

# SITKA NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

## Superintendents Compendium

### 2026

National Park Service (NPS) regulations applicable to the protection and equitable public use of units of the National Park System grant specified authorities to a park superintendent to allow or restrict certain activities. NPS regulations are found in Titles 36 and 43 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and created under authority and responsibility granted the Secretary of Interior in Titles 16 and 54 of the United States Code. The following compendium comprises a listing of NPS regulations where the Superintendent has exercised discretionary authority to make designations or impose public use restrictions or conditions in park areas. The applicability and scope of the compendium is articulated in 36 CFR Sections 1.2 and 13.2, and 43 CFR Section 36.1. A complete and accurate picture of regulations governing use and protection of the unit can only be gained by viewing this compendium in context with the full body of applicable regulations found in Titles 36 and 43 CFR. *Please contact Sitka National Historical Park, Sitka, Alaska at (907) 747-0110 for questions relating to information provided in this compendium.*

#### **PART 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

##### **36 CFR §1.6 – ACTIVITIES THAT REQUIRE A PERMIT**

**(f) The following activities are prohibited except under the terms of a valid permit from the Superintendent. Permits must be obtained in advance and in writing from the Sitka National Historic Park Visitor Center during regular business hours or via mail addressed to Superintendent, Sitka National Historic Park, 103 Monastery St. Sitka, AK 99835.**

- Collecting research specimens, 2.5
- Operating a power saw in developed areas, 2.12(a)(2)
- Operating a portable motor or engine in undeveloped areas, 2.12(a)(3)
- Operating a public address system, 2.12(a)(4)
- Air delivery, 2.17(a)(3)
- Noncommercial soliciting, 2.37
- Using, possessing, storing, or transporting explosives, blasting agents, or explosive materials, 2.38(a)
- Using or possessing fireworks and firecrackers, 2.38(b)
- Special events, 2.50(a)
- Demonstrations involving 26 or more persons, 2.51
- Sale and distribution of printed matter or other message-bearing items for First Amendment purposes by groups of 26 or more persons, 2.52
- Grazing, 2.60(a)(1), (2)
- Residing on federal lands, 2.61(a)
- Installing a monument or other commemorative installation, 2.62(a)
- Towing a person using a parasail, hang glider, or other airborne device, 3.12(b)
- Removing sunken, grounded, or disabled vessels, 3.14(a)
- Operating a submersible, 3.19
- Commercial notices or advertisements, 5.1
- Commercial operations, 5.3

- Commercial Passenger-Carrying Motor Vehicles, 5.4(a)
- Construction or repair of any building, structure, facility, road, trail, or airstrip on federal lands, 5.7
- Scientific research, 13.50
- Launching, landing, or operating unmanned aircraft, 13.50
- Salvaging, removing, possessing aircraft, 43 CFR 36.11 (f)(3)(ii)
- Helicopter use, 43 CFR 36.11(f)(4)
- Off-road vehicle (ORV) use, 43 CFR 36.11(g)(2)
- Temporary access across federal land for survey, geophysical or exploratory work, 43 CFR 36.12(c)
- Some filming, still photography, and audio recording (depends upon the facts and circumstances; contact the park for more information). 36 CFR 13.50 and 54 U.S.C. 100905.

## **GENERAL REGULATIONS**

### **PART 2. RESOURCE PROTECTION, PUBLIC USE AND RECREATION**

#### **36 CFR §2.1 – PRESERVATION OF NATURAL, CULTURAL, AND ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

##### **(c)(1)-(3) Designated fruits, nuts, berries, and unoccupied seashells to harvest by hand for personal use and collection restrictions:**

- All edible fruits, berries and/or nuts may be gathered by hand for personal use or consumption in reasonable amounts not to exceed two quarts per person per day.

*Determination: Limited consumption of these resources does not adversely affect the reproduction of either the plants or the wildlife food source. If future monitoring indicates that such gathering or consumption is likely to cause adverse effects to park resources, then the authorization of this consumptive use will be terminated. Use of these items for any purpose other than personal consumption is specifically prohibited. Certain fruits, nuts, and berries may not be suitable for human consumption.*

#### **36 CFR §2.4 – WEAPONS, TRAPS AND NETS**

**(b)(2)(ii) Individuals are authorized to possess firearms in NPS areas in accordance with applicable state and federal law. With the exception, possession of firearms is prohibited in federally owned or leased buildings. The laws regarding discharge of firearms remain unchanged.**

*Determination: Firearms are prohibited in federal facilities in accordance with federal law.*

#### **36 CFR §2.10 – CAMPING AND FOOD STORAGE**

**(a) The areas listed below have been designated for camping activities. The following conditions pertain to all camping activities within park as noted:**

Camping is prohibited in the park except for NPS staff, volunteers, researchers or partners who have permission from the Superintendent to do so and service organizations, as provided in a special use permit. (See Part 13.1802(a)).

*Determination: Recreational camping is inconsistent with the mission of the park.*

### **36 CFR §2.13 – FIRES**

**(a)(1) The lighting or maintaining of fires is generally prohibited, except as provided for in the following designated areas and/or receptacles, and under the conditions noted:**

Fires are prohibited within park boundaries unless otherwise approved by the superintendent for cultural/religious purposes.

*Determination: These restrictions are implemented to reduce the chance of wildland fire, which can quickly spread to contiguous state and private lands. They also serve to protect the natural and cultural resources of the park.*

### **36 CFR §2.15 – PETS**

**(a)(3) Conditions for leaving pets unattended and tied to an object.**

- Pets may be left unattended on park grounds for a brief period of time, not to exceed fifteen minutes. Unattended pets must be restrained. Pets may be briefly leashed to a signpost or porch post, provided they do not disturb other park visitors, restrict access or obstruct roads or walkways. Unattended pets may remain in personal vehicles in a park parking lot a maximum of four hours, provided the vehicle has adequate ventilation and the pet does not make an unreasonable amount of noise.

*Determination: These requirements are intended to ensure pets do not harass wildlife or disturb park visitors and to ensure pets are properly cared for in the park.*

**(a)(5) Pet owners must properly dispose of pet excrement deposited in the park. All excrement must be removed from park trails and grounds. Owners may dispose of excrement in covered waste cans provided throughout the park.**

*Determination: This requirement is intended to keep commonly visited areas sanitary.*

### **36 CFR §2.18 – SNOWMOBILES**

**(c) There are no designated areas for use.**

See also, 43 CFR 36.11(c) regarding snowmachine use for traditional activities.

### **36 CFR §2.21 – SMOKING**

- Within all government owned, leased, or administered buildings or vehicles.
- Smoking is also prohibited within 100 feet of these office and facilities including the park fuel storage facility.
- Within the footprint area of the Kiks.ádi Fort site.

Additional smoking restrictions may apply during periods of state or local fire burn bans.

*Determination: The purpose of these restrictions is to protect park resources, reduce the risk of fire, and prevent conflicts among visitor use activities. These restrictions are intended to protect public safety from fire or explosion around fuel storage and dispensing facilities. Electronic cigarettes, or e-cigs, are included in the above restrictions.*

### **36 CFR §2.35 –ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES**

**(a)(3)(i) The consumption of alcoholic beverages, and possession of open alcoholic beverage containers or other receptacles containing an alcoholic beverage is prohibited within the park.**

*Determination: Consumption of an alcoholic beverage and/or the possession of an open container of an alcoholic beverage is inappropriate considering other uses of the location and the purposes for which the park is maintained and established.*

### **36 CFR §2.51 DEMONSTRATIONS**

**(b)(1) Demonstrations involving 25 persons or fewer may be held without a permit in the following designated park areas within the provisions of 36CFR §2.51.**

Sitka National Historical Park has designated a location at the top of the serpentine walkway and next to the upper parking lot (see attached map) as an area for First Amendment demonstrations, distribution, or selling of printed matter. All are required to remain within the designated demonstration area. Activities must not block ingress or egress to buildings or roadways.

### **36 CFR §2.52 SALE OR DISTRIBUTION OF PRINTED MATTER**

**(b)(1) Sale or distribution activity involving 25 persons or fewer may be conducted without a permit in the following designated park areas within the provisions of 36CFR §2.52.**

Sitka National Historical Park has designated a location at the top of the serpentine walkway and next to the upper parking lot (see attached map) as an area for First Amendment demonstrations, distribution, or selling of printed matter. All are required to remain within the designated demonstration area. Activities must not block ingress or egress to buildings or roadways.

### **36 CFR §2.62 – MEMORIALIZATION**

**(b) The scattering of human ashes is prohibited except pursuant to the terms and conditions of a permit, or in areas designated by the Superintendent.**

## **PART 3. BOATING AND WATER USE ACTIVITIES**

### **36 CFR § 3.14 – REMOVAL OF SUNKEN, GROUNDED, OR DISBALED VESSELS**

**(a) A permit is required from the Superintendent before sunken, grounded, or disabled vessels may be removed from waters within NPS administered areas except when the operator is able to remove or repair the vessel on site safely and without potential for damage to resources.**

*Determination: This requirement allows the Superintendent to establish terms and conditions for salvage operations as necessary to protect resources and provide for public safety.*

### **36 CFR § 3.16 SWIMMING AND WADING**

No areas designated as closed to swimming.

## **PART 4. VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC SAFETY**

### **36 CFR §4.30 – BICYCLE USE**

(h)(1) The use of a bicycle is prohibited except on park roads, in parking areas, and on routes designated for bicycle use. The riding of bicycles on trails or sidewalks is prohibited.

(i)(1) The use of an electric bicycle or specific classes of electric bicycles is prohibited except on park roads, parking areas, and on routes designated to electric bicycles. The riding of e-bikes on trails or sidewalks is prohibited.

(i)(7) No additional restrictions or conditions in areas designated as open to electric bicycle use. See 36 CFR 4.30(i) for more information.

*Determination: The Superintendent has determined that bicycles may cause excessive erosion to trails, not listed above, and that the recreational aspect of "mountain biking" conflicts with user groups seeking solitude and to limit the risk of serious injury to the bicyclist, pedestrians, or wildlife.*

### **36 CFR §4.31 – HITCHHIKING**

All areas are open to hitchhiking.

### **36 CFR §5.3-COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS**

Engaging in or soliciting any business in park areas, except in accordance with the provisions of a permit, contract, or other written agreement with the United States, except as such may be specifically authorized under special regulations applicable to a park area, is prohibited.

### **36 CFR §5.4- COMMERCIAL PASSENGER-CARRYING MOTOR VEHICLE**

- (a) Commercial transportation of passengers by motor vehicle except as authorized under a contract or permit from the Secretary or his authorized representative is prohibited.

## **PART 13. ALASKA REGULATIONS**

### **36 CFR § 13.1802 –PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES**

- (a) Camping.
- (b) Riding a bicycle is prohibited on trails within the boundaries of Sitka National Historical Park.
- (c) The use of roller skates, skateboards, roller skis, in-line skates, and other similar devices.

## **36 CFR § 13.50- CLOSURES AND RESTRICTIONS**

### **Visiting Hours:**

The Park is a “day use area.” The park is **open** during the following hours:

- May 15 to September 30, 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
- October 1 to May 14, 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The park is **closed** during the following hours:

- May 15 to September 30, 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.
- October 1 to May 14, 8:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.

Violating the scheduled **closed** hours is prohibited with following exception:

Pedestrian through-traffic is allowed on the section of trail between Sawmill Creek Road, over the Indian River footbridge and to or from the upper Visitor Center parking lot after park is closed - provided that pedestrians do not loiter. All other portions of the trail system and the park are closed. (see attached map).

*Determination: These operating hours are necessary to protect the facilities from inappropriate uses in order to protect the natural and cultural resources from resource damage, theft, vandalism and inappropriate group activities during nighttime hours. It is also necessary for visitor safety.*

### **Restrictions:**

#### **Parking lots:**

Designated spaces of the upper Visitor Center parking lot are reserved for tour buses and oversized vehicles between 7:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. from May 1 to September 30.

Both upper and lower Visitor Center parking lots are closed to all use after park grounds are closed.

No overnight parking is allowed within park boundaries.

*Determination: The parking lots have been designed with the intent of segregating different types of vehicles into different zones. This segregation promotes safety for visitors and reduces wear on pavement. Commercial transportation services reduce personal vehicle use and reduce overall parking space requirements. Closure of parking lots overnight are necessary to protect the facilities from inappropriate uses in order to protect the natural and cultural resources from resource damage, theft, vandalism and inappropriate group activities during nighttime hours. It is also necessary for visitor safety.*

#### **Consuming food and beverages in park buildings:**

Consuming food and beverages are not permitted inside the Russian Bishop's House. Eating and drinking is only allowed in the following spaces inside the Visitor Center: theater, Artist Studios, Conference Room, kitchen, and park staff offices.

*Determination: Consuming food and beverages can cause pest and sanitation issues if not properly cleaned or disposed after use.*

#### **Unmanned aircraft:**

Launching, landing, or operating an uncrewed or remotely piloted aircraft from or on lands and waters administered by the National Park Service within the boundaries of Sitka National Historical Park is prohibited except as approved in writing by the superintendent.

The term "unmanned aircraft" means a device that is used or intended to be used for flight in the air without the possibility of direct human intervention from within or on the device, and the associated operational elements and components that are required for the pilot or system operator in command to operate or control the device (such as cameras, sensors, communication links). This term includes all types of devices that meet this definition (e.g., model airplanes, quadcopters, drones) that are used for any purpose, including for recreation or commerce.

In Park areas where use of model aircraft for hobbyist or recreational use has been previously authorized, such use may continue under a permit issued by the Superintendent.

This restriction does not affect the primary jurisdiction of the Federal Aviation Administration over the National Airspace System.

*Determination: The use of unmanned aircraft potentially presents unacceptable risks to visitors (collisions between unmanned aircraft and visitors, the uncontrolled fall of unmanned aircraft, contact with spinning propellers or rotors of unmanned aircraft). The use of unmanned aircraft adversely impacts visitor experiences by negatively affecting scenic and natural sound opportunities, and by potentially interfering with wildlife. Additionally, the unregulated use of unmanned aircraft would potentially violate several other regulations in Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations, including §2.2 Frightening Wildlife, §2.12 - Creating an Audio disturbance, §2.17 - Delivering or Retrieving an Object by Airborne Means, §2.34 - Making Unreasonable Noise, §2.34 - Creating or Maintaining a Hazardous Condition, and §5.13 - Creating or Maintaining a Nuisance.*

**Filming, still photography, and audio recording activity may require a permit, consistent with 54 U.S.C. 100905:**

- Filming, still photography, and audio recording activity that occurs in closed areas, requires exclusive use of a site or area, or involves a set or staging equipment other than handheld equipment (such as a tripod, monopod, and handheld lighting equipment) requires a permit, unless the activity is affiliated with an activity or event that has been allowed under a written authorization, such as a special use permit.
- Filming, still photography, and audio recording that involves more than eight individuals requires a permit, unless the NPS has specifically notified an individual or group that a permit is not required, or if the activity is affiliated with an activity or event that has been allowed under a written authorization, such as a special use permit.
- If a permit is required for the reasons stated above, or if the NPS otherwise determines and then notifies an individual or group that a permit is required for a filming, still photography, or audio recording activity, then engaging in that activity without a permit is prohibited. Violating a term or condition of a permit issued by the NPS for a filming, still photography, or audio recording activity is prohibited, and may result in the suspension or revocation of the permit, in addition to any penalties that may apply under 36 CFR 1.3.

*Federal law at 54 U.S.C. 100905 states that permits and fees are not required for filming, still photography, or audio recording in park areas if certain requirements are met. These requirements address various topics, including, but not limited to, group size, location, equipment, potential impacts to resources and visitors, and the likelihood that the NPS will incur related administrative costs. If any of these requirements are not met, the law allows the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the NPS, to require a permit for the subject activity. Permit requirements are imposed by the*

*superintendent under discretionary authority provided by 36 CFR 13.50, which allows the superintendent to restrict activities in NPS areas in Alaska. The general regulations for permits in 36 CFR 1.6 and 13.55 do not apply to permits issued for filming, still photography, and audio recording, which instead are governed by the statutory provisions in 54 U.S.C. 100905. The imposition of permit requirements, on a case-by-case basis, for filming, still photography, or audio recording does not require rulemaking under 36 CFR 13.50(c). Requiring a permit with reasonable terms and conditions in accordance with statutory requirements at 54 U.S.C. 100905 will not result in a significant alteration in the public use pattern of the area, will not adversely affect the area's natural, aesthetic, scenic or cultural values, or require a long-term or significant modification in the resource management objectives of the area, because the permit requirement is limited in time and scope to the specific activities authorized by the permit, which contains terms and conditions that protect the values, resources, and visitors of the area.*

### **Micro Mobility Devices:**

A micro mobility device is a human-operated, electric device with a curb weight of less than 150 pounds such as an e-scooter, Segway, one wheel, hoverboard, etc. Operating a micro mobility device is prohibited on all park sidewalks and trails. Operation in parking lots must be for transportation only, not recreation.

*Determination: These restrictions are intended to protect the cultural landscape, natural resources, and ensure pedestrian and device-user safety.*

### **43 CFR § 36.11- TRANSPORTATION AND UTILITY SYSTEMS**

**(f)(3)(ii) Salvaging, removing, possessing, or attempting to salvage, remove or possess any downed aircraft or component parts thereof is prohibited, except in accordance with a removal procedure established under this paragraph and as may be controlled by the other laws and regulations.**

A permit is required from the Superintendent before downed aircraft may be salvaged and removed from the park; violation of the terms and conditions of the permit is prohibited.

*Determination: This requirement allows the Superintendent to establish terms and conditions for salvage operations as necessary to protect resources, provide for public safety, and minimize impacts on visitors.*

### **Sitka National Historic Park CCTV Policy Statement for Compendium Use**

In accordance with National Park Service Law Enforcement Reference Manual 9 (RM-9), notice is hereby given that Sitka National Historic Site uses Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) security camera monitoring.

The park's use of Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) for law enforcement and security purposes will only be to visually monitor public park areas and public activities where no constitutionally protected reasonable expectation of privacy exists. Such CCTV use – which will have adequate privacy and First Amendment safeguards – will be to help ensure public safety and security; facilitate the detection, investigation, prevention, and deterrence of terrorist attack and crime; help ensure the safety of citizens and officers; help assist in the proper allocation and deployment of law enforcement and public safety resources; and help

facilitate the protection of the innocent and the apprehension and prosecution of criminals. (RM-9, 26.1)

This policy does not restrict the official use of CCTV in government administrative areas, including administrative buildings, jail holding facilities (RM-9, 26.3.7), revenue collection sites, etc., where the government may record/monitor its facilities. For example, the government may perform unrestricted video/audio recording at revenue collection points (entrance stations, visitor center counters, etc.). This policy does not restrict the use of an Audio/Visual Recording Device (AVRD) in patrol vehicles or officer-worn recording devices used by commissioned rangers. (RM-9, 26.1).

Operation of CCTV cameras, maintenance of recorded images and use of recorded images will be in accordance with NPS and Department policy and applicable laws and regulations. (RM-9, 26.1-26.4) No person will be targeted or monitored merely because of race, religion, gender, sex, disability, national origin, or political affiliation or views. (RM-9, 26.4.2)

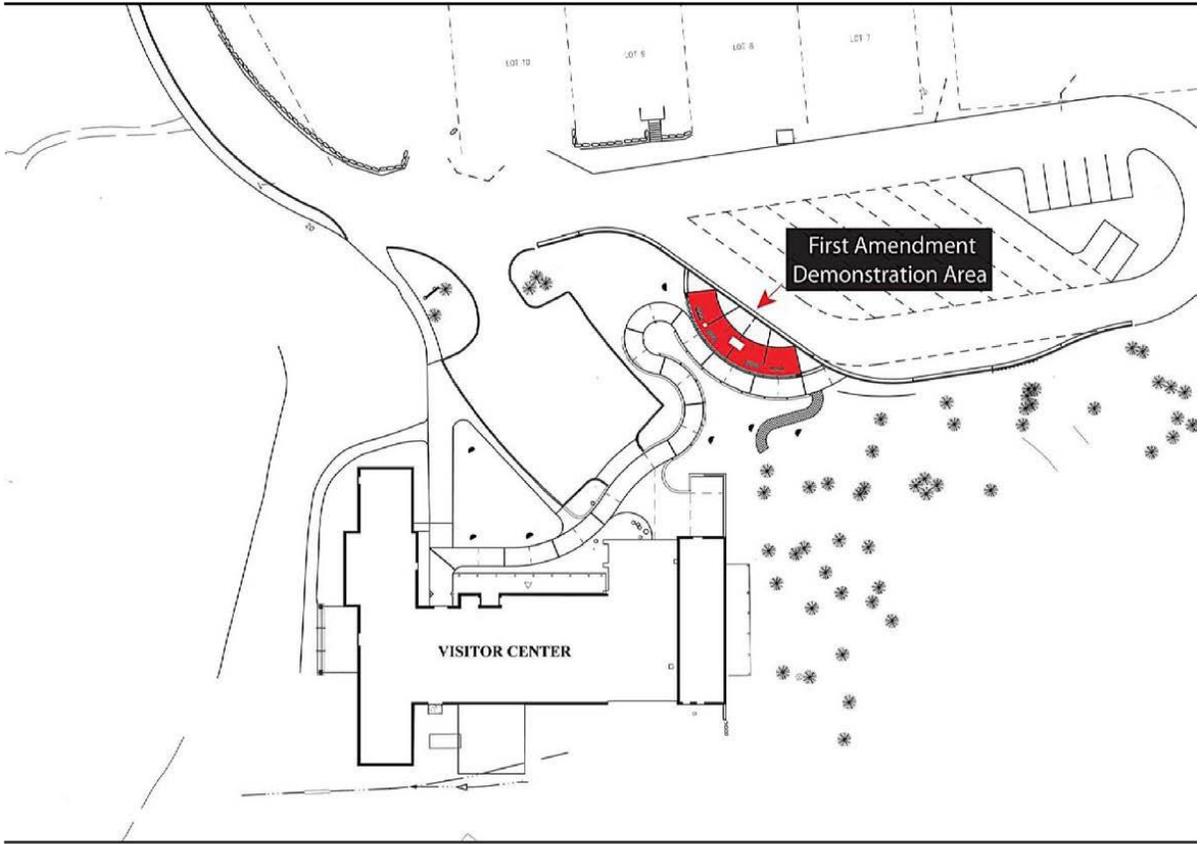
Nothing in this policy statement is intended to create any rights, privileges, or benefits not otherwise recognized by law.

Superintendent's Compendium  
Of Designations, Closures, Permit Requirements and Other Restrictions Imposed Under  
Discretionary Authority.

Approved:

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Mary Miller, Superintendent



SITKA NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK VISITOR CENTER



Pedestrian through-traffic is allowed in the park on the “highlighted” trail section. See compendium for description.

