

The refuge manager may permit the use of an existing cabin on non-wilderness refuge lands for the exercise of valid commercial fishing rights. Such a permit may be denied if, after conducting a public hearing in the affected locality, it is found that the use is inconsistent with refuge purposes and is a significant expansion of commercial fishing activities within the unit beyond 1979 levels.

(2) When the commercial fishing or guiding rights associated with a permittee's existing cabin are acquired by a new party, the privilege of using the cabin cannot be sold and the new party does not necessarily qualify for a cabin permit. He/she must apply for a permit and meet the criteria described in this paragraph (e) before issuance of a special use permit by the refuge manager. He/she may not occupy the cabin before issuance of a permit.

(3) No new commercial cabins will be permitted in wilderness areas.

(4) Commercial cabins may be occupied only by persons legitimately involved in the commercial enterprise, assistants, employees, their families, guests and clients and only during the time that the authorized activity is occurring. The names of those individuals, excluding guests and clients, will be listed on the permit. The permittee or another individual listed on the permit must be present when the cabin is occupied.

(5) Special use permits for commercial cabins may be renewed annually in conjunction with the special use permit renewal for the commercial activity itself. The cabin permit may be issued for periods of up to five years and is a separate permit from one issued for the commercial activity.

(f) *Administrative and government-owned public use cabins.* In addition to paragraph (a) of this section, the regulations in this paragraph (f) apply to all administrative and government-owned cabins.

(1) The refuge manager can designate those cabins not under permit as administrative cabins to be used for official government business. Administrative cabins may be used by the public during life-threatening emergencies. On a case-by-case basis, they may also be designated as public use cabins when

not needed for government purposes. In such cases, the refuge manager must inform the public and post dates or seasons when the cabins are available.

(2) The refuge manager may designate government-owned cabins as public use cabins. They are only intended for short-term public recreational use and occupancy. The refuge manager may develop an allocation system for managing public use cabins for short-term recreational use. No existing public use cabins shall be removed or new public use cabins constructed within wilderness areas designated by the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980 or subsequently designated wilderness areas until the Secretary of the Interior notifies the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs and the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

[59 FR 38314, July 27, 1994, as amended at 64 FR 14151, Mar. 24, 1999]

§ 36.34 Firearms.

The possession, use and transporting of firearms is authorized for hunting and personal protection in accordance with State and Federal laws unless prohibited or otherwise restricted by the Refuge Manager in accordance with the provisions of § 36.42.

§ 36.35 Unattended property.

(a) Leaving any snowmachine, vessel, off-road vehicle or other personal property unattended for longer than 12 months without the prior permission of the Refuge Manager is prohibited, and any property so left may be impounded by the Refuge Manager.

(b) The Refuge Manager may (1) designate areas where personal property may not be left unattended for any time period, (2) establish limits on the amount and type of personal property that may be left unattended, (3) prescribe the manner in which personal property may be left unattended or (4) establish limits on the length of time personal property may be left unattended.

(c) Such designations and restrictions arising under paragraph (b) of this section shall be (1) published in at

least one newspaper of general circulation within the State, posted at community post offices within the affected vicinity, made available for broadcast on local radio stations in a manner reasonably calculated to inform residents in the affected community, and designated in a map which shall be available for public inspection at the office of the Refuge Manager, or (2) designated by the posting of appropriate signs or (3) both.

(d) In the event unattended property interferes with the safe and orderly management of a refuge area or causes damage to refuge resources, it may be impounded by the Refuge Manager at any time.

§ 36.36 Sled dogs and household pets.

The general trespass provisions of 50 CFR 26.21 shall not apply to household pets and sled, work, or pack dogs under the direct control of their owners or handlers, but such activities may be prohibited or otherwise restricted pursuant to the provisions of § 36.42.

[46 FR 40192, Aug. 7, 1981]

§ 36.37 Revenue producing visitor services.

(a) *Applicability.* (1) Except as otherwise provided for in this paragraph, the regulations contained in this section apply to new visitor services provided within all National Wildlife Refuge areas in Alaska.

(2) The rights granted by this section to historical operators, preferred operators, and Cook Inlet Region, Incorporated, are not exclusive. The Refuge Manager may authorize other persons to provide visitor services on refuge lands. Nothing in this section shall require the Refuge Manager to issue a visitor services permit if not otherwise mandated by statute to do so. Nothing in this section shall authorize the Refuge Manager to issue a visitor services permit to a person who is not capable of carrying out its terms and conditions in a satisfactory manner.

(3) This section does not apply to the guiding of sport hunting or sport fishing.

(b) *Definitions.* The following definitions shall apply to this section:

(1) *Best offer* means a responsive offer that best meets, as determined by the

Refuge Manager, the selection criteria contained in a competitive solicitation for a visitor services permit.

(2) *Controlling interest, in the case of a corporation* means an interest, beneficial or otherwise, of sufficient outstanding voting securities or capital of the business, so as to permit exercise of final managerial authority over the actions and operations of the corporation, or election of a majority of the Board of Directors of the corporation.

(3) *Controlling interest in the case of a partnership, limited partnership, joint venture or individual entrepreneurship* means a beneficial ownership of or interest in the entity so as to permit the exercise of final managerial authority over the actions and operations of the entity.

(4) *Controlling interest in other circumstances* means any arrangement under which a third party has the ability to exercise general management authority over the actions or operations of the business.

(5) *Historical operator* means any person who:

(i) On or before January 1, 1979, was lawfully engaged in adequately providing any type of visitor service in a refuge within the scope of paragraph (c) of this section;

(ii) Has continued to lawfully provide that visitor service; and

(iii) Is otherwise determined by the Refuge Manager to have a right to continue to provide such services or similar services pursuant to paragraph (c) of this section.

(6) *Local area* means that area in Alaska within 100 miles of the location within a refuge where any of the visitor service is authorized.

(7) *Local resident* means:

(i) For *individuals*. Those individuals that have maintained their primary, permanent residence and business within the local area for the past twelve (12) consecutive months and whenever absent from this primary, permanent residence, have the intention of returning to it. Factors demonstrating the location of an individual's primary, permanent residence and business may include, but are not limited to, the permanent address indicated on licenses issued by the State of