

COMMERCIAL USE AUTHORIZATION ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION TOURS OPERATING PLAN – EXHIBIT B

OVERVIEW

This CUA authorizes interpretive road-based tours, day hiking, non-instructional photography tours, and allows guides to act as a step-on guide on park roads with visits to facilities and services.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 1) The Environmental Education Tour CUA includes the following activities:
 - a. **Road-based tours** in which certified guides lead groups in educational and interpretive tours throughout the park, including stops at services, pullouts, developed areas, and boardwalks. Road-based tours allow for incidental photography. Workshops designed as facilitated and instructional photography and painting opportunities are more suitable for the Painting and Photography Workshops category. Portrait photography is not covered under this CUA and requires a Portrait Services CUA.
 - b. **Day hiking tours** include guided and interpretive day hiking tours on trails throughout Yellowstone that are longer than ½ mile. CUA holders are encouraged to stay on designated trails. Specific areas may be closed to off-trail travel if impacts are noted. The guide for any day hiking trip within the park must have a basic knowledge of map reading and have a topographic map for the area of their hike. It is recommended that the guide have a compass and knowledge of compass use. Each guide must carry a minimum of one can of bear spray at all times and be trained in its use. Bear spray for clients is recommended.
 - c. **Step-on guide service** is defined as a guide who rides in a visitor's vehicle, tour bus, or other commercial vehicle and acts as a guide for sightseeing tours. It is the CUA holder's responsibility to check the clients' proof of auto liability insurance before the trip.
- 2) Day hiking, road-based interpretive tours, and non-instructional photography activities are limited to a maximum group size of **15 participants**, including guides. There is no maximum group size for step-on guide service.
- 3) In order to minimize impacts on natural resources, CUA holders conducting day hiking trips more than 1/2 mile from the road are limited to three groups per day, with no group exceeding 15 participants. Groups should be dispersed and may not congregate on trails or at a destination.
- 4) There is no limitation to the number of trips a CUA holder can take for road-based tours as long as the group size of no more than 15 participants per group is adhered to.
- 5) Guides must meet the requirements listed below in order to be considered a qualified guide under this activity and be issued a guide card to provide tours within Yellowstone:
 - a. Attend one Resource Education Training given by Yellowstone National Park in the spring, watch a recording of the [most recent Resource Education Training](#), or provide an outline of your Yellowstone specific training given to employees, **and**
 - b. Complete and pass a test regarding Yellowstone National Park's natural and cultural resources, as well as park regulations. All answers can be located in the Yellowstone National Park Resource and Issues Book located at: <https://www.nps.gov/yell/getinvolved/resources-for-commercial-guides.htm>. The test is available at: [Yellowstone Environmental Education Guide Test](#)
- 6) Guides are encouraged to stay on designated trails, avoid using social trails, and avoid creating new social trails to reduce impacts to resources.
- 7) Road-based tours and photography tours may occupy the parking areas or vehicle pull-outs in Hayden Valley and Lamar Valley for a maximum of 2 hours.
- 8) Impeding traffic or causing unnecessary delays in traffic is prohibited. Slow moving vehicles must use roadside pull-outs and parking areas to allow free flow of other traffic. Vehicles may not stop in the roadway to allow clients to take pictures or load and unload passengers.

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- 9) Vehicles shall not be left idling in parking areas or park across multiple parking spaces. Loading zones must not be occupied longer than necessary to load and unload passengers.

I have read and agree to the Environmental Education Tour CUA conditions. I hereby confirm that myself, all guides, and all relevant employees will be trained in the requirements of this CUA, the Yellowstone CUA Special Park Conditions, and this operating plan.

CUA Holder's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Company Name: _____