



Friday, January 2, 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** Sitka Walking Tours LLC

**Primary Contact** Andrew Hinton

**Address** [REDACTED]  
Sitka, AK, 99835

**Phone Number** [REDACTED]

**Email** [REDACTED]

### DETAILS OF TOUR OR GUIDED ACTIVITY

**Season Start Date** Sunday, April 19, 2026

**Season End Date** Saturday, October 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)	✓	8	7	540
Gavan Hill Access (7/19)				
Indian River (7/23)	✓	7	1	92
Thimbleberry/Heart Lake (14/24)	✓	7	1	64

	Area of use	Group Size	Groups per week	Total Clients
Herring Cove/Beaver Lake (7/18)	✓	7	2	198
Herring Cove Beach (6/24)				
Blue Lake Road (12/26)	✓	7	2	198
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.**

n/a

**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.**

This is our 4th year applying for city permits - we have deeply appreciated being able to offer these hikes, and are glad to be able to support the management of these trails. We are applying for the same usage as last summer.

A much more detailed view including maps, training requirements, and more is in our Safety & Operating plan.

Cross Trail South - 1.5 hours on Parks & Rec property. The hike would walk from the Baranof Trailhead up to the main Cross Trail. The group would continue south until the National Forest boundary near the Gavan Hill trailhead. The group would then turn around and come back to town. Our guides are trained as naturalists, given extensive training in local history, all of our guides to this point have been locals. The guides also receive training in basic first aid administration. We provide tourists with trekking poles, and raingear if requested.

Indian River - 2 hours on Parks & Rec property. The hike would start from the trailhead parking lot off of Indian River Rd, walk in about 2 miles, depending on the ability of the hikers, and return to the trailhead. This is an alternate route for our Beaver Lake hike offering, and would be used depending on the physical needs of the hikers, or based on Blue Lake Rd closures. Our guides are trained as naturalists, given extensive training in local history, all of our guides to this point have been locals. The guides also receive training in basic first aid administration. We provide tourists with trekking poles, and raingear if requested.

Thimbleberry/Heart Lake - 2 hours on Parks & Rec property. The hike would start from the trailhead parking lot on SMC, walk to Heart Lake, and return to the trailhead. This is an alternate route for our Beaver Lake hike offering, and would be used depending on the physical needs of the hikers, or based on Blue Lake Rd closures. Our guides are trained as naturalists, given extensive training in local history, all of our guides to this point have been locals. The guides also receive training in basic first aid administration. We provide tourists with trekking poles, and raingear if requested.

Herring Cove/Beaver Lake - 2 hours on Parks & Rec property. The hike would start from the Blue Lake Campground trailhead, walk to Beaver Lake, and return to the trailhead. Our guides are trained as naturalists, given extensive training in local history, all of our guides to this point have been locals. The guides also receive training in basic first aid administration. We provide tourists with trekking poles, and raingear if requested.

Blue Lake Road - We are including this in our application because we would like to travel on this road to the Beaver Lake trailhead at the campground, which involves using the Blue Lake Road.

**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**

 City and Borough of Sitka, 100 Lincoln... .pdf

 2026 CBS Parks & Rec permit Safety... .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 buiness/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 2, 2026

**Signature**

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized, cursive letter 'Z' followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.