



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

Custom Alaska Cruises

Primary Contact

Chelsea McCarthy

Address

Douglas, Ak, 99824

Phone Number

Email

DETAILS OF TOUR OR GUIDED ACTIVITY

Season Start Date

Monday, June 1, 2026

Season End Date

Thursday, September 10, 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)	✓	less than 12	1	60
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.

2 hour day hikes, 1 x week to Warm Springs.

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


 Baranof Warm Springs Bathing Etiqu... .docx


 Forest Service 2025 wilderness_valu... .docx

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

Friday, January 16, 2026

Signature



Baranof Warm Springs Bathing Etiquette for Custom Alaska Cruises Guests:

Key Etiquette Points

- **Leave No Trace**: Pack out everything you pack in (trash, bottles, etc.).
- **Clothing**: Bathing suites are required for our guests. Swimsuits are typical in the public, mixed-gender outdoor pools, but clothing is optional in the private bathhouse rooms, though sandals/shoes are recommended for rocky areas.
- **Hygiene**: Use the private bathhouse rooms to scrub the tub with provided brushes/soap after use, then empty and refill it for the next person.
- **What to Bring**: Water (in a non-glass bottle), plastic cups, towels, and sturdy footwear (sandals/deck shoes).
- **What to Leave Behind**: Street clothes, underwear, street shoes, glass containers, and jewelry (which can tarnish).
- **Respect Others**: Keep noise down, be mindful of children present, and understand that it's a public space where experiences vary.
- **Stay Hydrated**: Drink plenty of water while soaking.

Specifics for Baranof

- **Private Tubs**: The bathhouse has three private rooms with tubs that are emptied and refilled, requiring a scrub-down after each use.
- **Public Pools**: Outdoor pools are mixed-gender; wear a swimsuit for comfort and respect