



Factsheet: Commercial Use Permits and Special Use Permits

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation (DPOR) is responsible for the management of State Park lands. DPOR manages these lands to make them available to the public for both personal and commercial uses. Certain activities and uses may require authorization in the form of a permit. This fact sheet is being provided by DPOR as a helpful guide to know what activities and uses require authorization.

What types of permits are there?

Special Use Permits (SUP) are non-commercial and issued under the authority of 11 AAC 18.010 by the Regional Park offices. For examples of what activities and uses require an SUP, please visit our website here:

<https://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/permit/index.htm>.

Commercial Use Permits (CUP) are issued to anyone conducting commercial activities within a unit of the State Park system. Examples of commercial activities include guided activities (fishing, hunting, hiking, etc.), charter services, transportation services, portrait photography, boat rentals, outfitting, supply or equipment sales, or rentals within State Parks.

Kenai River Commercial Operator Permits (KRG CUP) are issued to anyone conducting commercial activities such as guided sportfishing within the Kenai River Special Management Area.

Commercial Filming Permits are issued for any commercial filming done within the State Parks.

Do I need insurance?

Yes, a Commercial General Liability Insurance policy is required for commercial activities. The policy should be written per occurrence with Alaska State Parks listed as additionally insured. A copy will be requested on a case-by-case basis for SUPs depending on the nature of the activity.

How long is a permit valid?

SUP terms vary based on the activity being requested, with a maximum term of 5 years.

Commercial Filming Permits are issued for the term the filming will take place since fees are charged per day. The permit allows for buffer days or a reasonable date range due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances.

CUP and KRG CUP are issued for full a calendar year, expiring on December 31 of the year issued.

How much does a permit cost?

SUP fees can vary based on the requested activity. The price is determined from the Director's Order (DO)327.

<https://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/asp/dirorder/327sup.pdf>

CUP fees are \$450 (\$100 application fee + \$350 permit fee) for the permit term.

KRG CUP fees are \$1100 (\$100 application fee + \$1000 permit fee) for the permit term.

Commercial Filming Permit fees are based on the requested activity. The price is determined from DO 328 (pages 3-4):

<https://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/asp/dirorder/328cup.pdf>.

What is an End of Season (EOS) report?

An EOS report is fees paid by a CUP holder for the number of clients they took into a park unit. EOS reports are due by December 31 of the year issued. The fee breakdown can be found on DO 328:

<https://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/asp/dirorder/328cup.pdf>

Do my clients have to pay park day use fees?

If your clients are driving themselves and parking at a State Park, they are responsible for their own day-use fees. If the CUP or KRG CUP holder is providing transportation, the operator should have the vehicle listed on their permit and a commercial vehicle parking decal will be issued.

Can I sell my permit or transfer it to another person or business?

No, permits are not transferable.

Where do I find the application, apply, and get additional information?

Applications for all DPOR permits can be found on our website here:

<https://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/permit/index.htm>. Plan accordingly and allow up to 30 days to process your application. The application is entirely online and compatible with computers, smartphones, and tablets.

You can check the land status and ownership using Alaska Mapper, by visiting <https://mapper.dnr.alaska.gov/>. An information sheet on using Alaska Mapper can be found on our website under "Factsheets and Guidance Documents."

Additional questions can be directed to the Park Permitting staff at parkpermitting@alaska.gov