

PINNACLES NATIONAL MONUMENT
5000 HIGHWAY 146, PAICINES, CA 95043
Pinnacles Dispatch: (831) 389-4485 FAX: (831) 389-4288
Pinnacles website: www.nps.gov/pinn
Pinnacles Permit Coordinator: (831) 389-4486, ext. 245

COMMERCIAL USE AUTHORIZATION (CUA) PERMITS FOR GUIDED SERVICES

CUA DEFINED:

Permits are required of all operators who provide any and all goods, activities, agreements or other services to the general public which take place, at least in part, in the park, uses park resources and are undertaken for or results in compensation, monetary gain, benefit or profit to an individual, organization or corporation, whether or not such entity is organized for purposes recognized as non-profit under local, state or federal law. This includes educational institutions.

Such guided services include environmental education; outdoor skills; naturalist talks, walks and hikes; art/painting workshops; bird watching; wildflower/plant walks; wilderness education; rock scrambling and climbing; photography classes; and fitness courses.

If the amount of money collected from all members of the group exceeds the actual expenses of the trip, the trip is classified as **commercial use**.

The Special Use/Commercial Use Permit Coordinator is the contact for any questions regarding the permit program at Pinnacles National Monument and can be reached at (831) 389-4486, ext. 245 and fax number (831) 389-4288. The processing of a CUA will require the payment by the permittee of an application administrative fee of \$250.00, notwithstanding the length of the permit. This fee is non-refundable.

CONDITIONS OF CUA PERMITS:

1. **DAMAGES.** The permittee shall pay the *United States of America* for any damage resulting from this use which would not reasonably be inherent in the use which the permittee is authorized to make of the land described in this permit.
2. **GUIDE QUALIFICATION AND CERTIFICATION.** The permittee shall guarantee the competency of the leaders of their trips, both as to ability and knowledge in the activity they are permitted to conduct. Minimum qualifications for talks, walks, hiking, rock scrambling and climbing must, fitness courses include:
 - (a) Current Standard First Aid or higher.
 - (b) Current Adult, Child, and Infant CPR at the Community level.
 - (c) Knowledge of all applicable National Park rules and regulations.
 - (d) Use of minimum impact practices on park natural resources; i.e., **Leave No Trace** ethic.

A copy of all guide certifications for 2(a) and 2(b) must be provide to the Permit Coordinator for the official park file.
3. **INJURIES AND EMERGENCIES.** All injuries requiring medical attention that are sustained in the park by the permittee, or their clients and students must be immediately reported to the Ranger Division through the Pinnacles Visitor Center at the campground, Bear Gulch Nature Center or Chaparral Ranger Station. The accident will be documented on a **Case Incident Report** by a law enforcement ranger.

There is no cell phone reception at Pinnacles NM. For after hour emergencies, dial 911 at the Pinnacles Visitor Center (at campground) or the Bear Gulch Nature Center public telephones. There are no public phones on the west side of Pinnacles.
4. **PASSENGER VAN DRIVERS.** Permittees entering the park in passenger vans that carry 10 or more passengers (including the driver) are required to have a current **Class B divers license**, per California Vehicle Code 12804.9(2)(C).
5. **CUA ITINERARY.** A **Commercial Use Permit Itinerary** PINN-152 form (copy attached) must be submitted in advance with commercial entrance fees no later than 48 hours in advance to the Permit Coordinator for each trip.
6. **ENTRANCE FEES.** Commercial entrance fees are determined by number of guides and other staff present as follows: **1-6 = \$25, 8-25 = \$40, 26+ = \$100**. Fees must be paid in advance with a copy of a CUA itinerary. CUA guides and support staff can not use any Federal Recreation Pass to waive the commercial entrance fee.

Upon arrival, CUA **clients** are required to pay the regular entrance fee, or present a Federal Recreation Pass, and display their parking permit on vehicles. Clients are not included with the commercial fees for permittee guides and staff.

Carpooling is strongly encouraged.
7. Pinnacles National Monument is subject to seasonal area closures and advisories related to raptor nesting and other resource protection activities. Guides should check the Pinnacles webpages for current information. Each trip, the leader must check in with rangers for updated information.
8. The rates charged by the permittee will not be reviewed or approved by the National Park Service.
9. The permittee will have none of the rights or privileges of P.L. 89-249, and will not be considered a concessioner to the National Park Service.
10. This permit does not authorize the permittee to advertise, solicit business, collect any fees, or sell any goods or services on lands owned and controlled by the United States of America.

11. **FITNESS COURSES.** Any type of guided exercise activity provided within Pinnacles NM for direct to indirect fee is considered a fitness course. This definition of fitness course includes but is not limited to fitness instruction, education, and motivational exercise for groups of all sizes, including individual coaching.
12. **GUIDED ROCK SCRAMBLING AND CLIMBING.** It is expressly understood that permittees conducting guided climbing are subject to all of the following special conditions:
 - (a) Review and adhere to climbing advisories. Avoid impacting raptor-nesting areas, even when not currently posted. Current advisories are posted on the Pinnacles' webpage.
 - (b) No climbing routes can be set up in advance. Guides, support staff, and clients must be active on routes that are set up.
 - (c) Maximum climbing group size is 12, including guide staff. In some areas parties will need to split into groups of 6 or less.
 - (d) Guide to climber ratio will not be below one guide for every five climbers.
 - (e) Climbers are not to stage climbs or belay from, above or across Monument trails. Designated **climber access trails** are exempted from this condition.
 - (f) The relative quiet is a significant value of the Wilderness. Power equipment may not be used in the Monument to aid a climb (includes drills, saws, ratchets, etc.). Amplified music and radio systems are prohibited.
 - (g) Minimize visual impact. Climbers are encouraged to limit the use of chalk and make use of chalk balls rather than loose chalk. Avoid leaving behind brightly colored slings and apparatus on routes.
 - (h) Gardening and scrubbing of routes is prohibited. Chipping, gluing, marking, the removal of any naturally occurring materials, or other modification or alteration of resource features is also prohibited.
 - (i) Permission to alter, improve, or perform maintenance on routes must be obtained in advance through the Office of the Chief Ranger.
 - (j) The National Park Service assumes no responsibility for maintaining or monitoring the condition of bolts and/or anchor stations.
13. All permittees and their clients will comply with applicable public health and sanitation standards and codes.
14. **GROUP SIZE.** Guided talks, walks, hikes, and fitness course permittees must comply with the maximum group for size of 35 people at one time on the trail. Larger groups need to break down into smaller groups and use an alternate trail route to lessen the impact on Pinnacles' trails and other park visitors' experience. Permittees who conduct guided climbing see condition group size on 13(c).
15. **CAMPING.** Pinnacles Campground offers tent, RV, and group campsites on the east side of the park. Permittees and clients camping at the Pinnacles Campground, must pay appropriate camping fees and follow all campground regulations. There is no camping allowed on the west side of Pinnacles. There is no backpacking or wilderness camping within Pinnacles NM. Each trip leader should check for the most current National Park Service seasonal fire regulation for campfires at the Pinnacles Campground.
16. During scheduled visits, No deliveries of mail and supplies to permittee, or their clients; will be accepted at the Pinnacles Visitor Center, Pinnacles Campground, Nature Center or Park Headquarters.
17. **ANNUAL REPORT.** The permittee shall submit a CUA Annual Report, PINN-128 form (copy attached), thirty (30) days prior to the end of each permit year. The CUA Annual Report summarizes total in-park visitor use and includes gross revenues for the permit year (the full period for which the permit was issued, not the calendar year). For the purpose of this permit, gross revenues are defined as:

The total amount received, realized by, or accruing to the business operator for all sales of goods and services provided by the business operator for payment by cash, barter, or credit pursuant to the privileges granted by the permit. This includes income from subsidiary or other operations located outside of lands administered by the National Park Service to the extent that they support operations authorized by the CUA. Gross receipts generated from subsidiary or other operations located outside of the park that do not participate in the provision of the service will not be included in the calculation of revenues generated under this CUA.
18. **PERMIT RENEWAL.** Prior to a permit expiring, the administrative record will be reviewed to ensure that no major changes have taken place, all expectations are being met, and the use is still appropriate. A new CUA will be issued, if the previous CUA, is in good standing and all administrative paperwork and fees are received and completed by the Permit Coordinator thirty (30) days prior to start of new CUA period. This includes the permittees' Annual CUA Report.

A new permit application (NPS 10-930 PINN) should be submitted at the end of each permit year with the \$250.00 administrative fee.

Attachments (forms):

- 1) **Application for Special Use Permit/Commercial Use Authorization (NPS 10-930 PINN).** For initial CUA permit application and annual CUA renewal.
- 2) **Commercial Use Authorization Trip Itinerary (PINN-152)**
- 3) **Commercial Use Authorization Annual Report (PINN-128)**