

Department of Natural Resources

Division of Mining, Land and Water



Fact Sheet: Permits

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Division of Mining, Land and Water (DMLW) is responsible for managing all state-owned land except for state parks, and land owned or managed by other state agencies such as the University of Alaska, Alaska Mental Health Trust, Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, or the Alaska Railroad. State-owned lands include uplands, tidelands, submerged lands, shorelands, and waters. DMLW manages these lands to make them available to all Alaskans for both private and commercial uses. Certain activities and uses may require authorization.

Who needs a permit?

When using state-owned lands, most temporary activities and structures (can be removed within 48 hours) for a commercial or business purpose will require a permit. Examples include commercial docks and mooring buoys, commercial lodges, guide camps, scientific research camps, events with more than 50 people, portable radio repeaters, equipment staging areas, cross-country movement of heavy equipment, and the harvest of state resources for commercial purposes.

There are instances where non-commercial use of state-owned lands requires a permit, such as moving heavy equipment.

If the activity involves day use commercial recreation on state-owned lands without the use of overnight camps, or storing equipment or personal belongings overnight, a permit is most likely not needed, but would require Day Use Registration. More information can be found at:

dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/lands/permitting/commercial-recreation-day-use-registration/

For a list of activities on state land that do not require a permit, or “Generally Allowed Uses”, and information on special use areas, contact a DNR Public Information Center or one of the DMLW Regional Offices.

What types of permits are there?

Land Use Permits (LUP) are issued for structures and activities that will be occurring for more than 14 days at a particular location.

Commercial Recreation Permits (CRP) are typically issued to businesses using mobile camps. Under a CRP, you may

remain in one location for up to 14 days. On or before the 14th day, the camp must be relocated at least 2 miles.

Trapping Cabin Permits are issued to individuals for the sole purpose of shelter while conducting trapping activities. Please refer to the [Trapping Cabin Permit Fact Sheet](#) for more detailed information regarding this authorization.

Non-Timber Forest Product Permits are issued for the commercial harvest of forest products such as bark, berries, boughs, burls, chaga, conks, cones, diamond willow, landscaping transplants, mushrooms, and sap. This permit does not authorize the harvest of trees, timber, rocks or other aggregates. For more detailed information regarding this authorization please visit dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/ntfp/.

Limited Material Sale Contracts are issued for the use of up to 200 cubic yards of stone, gravel, sand, and other aggregates. Please refer to the [Material Sales in Alaska Fact Sheet](#) for more detailed information regarding this authorization.

How long will it take to get a permit?

LUP applications typically begin with a 14-day public and agency notice, after which the Division evaluates any public or agency comments received and determines whether the issuance of a permit would be in the interest of the state. The Division processes applications in the order they were received, and it is always best to give the Division as much lead time as possible. Incomplete applications require follow up and a delay in issuance.

CRPs are specifically designed to provide authorization for those conducting a low impact recreational activity on state owned land. A CRP can typically be issued the same day as the completed permit form and appropriate land use fee are received by the Division. Incomplete applications may require follow up and a delay in issuance.

How do I apply for a permit?

- To apply for a **LUP**:
 - Check the land status to be sure that your applied-for location(s) is on state land
 - Submit a completed LUP Application and Supplemental Questionnaires that apply to your activity

- Provide a map identifying the location of the activity
- Pay the non-refundable application fee
- To apply for a **CRP**:
 - Check the land status to be sure that where you plan to operate is on state land
 - Submit a completed Commercial Recreation Permit Form
 - Pay the appropriate fee for the duration of your permit

Do I need insurance?

Yes. Liability insurance, as well as a performance guarantee, may be required for both **LUPs** and **CRPs**.

How much does a permit cost?

LUPs and **CRPs** require the payment of annual fees. The annual fee may depend on the type of use, duration of activity, and size of structures. For a detailed list of all fees, see [11 AAC 05.180](#) and [Director’s Fee Order No. 3](#).

How long is a permit valid for?

LUPs may be issued for up to five years.

CRPs are issued for up to a single calendar year, expiring on December 31 of the year issued.

What happens when my permit expires?

Upon expiration of a **LUP** you may apply for another term of up to 5 years. A permit may be extended by one year, provided there are no significant changes. Please see [11 AAC 05.180](#) and [Director’s Fee Order No. 3](#).

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

No. Permits are not transferable.

Where do I find applications, apply, and get additional information?

Applications and forms can be found online at dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/forms/, or by visiting any of our three offices as listed below.

Applications can be submitted by mail, fax, hand delivery to one of our three offices, or by email if you are currently working with an adjudicator.

You can check the land status and ownership using Alaska Mapper, by visiting mapper.dnr.alaska.gov.

Information can be found at our website by visiting dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/.

For additional information please contact one of the Regional Offices

Anchorage/Southcentral
 Public Information Center
 550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1360
 Anchorage, AK 99501-3561
 Phone: (907) 269-8400
 Fax: (907) 269-8901
dnr.pic@alaska.gov

Juneau/Southeast
 Regional Land Office
 P.O. Box 111020
 400 Willoughby Avenue, 4th Floor
 Juneau, AK 99811-1020
 Phone: (907) 465-3400
 Fax: (907) 465-3886
sero@alaska.gov

Fairbanks/Northern
 Public Information Center
 3700 Airport Way
 Fairbanks, AK 99709-4699
 Phone: (907) 451-2705
 Fax: (907) 451-2706
fbx-pic@alaska.gov

Statewide TTY – 711 for Alaska Relay or 1-800-770-8973