



## Western Arctic National Parklands

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### Park Specific Research Permit Conditions & Stipulations

#### GENERAL

Field crews must carry a copy of the park issued research use permit while conducting operations in the backcountry.

See *General Conditions for Scientific Research and Collecting Permit* for additional guidance:

<http://science.nature.nps.gov/research/ac/ResearchIndex>.

Investigator(s) will abide by all agency and park-specific regulations. Code of Federal Regulations 36 CFR 1, General Provisions ([http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/waisidx\\_04/36cfr1\\_04.html](http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/waisidx_04/36cfr1_04.html)) and 36 CFR 2, Resource Protection, Public Use and Recreation ([http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/waisidx\\_04/36cfr2\\_04.html](http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/waisidx_04/36cfr2_04.html)). A park compendium will be supplied with your approved research permit that outlines park specific regulations. The document is also available online at: <http://www.nps.gov/cakr/parkmgmt/managementdocs.htm>.

Logistical arrangements (transportation, housing) are the responsibility of the Investigator(s), except where explicit arrangements have been agreed to by Park staff.

Permittee agrees to reimburse any costs incurred by the National Park Service to correct damages or actions caused by failure to comply with the provisions stated in the permit.

The issuance of a research permit does not provide the permittee with preferential rights, nor does it assure future approval of similar research projects.

Field work conducted under authority of the permit shall be carried out in such a way as not to impede other legitimate uses of the public lands, except when special provision has been made by the National Park Service.

When encountering people engaged in subsistence pursuits such as fishing or hunting, do not approach unless invited to do so. Do not interfere with their activities or take actions that could spook fish or game or otherwise prevent them from being successful in their endeavors. Do not remove or alter what may appear to be unattended gear or camp sites.

#### LAND OWNERSHIP

The permittee is responsible for knowing the land ownership status of their research activity sites within the units of the Western Arctic National Parklands.

Permits issued by the National Park Service are not applicable to private lands within the park boundary. Researchers wishing to conduct activities or establish camps or caches on private lands must first obtain permission from the land owner. If the lands are selected but not yet conveyed to Native corporations, the State of Alaska, or Native allotment applicants, the permittee must furnish a written statement of no objection from the potential land owner. Failure to provide a written statement prior to the starting date of the field work will void the National Park Service permit.

#### SPECIMEN COLLECTION

A Loan Agreement (Form 10-127) must be completed between the Service and an authorized official of an approved curatorial facility and prior to the removal from the Park of any item collected under the authority of this permit. (The maximum term of the Loan Agreement may be no longer than 5 years.) In the absence of a Loan Agreement, or upon the termination of a Loan Agreement or this permit, all items and records will be transferred to the National Park Service. The permittee will insure that all items are temporarily curated in an approved facility meeting all National Park Service requirements. Final disposition of all items will be in an approved, designated repository specified by the Service in accordance with approved policies and procedures.

## **CULTURAL RESOURCES**

It is recommended that all members of research field crews attend a brief cultural resources orientation prior to entering the field. In some instances, project activities will result in mandatory orientation attendance. Project leads will be notified in advance if the cultural resources orientation is required.

Cultural resources must not be adversely impacted by your research activities. Permittee is prohibited from disturbing any feature that exhibits characteristics of being man-made or placed in its location and position by humans. Any ground disturbances must be specifically authorized by the permit in advance. Report any evidence you find of artifacts, such as lithic scatters or historic trash or features to the Park Chief of Cultural Resources or other contact specified in your permit.

Information relating to the location, nature, or character of archeological or historic resources will be withheld from disclosure to the public, including the media, unless the permittee obtains the express approval for the release of such information from the Superintendent.

## **WILDERNESS**

Most land within Western Arctic National Parklands is designated, recommended or potential wilderness. All research activities are subject to "minimum requirements" scrutiny as described in the Wilderness Act. For areas managed as wilderness, restrictions apply that may affect the approval of transportation means, field work timing and frequency, group size, base camp locations, and the use of motorized tools. Activities should be limited to the minimum necessary to meet the objectives of your approved proposal.

## **AIRCRAFT OPERATION**

Authorization must be requested in advance when research requires landing aircraft within the Park boundaries. Aircraft use will comply with all applicable FAA regulations and guidelines. All research activities involving aircraft use will follow FAA Advisory Circular (91-36C) which encourages a minimum altitude of 2,000 feet above the highest landform to reduce any potential interference or impact on wildlife, visitor uses, sensitive natural or archeological sites or recreation use from low-flying aircraft. As much as possible, all flights will use minimum distances between points within the Park. Proposed aircraft operations are subject to NEPA, ANILCA Section 810, and NHPA Section 106 review and approval. Non-NPS researchers who make advance arrangements to utilize NPS owned or contracted aircraft must meet NPS aviation training requirements.

## **HELICOPTER OPERATION**

Helicopter use requires advance approval from the Superintendent.

## **WATERCRAFT OPERATION**

Operation of all watercraft within Park boundaries will be in accordance with USCG regulations. Vessels used in the study will meet or exceed the minimum safety standards for vessels and associated equipment, including PFD's, lights, flares, spill kits and fire extinguishers.

## **ATV OPERATION**

All-terrain vehicle operation may be approved in very limited locations. If the research requires use of all-terrain vehicles within the Park, or use of a NPS-owned ATV in a local village, authorization must be requested in advance. Operators of NPS-owned ATVs must attend NPS approved training prior to use.

## **FUEL CACHES & CONTAINMENT**

All fuel caches must have prior written approval from the Superintendent. A written request must include the exact location of the proposed fuel cache including a map and GPS coordinates (if available) AND the reason for the cache. If approved, all fuel caches must be removed from the park on or before November 15. In cases where drum fuel is utilized, permittee must follow all guidelines outlined in the US Department of the Interior, Aviation Management Operational Procedures Memorandum (OPM) 06-AR-20: Drum Fuel Management.

## **PERMANENT MARKERS & FIELD EQUIPMENT**

All equipment left in the field, including plot markers, must be specifically authorized in advance. All traps, tags, flags, etc., which are temporarily left in the field must be marked with the investigator's name, date of installation, phone number, research study number (Research Study #XXXX using the last four digits of your permanent study number) and the expected date of removal.

Equipment must be as unobtrusive as possible and should not interfere with visitor enjoyment of the Park as a natural area. Park staff will remove unmarked devices.

### **PROJECT TRASH & DEBRIS REMOVAL**

The investigator must remove all trash and debris by the end of the permitted period. All equipment and devices must be completely removed by the end of the study period, except where an extension has been authorized by the Superintendent in writing. Pack out all trash. Do not rely on burning trash as a method of disposal because trash, particularly wet food, remains unburned and serves as a bear attractant. Do not attempt to remove trash other than your own, as it is possible to irreparably damage historic sites by doing so. Report finds of trash to Park headquarters, providing photographs and location information.

### **HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**

The proper use, care and disposal of hazardous materials brought into the Park and/or headquarters remain the responsibility of the investigator. Specific authorization must be obtained before using hazardous materials (including fuels) in the Park. Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) for the hazardous materials must be provided to the Research Permit Coordinator prior to entering the Park and must also be in your possession while you are in the Park. The investigator will properly contain, dispose of and remove all hazardous materials from the Park and local community by the end of the permitted period. Any hazardous material spill must be reported to Park personnel. Spills will be cleaned up in accordance with 40 CFR and all applicable state environmental quality laws regarding disposal and clean up of hazardous materials and wastes.

### **BACKCOUNTRY CAMPING & TRAVEL**

Use minimum impact and "Leave no Trace" techniques. Use existing campsites or areas with barren ground when available. Avoid trampling vegetation around camp and other work areas. Minimize the use and impact of fires. Use existing fire rings if fires are necessary, and use only dead or downed wood.

Bear safety: Store food, trash and other scent attractants in approved bear resistant containers at all times. Other effective means of food storage, such as the use of bear fences, must be approved by the Superintendent. Kitchen area should be sited approximately 100 meters from campsites. Keep tents, sleeping bags, and personal gear free of food odors. Although the carrying of firearms is allowed, the carrying and use of EPA-approved pepper spray is recommended as an additional precaution. Report all human-bear conflicts to Park staff as soon as possible.

Human waste: Burying human feces is usually a suitable solution if carrying out waste is not feasible. Avoid pollution of water sources, by digging catholes (individual use latrine holes) at least 100 feet from lakeshores or the ordinary mean high water mark. Pack out or thoroughly burn all toilet paper.

### **HUNTING & FISHING**

Hunting in Cape Krusenstern National Monument and Kobuk Valley National Park is open only to federally qualified subsistence users. Hunting in Bering Land Bridge and Noatak National Preserves is subject to state regulations. Sport fishing is cooperatively managed by the NPS and State of Alaska. An Alaska State fishing license is required for all anglers age 16 and older. Bag and possession limits vary by species and area; refer to current sport fishing regulations available through ADF&G.