



Saturday, December 27, 2025

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 Bumble Expeditions LLC

Primary Contact Sara Hadad-Dembs

Address [REDACTED]
Sitka, AK, 99835

Phone Number [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

DETAILS OF TOUR OR GUIDED ACTIVITY

Season Start Date Sunday, April 26, 2026

Season End Date Wednesday, September 30, 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)	✓	8	9	48
Gavan Hill Access (7/19)				
Indian River (7/23)	✓	7	10	49
Thimbleberry/Heart Lake (14/24)	✓	14	8	434

	Area of use	Group Size	Groups per week	Total Clients
Herring Cove/Beaver Lake (7/18)	✓	7	7	119
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)				
Goddard Hot Springs (6/14)				
Other (please list area below)				

OTHER - Areas of proposed use not listed above. Please list each area, group size, maximum groups per week and total client estimates.

On the Thimbleberry/Heart Lake trail, we only go as far as the first lake and are on the trail for an average of 20 minutes. We would usually split the group of 14 into two smaller groups of up to 7 to minimize trail use, since two of our three vehicles seat up to 7 passengers.

*notes for attachments - I have attached the End of Season document for 2024 to show that we had a permit for the Forest Service, we have begun the renewal process, but have not been provided with any additional documentation.

The insurance document is current until April 2026 when we will renew it and I can provide the updated document.

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.

Bumble Expeditions LLC

Land Tours last 1.5-2 hours with approximately 20-25 min. of the tour spent on a trail.

Nature hike/sightseeing with tourists

May-September

Max 7 clients/Van(2), Max 11 clients/Sprinter(1)

Areas: Herring Cove, Indian River, Thimbleberry trail, South Cross trail,(used alternatively based on weather/trail condition)

Vehicle trips - Blue Lake Road

Cooperation: Working in small groups and maintaining a respectful distance from other users and visitors.

Nature Hike: Participants must be able to:

Walk on uneven terrain without assistance

Follow verbal and/or visual instructions independently or with the aid of a companion.

Pre-Hike procedure: Bear safety, Bear spray, briefing on bear characteristics, trail rules discussion and hiking on wet/steep terrain discussion and briefing before each trip

Safety Plan: All vehicles carry -Bear Spray, First Aid kit, Emergency Radio
All guides carry cell phones and a Radio/walkie-talkie, check in throughout the day and before and after each trip, and follow a specific tour timeline. Overdue Group Procedure: Attempt to contact the guide, check the vehicle's GPS, and dispatch an employee to verify the route. If no contact - call authorities and notify police, search and rescue if necessary.

Emergency and Evacuation procedure: Notify Police/Fire 911, Notify Alaska State Troopers, District Ranger - USFS 907-747-6671, this procedure will be followed in addition to notifying the cruise dock, Operations Director and Tour supervisor of Bumble Expeditions LLC.

Guides must be CPR certified and participate in annual bear safety training, trail training, and cruise line guideline training.

Please include the following information and attachments with your application.

- Certificate of Insurance (City & Borough of Sitka named as additionally insured)
- Safety & Operating plan
- Additional documentation (as needed/if applicable):
Copy of permit(s) from other agencies for use of joint-jurisdiction areas. If use of Baranof Warm Springs or Goddard Hot Springs is requested, attach copy of bathing instructions/etiquette provided to clients.

File Upload

-  COI for City & Borough of Sitka_7064.pdf
-  20251208LtrEndOfSeasonSigned.pdf
-  Land Tour description - Bumble Exped... .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 judgments to the City and Borough of Sitka.

Terms and Conditions

Accepted

Date

Saturday, December 27, 2025

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized 'D' or 'B' with a vertical line through it.

Bumble ExpeditionsLLC

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