





tion: National Park Service ranger station for Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve in Chitina is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, Memorial Day to Labor Day. A video on the McCarthy Road is available. Write Box 110, Chitina 99566, or phone (907) 823-2205.

Chitina has a post office, store, gas station, bar, restaurant, tire repair service, phone service and a National Park Service ranger station. The public pay phone is located on the outside of the Telephone Bldg. (look for the small building at the end of Chitina's main street as you turn left toward the McCarthy Road).

Chitina (pronounced CHIT-na) was established about 1908 as a railroad stop on the Copper River & Northwestern Railway and as a supply town for the Kennecott Copper Mines

at McCarthy. The mine and railroad were abandoned in 1938.

Camping is permitted beside Town Lake (also called Trout Lake and Chitina Lake) in downtown Chitina; no toilet facilities at campsite. Inquire locally about informal camping areas: much of the land around Chitina is owned by the Chitina Native Corp. and posted no trespassing. There is an 8-site state campground east of Chitina across the Copper River bridge, and 3 private campgrounds on the McCarthy Road.

A big attraction in Chitina for fishermen and spectators is the seasonal salmon run, which draws hundreds of dip-netters to the Copper River. The dip-net fishery for salmon runs June through September (depending on harvest levels), and it's worth the trip to see fish wheels and dip nets in action. O'Brien Creek Road provides a state right-of-way access to popular fishing areas on large sandbars along the Copper River. This fishery is open only to Alaska residents with a personal-use permit and residents of the Copper Basin and Tok areas with subsistence permits. Check with the ADF&G office in Chitina for details and carrier regulations.

## Edgerton Highway Log

(continued)

R 33.6 (54.1 km) M 1.6 (2.6 km) Pavement ends eastbound. No road maintenance east of this point between Oct. 15 and May 15.

R 33.8 (54.4 km) M 1.4 (2.3 km) Turnout overlooking the Copper River.

R 34.1 (54.9 km) M 1.1 (1.8 km) Turnout overlooking the Copper River. Access to river.

R 34.7 (55.8 km) M 0.5 (0.8 km) Copper River bridge. Completed in 1971, this 1,378-foot/420-m steel span was designed for year-round use. The \$3.5 million bridge reestablished access across the river into the McCarthy-Kennicott area.

R 35.1 (56.5 km) M 0 Junction with McCarthy Road (see McCARTHY ROAD log following). Dept. of Transportation campground on the Copper River; 8 sites, picnic tables, fireplaces, toilets, boat launch, no water. Fishing for red and king salmon. Travelers are now within Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve.

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*Spirit Mountain Artworks*  
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