



Alagnak

Aniakchak

Katmai

Kenai Fjords

Lake Clark

LACL: 2015 Spring Update

Spruce Woodlands

The Currant Creek fire of 2013 burned 1,900 acres of spruce woodland and mixed forest in southern LACL, leaving behind a mosaic of burned and unburned areas. Between mid-June and August, the vegetation crew will survey roughly 30 spruce woodland sites in the park, including one or more new sites in the Currant Creek burn. Additional sites will include Snipe, Pickerel, Upper Tazimina, Caribou, Telaquana, and Two Lakes. Data on tree age, mortality, regeneration, and fuels will provide information on the condition of this widespread vegetation type.



Fire effects monitoring at Currant Creek in 2014. Photo: NPS

Changing Tides

Our Changing Tides project kicks off this year! We will collect bivalves along the coast of LACL to be used for genetic and physiological analysis for this project. During this trip, support will be provided by LACL. The crew will be stationed in the Silver Salmon cabin and be transported to the intertidal sites by the M/V Chigmit. We look forward to this new project as an opportunity to learn more about this unique coastline.



Protocol development of bivalve survey methods. Photo: NPS/T. Wilson

Weather & Climate

To insure the continuity of SWAN weather and climate information we will be performing maintenance and upgrades on our LACL stations. In late May we will visit Chigmit Mountains and add an additional wind sensor to ensure measurements are available throughout the year. In June we will service Silver Salmon and Snipe Lake stations. To enhance the use of SWAN data for measuring and monitoring the impact of a changing climate on LACL ecosystems, we will install soil moisture and temperature sensors at Snipe Lake and be working with NRCS and NPS fire to install them at Telaquana



Weather station maintenance at Snipe Lake. Photo: NPS

Lake and Stony stations as well. These measurements will be used to calibrate and validate the NASA Soil Moisture Active Passive satellite, launched earlier this year, and enable our measurements to be regionally and globally relevant.

2015 SWAN Field Plans in Lake Clark

All dates are flexible and subject to change based on weather and other conditions

April

Freshwater Monitoring
Dates: May 21-31
Contacts: Krista Bartz, Dan Young

May

Bald Eagle Nest Monitoring
Dates: May 11-15 and 18-22
Contact: Tammy Wilson, Buck Mangipane

Weather Station Maintenance - Chigmit Mts.
Dates: May 17-30, exact days TBD
Contacts: Peter Kirchner, Chuck Lindsay

Freshwater Monitoring
Dates: May 22 - June 6
Contacts: Krista Bartz, Dan Young

June

Changing Tides
Dates: June 13-22
Contact: Heather Coletti

Vegetation Monitoring
Dates: June 15 - August 3
Contacts: Amy Miller, James Walton

Weather Station Maintenance -Silver Salmon & Snipe Lake
Dates: June 6-13, exact days TBD
Contacts: Peter Kirchner, Chuck Lindsay

July

Changing Tides (M/V Chigmit support)
Dates: July 1-6
Contact: Heather Coletti

Freshwater Monitoring
Dates: July 10-24
Contacts: Krista Bartz, Dan Young

September

Freshwater Monitoring
Dates: Sept 11-18
Contacts: Krista Bartz, Dan Young

