \$25
- Nancy Lake (4 cabins)	\$45 \$30
- Red Shirt Lake (4 cabins)	\$45 \$30
- Bald Lake (1 cabin)	\$60 \$45
<b>Fairbanks Area</b>	
Birch Lake Cabin	\$35 \$25
Chena River SRA	
-Trail Access: Upper & Lower Angel, Nugget, Colorado, & Stiles Creek Cabins	\$25 \$20
-Road Access: North Fork/Chena River/Hunt	\$50 \$40
Salcha River SRS (1 cabin)	\$25 \$20
Quartz Lake SRA (2 cabins)	\$35 \$25
Fielding Lake SRA (1 cabin)	\$35 \$25
Ice Fishing Huts - Day Use Only (7 huts)	\$15
<b>Southeast</b>	
-Pt Bridget (3) Cowee/Blue Mussel/Camping Cove	\$45 \$35
-St James/Oliver Inlet - Hinman/Seymour	\$35 \$25
-Tiger Olson (Taku Harbor)	\$35 \$25
- Rupe Andrews (Shelter Island)	\$35 \$25
- Grindall Island (1)	\$35 \$25

Fees, capacity limits, and stay limits for cabins vary. The above fees are the nightly base rate. Contact the local park office for details or see our web site at [www.alaskastateparks.org](http://www.alaskastateparks.org) & click on Public Use Cabins.

GUIDED TOURS OF HISTORICAL SITES	
<b>Ft. Abercrombie</b>	
Adults / Seniors (60+) / Child Under 10	\$3 / \$2 / Free
<b>Independence Mine SHP</b>	
Adults / Child Under 12	\$5 / \$3
Park Ranger led tour by arrangement	\$30/Person
<b>Totem Bight</b>	\$5
<b>COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES</b>	
People conducting commercial activities in state parks must have a current commercial use permit. Permit requirements, stipulations and fees vary. Contact the appropriate local park office for information.	
<b>RESERVED USE OF DEVELOPED FACILITIES</b>	
The State Park system has numerous picnic shelters, group camping areas, visitor centers, and other facilities that can be reserved for the exclusive use of groups. Contact local park offices for information on available sites, fees and other details.	

C\* = Contracted



# Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation

Alaska Department of Natural Resources

[State of Alaska](#) > [Natural Resources](#) > [Parks and Outdoor Recreation](#)

## ADA Facilities

This listing is alphabetized by facility type, such as trails, cabins or campgrounds. The Alaska State Parks Statewide Brochure has facilities listed by town with a notation marking facilities with accessible features. [Click here for the statewide brochure.](#)

If a park or cabin is underlined, click on the name for more information on that park or cabin. Click on the town name for park location and other facilities, as shown in the statewide brochure pages.

For more detailed information, visit the State's ADA Coordinator's Office [ADA Parks Accessibility Survey 2002](#).

*Disclaimer: Accessibility standards change over time as guidelines are being developed. When a facility is built or remodeled, it meets guidelines current at the time of construction. Although access issues are addressed, some persons with particular disabilities may have difficulty with, for example, the signing, window latches or stoves. It is recommended that the disabled park visitor bring along a fully able companion on his or her first visit to a park facility in case of difficulties or problems. Solo trips can be taken later, knowing the facility and terrain. If anyone using facilities listed here encounters difficulties not mentioned, please contact local park staff or email: [dnr.pksweb@alaska.gov](mailto:dnr.pksweb@alaska.gov) Suggestions and comments are welcomed.*

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## Boat Launches

- [Kenai River Special Management Area](#) - Cooper Landing Boat Launch, near [Sterling](#)  
A 250 foot boardwalk connects parking, toilets and the boat ramp. The boardwalk has a maximum gradient of 5%. There are also viewing areas and interpretive displays. Pressurized water is available.
- [Kenai River Special Management Area](#) - The Pillars Boat Launch, near [Kenai](#)  
Accessible dock with a less than 5% gradient to it. Dock is only for boat exit/entry - no fishing allowed from dock. There is paved parking with easy access to viewing deck with interpretive displays. Pressurized water is available.

## Cabins

- [Chena River State Recreation Area](#) - Chena River Cabin, near [Fairbanks](#) with road access  
There is a ramp up to the porch and a ramp from the cabin to the latrine. North Fork Cabin, in the same park, also has road access, but is not fully accessible.
- [Chena River State Recreation Area](#) - Twin Bears Camp, near [Fairbanks](#) with road access  
This facility has 12 rustic cabins, mess hall and recreation hall. It can be rented by an individuals or group. Ramps exist between three cabins, mess hall, recreation hall and main latrine.
- [Chugach State Park State Park](#) - Yuditnu Cabin, near [Anchorage](#)  
The cabin is accessible, but the latrine is not. Therefore, help may be needed when

using the latrine. The trail to access the cabin is an old road. Motorized access is allowed, by snowmachines in the winter (all week) and ATVs in the summer (Sunday thru Wednesday only). Bicycles are also allowed (all week).

☉ [Kachemak Bay State Park - Halibut Cove Lagoon East Cabin](#), remote park near [Homer](#)

*Cabin and latrine are along a boardwalk with a maximum gradient of 5%.*

*Assistance may be needed on the ramp from the dock to the cabin boardwalk system. At low tide, the ramp is very steep.*

☉ [Shoup Bay State Marine Park - Kittiwake Cabin](#), remote park near [Valdez](#)

*Recommend inner lagoon drop off. Assistance may be needed from boat to hard-pack gravel trail. Click on park name above for more information.*

☉ [Thumb Cove State Marine Park - Spruce Glacier Cabin](#), remote park near [Seward](#)

*Assistance may be needed from the beach to boardwalk system. Boardwalk extends from fire ring on beach to the cabin and latrine.*

### Campgrounds

- ☉ [Anchor River State Recreation Area - Halibut Day Use](#), near [Homer](#)
- ☉ [Anchor River State Recreation Area - Slidehole Day Use](#), near [Homer](#)
- ☉ [Birch Lake State Recreation Site](#), near [Fairbanks](#)
- ☉ [Chena River State Recreation Site](#), in [Fairbanks](#)
- ☉ [Chugach State Park - Bird Creek Campground Overflow](#), near [Anchorage](#)
- ☉ [Chugach State Park - Eagle River Campground](#), near [Anchorage](#)
- ☉ [Crooked Creek State Recreation Site](#), near [Soldotna](#)
- ☉ [Deep Creek State Recreation Area - Deep Creek North Campground](#), near [Homer](#)
- ☉ [Denali State Park - Denali Viewpoint North Campground](#), near [Trapper Creek](#)
- ☉ [Kenai River Special Management Area - Bings Landing Campground](#), near [Sterling](#)
- ☉ [Kenai River Special Management Area - Izaak Walton Campground](#), near [Sterling](#)
- ☉ [Kenai River Special Management Area - Morgans Landing Campground](#), near [Sterling](#)
- ☉ [Lower Chatanika River State Recreation Area](#), near [Fairbanks](#)
- ☉ [Ninilchik State Recreation Area - Ninilchik Overlook](#), near [Homer](#)

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### Day Use Areas and Picnic Sites

- ☉ [Anchor River State Recreation Area - Halibut Day Use](#), near [Homer](#)
- ☉ [Anchor River State Recreation Area - Slidehole Day Use](#), near [Homer](#)  
*Pressurized water is available.*
- ☉ [Big Delta State Historical Park](#), near [Delta Junction](#)  
*Pressurized water is available.*
- ☉ [Big Lake North State Recreation Site](#), near [Wasilla](#)
- ☉ [Chena River State Recreation Area - Red Squirrel Campground](#), near [Fairbanks](#)
- ☉ [Chena River State Recreation Area - Tors Trail Campground](#), near [Fairbanks](#)
- ☉ [Chena River State Recreation Site](#), in [Fairbanks](#)
- ☉ [Chugach State Park - Eklutna Lake Campground](#), near [Anchorage](#)
- ☉ [Chugach State Park - McHugh Creek Day Use](#), near [Anchorage](#)  
*Paved.*
- ☉ [Crooked Creek State Recreation Site](#), near [Soldotna](#)
- ☉ [Deep Creek State Recreation Area - Deep Creek South Day Use](#), near [Homer](#)
- ☉ [Delta State Recreation Site](#), near [Delta Junction](#)  
*Pressurized water is available.*
- ☉ [Harding Lake State Recreation Area](#), near [Fairbanks](#)
- ☉ [Kenai River Special Management Area - Bings Landing Day Use](#), near [Sterling](#)
- ☉ [Matanuska Lakes State Recreation Area \(formerly Kepler-Bradley Lake State Recreation Area\) - Matanuska Lake](#), near [Palmer](#)
- ☉ [Lower Chatanika River State Recreation Area](#), near [Fairbanks](#)
- ☉ [Ninilchik State Recreation Area - Ninilchik Overlook](#), near [Homer](#)
- ☉ [Ninilchik State Recreation Area - Ninilchik River](#), near [Homer](#)

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### Drinking Water

Most drinking water facilities in state parks are hand pumps with cement pads for access. These are shown in the [statewide brochure pages](#) mentioned at the top of the page. A small number of facilities have pressurized water and are listed here. If the facility is listed elsewhere on this page, pressurized water is mentioned there as well.

- [Anchor River State Recreation Area](#) - Slidehole Campground and Day Use, near [Homer](#)
- [Big Delta State Historical Park](#), near [Delta Junction](#)
- [Chena River State Recreation Site](#), in [Fairbanks](#)
- [Chugach State Park](#) - Eagle River Campground, near [Anchorage](#)
- [Delta State Recreation Site](#), near [Delta Junction](#)
- [Denali State Park - Alaska Veteran's Memorial](#), near [Trapper Creek](#)
- [Kenai River Special Management Area](#) - Cooper Landing Boat Launch, near [Sterling](#)
- [Kenai River Special Management Area](#) - The Pillars Boat Launch, near [Kenai](#)

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### Fishing Access

- [Buskin River State Recreation Site](#), near [Kodiak](#)  
*Accessible fishing platform at river's edge. Parking and trail to platform is paved.*
- [Chugach State Park](#) - Bird Creek, near [Anchorage](#)  
*Fishing is from a pier over the river. Best to use at high tide. At low tide, the water is beyond the pier. Paved access to the pier.*
- [Crooked Creek State Recreation Site](#), near [Soldotna](#)  
*May need assistance getting to and from the river due to a steep grade.*
- [Deep Creek State Recreation Area](#) - Deep Creek North Campground, near [Homer](#)  
*Trail is gravel path to river, may need assistance. Parking and viewing area with interpretive displays is paved.*
- [Matanuska Lakes State Recreation Area \(formerly Kepler-Bradley Lake State Recreation Area\)](#) - Matanuska Lake, near [Palmer](#)  
*Trail to accessible fishing dock is a 500 foot gravel path with a 8.3% maximum gradient and handrails.*
- [Kenai River Special Management Area](#) - Bings Landing Campground, near [Sterling](#)  
*Accessible boardwalk along river.*
- [Quartz Lake State Recreation Area](#), near [Delta Junction](#)  
*At Quartz Lake Campground, gravel trail with less than 5% grade to accessible fishing dock. At Lost Lake Campground, gravel trail with less than 5% grade to accessible boat/fishing dock.*

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### Historic Sites

- [Baranof Castle State Historic Site](#), near [Sitka](#)  
*An accessible, 700 foot, concrete sidewalk with handrails leads from the street level to interpretive displays and viewpoint at the top of Castle Hill. The maximum gradient is 8.3% and the elevation gain is 40 feet.*
- [Big Delta State Historical Park](#), near [Delta Junction](#)  
*The visitor center, called Rika's Roadhouse, has accessible ramp. Trails are hard-pack gravel with interpretive sites. Pressurized water is available.*
- [Denali State Park - Alaska Veteran's Memorial](#), near [Trapper Creek](#)  
*Parking, trails, picnic sites, interpretive shelter and the memorial are paved with a less than 5 % slope. Pressurized water is available.*
- [Fort Abercrombie State Historical Park](#), near [Kodiak](#)  
*Kodiak Military History Museum are accessible.*
- [Independence Mine State Historical Park](#), near [Palmer](#)  
*Visitor Center is accessible by ramp. Parking, nearby trails and interpretive site with*

spotting scopes are paved.

● [Old Sitka State Historic Park](#), near [Sitka](#)

Trails are hard-pack gravel, with sections of boardwalk. Approximately 100 feet of trail has a 14% gradient. The rest of the trail has a gradient of 12% or less. Parking is paved.

● [Petroglyph Beach State Historic Site](#), in [Wrangell](#)

An accessible boardwalk leads to a viewing deck and interpretive displays overlooking Petroglyph Beach. The boardwalk has a maximum gradient of 8.3% and is approximately 220 feet.

● [Potter Section House State Historical Site](#), near [Anchorage](#)

Trails around the house are paved. Nearby viewing deck and boardwalk has a 8% maximum gradient. The house itself is park office space and not open to the public.

● [Totem Bight State Historical Park](#), near [Ketchikan](#)

The trails are hard-pack gravel - may need assistance on steep portions. Buildings are accessible.

● [Wickersham State Historic Site](#), in [Juneau](#)

The Wickersham House Museum is accessible.

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### Picnic Shelters

● [Anchor River State Recreation Area](#) - Slidehole Campground, near [Homer](#)  
Pressurized water.

● [Big Lake North State Recreation Site](#), near [Wasilla](#)  
Paved parking, gravel path.

● [Captain Cook State Recreation Area](#) - Stormy Lake Day Use, near [Kenai](#)

● [Chena River State Recreation Area](#) - Red Squirrel Campground, near [Fairbanks](#)  
Paved parking, gravel path.

● [Chena River State Recreation Site](#), in [Fairbanks](#)

● [Chugach State Park](#) - Eklutna Lake Campground, near [Anchorage](#)

● [Clam Gulch State Recreation Area](#), near [Soldotna](#)

● [Delta State Recreation Site](#), near [Delta Junction](#)  
Pressurized water is available.

● [Fort Abercrombie State Historical Park](#), near [Kodiak](#)

● [Harding Lake State Recreation Area](#), near [Fairbanks](#)

● [Johnson Lake State Recreation Area](#), near [Soldotna](#)

● [Kenai River Special Management Area](#) - Bings Landing Campground, near [Sterling](#)

● [Lake Louise State Recreation Area](#), near [Glennallen](#)

● [Lower Chatanika River State Recreation Area](#), near [Fairbanks](#)

● [Ninilchik State Recreation Area](#) - Ninilchik River Campground, near [Homer](#)

● [Quartz Lake State Recreation Area](#) - Quartz Lake Campground, near [Delta Junction](#)

● [Settlers Cove State Recreation Site](#), near [Ketchikan](#)

● [Tok River State Recreation Site](#), near [Tok](#)

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### Restrooms

Most restrooms facilities in state parks are pit latrines. Those that are accessible are shown in the [statewide brochure pages](#) mentioned at the top of the page. A small number of facilities have flush toilets and are listed here. If the facility is listed elsewhere on this page, flush toilets are mentioned there as well.

● [Chena River State Recreation Site](#), in [Fairbanks](#)

● [Chugach State Park](#) - Eagle River Campground, near [Anchorage](#)  
Flush toilets in overflow area only.

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### Trailheads and Trails

- ☛ Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve, near Haines  
 1.75 mile trail of pavement and boardwalk for viewing eagles along the Chilkat River.
- ☛ Chugach State Park - Bird Creek to Indian Bike Trail, near Anchorage  
 A paved trail starts at Indian Creek at mile 103.0 of the Seward Highway and goes east along Turnagain Arm to Bird Creek Campground and beyond to mile 99.2 of the Seward Highway. Grade exceeds 5% in the Bird Creek area. The trail is eight feet wide with no shoulder.
- ☛ Chugach State Park - Bird Point to Girdwood Bike Path, near Anchorage  
 The trail is the Old Seward Highway between Bird Point and Girdwood, and is now a paved, multi use path for pedestrians, bicycles and other non-motorized use. It starts at Mile 96.1 of the Seward Highway (Bird Point) and ends at mile 90.1, near the Girdwood turnoff, with a total length of six miles. The typical width is 10 feet with wide unpaved shoulders for runners. Twice, the path exceeds a 5% gradient with a maximum of 7%: for 800 feet at 0.2 miles east of Bird Point, and for 500 feet at 3 miles, halfway between Bird Point and Girdwood. Where the gradient exceeds 5%, the paved width is 12 feet. Restrooms and picnic shelters are at approximately one mile east of Bird Point, and two miles west of Girdwood.
- ☛ Chugach State Park - Bird Ridge Trailhead, near Anchorage  
 Lower section of trail is paved, a distance of approximately 0.3 miles. Viewing areas at either end of pavement, with accessible restrooms at the upper end. Average gradient is 4.7% with the entire trail less than 8%. There is no cross slope and the trail width is 4.74 feet/1.4 meters. Elevation gain is 66 feet. Parking is paved. Upper section of trail is steep and unimproved. This trail has a trail guide with Universal Access Information. Request one from the DNR Public Information Center.
- ☛ Chugach State Park - Eagle River Nature Center, near Anchorage  
 The center itself is accessible. Surrounding area and trails are hard-pack gravel. Beginning section of trail has a long, 8% maximum gradient. Parking is paved
- ☛ Chugach State Park - Eklutna Lake, near Anchorage  
 The Lakeside Trail is an old, gravel road bed, with some large ruts and rocks. Sections have been rebuilt due to damage from the lake and have a steep gradient. ATVs (Sunday thru Wednesday only) and bicycles (all week) use the trail.
- ☛ Chugach State Park - Potter Creek Interpretive Trail, near Anchorage  
 Paved parking, with interpretive panels and spotting scope. The first 220 feet of this 0.46 mile trail is paved, with accessible restrooms at the end. The 5.3% is the maximum gradient for this section. The trail continues from there as hard-pack gravel and has a greater than 8% gradient, with 17% maximum gradient. There is no cross slope and the trail width is 5 feet/1.5 meters. Elevation gain is 240 feet. Trail connects to the unimproved Turnagain Arm Trail. This trail has a trail guide with Universal Access Information. Request one from the DNR Public Information Center.
- ☛ Denali State Park - Alaska Veteran's Memorial, near Trapper Creek  
 Trails are paved throughout the Memorial.
- ☛ Denali State Park - Denali View North, near Trapper Creek  
 Approximately 1200 feet of paved trail with interpretive panels.
- ☛ Independence Mine State Historical Park, near Palmer  
 Visitor Center is accessible by ramp. Trails to the center core of the mine compound are paved with less than 5% gradient. Trail to the mine portal is paved with a 15% gradient. Other trails are hard-pack gravel.
- ☛ Matanuska Lakes State Recreation Area (formerly Kepler-Bradley Lake State Recreation Area) - Matanuska Lake, near Palmer  
 Trails are hard-pack gravel.
- ☛ Lake Louise State Recreation Area, near Glennallen  
 Trail is hard-pack gravel.
- ☛ Old Sitka State Historic Park, near Sitka  
 Trails are hard-pack gravel, with sections of boardwalk. Approximately 100 feet of trail has a 14% gradient. The rest of the trail has a gradient of 12% or less. Parking is paved.
- ☛ Settlers Cove State Recreation Site, near Ketchikan  
 A short portion of the trail is accessible for approximately 200 yards to the Lunch Creek Bridge.
- ☛ Totem Bight State Historical Park, near Ketchikan  
 The trails are hard-pack gravel - may need assistance on steep portions. Buildings are accessible.

- [Willow Creek State Recreation Area - Willow Creek Campground, near Wasilla](#)  
*Trail is hard-pack gravel down to the river.*

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### Viewpoints

- [Chugach State Park - Beluga Point, near Anchorage](#)  
*At Mile 110.5 of the Seward Highway along Turnagain Arm. Paved parking, spotting scopes, interpretive panels.*
- [Chugach State Park - Bird Point, near Anchorage](#)  
*At Mile 95 of the Seward Highway along Turnagain Arm. Paved parking, spotting scopes, interpretive panels, accessible restrooms.*
- [Chugach State Park - Glen Alps, near Anchorage](#)  
*On the Hillside, off Upper Huffman. Paved and hard-packed gravel trails leads to viewpoint on hill that overlooks Anchorage, Cook Inlet and the Alaska Range. Accessible restrooms.*
- [Denali State Park - Denali View North, near Trapper Creek](#)  
*At Mile 162.7 of the Parks Highway. Paved parking and approximately 1200 feet of paved trail with interpretive panels. Accessible restrooms*
- [Denali State Park - Denali View South, near Trapper Creek](#)  
*At Mile 135.2 of the Parks Highway. Paved parking, interpretive panels, accessible restrooms.*

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### Visitor Centers

- [Big Delta State Historical Park, near Delta Junction](#)  
*The visitor center, called Rika's Roadhouse, has a ramp. Trails are hard-pack gravel with interpretive sites. Pressurized water is available.*
- [Chugach State Park - Eagle River Nature Center, near Anchorage](#)  
*The center is accessible. Parking is paved. Surrounding grounds and trails are hard-pack gravel. Beginning section of trail has 8% maximum gradient.*
- [Independence Mine State Historical Park, near Palmer](#)  
*Visitor Center has a ramp. Trails to the center core of the mine compound are paved with less than 5% gradient. Trail to the mine portal is paved with a 15% gradient. Other trails are hard-pack gravel.*

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# Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation

Alaska Department of Natural Resources

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## Disabled Veteran's Annual Camping Pass

The legislature granted Disabled Alaskan Veterans (DAV) the right to receive one Alaska State Park Camping Pass free of charge. The DAV Camping Pass, which is valid in all developed Alaska State Park campgrounds, is good for two years. There is no DAV pass for boat launch or day use, nor can the DAV camping pass be used to purchase a boat launch or day use pass as the second pass at the discount rate.

To receive a free DAV camping pass, an eligible disabled veteran must present proof of a **service connected disability and Alaska residency** at either the Anchorage or Fairbanks DNR Public Information Centers (see below). Alaskan resident is defined as a person who is physically present in the state with the intent to remain indefinitely and to make a home in the state, has maintained the person's domicile in the state for the 12 consecutive months prior to requesting the issuance of a Disabled Alaska Veteran (DAV) camping pass, is not claiming residency in another state, territory or country, and is not obtaining benefits under claim of residency in another state, territory or country. Proof of residency can be in the form of an Alaskan Driver's License, Alaska Sport Fishing or hunting License, Alaska Voters Registration Card, or other documentation suitable to the department that proves Alaska residency.



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Evidence of service connected disability can be provided by the presentation of a Veteran's Administration Patient Data Card (red, white, and blue) imprinted with "service connected disability" under the photo identification, or a current year letter from the US Department of Veteran's Affairs, which states the person has a service-connected disability and is signed by the Veteran Services Officer. Other types of VA cards exist, but cannot be accepted as proof of disability. Information on obtaining either the card or the letter can be found through the local Veteran's Administration office or calling 1-800-827-1000. Please note: A Veterans Universal Access Identification card with the veteran's social security number and birth date printed on the card will no longer be accepted, in compliance with the Personal Information Protection Act which passed the Alaska Legislature in 2008.

The Disabled Alaska Veteran camping pass is non-transferable. If the qualified DAV's vehicle is sold, the decal must be removed. Or, if the windshield is broken and must be replaced, the individual is requested to scrape as much of the decal off as possible and return the remains to any area office. In either of these cases, a replacement decal will be issued for \$10 upon receipt of the removed decal. If the decal is lost or if no remains of a previous decal can be produced, and the DNR has record of the owner's previous issuance of the DAV decal, a one-time replacement decal may be purchased for \$100.

For further information, please contact the Anchorage or Fairbanks Public Information Center.

550 W 7th Ave, Suite 1260  
Anchorage, AK 99501-3557  
phone: 907-269-8400  
TDD: 907-269-8411  
fax: 907-269-8901

3700 Airport Way  
Fairbanks, AK 99709-4699  
phone: 907-451-2705  
TDD: 907-451-2770  
fax: 907-451-2706

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**SB 13 – Lower Park Fee for Disabled Veterans  
Disability Threshold – Background**

-- Scheduled for House Resources on April 11, 2012

In 1991, the legislature passed a law creating a special disabled veteran camping permits in Alaska state parks. SB 13 extends the benefits to Alaska resident disabled veterans for boat ramps, RV facilities and day parking. SB 13 also provides a 50 percent discount to resident disabled veterans for public use cabins.

For the benefits extended by SB 13, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) wants to define a disabled veteran as they are defined under existing statutory definitions that limit the benefits to a veteran who has incurred a 50 percent or greater disability during military service (AS 16.05.341; AS 29.45.030).

As you can see from the attached information, there are a number of different approaches taken by state agencies when it comes to deciding who qualifies and who does not qualify for different state benefits granted to disabled veterans – from no threshold to the 50% requirement.

In regard to the current law that provides for a free camping pass, there is no definition or threshold for the level of disability for a veteran to qualify for the pass. According to DNR, the way the camping pass is administered, if a veteran has a Veteran Affairs issued red, white, and blue card showing a disability or a letter from the VA that states the person has a service-connected disability along with a photo ID, the vet gets a free camping pass. There is no percentage designation on the required documentation.

It is Senator French's preference that DNR apply their current practice for issuing free camping passes to the new benefits, and allow any veteran with any level of disability to qualify for the applicable benefit, but he defers to the committee's wishes.

## Disabled Veteran Definitions

**AS 16.05.341.** Free hunting and sport fishing license for disabled veterans. 50% or greater disability.

A person may receive a resident hunting and sport fishing license under AS 16.05.340(a)(5) without charge if the person

- (1) has been discharged from military service under honorable conditions, is eligible for a loan under AS 18.56.101, and is certified by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs as having incurred a 50 percent or greater disability during military service.

**AS 28.10.181(d).** DMV disabled veteran license plates. 50% or greater disability.

A person who is not otherwise qualified under this subsection, but who meets the qualifications of a disabled veteran under AS 29.45.030(i), may register one motor vehicle without charge,

AS 29.45.030(i): [applicable to property tax exemptions]

- (1) "disabled veteran" means a disabled person
  - (A) separated from the military service of the United States under a condition that is not dishonorable who is a resident of the state, whose disability was incurred or aggravated in the line of duty in the military service of the United States, and whose disability has been rated as 50 percent or more by the branch of service in which that person served or by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs; or
  - (B) who served in the Alaska Territorial Guard, who is a resident of the state, whose disability was incurred or aggravated in the line of duty while serving in the Alaska Territorial Guard, and whose disability has been rated as 50 percent or more.

**AS 39.25.159.** Employment preference for veterans. Adds extra preference points for a disabled veteran. No percentage threshold.

39.25.159(f)(2) "disabled veteran" means a veteran who is entitled to compensation under laws administered by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, a person who was honorably discharged or released from active duty because of a service-connected disability, or a person who was disabled in the line of duty while serving in the Alaska Territorial Guard.

**AS 41.21.026(d).** Free campsite permit to disabled veterans. No definition, no threshold.

The department shall issue free of charge to disabled veterans of this country an annual state park developed campsite permit. The permit shall allow a disabled veteran to use a state park developed campsite for personal recreation use without a charge or fee under (a)(2) of this section. While utilizing a developed campsite without charge under this subsection, the disabled veteran shall comply with all other statutes or regulations pertaining to the use of the developed campsite. The department shall provide a form for use by a disabled veteran when applying for a permit under this section. Not later than February 1 of each year, the department shall prepare a report on the number of permits issued to disabled veterans under this subsection during the previous calendar year and notify the legislature that the report is available.