



MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS

Reference Guide: Commercial Use Permit for Guided Tours

This reference guide provides information on the permit required to conduct a guided tour (land-based) for commercial purposes on Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks land (FWP). Please note that commercial use on FWP land is a privilege, not a right. Authorization may be denied, amended, or revoked at any time for cause.

Permit Requirements

A Commercial Use Permit is required to conduct a guided tour or trip for commercial purposes at FWP fishing access sites, state parks or wildlife management areas. Examples of guided tours include but are not limited to wildlife watching, horseback riding, bicycling, and historical or cultural tours.

Permit Authorization

The Commercial Use Permit is valid at the location(s) and time period specified on the permit.

Permit Application Process and Fee

You must submit a completed Commercial Use Permit Application to the FWP Regional Office that oversees the site where you wish to conduct tours. Applications are available on the FWP web site (fwp.mt.gov) and at FWP regional offices. Applications are due a minimum of 10 days in advance for fishing access sites and state parks. Contact FWP for information on the application process for conducting tours at wildlife management areas.

The permit administrator will determine the permit fee based on the information provided in your permit application. FWP may adjust the fee on a case by case basis to accommodate the nature of the activity, compensate for site impact or department staffing needs, or for other unique circumstances pertaining the permitted event. See the Commercial Use Permit Fee Rule for the current fee schedule.

Terms and Conditions

The terms and conditions for guided tours and trips will be printed on your permit. Your compliance is important to ensure future opportunities to obtain a permit.

Insurance Requirements

The permit holder must possess and maintain a general liability policy that names the State of Montana – FWP as additionally insured. You will need to provide a copy of your policy or an Insurance Certificate with your permit application. The minimum coverage for a guided tour or trip that involves horses, water, or other high risk activity is \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 aggregate. The minimum coverage for all other guided tours is \$300,000 per occurrence and \$600,000 aggregate.

For questions regarding commercial use, please contact the following:

- **Fishing Access Sites:** Don Skaar, (406) 444-7409, dskaar@mt.gov
- **Montana State Parks:** Pat Doyle, (406) 444-3818, pdoyle@mt.gov
- **Wildlife Management Areas:** Rick Northrup, (406) 444-5633, rnorthrup@mt.gov