



Wednesday, January 21, 2026

Commercial Recreational Land Use Permit Application

As required by Sitka General Code 14.10 No person may conduct commercial recreational activities on city and borough of Sitka lands subject to this title except as authorized by a permit issued by the municipal staff as designated by the administrator.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Business Name Alaska Charter Service LLC

Primary Contact Travis Peterson

Address [REDACTED]
Sitka, AK, 99835

Phone Number [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

DETAILS OF TOUR OR GUIDED ACTIVITY

Season Start Date Friday, April 10, 2026

Season End Date Friday, September 18, 2026

Commercial Allocations: For each area, the commercial carrying capacity is indicated in the far left column next to the area name, denoted as (maximum client group size/maximum groups per week). For each area at which you would like to request commercial recreational use, check the "Area of use" box. Additionally, provide your maximum proposed group size (clients only, not including guides) for each area; may not exceed commercial carrying capacity maximum group size. For groups per week, provide your estimated number of groups per week based on a season average that will use each area. Enter an estimated total client number using each area in the far right column.

	Area of use	Group Size	Groups per week	Total Clients
Cross Trail North (12/26)				
Cross Trail South (8/23)				
Gavan Hill Access (7/19)				
Indian River (7/23)				
Thimbleberry/Heart Lake (14/24)				

	Area of use	Group Size	Groups per week	Total Clients
Herring Cove/Beaver Lake (7/18)				
Herring Cove Beach (6/24)				
Blue Lake Road (12/26)				
Blue Lake (6/20)				
Green Lake Road (8/26)				
Green Lake (6/20)				
Swan Lake (6/16)				
Eagle Beach ("Back Beach") (6/18)				
Sitka Sound Islands (6/18)				
Baranof Warm Springs (6/18)	✓	6	1	6
Goddard Hot Springs (6/14)				
Other (please list area below)				

Details of tour or guided activity: Fully describe tour or activity in each area, including guided activity, outfitting resources provided, typical areas of use, etc.

We do 5 and 6 day trips out of both Sitka and Petersburg, primarily Sitka. Hosting up to 6 guests We Cruise, fish and explore SE Alaska. Relative to our use at Baranof Hot Springs: 4-6 times a year we will stop at the dock, hike to the lake, enjoy the falls and possibly utilize the springs. I would say only about 60% of our guests use the springs. It's just a nice spot to get off the boat, stretch your legs and enjoy the fantastic scenery!!

Please include the following information and attachments with your application.

Certificate of Insurance (City & Borough of Sitka named as additionally insured)

Safety & Operating plan

File Upload



Baranof operating and safety plan - fin... .pdf



City and Borough of Sitka - Verificatio... .pdf

APPLICANT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Commercial Use Regulations:

- Applications and permits issued under [SGC 14.10 COMMERCIAL RECREATIONAL USE OF MUNICIPAL LANDS AND FACILITIES](#)
- Guidance provided by the [2026 Commercial Recreational Land Use Plan](#)
- Permits shall expire on December 31st of each calendar year.
- Permits are valid only for the dates, times, activities, and areas specified.
- Permits are not automatically renewable. Issuance of a permit shall not entitle any priority or preferential consideration for subsequent, new, or additional permits for the same area or for related uses.
- Permit Fees will be invoiced after January 4, 2026 application closure.

Upon acceptance of a permit, all permittees shall execute an instrument under the terms of which the permittee shall agree to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the City and Borough of Sitka from any and all claims for injury or damage to persons or property suffered in connection with the permittee's activities unless such injury or damage is caused by the gross negligence of the City and Borough of Sitka.

I certify that the business/operator(s) are registered with the CBS Sales Tax Office, unless specifically exempt from collecting and remitting sales taxes for sales outside of City and Borough of Sitka jurisdiction, and have no outstanding judgements to the City and Borough of Sitka.

Terms and Conditions

Accepted

Date

Wednesday, January 21, 2026

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. V.", is placed here.



Operating & Safety Plan – Baranof Warm Springs

Alaska Charter Service LLC – Adventurous

Revised November 2025

**Prepared by: Travis Peterson, Alaska Charter Service
LLC**

**Submitted to: City & Borough of Sitka – Parks &
Recreation Division**

1. Purpose & Scope

This Operating & Safety Plan outlines procedures, expectations, and safety measures for all Alaska Charter Service LLC (A.C.S.) guided visits to Baranof Warm Springs. This document is prepared specifically for City & Borough of Sitka compliance and permitting requirements.

2. Visit Overview

A.C.S. typically visits the area 4–6 times annually with groups of six or fewer. A trained crew member generally accompanies guests to ensure safety and proper behavior. The natural hot springs are approximately one-half mile from the public dock along a mix of boardwalk and rugged forest trail.

3. Guest Safety Briefing

Before leaving the vessel, guests receive a mandatory safety briefing:

- Dock surfaces may be slippery or uneven.
- Boardwalks can be wet or slick from rain and algae.
- Trails beyond the boardwalk are muddy, steep, and uneven.
- Proper footwear is required at all times.
- Wildlife including brown bears may be present.
- Guests must remain with the group.
- Respect posted rules and local residents.
- Guests are asked to use the restroom aboard the vessel before departing, as no public restroom facilities exist at the hot springs.

4. Footwear & Clothing Requirements

Guests must wear secure, non-slip footwear such as hiking shoes or boots. Sandals or bare feet are not permitted until arrival at the soaking pools. Weather layers and hydration are recommended due to rapidly changing conditions.

5. Trail & Terrain Hazards

Hazards include:

- Slippery boardwalks
- Roots, mud, and slick rocks
- Steep areas near the waterfall
- Narrow, uneven trail sections
- Wildlife encounters (primarily brown bears)
- High-velocity water channels near falls

6. Conduct at the Hot Springs

Guests must follow respectful usage rules: - A.C.S. guests wait if other groups are present. - Keep noise low and behavior considerate. - No alcohol misuse. - No soap or foreign substances in natural water. - Do not rearrange rocks or alter natural flow. - Pack out all belongings and trash. - Avoid submerging heads to reduce health risks.

7. Dock & Boardwalk Courtesy

Guests must yield to local users, avoid blocking walkways, and remain aware of residents moving through the area. Crew monitors group spacing and courtesy compliance.

8. Crew Responsibilities

Crew duties include: - Escorting group to/from springs - Carrying first-aid and communication gear - Monitoring conditions and adjusting plans - Enforcing safety and footwear rules - Managing group flow and head counts - Coordinating emergencies with the Adventurous

9. Environmental Stewardship

A.C.S. follows Leave No Trace and City & Borough of Sitka standards: - Pack out all trash - Stay on established trails - Avoid disturbing plants or wildlife - No altering pools or rock features - Respect sensitive natural areas

10. Emergency Action Plan

Crew responses include: - Minor injury: treat onboard or return to vessel - Major injury: contact the Adventurous and request EMS/Coast Guard as needed - Lost guest: immediate crew search and coordinated communication - Wildlife: group consolidation and controlled withdrawal

11. Return Procedure

Guests return as a group unless otherwise instructed. Crew escorts guests back to the dock, manages safe loading, and ensures all gear is secured.

12. Compliance Statement

This plan is designed to meet City & Borough of Sitka Parks & Recreation requirements for commercial guided use at Baranof Warm Springs. A.C.S. acknowledges responsibility for guest safety, environmental protection, and respectful public-land use.