

General Conditions for Conducting Research in Gates of the Arctic National Park & Preserve

Pre Field Season Requirements

1. A scientific permit from Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve does not apply to lands outside the jurisdiction of the National Park Service. Investigators must determine if their study will be conducted in and/or involves travel through lands selected but not conveyed to Native corporations, the State of Alaska or Native allotments. If so, the permittee must furnish the National Park Service with a written statement of non-objection from the potential land owner.
2. Anyone flying in U.S. government contracted or government owned aircraft (fixed-wing or helicopter) must have current Office of Aircraft Safety (OAS) Basic Aviation Safety training (renewable every 3 years).
3. We require that non-NPS personnel or groups who choose to carry firearms in the field, must have at least one member who has passed the Alaska Regional Firearms Certification Training Course for non-law enforcement personnel or an equivalent firearm and bear safety training course (this certification must be renewed annually).
4. All parties must complete a Visitor Registration Form by calling or visiting the Bettles Ranger Station prior to entering the field. These forms are available at Bettles Field Office, by calling 907-692-5494 or by downloading from our website at http://www.nps.gov/gaar/planyourvisit/upload/BC_Visitor_registration.pdf.

In Field Work Requirements

5. Air drops of food and supplies or fuel caches are prohibited unless specifically allowed in the permit.
6. The caching of unattended food, garbage or equipment is not permitted. All food and garbage must be secured in bear resistant containers. Other means of food, garbage and equipment storage must have prior approval from the superintendent. All trash, equipment, and other materials shall be removed.
7. Permittee is asked to strive to locate campsites on durable surfaces, i.e. sand and gravel bars or bedrock. Camps located on vegetated sites must be relocated every few days if impacts on the vegetation are observed. Camps will consist only of temporary structures.
8. Self-contained campstove use is encouraged in lieu of campfires. If campfires are used they are restricted to areas below the high water mark on gravel or sand bars unless a fire cloth or fire pan is utilized. All signs of fires must be obliterated when campsite is abandoned.
9. The 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 this permit. Accidents or incidents resulting in death, personal injury requiring medical care, or property damage or loss over \$300 per incident will be reported to the Superintendent at the earliest possible time.
10. The permittee or designated field staff shall carry a copy of this permit while in the park.

Post Field Work Requirements

11. An Investigator's Annual Report (IAR) will be provided to the park's IAR coordinator by February 1, the following year. This report should summarize the data collected during the prior field season and provide a map showing sample locations, survey lines, all aircraft landing locations, and any other significant findings, activities or events, such as wildlife interactions.
12. Copies of all published and grey literature papers including copies of any defended thesis, produced as a result of work conducted under this permit will be provided to the park.
13. A safety and Leave No Trace (LNT) orientation is required for the permittee or designee prior to beginning field efforts. Orientation may take place in Fairbanks, Coldfoot, Bettles, or Anaktuvuk Pass and must be arranged in advance. Safety and LNT practices must be relayed to all field crew members prior to beginning field work. If researchers are not accessing the park via any of the 4 orientation locations listed above, alternative arrangements may be made with the Bettles Field Office.
14. Investigator(s) may be asked to do a project presentation for Park staff or one geared to a non-scientific audience for the general public. The objective of this request is to facilitate public education efforts on behalf of Park resources and the scientific studies associated with them.
15. Investigator(s) will provide a layman's abstract (less than one page) to the park prior to conducting their study. This abstract will be distributed among park staff to inform them and park visitors about current research activities within the park.