

U.S. Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

Prospectus and Request for Proposal

**INVITATION FOR PROPOSALS TO CONDUCT
COMMERCIAL BIG GAME GUIDE SERVICES WITHIN
AREAS OF THE ARCTIC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE**

Issued by: Refuge Manager
Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

Date: August 1, 2011 – REVISED September 26, 2011

Location: Fairbanks, Alaska

Submittal: Sealed proposals must be postmarked or hand delivered to the address indicated below by **February 29, 2012.**

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Attention: Brian Anderson
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For Information: Contact the Refuge Manager, Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, by mail at Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, 101 12th Ave, Room 236, Fairbanks, Alaska, 99701; or by phone at (907) 456-0253 or (800) 362-4546 weekdays.

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**PROSPECTUS FOR COMMERCIAL BIG GAME GUIDE SERVICES
ARCTIC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
ALASKA**

I. INTRODUCTION

The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) is offering opportunities for a big game guide to provide commercial services on Refuge lands, within Alaska State Game Management Units 25 and 26. The Refuge will award the special use permits for big game guiding services on the Refuge through a competitive selection process. Prospective applicants are advised to carefully read this prospectus and the sample permit (Appendix B) before responding.

The objective of allowing commercial big game guiding is to make available a variety of quality services to the public for recreational hunting on the Refuges, when such activities are compatible with the Refuge's purposes, and resources and management objectives. In order to remain compatible, recreational hunting must reflect well on the refuge and on the tradition of hunting. It must promote positive hunting values and hunter ethics such as fair chase, and provide participants with reasonable harvest opportunities, less crowding, less competition, fewer conflicts between hunters, relatively undisturbed wildlife, greater hunter safety, less than average crippling loss, and less interference from or dependence on mechanization. Commercial guiding activities authorized on refuge lands should contribute to these values and objectives.

Permit holders cannot sublet any part of an area and are prohibited from subcontracting clients with any other guide.

All applicants are responsible for making their own investigations as to the economic feasibility of any proposal, facts about the area, and estimates of potential business opportunity.

It will be the responsibility of all permit holders selected under this prospectus to adhere to all permit conditions and work diligently to minimize conflicts with other users.

For additional information contact the Refuge Manager at the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge office, at 101 12th Ave, Room 236, Fairbanks, AK 99701; or by phone at (907) 456-0253, during weekdays.

II. REFUGE DESCRIPTION

The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is part of a diverse system of more than 550 wildlife refuges stretching across the nation. The Arctic Refuge is administered to meet both its unique establishing purposes and to serve the broad mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System. Vast, natural, and wild, Arctic Refuge serves a distinctive function within this system. The Refuge challenges the Service to think beyond the historic role of refuges as a means to protect or propagate single species. Rather, the Refuge offers the opportunity to protect all life forms, their encompassing natural processes, and a range of tangible and intangible values.

The Refuge is renowned for the opportunities it provides for adventure, exploration, independence, and solitude. Whether visitors come to hunt, view, or photograph wildlife; for the challenge of an arduous backpacking trek or river float; or just to enjoy the area's stark beauty from the comfort of a base camp, they can find themselves immersed in a world apart, free from the distractions of modern civilization. The Refuge is a place where a sense of adventure, mystery and discovery still prevails.

Hunters played a critical role in establishing the original Range, advocating a place for the adventurous pursuit of game in the highest tradition of the sport. This is a setting that rewards those seeking to challenge themselves under primitive conditions. The Refuge's remote expanses can test a hunter's skill, fortitude, and self-reliance. It offers a wilderness experience reminiscent of a bygone era.

In 2011, Arctic Refuge staff developed the following statement about their vision for the Refuge's future, drawing upon its purposes, special values, and the unique role it serves in the Refuge System:

"This untamed arctic landscape continues to sustain the ecological diversity and special values that inspired the Refuge's establishment. Natural processes continue and native cultures thrive with the seasons and changing times; physical and mental challenges test our bodies, minds and spirit; and we honor the land, its wildlife, and the native people with respect and restraint. Through responsible stewardship this vast wilderness is passed on, undiminished, to future generations."

The Arctic Refuge spans more than 200 miles west to east from the Trans-Alaska pipeline corridor to Canada, and 200 miles north to south from the Beaufort Sea to the Venetie Indian Tribal Lands and the Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge. The Refuge headquarters is located in Fairbanks, 180 miles south of the Refuge boundary.

Background Information

On December 6, 1960 the Eisenhower administration established the 8.9 million acre Arctic National Wildlife Range (Arctic Range; Range) through Public Land Order 2214. Its brief statement of purpose proclaimed that the Range was established "to preserve unique wildlife, wilderness, and recreational values." These purposes continue to guide management of lands in the original Range. In 1980, the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA)

expanded and re-designated the Range as the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and provided additional purposes that guide management of the entire Refuge. For Arctic Refuge and other national wildlife refuges in Alaska, ANILCA, provides key management direction. ANILCA sets forth the purposes of the Refuge, defines provisions for planning and management, and authorizes studies and programs related to wildlife and wildland resources, subsistence opportunities, and recreation and economic uses. ANILCA also provides specific direction for the management of designated wilderness areas and wilderness study areas in the State of Alaska.

ANILCA more than doubled the Refuge's size to nearly 19.3 million acres. Three wild rivers (Sheenjek, Ivishak and Wind) were designated and eight million acres (most of the original Range) were designated wilderness. Approximately 208,000 acres of lands within the Refuge boundary have been selected by and/or conveyed to Native village and regional corporations under provisions of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act and ANILCA. In addition, there are nearly 15,000 acres of private Native allotments and other privately owned lands within the Refuge boundaries.

Section 303(2)(B) of ANILCA specifies that the Arctic Refuge was established and shall be managed for the following purposes. All uses of the Refuge lands must be compatible with these purposes:

- (i) to conserve fish and wildlife populations and habitats in their natural diversity including, but not limited to, the Porcupine caribou herd (including participation in coordinated ecological studies and management of this herd and the Western Arctic caribou herd), polar bears, grizzly bears, muskox, Dall sheep, wolves, wolverines, snow geese, peregrine falcons and other migratory birds, and Arctic char and grayling;
- (ii) to fulfill the international treaty obligations of the United States with respect to fish and wildlife and their habitats;
- (iii) to provide, in a manner consistent with purposes set forth in subparagraphs (i) and (ii), the opportunity for continued subsistence uses by local residents; and
- (iv) to ensure, to the maximum extent practicable and in a manner consistent with the purposes set forth in subparagraph (i), water quality and necessary water quantity within the refuge.

The Wilderness Act of 1964 (Public Law 88-577) creates additional purposes for the approximately 7.15 million acre Mollie Beattie Wilderness Area. These areas are to be managed “for the use and enjoyment of the American people in such manner as will leave them unimpaired for future use and enjoyment as wilderness, and so as to provide for the protection of these areas, the preservation of their wilderness character, and for the gathering and dissemination of information regarding their use and enjoyment as wilderness.”

Visitor Use

The numbers of visitors who were flown in or guided by a commercial operator (i.e., commercially-supported) during 2001–2009 ranged from a low of 852 visitors in 2009 to a high of 1,128 visitors in 2005. Managers at Arctic Refuge suspect a substantial amount of non-commercially supported visitors originate from lands outside or adjacent to the Refuge boundary, such as the Dalton Highway and the airports in the region.

Managers have documented that most people visit Arctic Refuge during the summer and fall seasons during June, July, August, and September. The main recreational season is short due to weather and river conditions, with a total of six to eight weeks when water levels in most rivers are adequate for floating and the weather is ideal for backpacking.

The primary means of access for all visitors in and out of Arctic Refuge is by aircraft. Pilots can only land where ground topography or lake size are appropriate, limiting the number of useable access sites. Wheeled aircraft are predominantly used, particularly on the North Slope, though float planes are occasionally used in the Refuge. Motorboat use by visitors, which is not common, occurs almost exclusively on the south side for hunting. Inflatable rafts and other types of non-motorized craft are commonly used when and where water depth is adequate.

On average, 77 percent of commercially-supported visitor use occurs north of the Brooks Range, while about 23 percent occurs south of the Brooks Range, and nearly 24 percent of commercially-supported visitors to the Refuge visit the Kongakut River drainage (Arctic Refuge 2011). Other popular North Slope rivers include the Hulahula River (10 percent), Marsh Fork-Canning River (9 percent), Jago River (6 percent), and main stem of the Canning River (5 percent).

For the years 2001 through 2009, general hunters (guided and non-guided) comprised, on average, 28 percent of the total number of commercially-supported visitors to the Refuge. Of these, guided hunters made up 25 percent of the total, while non-guided hunters made up 75 percent. This was the case, in part, because guides are limited to a certain number of clients, which varies by guide use area. Each guide use area has a different amount and quality of habitat used by big game species and a different number of feasible access and egress points. When deciding how many guided hunting clients to allow in each guide use area, managers consider the number of clients proposed during the competitive application process and the number of clients the area can support.

In recent years, the number of air transporters applying for commercial permits has increased. Because hunting guide permits are competitive and restricted to certain areas, and air transporter permits are non-competitive and not restricted to certain areas, the potential for competition and conflict may be increasing.

Refuge Resources

The Arctic Refuge includes a unique diversity of landforms containing exceptional wildlife, wilderness, recreation, scientific and aesthetic values. The Refuge contains a series of ecological systems large enough to be fully self-sufficient. The four tallest peaks and the only extensive glaciation in the Brooks Range are located within the Refuge. Major habitat types include alpine tundra, wet and moist arctic tundra, boreal spruce forest, muskeg, and several types of wetlands.

The irregular shaped coastline has numerous points, shoals, mud flats and barrier islands that shelter shallow brackish lagoons. The treeless coastal plain is a relatively narrow strip of rolling tundra cut by many northward flowing, braided rivers and creeks. Open tundra vegetation typically is a thick peat layer overlain by a mat of mosses, sedges and grasses less than one foot tall. The mostly hilly and mountainous south side is cut by numerous stream and river valleys dominated by sub-arctic boreal forest of spruce, birch and willow.

The Refuge supports a diversity of arctic and subarctic wildlife, including two caribou herds. The Porcupine herd, numbering some 169,000 animals, winters in the southern portion of the Refuge and in Canada. Calving and post-calving activities occur on the coastal plain from late May to mid-July. Up to one-quarter of the Central Arctic herd, which numbers approximately 67,000 animals, utilizes the northwestern part of the Refuge. All three species of North American bears (black, grizzly and polar) are found on the Refuge. Grizzlies den in mountainous areas throughout the Refuge, and as many as half of the land-denning females in the Beaufort Sea polar bear population annually den on the Refuge coastal plain. The Refuge also contains muskoxen, which are typically observed along rivers of the coastal plain. Dall sheep are common in the mountainous areas of the Refuge. Other mammal species found on the Refuge include moose, wolverine, wolf, arctic fox, lynx, marten and snowshoe hare. Grayling and Dolly Varden char are the primary fish species in Refuge rivers.

Approximately 165 species of migratory birds have been seen on the Arctic Refuge. The coastal plain is especially important for shorebirds and waterfowl that nest on or otherwise utilize the area during the summer. The long-tailed duck is the most common waterfowl species in coastal lagoons. King and common eiders, pintails, Brant geese, tundra swans and other species also occur along the coast. From mid-August through mid-September, the eastern part of the coastal plain serves as the fall staging area for snow geese. The Refuge also supports the northernmost breeding populations of golden eagles and includes important breeding habitat for the peregrine falcon, much of it along the Porcupine River.

The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is nationally and internationally acclaimed as one of the most pristine conservation units in the world. It is an area that hunting and non-hunting recreationists frequently share at the same time. To meet all visitors' expectations of a true wildlife and wilderness experience and to maintain the Refuge's naturalness and wildness for future generations, extra precautions are required of all commercial operators.

Local Residents

Residents of several Native villages harvest subsistence resources on the Arctic Refuge. Kaktovik, located on the northern edge of the coastal plain, is an Inupiat Eskimo village of about 272 people. Villagers utilize bowhead whale, caribou, polar bear, waterfowl, seal, Dall sheep, muskox, wolves, ptarmigan and several species of fish. Arctic Village, an Athabaskan Indian village of about 158 residents, is located along the East Fork of the Chandalar River just outside the southern boundary of the Refuge. Although villagers rely primarily on the Porcupine and Central Arctic caribou herds, they also take moose, Dall sheep, wolves, marten, beaver, lynx, fox, and several other species. Fishing occurs, primarily for whitefish and lake trout. Residents of Fort Yukon, Venetie, and Chalkyitsik also use Refuge resources, but to a lesser degree.

It will be the responsibility of all permit holders selected under this prospectus to work diligently to minimize conflicts with local subsistence and other Refuge users.

For more information, visit the Refuge internet site at <http://arctic.fws.gov>, or contact the Refuge Manager at the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge office, at 101 12th Ave, Room 236, Fairbanks, AK 99701; or by phone at (907) 456-0253, during weekdays.

III. DEFINITIONS

Fish and Wildlife Service (Service). U.S. Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

Guide. For purposes of this prospectus, the Service adopts the definition of “guide” from Alaska Statute, Section 8.54.790. "Guide" means to provide, for compensation or with the intent or with an agreement to receive compensation, services, equipment, or facilities to a big game hunter in the field by a person who accompanies or is present with the big game hunter in the field either personally or through an assistant; in this paragraph, “services” includes:

- (A) contracting to guide or outfit big game guide hunts;
- (B) stalking, pursuing, tracking, killing, or attempting to kill big game;
- (C) packing, preparing, salvaging, or caring for meat, except that which is required to properly and safely load the meat on the mode of transportation being used by a transporter;
- (D) field preparation of trophies, including skinning and caping;
- (E) selling, leasing, or renting goods when the transaction occurs in the field;
- (F) using guiding or outfitting equipment, including spotting scopes and firearms, for the benefit of a hunter; and
- (G) providing camping or hunting equipment or supplies which are already located in the field.

Outfit. For purposes of this prospectus, the Service adopts the definition of “outfit” from Alaska Statute, Section 8.54.790. "Outfit" means to provide, for compensation or with the intent to receive compensation, services, supplies, or facilities to a big game hunter in the field, by a person who neither accompanies nor is present with the big game hunter in the field either personally or by an assistant.

Operations Plan. A narrative description of the proposed commercial hunting operation which contains all information required in Form A of this prospectus.

Party Size. The number of people (including guides, clients, pilots, and any other employees of the holder) who are authorized to be in a use area, by the terms of a special use permit.

Permit Holder or Permittee. An individual who is selected through this prospectus and who is issued a special use permit.

Special Use Permit (Permit). A U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service authorization required for all commercial uses of refuge lands and waters.

Guide Use Area. An area designated by the Service and offered to a commercial operator to provide guided big game hunting services for the public.

Use Day. One calendar day (24 hours), or portion thereof, for each person using the refuge. Used as a measure of human use. Also called a visitor day. Includes use of the refuge by guides, clients, and any other individuals associated with the permit holder for any part of one day (24 hour period from midnight to midnight).

Example: One guide, one assistant guide, and 4 clients fly in to the refuge at 8:00 a.m. on September 1, spend three nights and leave at 2:00 p.m. on September 4. That equals 24 use days (6 people x 4 days = 24 use days); and 16 client use days (4 clients x 4 days = 16 client use days).

Base Camp. Seasonal camps used as the primary base of guide operations in the field for the entire, or most of the hunting season, and usually used by most or all of the clients during some portion of their hunt.

Spike Camp. Smaller camps usually used only for short duration (e.g., portion of a client trip) while hunting outside the range of the base camp, and then disassembled and moved or removed when no longer in use for a particular hunt or season.

IV. OFFERINGS

Ten offerings are described below. Each individual can submit only one application per guide use area offered. An individual may apply for up to **ten** offerings for guide use areas on Alaska refuges, but is **limited to three permits for guide use areas on Service lands at any one time. This limitation includes any partnership or ownership interest that you may have in big game guide businesses permitted to other individuals.** For example, you may not hold three refuge big game guide permits and have a partner/owner interest in other guide businesses permitted on Service lands.

All proposed operations plans need to be developed according to the Arctic Refuge permit conditions. When necessary, describe what specific actions will be taken to fulfill the requirements of the condition.

Some Refuge guide use areas contain private lands (i.e., land that has been conveyed to Alaska Native corporations, Native allotments, or other private inholdings). Refuge permits do not authorize activities on private or State lands within any guide use area. Some guide use areas may also contain lands selected by, but not yet conveyed to Alaska Native corporations. Use of these selected lands requires approval by the refuge manager. The permittee must provide the refuge manager written views from the affected Alaska Native corporation before authorization to use of selected lands can be considered. Detailed maps of the guide use areas are available on-line at http://alaska.fws.gov/nwr/visitor/bg_guide.htm, or by request to the Arctic Refuge headquarters (see page 1).

Areas such as Elusive Lake, Arey Island and allotments along the Hulahula River are privately owned. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 7 Division of Realty and Natural Resources, Branch of Mapping Sciences is responsible for mapping inholdings and other land status within the 16 National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska. The Branch has compiled land status maps for Refuges at: <http://alaska.fws.gov/nwr/realty/map/>. These maps depict the current land ownership within each Refuge, including Arctic Refuge. Questions regarding land status maps should be directed to the Branch at (907) 786-3462. For questions regarding prior authorization to conduct activities on private lands, you must contact the land owner. Additionally, "Commercial Recreational" services conducted in the North Slope Borough are regulated by their planning department under the North Slope Borough Title 19 (19.40.070). According to the North Slope Borough a permit is required for your activity. Please contact the North Slope Borough Planning Department, Permitting & Zoning Division at (907) 852-0440.

The following guide use area descriptions are approximate and are not legally defined and binding. The original area map, located in the Refuge headquarters office, is the single, ruling instrument defining areas and will be used to decide boundary questions. Prospective applicants are responsible for knowing the boundaries that are pertinent to areas of interest.

Most guide use area boundaries are located on watershed divides, stream courses, and occasionally, other well-defined topographic features. Guide use areas do not extend beyond the outer boundary of the Refuge. Copies of the Refuge and/or wilderness boundary descriptions are available from the Refuge office upon request. The selected guide will have exclusive

commercial big game guiding use of the permitted area (except for shared areas, as noted). However, transporters, air taxis, non-hunting commercial guides, and other hunters also have access to this guide use area.

Offering Number 1

Use area number (and location): ARC-03, Kongakut River, Aspen Creek, and Joe Creek drainages

Terms of the permit: January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2018

Offering type: Sole use

Species available: All big game species available under the State of Alaska hunting regulations.

General description: ARC-03 consists of all watersheds draining into the Beaufort Sea east of the Ekaluakat River to the Canada border. It also includes the upper watersheds of Aspen Creek and Joe Creek west of the Canada border. This unit is bounded on the east by Ivaavik National Park (Canada), and on the south by the Continental Divide.

Private lands: A few Native allotments exist along the coast. Consult a map for specific locations: <http://alaska.fws.gov/nwr/realty/map/ar1.htm>.

Special land categories: All of ARC-03 is in designated wilderness.

Operating conditions and standards: Please see the full list of Special Use Permit conditions for Arctic Refuge (Appendix B).

Because of the high visitor use within the Kongakut River drainage, base camps must be located outside the main river valley. Base camps will be located on durable surfaces.

Flights through this popular river corridor should be kept to a minimum. Landing sites within the Kongakut River valley are limited to non-vegetated surfaces, such as gravel bars, ridge tops, and other areas with no apparent plant cover when viewed from the air during a normal landing site inspection pass.

Landing sites within ARC-03 but outside the Kongakut River valley that are used for more than one client's hunt annually (for example, the landing site used to access a base camp or a spike camp that is used more than once during the hunting season) are limited to non-vegetated surfaces such as gravel bars, ridge tops, and other areas with no apparent plant cover when viewed from the air during a normal landing site inspection pass. Airplanes are prohibited from landing on wet (saturated) or fragile sites. If the Refuge Manager determines there are threats to resources or substantive user conflicts due to repeated landings, the permit may be modified to restrict the permit holder to designated sites or types of sites.

The Refuge Manager may require removal of human waste at camps located within ½ mile of landing sites and/or along the Kongakut River.

When operating within 25 miles of the Beaufort Sea coastline, the permittee will store attractants (human food, dog food, garbage, etc.) in “bear-resistant” containers to minimize attracting polar bears and avoid conditioning bears to human food. Containers must be approved as “bear-resistant.” Information about certified “bear resistant” containers can be found at <http://www.igbconline.org/html/container.html>.

Historic guide/client use levels: Commercially guided hunting occurred in ARC-03 every year from 1993 through 2010. During the last permit cycle, the authorized number of clients per species annually has been as follows:

In combination hunts, Dall sheep - 10; caribou - 10; grizzly bear – 4; wolf and wolverine – incidental harvest allowed.

Other information: The Kongakut River is the most popular river on Arctic Refuge and receives high levels of recreational use from river floaters and hunters. Approximately 240 visitors (nearly 24 percent of commercially-supported Refuge visitors) travel to the Kongakut River. Most people visit the Kongakut River during two peak times: two weeks in mid- to late June to witness the caribou migration and two weeks in mid- August to hunt Dall sheep. In a recent visitor study, survey respondents reported that they encountered an average of two other groups during their trip on the Kongakut River; they also observed four airplanes and saw an average of one site with evidence of previous visitors. Managers suspect that site impacts and encounters between groups of floaters on the Kongakut River are higher than at other areas of the Refuge.

Offering Number 2

Use Area and number (and location): ARC-04, the Canning River drainage.

Term of the permit: January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2018

Offering type: Sole use

Species available: All big game species available under the State of Alaska hunting regulations.

General description: ARC-04 includes all watersheds draining into the east side of the Canning River upstream from, but not including, Nanook Creek.

Private lands: There are no private lands in ARC-04.

Special land categories: All of ARC-04 is in designated wilderness. In addition, T1N, R25E, and that portion of T1N, R24E, Umiat Meridian lying east of the Canning River has been designated as the Shublik Springs Research Natural Area (RNA). The purposes of the Shublik

Springs RNA are to recognize and protect unique perennial springs and associated relic and disjunct flora, isolated stands of balsam poplar, and paleontological resources.

Operating conditions and standards: Please see the full list of Special Use Permit conditions for Arctic Refuge (attached).

Because of the high visitor use within the Canning River drainage, base camps must be located outside the main river valley. Base camps will be located on durable surfaces.

Flights through this popular river corridor should be kept to a minimum.

The Refuge Manager may require removal of human waste at camps located within ½ mile of landing sites and/or along the Canning River.

Historic guide/client use levels: Commercially guided hunting occurred in ARC-04 nearly every year from 1993 through 2010. During the last permit cycle, the authorized number of clients per species annually has been as follows:

Dall sheep - 6; caribou - 4; grizzly bear – 2; wolf and wolverine – incidental harvest allowed.

Other information: The Canning River receives relatively high levels of recreational use by guided and unguided river floaters, including hunters. Both resident and non-resident hunters access the Canning River with air taxis, transporters, or their private airplane.

Offering Number 3

Use area number (and location): ARC-05, the upper Hulahula River drainage.

Term of the permit: January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2018

Offering type: Sole use

Species available: All big game species available under the State of Alaska hunting regulations.

General description: ARC-05 consists of all watersheds draining into the Hulahula River upstream from Old Man and Old Woman Creeks. Also included are drainages on the easterly bank of Karen Creek south of S23, T1N, R30E, UM (northwest of Kikiktat Mountain); Old Man Creek drainages upstream of S10, T1N, R32E, UM (upstream from the canyon mouth) and the southwest (left bank) watershed downstream from the canyon.

Private lands: Several Native allotments are located in the area. Most are adjacent to the Hulahula River or its tributaries. Consult a map for specific locations:
<http://alaska.fws.gov/nwr/realty/map/ar1.htm>.

Special land categories: All of ARC-05 is in designated wilderness.

Operating conditions and standards: Please see the full list of Special Use Permit conditions for Arctic Refuge (attached).

Because of the high visitor use within the Hulahula River drainage, base camps must be located outside the main river valley. Base camps will be located on durable surfaces.

Flights through this popular river corridor should be kept to a minimum.

The Refuge Manager may require removal of human waste at camps located within ½ mile of landing sites and/or along the Hulahula River.

Historic guide/client use levels: Commercially guided hunting occurred in ARC-05 almost every year from 1993 through 2010. During the last permit cycle, the authorized number of clients per species annually has been as follows:

Dall sheep - 9; caribou - 6; grizzly bear - 3; and wolf - 6.

Other information: Relative to other North Slope rivers in the Refuge, the Hulahula River receives the second highest level of visitation. It is a popular destination for river floaters, backpackers and hunters. Many resident hunters access this area with air taxis, transporters, or their private airplanes. The Hulahula River is also an important subsistence use area during the fall, winter and spring, particularly for fishing and Dall sheep hunting. Because of this area's proximity to Kaktovik and the high level of subsistence use in the area, it may be important to develop a positive working relationship with the residents of Kaktovik.

Offering Number 4

Use area number (and location): ARC-06, the Marsh Fork Canning River and west drainage of upper Canning River.

Term of the permit: January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2018

Offering type: Sole use

Species available: All big game species available under the State of Alaska hunting regulations.

General description: ARC-06 consists of all watersheds draining into the Marsh Fork of the Canning River, and all watersheds draining into the main Canning River from the west upstream of the junction of the Marsh Fork. It also includes watersheds entering the main Canning River from the west, downstream of the Marsh Fork to the Refuge boundary at T2S, R25E, UM.

Private lands: This area does not contain any private lands.

Special land categories: None.

Operating conditions and standards: Please see the full list of Special Use Permit conditions for Arctic Refuge (attached).

Because of the high visitor use within the Marsh Fork of the Canning River drainage, base camps must be located outside the main river valley. Base camps will be located on durable surfaces.

Flights through this popular river corridor should be kept to a minimum.

The Refuge Manager may require removal of human waste at camps located within ½ mile of landing sites and/or along the Marsh Fork of the Canning River.

Historic guide/client use levels: Commercially guided hunting occurred in ARC-06 every year from 1993 through 2010. During the last permit cycle, the authorized number of clients per species annually has been as follows:

Dall sheep - 12; caribou - 8; grizzly bear - 4; and wolf - 3.

Other information: This area has a history of high use by non-guided hunters accessing the area with air taxis, transporters, or private airplanes. Recreational visitors, such as backpackers and river floaters, also access this area regularly. About 9% of refuge visitors go to the Marsh Fork of the Canning.

Offering Number 5

Use area number (and location): ARC-07, upper Coleen, Old Crow and Firth drainages, and a portion of the upper Sheenjek drainage.

Terms of the permit: January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2018

Offering type: Joint Use – two permits available

Species available: All big game species available under the State of Alaska hunting regulations.

General description: ARC-07 encompasses all watersheds draining into the upper Coleen, Old Crow and Firth Rivers. The boundary of ARC-07 follows the divide west from the U.S.-Canada Border between the Kongakut River on the north and the Firth River drainage including Mancha Creek, then along the divide between the Kongakut River and the Coleen River drainage. The boundary then turns south in the divide between the Sheenjek River and Coleen River drainages, and then turns west-southwest along the divide between the East Fork Sheenjek River and Sheenjek River. The boundary then crosses the Sheenjek River at a point north of Table Mountain and south of Kuirzinjik Lake and proceeds south of Old Woman Creek to the Wilderness Boundary. From this point the ARC-07 boundary follows the Wilderness boundary south –southeast then east to the U.S. Canada Border. The Wilderness Boundary from the vicinity of Old Woman Creek runs south to a point on Monument Creek. The boundary then

proceeds downstream on Monument Creek to its confluence with the Sheenjek River. It then runs upstream on the Sheenjek River to Eskimo Creek, then upstream on Eskimo Creek crossing over the divide to a point on the Coleen River. The boundary then runs downstream on the Coleen River to the confluence of Lois Creek, then north-east and east to the U.S. Canada Border.

Private lands: There are a few Native allotments and historic sites in the area. Consult a map for specific locations: <http://alaska.fws.gov/nwr/realty/map/ar2.htm>.

Special land categories: All of ARC-07 is in designated wilderness. The portion of the Sheenjek River within ARC-07 is a designated Wild River. The entire watersheds of Firth River and Mancha Creek are within the Firth-Mancha Research Natural Area (RNA). The purposes of the RNA are to recognize and protect unique northernmost spruce forest communities, unglaciated landscapes, fish spawning areas, raptor nesting sites and migration corridors for moose and caribou. Management policy is to ensure that the Firth-Mancha RNA is “protected from any influence that could alter or disrupt the characteristic phenomena for which the area was established.”

Operating conditions and standards: Please see the full list of Special Use Permit conditions for Arctic Refuge (attached).

Because of the high visitor use within the Coleen River drainage, base camps must be located outside the main river valley. Base camps will be located on durable surfaces.

The Refuge Manager may require removal of human waste at camps located within ½ mile of landing sites.

Historic guide/client use levels: Commercially guided hunting occurred in ARC-07 every year from 2001-2010. During the last permit cycle, two guides were allowed to share this area. Each guide had a separate authorized number of clients per species annually, which was as follows:

1. Moose – 4; grizzly bear – 4; caribou – 8; black bear – 1; wolf 3; and Dall sheep – 1.
2. Moose – 6; grizzly bear – 5; caribou – 10; wolf and wolverine – incidental harvest allowed.

Other information: The Coleen River drainage has a history of use by non-guided hunters who access the area via air taxi, transporter, or privately owned aircraft. The Coleen River has become more popular with moose and caribou hunters over the past few years, as has the Sheenjek River, a designated Wild River. The Sheenjek receives the second most visitation of any river on the Refuge and the most visitation of any south side river in the Refuge. It is popular among backpackers, river floaters, and hunters.

Offering Number 6

Use area number (and location): ARC-09, the upper Ivishak, Echooka, and Kavik River drainages.

Term of the permit: January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2018

Offering type: Sole use

Species available: All big game species available under the State of Alaska hunting regulations.

General description: ARC-09 consists of all watersheds of the Ivishak, Echooka, Shaviovik, Juniper Creek and Kavik Rivers that are within the boundary of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. The northern boundary of ARC-09 is the Refuge boundary. The eastern boundary is the divide between the Kavik River, Juniper Creek, Echooka River, and Ivishak River and the Canning River drainage. The southern boundary is the continental divide. The western boundary is the divide between the Ivishak River and Flood Creek, Saviukviayak, and Ribdon Rivers.

Private lands: There are no private lands in ARC-09.

Special land categories: The entire length of the Ivishak River within ARC-09 is a designated Wild River.

Operating conditions and standards: Please see the full list of Special Use Permit conditions for Arctic Refuge (attached).

Because of the high visitor use within the Ivishak River drainage, base camps must be located outside the main river valley. Base camps will be located on durable surfaces.

The Refuge Manager may require removal of human waste at camps located within ½ mile of landing sites and/or along the Ivishak River.

Historic guide/client use levels: Commercially guided hunting occurred in ARC-09 every year from 1993 through 2010. During the last permit cycle, the authorized number of clients per species annually has been as follows:

Dall sheep - 10; caribou - 15; grizzly bear - 3; wolf and wolverine – incidental harvest allowed.

Other information: The Ivishak River is commonly used by non-guided hunters and anglers in August and September. The number of commercial air operators offering air taxi and transporter services to this area has increased over the past several years.

Offering Number 7

Use area number (and location): ARC-10, the Ribdon, Lupine, Saviukviayak, Flood Creek, Accomplishment Creek drainages, and part of the upper Sagavanirktok River.

Term of the permit: January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2018

Offering type: Sole use

Species available: All big game species available under the State of Alaska hunting regulations.

General description: ARC-10 includes all watersheds draining north from the continental divide from the Refuge boundary west of the upper Sagavanirktok River, to the Saviukviayak River and Flood Creek on the east. This area includes the upper portions of Accomplishment Creek, and the Ribdon and Lupine Rivers within the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

Private lands: Approximately one-half township of Native corporation land surrounds Elusive Lake. Consult a map for specific locations: <http://alaska.fws.gov/nwr/realty/map/ar3.htm>.

Special land categories: The Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area extends into ARC-09 where it's within five miles of the Dalton Highway. Consult the hunting regulations for more information.

Operating conditions and standards: Dalton Highway considerations: Please see the full list of Special Use Permit conditions for Arctic Refuge (attached).

The Refuge Manager may require removal of human waste at camps located within ½ mile of landing sites.

Historic guide/client use levels: Commercially guided hunting occurred in ARC-10 nearly every year between 1993 and 2010. During the last permit cycle, the authorized number of clients per species annually has been as follows:

In combination hunts, Dall sheep - 10; (if regulations allow, moose – 6); caribou - 12; grizzly bear – 3; wolf and wolverine – incidental harvest allowed.

Other information: Atigun Gorge is increasingly valued by an ever broadening range of visitors for its recreational opportunities. The Atigun River area and upper Sagavanirktok drainage within ARC-10 receive heavy use by non-guided hunters who walk in from the Dalton Highway during August and September. The Atigun River and Gorge is also heavily used as a recreational river for whitewater boating, birding, mushing, and ice climbing activities, as well as other activities. Atigun Gorge lies within the Wiseman subsistence use area and is important for subsistence sheep hunting.

Offering Number 8

Use area number (and location): ARC-11, the upper Junjik River, Smoke Creek drainage, and west watershed of Crow Nest Creek

Term of the permit: January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2018

Offering type: Sole use

Species available: All big game species available under the State of Alaska hunting regulations.

General description: ARC-11 consists of all watersheds draining into the upper Junjik River to the boundary of the Arctic Village Sheep Management Area (AVSMA). The area includes the entire watershed of Smoke Creek and the western (right bank) drainages of Crow Nest Creek. The east border of ARC-11 is the AVSMA and the East Fork of Chandalar River. The north border is the continental divide. The west and south border is the divide between Smoke Creek and the Wind River.

Private lands: Several Native allotments are located in the Timber Lake area along the Junjik River. Approximately one and one-half townships of Native corporation lands exist in the Buffalo Mountain area and lower Smoke Creek drainage. The Venetie Tribal Lands lie across the East Fork of Chandalar River along the southeast border of ARC-11. Consult a map for specific locations: <http://alaska.fws.gov/nwr/realty/map/ar3.htm>.

Special land categories: None

Operating conditions and standards: Please see the full list of Special Use Permit conditions for Arctic Refuge (attached).

The Refuge Manager may require removal of human waste at camps located within ½ mile of landing sites.

Historic guide/client use levels: Commercially guided hunting occurred in ARC-11 almost every year between 1993 and 2010. During the last permit cycle, the authorized number of clients per species annually has been as follows:

In combination hunts, Dall sheep - 7; moose - 1; caribou - 2; and grizzly bear - 1. Wolf and wolverine harvest has been allowed as incidental harvest.

Other information: Hunting Dall sheep in the Arctic Village Sheep Management Area (AVSMA) is restricted to residents of Arctic Village, Venetie, Fort Yukon, Kaktovik and Chalkyitsik. Guide use area ARC-12, which borders ARC-11 to the east and includes the AVSMA, is closed to commercial big game guiding.

Offering Number 9

Use area number (and location): ARC-13, Wind River, upper Middle Fork of Chandalar and North Fork of the East Fork of Chandalar Rivers.

Term of the permit: January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2018

Offering type: Sole use

Species available: All big game species available under the State of Alaska hunting regulations.

General description: ARC-13 consists of all watersheds draining into the Wind River and the upper portion of the Middle Fork of the Chandalar River. It also contains most of the watershed of the North Fork of the East Fork of the Chandalar River. The north border is the continental divide. The west border is the divide between the upper Middle Fork of Chandalar River and Your Creek and then the Refuge boundary to its intersection with the East Fork of the Chandalar River. The east border is the divide between the Wind River and Smoke Creek and then the East Fork of the Chandalar River.

Private lands: Approximately one and one-half townships of Native corporation lands exist in the Buffalo Mountain area and lower Smoke Creek drainage. The Venetie Tribal Lands lie across the East Fork of Chandalar River along the south and east border of ARC-13. Several Native allotments occur along the Wind River. Consult map for specific locations.

Special land categories: The entire Wind River is a designated Wild River.

Operating conditions and standards: Please see the full list of Special Use Permit conditions for Arctic Refuge (attached).

The Refuge Manager may require removal of human waste at camps located within ½ mile of landing sites.

Historic guide/client use levels: Commercially guided hunting in ARC-13 has occurred occasionally between 2005 and 2010. During the last permit cycle, the authorized number of clients per species annually has been as follows:

In combination hunts, Dall sheep - 5; moose - 5; caribou - 5; grizzly bear - 5; wolf - 5; and wolverine - 5.

Other information: Over the last few years, hunting pressure in the Wind River valley has increased. Air taxis and transporters equipped with both wheels and floats offer transportation services to this river valley, and private pilots with their own airplanes sometimes hunt or recreate in this designated Wild River valley.

Offering Number 10

Use area number (and location): ARC-15, lower Coleen drainage.

Term of the permit: January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2018

Offering type: Sole use

Species available: All big game species available under the State of Alaska hunting regulations.

General description: ARC-15 includes all drainages of the Coleen River downstream from the mouth of Lois Creek to Coleen Mountain. Its southeast border is the divide between Coleen River and Rapid River and the Porcupine River. This portion of the boundary crosses the Coleen River at Coleen Mountain and joins with the southwest boundary of Arctic Refuge. The west border is the divide between the Sheenjek and Coleen drainages. The east border is the Canada border. Bilwaddy Creek forms a portion of the northern border.

Private lands: There are several Native allotments, generally along the Coleen River. Consult a map for specific locations.

Special land categories: None

Operating conditions and standards: Please see the full list of Special Use Permit conditions for Arctic Refuge (attached).

The Refuge Manager may require removal of human waste at camps located within ½ mile of landing sites.

Historic guide/client use levels: Commercially guided hunting occurred in ARC-15 almost every year from 1993 through 2010. During the last permit cycle, the authorized number of clients per species annually has been as follows:

In combination hunts, moose - 4; caribou - 4; grizzly bear - 4; and black bear - 4.

Other information: The Coleen River has a history of use by non-guided hunters, who primarily float and hunt during August and September. The number of hunters on the Coleen River has increased over the past few years.

V. SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS AND CONSIDERATIONS

Minimum Requirements (Applicant must submit copies of all documents with application in order to be evaluated, unless otherwise indicated)

- * Applicant must possess a current State:
 - business license
 - registered guide-outfitter license
 - certification for appropriate game management unit (GMU)

- * Applicant shall provide proof of liability insurance (minimum \$300,000 each occurrence, \$500,000 aggregate), with the Fish and Wildlife Service named as coinsured prior to issuance of the refuge special use permit. Insurance does not have to be purchased prior to applying. The Service may, during the life of this permit, conduct a review of insurance requirements to assess adequacy of our current minimum requirements. Applicants should be aware that if a determination is made to increase minimum insurance requirements, permittees holding the current minimum coverage will be required to increase their insurance coverage to comply with the new requirements.

- * Applicant shall submit an affidavit signed by the applicant that affirms the applicant's financial ability to perform according to the operations plan.

- * Permit holder and assistant guides must possess current first aid and CPR cards prior to issuance of the permit and maintain currency through the authorized use period.

Use Records

The permit holder will be required to submit to the Refuge Manager an annual guide use report showing the numbers of clients and client use days for each species hunted, numbers of each species harvested, applicable dates, and other data required by special conditions of the permit, and provide a copy of the State's hunt record for each client. This report must be provided by December 31 for all uses during that calendar year unless the permit requires otherwise. This report shall be certified by the permit holder as being complete and accurate.

Performance Evaluations

Permit holders will be checked periodically to determine compliance with the permit conditions and operations plan. Evaluations will be based upon compliance inspections, discussions with clients, etc. The permit holder will be advised of deficiencies and any required remedial actions.

Fees

Fees are required for commercial use of refuge lands. Holders of special use permits awarded under this prospectus will be required to pay a \$100 administrative fee for each permit, annual fees for use and occupancy of Refuge lands (i.e., cabins, tent platforms, campsite structures, caches, etc.), and client use day fees in accordance with Service regional policy.

Total Allowable Use

The Service anticipates the use allowed under the refuge permit will remain the same throughout the permit term, however it is not guaranteed. Use may be adjusted annually by the Service, if necessary due to regulation changes, subsistence needs, environmental or resource concerns, or other management needs which may warrant adjustment.

Fuel Storage

Permit holders will be required to follow guidelines established in the Service's Regional Fuel Storage Policy (R7-4), which addresses fuel spill prevention/containment at fuel storage locations on Service lands, and follow additional conditions or restrictions required in the refuge special use permit.

General Terms

1. The government reserves the right to not award portions or all of some use areas being offered; extend the date for receiving the proposals; and to reject any or all proposals.
2. Applications containing false or incomplete information may be rejected by the Service. If a permit has been issued based on false or incomplete information, it may be terminated at any time.
3. The Service will use the information submitted with the original applications to rank applicants and award permits. However, the Service also reserves the right to contact all applicants for any offering for additional information, or to evaluate other sources of information prior to award.
4. Soliciting business, or conducting a commercial enterprise on a national wildlife refuge is prohibited except as authorized by a special use permit (50 CFR 27.97). Successful applicants will be issued special use permits authorizing and governing use and occupancy of refuge lands under the National Refuge System Administration Act (16 U.S.C. 668dd-668ee) and the Refuge Recreation Act (16 U.S.C. 460k-3). Such uses are subject to fees established by the Service. Permits issued in response to this prospectus will only authorize commercial big game guiding activities allowed under a big game guide license by Alaska statutes and regulations, and specified in the permit holder's approved plan of operations. Other commercial activities (e.g., incidental sport fish guiding or guiding for small game/waterfowl) will be prohibited without the prior written approval of the refuge manager.

5. The permit does not authorize use of lands conveyed to Alaska Native corporations, or other private or state lands.
6. Any oral statement by any representative of the Government, modifying or changing any conditions of this prospectus is an expression of opinion only and confers no right upon any applicant.
7. In the event that a contradiction exists between conditions in this prospectus and the conditions in the permit holder's special use permit, the conditions in the special use permit will govern.
8. The permit holder's operation plan, as amended and accepted by the Service, will be incorporated as a special condition of the permit. By accepting the permit, the holder must conduct his/her commercial guiding operations in adherence with the plan of operations, as well as other permit conditions. Any deviation from the permit conditions or approved operations plan requires prior written approval from the Refuge Manager. In the event that a contradiction exists between the permit holder's proposed plan of operations and the conditions in the holder's special use permit, the conditions in the special use permit will govern.
9. All costs incurred by the applicants for items submitted for this prospectus shall be the sole responsibility of the applicant.

Freedom of Information Act

All proposals submitted in response to this prospectus will be disclosed by the Department of the Interior to any person upon request pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552. The Service believes that it is not necessary for applicants to provide trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information when completing their proposals. Therefore, inclusion of such information is highly discouraged. However, if the applicant chooses to include commercial or financial information in the application which the applicant believes to be exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552), the cover page of each copy of the proposal shall include an attachment with the following statement:

"The information specifically identified on pages __, __, __, etc., of this proposal constitutes confidential commercial and financial information which the applicant believes to be exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act. The applicant requests that this information not be disclosed to the public, except as may be required by law."

The applicant shall also specifically identify confidential commercial and financial information on the page of the proposal which it appears and shall mark each page with the following legend:

"This page contains confidential commercial and financial information which the applicant believes to be exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act and which is subject to the legend contained on the cover page of this proposal."

In the event of a request for documents under the Freedom of Information Act, the burden will be on the applicant to establish that the information he/she requests to be withheld as privileged commercial or financial information, qualifies for nondisclosure under the Freedom of Information Act. Information included in the proposals relating to personal privacy such as social security numbers, home telephone numbers, certain items in law enforcement reports, etc. is protected from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act and the Privacy Act [5 U.S.C. § 552(a)] and will be withheld.

VI. SELECTION OF SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

A panel comprised of Service employees will evaluate all properly completed applications or proposals for a refuge guide use area, using scoring factors and guidance developed by the Service for each of the criteria listed below. The average score assigned by panel members will determine the applicant's final score for each of the criteria. The sum of scores for all criteria will determine the applicant's total score. After scoring and ranking all applications for a guide use area, the ranking panel will recommend a list of the "best qualified applicants" to be considered for final selection for that area. The refuge manager will make the final selections for the guide use areas within the refuge that he/she manages. The refuge manager may either limit his/her selection to the list of best qualified applicants recommended by the ranking panel, or consider all applicants for the area that meet the minimum scores and qualifications. The refuge manager will base his/her final selection on the results of the ranking panel evaluations, the manager's own examination of the applications, interviews of the applicants, client references, and other records or sources of information (e.g., permit files) that can document the applicant's performance and qualifications.

Applicants must attain the minimum scores indicated below in all of the criteria to be eligible for consideration by the refuge manager. In the last criterion (history of compliance), any applicant whose point deductions for history of violations/convictions reach or exceed 90 points will be ineligible for a permit.

- 1) Ability to provide a high quality hunt and guiding service to the public:
(Maximum 75 points; minimum 25 points).
- 2) Safety record, training, equipment and plan:
(Maximum 60 points; minimum 25 points).
- 3) Demonstrated experience and knowledge of the guide use area, and the terrain, climate, and species to be hunted: (Maximum 110 points; minimum 20 points).
- 4) Impacts of the proposed operation on wildlife and other refuge resources such as water quality, vegetation, soil, and wilderness character:
[Maximum 110 points; minimum 55 points (60 points for wilderness areas)].
- 5) Impacts of the proposed operation on other refuge users, including subsistence users:
[Maximum 45 points; minimum 20 points (24 points for wilderness areas)].
- 6) History of compliance with state and federal hunting, fishing, and guiding laws, regulations, and permit requirements: (points deducted for each offense; point deductions may not reach or exceed 90 points). Note: Any applicant who has a felony conviction, or is otherwise prohibited from possessing a firearm, or who has 3 or more misdemeanor convictions within the last 10 years, is ineligible for a permit.

VII. INSTRUCTIONS: HOW TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS

All proposals must be submitted in writing to:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Attention: Brian Anderson
National Wildlife Refuge System - Alaska
1011 East Tudor Road, MS 235
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

All proposals must either be postmarked or be hand delivered to the Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Regional Office, at the address indicated above, by 4:00 p.m., February 29, 2012. **An original and two copies of the complete application package must be submitted for each guide use area.** Proposals must be submitted in sealed envelopes and must be signed by the individual submitting the proposal. Each sealed envelope shall be clearly marked "Arctic Refuge Guiding Proposal." Each package should be marked with the name, address and telephone number of the applicant. Applications that are mailed must be sent by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested.

Incomplete proposals will not be returned to the applicant for more information. Material submitted with the proposals will not be returned to the applicant. All proposals must be legible, either neatly printed in dark ink or typed. **Proposals received after the above deadline will be considered late and will be returned to the sender without evaluation.**

You may apply as a partnership, however each partner must be individually qualified to receive the permit, and partnership applications will be ranked using the lowest scoring partner. Each partner must sign the permit, and be responsible for complying with permit conditions.

The following instructions are provided to guide the applicant in completing the enclosed forms in Section VIII. **The Service will not accept any form of proposal except as specified in the format under Section VIII.** Elements of the proposal may be incorporated as conditions of the special use permit.

An applicant who knowingly provides false or incomplete information will be disqualified.

Proposals must include:

Cover Sheet. By signing this form the applicant attests that all information provided with the application is true and complete and authorizes the Service to verify any information provided.

Form A - Proposed Operations Plan. Information on this form should describe the full services you will offer to the public. The information you provide in your proposed operations plan will be used in evaluating impacts to refuge resources, and other refuge users. It will also be considered in evaluating your ability to provide a quality hunt and guiding

service to the public, and your knowledge of the area applied for. Instructions on the form indicate the information required.

Form B - History of Violations. You must report any felony conviction, or misdemeanor convictions (including forfeiture of collateral and no contest pleas) for violations committed during the last ten years by you, or any of your business partners, or employees, and any pending charges pursuant to the instructions on the form. You must also report convictions and pending charges for any violations committed by individuals who were being guided or accompanied by you or persons associated with your guiding business at the time of the violation. If a pending charge results in a conviction, the conviction could be cause to revoke a permit, depending on the nature and severity of such conviction. You must also provide copies of official law enforcement records or background reports of criminal history for you and your business partners, as explained on the form.

Form C - Safety Record, Training, Equipment and Plan. Information on this form will be used to evaluate your past safety record and ability to provide clients with a safe hunt.

Form D - Demonstrated Experience and Knowledge of the Guide Use Area, and the Terrain, Climate, and Species to be Hunted. Use this form to describe your experience and knowledge of the guide use area being applied for, and for similar terrain, climate, and species to be hunted.

Form E - List and Description of Property, Equipment and Accessories. Applicants must describe how they will be able to meet all applicable federal, state, and local requirements pertinent to their full operation. Applicants must also be able to demonstrate that all the equipment and accessories proposed for use in their operations are safe and adequate for general public service.

Form F - Ability to Provide a High Quality Hunt and Guiding Service to the Public. Use this form to describe your ability to provide a high quality hunt and big game guiding service.

Form G - Evaluation of Client References. Applicants must supply a complete list of clients for the past three years. The clients may be contacted by the Service for references to evaluate the quality of your past services.

VIII. INFORMATION REQUIRED

Please read the following forms carefully. Additional information relative to the questions found in these forms can be found in Section V. Be sure to provide in written form the information requested under each element in the format specified. **Additional pages should be used if extra space is needed (use copies of or the same format as the continuation sheet form provided in Appendix A).** Information beyond the minimum requested will be evaluated. All information is subject to verification by the Service and additional supporting data may be required. **Be sure to retain a copy of the application for your records.** The Service is under no obligation to return applications.

**ARCTIC REFUGE GUIDING PROSPECTUS
APPLICATION COVER SHEET**

GUIDE USE AREA _____

I certify that the information furnished herewith is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I authorize the Fish and Wildlife Service to verify the information furnished herewith.

BY _____
(Sign in ink as typed or printed below)

(Type or print full name) (Social Security Number)

(Doing business as)

PERMANENT MAILING ADDRESS

ADDRESS DURING APPLICATION REVIEW PERIOD (IF DIFFERENT)

TELEPHONE NUMBER: Daytime _____

Other _____

DATE _____

The information identifying your priorities for selection of guide areas, and Forms A through G must be submitted for your proposal to be evaluated.

Refuge Guide Use Area Priorities

List all the guide use areas for which you are applying in the order in which you would like to receive them. You may apply for up to ten guide use areas, but you are limited to a maximum of three big game guide permits on Service lands at any one time. This limitation includes any partnership or ownership interest that you may have in other big game guide businesses (i.e., you may not hold three refuge big game guide permits and have a partner/owner interest in other guide businesses permitted on Service lands).

Guide Use Area Priority List

<u>Refuge</u>	<u>Guide Use Area</u>
Example: <u>Arctic National Wildlife Refuge</u>	<u>ARC-03</u>
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____
4. _____	_____
5. _____	_____
6. _____	_____
7. _____	_____
8. _____	_____
9. _____	_____
10. _____	_____

Note: The following instructions apply only if you currently hold valid permits for other refuge guide use areas not offered at this time.

If you already hold permits for other refuge areas not being offered at this time, you may still apply for any of the use areas currently being offered. However, you must list below any of the guide area(s) that you are currently permitted to use, but would relinquish to be awarded the area you are applying for in this application, in order to avoid exceeding the three area limitation.

<u>Refuge</u>	<u>Guide Use Area</u>
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____

FORM A

Proposed Operations Plan

Provide in narrative form a description of the services you propose to offer. Be sure to explain the services for each offering for which you are applying. This narrative should address, at a minimum, the type and extent of services, including the following:

- 1) Dates of operations:
- 2) Species to be hunted and type of hunts provided for each (i.e., guided or drop-off hunts):
- 3) Maximum number of clients for each species, and each type of hunt:
- 4) Number, type, and location of existing or new camps (i.e., tent, tent frame, cabin, boat):
 - Base and spike camps
 - Camp locations (mark on USGS 1:63,360 scale topographical maps)
 - Habitat type each camp is located in
 - Structures, facilities and equipment used or needed at camps (e.g., weatherports, caches, latrines, stoves, chainsaws, etc.)
 - Water supplies
- 5) Methods and facilities for management and disposal of garbage/trash:
- 6) Methods and facilities for management and disposal of human waste:
- 7) Methods and facilities for care and storage of food, gear and meat:
- 8) Access points and mode(s) of transportation proposed within the area:
 - Access points and routes of access to be used (mark on USGS 1:63,360 topographical maps)
 - Use of aircraft for transportation to and from, and within field (note: subcontracted transportation services providers must hold an appropriate refuge special use permit)
 - number and type of aircraft used
 - maximum and average number of flights and hours of daily use for each aircraft used
 - location and type of landing sites
 - methods or strategies to reduce impacts of aircraft use on resources and other users

- Other modes of transportation (e.g., boats, snowmobiles, pack animals, etc.) used to and from, and within field
 - number and type vehicles or animals used
 - maximum and average frequency of use and hours daily use, for each mode of transportation

9) On site fuel storage and re-fueling needs:

- Mark locations on USGS 1:63,360 topographical maps
- Type of fuel and fuel containers, and number of gallons at each location
- Describe on site re-fueling operations needed
 - Describe plans, methods, materials and other provisions for prevention, response, and cleanup of fuel spills

10) Methods or strategies to reduce impacts on Refuge resources and other Refuge users, including subsistence users

11) Methods for avoiding and responding to bear problems:

12) Services provided by others (contracts for transportation, food services, etc., give specific details):

Applicant's Name _____ Form A - Page 1

FORM B

History of Violations

1. Since January 1, 2002, have **you or any of your former, current or proposed business partners**, been convicted, forfeited collateral, pled nolo contendere, had a guiding license or privilege suspended, or been administratively penalized for violation of any federal, state, or local laws, regulations, or permit conditions, related to hunting, fishing (including commercial fishing), guiding, or for any DUI offense? Are you or any of your former, current or proposed business partners under pending charges for any violation as indicated above? If the answer to either of these questions is yes, list each incident and give the name of the person, place of occurrence and name/address of the law enforcement agency and/or court involved (you may provide an explanation).
2. Since January 1, 2002, have any of your **employees**, while in your employment, been convicted, forfeited collateral, pled nolo contendere, had a guiding license or privilege suspended, or been administratively penalized for violation of any federal, state, or local laws, regulations, or permit conditions, related to hunting, fishing and guiding? Are any current or proposed employees presently under pending charges for any violation as indicated above? If the answer to either of these questions is yes, list each incident and give the name of the person, place of occurrence and name/address of the law enforcement agency and/or court involved (you may provide an explanation, including how you handled the situation).
3. Since January 1, 2002, has any **client or other individual** been convicted, forfeited collateral, pled nolo contendere, or is now under pending charges for any violation that occurred while being guided or accompanied by you or individuals associated with your guiding business? If yes, list each incident and give the name of the person, place of occurrence and name/address of the law enforcement agency and/or court involved (you may provide an explanation).
4. Attach copies of official background reports documenting history of violations or convictions for yourself, and all current and proposed business partners associated with your guide operations. You and each of your business partners must obtain a copy of an “**Any Person**” report from the Alaska Department of Public Safety and specify that hunting, fishing and guiding related records (i.e., “**Fish and Wildlife Report**”) are to be included. These reports must be obtained in person and you are responsible for any required report cost. Information on “walk-in” locations can be found on-line at <http://www.dps.state.ak.us/Statewide/background/walkin.aspx>. You must provide a copy of these background reports for yourself and all partners identified in your application to be considered for a refuge permit.

Note: Any applicant who has a felony conviction, or is otherwise prohibited from possessing a firearm, or who has 3 or more misdemeanor convictions within the last 10 years, is ineligible for a permit.

Applicant's Name _____ Form B - Page 1

FORM C

Safety Record, Training, Equipment and Plan

1. List all accidents, incidents, and safety related violations or enforcement actions involving you or your guiding operations that have occurred since January 1, 2002.

Submit reports from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), and State of Alaska Department of Public Safety for all safety violations, accidents and/or incidents involving you or your guiding operation that have occurred since January 1, 2002. Please request this information early to ensure your proposal will be complete. If records cannot be obtained from the agency involved, describe the accident, incident or violation in detail and provide the name and telephone number of the person you contacted who informed you that the record could not be provided. Agencies typically do not provide reports unless there are records of such accidents, incidents, violations or enforcement actions.

FAA reports may be obtained by writing a letter to FAA, P.O. Box 25082, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73125, Attention: AVN 124. The letter must include the full name of the person the records are being requested for, certificate numbers, return address, stipulate that you request records for accidents, incidents and enforcement actions occurring since January 1, 2002, and be signed. A minimum of ten working days is required to receive this information. For more information on obtaining FAA records, you may call FAA at (405) 954-3261.

Information on how to obtain USCG reports may be received by calling their 17th Coast Guard District legal office at (907) 463-2050. Their address is: Commander (dl), 17th Coast Guard District, P.O. Box 25517, Juneau, Alaska 99802-5517.

Department of Public Safety reports may be obtained from any State Troopers office (a personal visit may be required).

2. List all safety related training that you, your partners, and your employees have taken (e.g., advanced first aid, ETT, EMT, arctic survival, wilderness first aid/medicine, cold water survival, etc.). Also describe any relevant experience/training in actual rescue or survival operations or programs, hunter safety programs, etc. Give dates of training or participation and indicate if certification is current (if applicable). **Note: the successful applicant and assistant guides are required to submit current first aid and CPR certification prior to permit issuance.**
3. Describe your emergency preparedness or safety plan. List emergency communications equipment and address your plans, if any, in the event of mechanical failures, or other types of accidents/incidents.
4. List all safety related equipment and supplies, in addition to the communications equipment listed above.

Applicant's Name _____ Form C - Page 1

FORM D
(Revised September 26, 2011)

**Demonstrated Experience and Knowledge of the Guide Use Area,
and the Terrain, Climate, and Species to be Hunted**

A. Experience and knowledge of the terrain, climate, and species to be hunted:

1. Describe your guiding/outfitting experience during each of the last **10 years**, starting with January 1, 2002. For each year, list the number of clients, noting the number of days you spent in the field, identify the species hunted, number of each species taken, specific locations and type of terrain and climate where you guided or outfitted. Indicate the specific periods, if any, for which you were not serving as a registered big game guide. You should also indicate if you were the contracting guide. If you guided for activities other than big game guiding, describe the type of activities you guided, and the specific services you provided.
2. You may document experience other than guiding (e.g., personal sport or subsistence hunting, or fishing, conducting air taxi or transporting services, resource management activities, etc.) for the last **10 years**, that you believe is relevant. Describe the experience or activity, the specific location involved, noting the amount of time in the field and, if applicable, the number of clients served each year and the number of each species of animals harvested.
3. Describe any education and/or training you believe is relevant to the terrain, climate, and species to be hunted (do not include safety-related training here – use Form C).

B. Experience in the guide use area applied for:

1. Describe and document the number of years of your guiding experience (noting the number of days spent in the field each year) **in the guide use area applied for**, during the past **20 years**, starting with January 1, 1992.
2. Describe your knowledge of, and document number of years of other relevant experience and/or personal use (noting the number of days spent in the field each year) **in the guide use area applied for** during the past **20 years**, starting with January 1, 1992.

Applicant's Name _____ Form D - Page 1

FORM E

List and Description of Property, Equipment and Accessories

1. **Property:** Include a detailed description of private lands (if any) which are to be used as part of your operation including a copy of the lease, contract, or other instrument that authorizes your use of private lands. Applicants who own facilities in the area which will be used to support their proposed operations plan should describe the facilities and submit written documentation for proof of ownership and date it was constructed/acquired. Also submit a USGS topographical map with the location of the facilities marked.
2. **Equipment and Accessories:** This information should be presented in tabular or narrative form and should list quantity, quality, age and type of equipment such as aircraft, boats, other vehicles, radio equipment, major camp equipment, and other accessories which are available for use in the proposed operation. Indicate if equipment meets applicable federal, state or local regulations (e.g., FAA, USCG) and provide all applicable boat or airplane registration numbers.

Applicant's Name _____ Form E - Page 1

FORM F

Ability to Provide a High Quality Guiding Service to the Public

1. Describe your business practices including: proposed client rates; payment options; promotional strategies or efforts; reservation, cancellation and refund policies; and acknowledgement of risk forms. Submit your current advertisement leaflets, client price lists, hunter contract forms, or other literature that reflects your business practices.
2. Describe provisions for handicapped clients.
3. Describe educational and/or interpretive services or programs provided to clients.
4. Describe drinking water supplies and method of treatment if appropriate.
5. Describe your knowledge, abilities, and experience in caring for meat, capes, and hides from big game. List the number of years and estimated number of animals of each species that you and/or your employees have taken care of (e.g., field dressed, skinned, caped, boned, butchered, etc.). Also, document any training that you or your employees have received in care of meat or trophies (e.g., taxidermy, meat cutting, etc.).
6. Describe your plan, methods, provisions, and facilities to salvage, care for, and provide opportunity for utilization of meat from harvested animals.

Applicant's Name _____ Form F - Page 1

FORM G

Evaluation of Client References

Provide a complete list of all big game hunting clients that you have contracted and/or personally guided since **January 1, 2009**. If you need to go back prior to this date in order to have a minimum of ten clients, you may do so. Include full names; addresses; home telephone and other telephone numbers, if known; species hunted; year of hunt; whether you were the contracting guide; whether it was a guided or drop off client; and whether the client was guided by you personally or by an assistant. **Do not submit copies of Alaska state hunt records.**

If you are a recently registered guide and are unable to provide the requested list for a minimum of ten clients, simply indicate that on this form.

Applicant's Name _____ Form G - Page 1

Applicant's Name _____ Form _____ Page _____

United States Department of the Interior
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Special Use Application and Permit

2. Application Date

3. Period of Use Applying for:
From: To:

1. National Wildlife Refuge

4. Applicant Information:

Name Phone:
Organization: Fax:
Address: email
City/State/ZIP

5. Purpose of the Permit Application:

- Agriculture
- Commercial Visitor Services
- Other (describe)
- Commercial Activities
- Commercial Filming
- Research/Monitoring
- Special Event

6. Describe the above activity as specifically as you can.

Include: Where the activity will take place (units, roads, trails); When (seasons, days, hours); How (methods, techniques, transportation); Frequency (one time only, daily, occasionally); Number of people/vehicles/boats; Special Needs/access
Researchers may be required to supply a research proposal.

To conduct commercial big game guided hunting services in Guide Use Area XXX-XX.
(Specify whether use of Native-selected lands is authorized).

This permit does not convey any rights or preferential status beyond the expiration of the permit.

See attached special conditions.

The permittee's operations plan as amended and accepted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is hereby incorporated as a special condition. Deviations from the plan must be approved by the issuing officer or his designee.

7. Print Form 8. Applicant Signature: Date:

Print this form and return it to the refuge for processing. Do not fill out any information below this line.

For Official Use Only

Special Conditions

Application approved: yes no
Station Number
Permit Number

Record of Payments: Payment exempt Partial Payment Full Payment
Amount of payment Record of partial payments:

This permit is issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and accepted by the above signed, subject to the terms, covenants, obligations, and reservations, expressed or implied herein, and to the notice, conditions, and requirements appearing on the reverse side.

Permit Approved and Issued By: (name and title) Date:

Notice

In accordance with the Privacy Act (5 U.S. C. 552a) and the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S. C. 3501), please note the following information:

1. The issuance of a permit and collection of fees on lands of the National Wildlife Refuge System is authorized by the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act (16 U.S. C. 668dd-ee) as amended, and the Refuge Recreation Act (16 U.S. C. 460k-460k-4).
2. The information that you provide is voluntary; however submission of requested information is required to evaluate the qualifications, determine eligibility, and document permit applicants under the above Acts. It is our policy not to use your name for any other purpose. The information is maintained in accordance with the Privacy Act. All information you provide will be considered in reviewing this application. False, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or representations made in the application may be grounds for revocation of the Special Use Permit and may be punishable by fine or imprisonment (18 U.S.C. 1001). Failure to provide all required information is sufficient cause for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to deny a permit. Response is not required unless a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number is displayed.
3. No members of Congress or Resident Commissioner shall participate in any part of this contract or to any benefit that may arise from it, but this provision shall not pertain to this contract if made with a corporation for its general benefit.
4. The Permittee agrees to be bound by the equal opportunity "nondiscrimination in employment" clause of Executive Order 11246.
5. Routine use disclosures may also be made: (a) to the U.S. Department of Justice when related to litigation or anticipated litigation; (b) of information indicating a violation or potential violation of a statute, rule, order, or license to appropriate Federal, State, local or foreign agencies responsible for investigating or prosecuting the violation or for enforcing or implementing the statute, rule, regulations, order, or license; (c) from the record of the individual in response to an inquiry from a Congressional office made at the request of the individual (42 FR 19083; April 11, 1977); and (d) to provide addresses obtained from the Internal Revenue Service to debt collection agencies for purposes of locating a debtor to collect or compromise a Federal Claim against the debtor, or to consumer reporting agencies to prepare a commercial credit report for use by the Department (48 FR 54716; December 6, 1983).
6. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. This information collection has been approved by OMB and assigned control number 1018-0102. The public reporting burden for this information collection varies based on the specific refuge use being requested. The relevant public reporting burden estimate for the Special Use Permit Application form is estimated to average one hour per response, including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Comments on this form should be mailed to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, Mail Stop 222, Arlington Square, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arlington, Virginia, 22203. Thank you.

General Conditions and Requirements.

1. Responsibility of Permittee: The permittee, by operating on the premises, shall be considered to have accepted these premises with all facilities, fixtures, or improvements in their existing condition as of the date of this permit. At the end of the period specified or upon earlier termination, the permittee shall give up the premises in as good order and condition as when received except for reasonable wear, tear, or damage occurring without fault or negligence. The permittee will fully repay the Service for any and all damage directly or indirectly resulting from negligence or failure on his/her part, and/or the part of anyone of his/her associates, to use reasonable care.
2. Operating Rules and Laws: The permittee shall keep the premises in a neat and orderly condition at all times, and shall comply with all municipal, county, and State laws applicable to the operations under the permit as well as all Federal laws, rules, and regulations governing national wildlife refuges and the area described in this permit. The permittee shall comply with all instructions applicable to this permit issued by the refuge official in charge. The permittee shall take all reasonable precautions to prevent the escape of fires and to suppress fires and shall render all reasonable assistance in the suppression of refuge fires.
3. Use Limitations: The permittee's use of the described premises is limited to the purposes herein specified and does not, unless provided for in this permit, allow him/her to restrict other authorized entry onto his/her area; and permits the Service to carry on whatever activities are necessary for: (1) protection and maintenance of the premises and adjacent lands administered by the Service; and (2) the management of wildlife and fish using the premises and other Service lands.
4. Transfer of Privileges: This permit is not transferable, and no privileges herein mentioned may be sublet or made available to any person or interest not mentioned in this permit. No interest hereunder may accrue through lien or be transferred to a third party without the approval of the Regional Director of the Service and the permit shall not be used for speculative purposes.
5. Compliance: The Service's failure to require strict compliance with any of this permit's terms, conditions, and requirements shall not constitute a waiver or be considered as a giving up of the Service's right to thereafter enforce any of the permit's terms or conditions.

6. Conditions of Permit not Fulfilled: If the permittee fails to fulfill any of the conditions and requirements set forth herein, all money paid under this permit shall be retained by the Government to be used to satisfy as much of the permittee's obligation as possible.
7. Payments: All payment shall be made on or before the due date to the local representative of the Service by a postal money order or check made payable to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
8. Termination Policy: At the termination of this permit the permittee shall immediately give up possession to the Service representative, reserving, however, the rights specified in paragraph 11. If he/she fails to do so, he/she will pay the government, as liquidated damages, an amount double the rate specified in this permit for the entire time possession is withheld. Upon yielding possession, the permittee will still be allowed to reenter as needed to remove his/her property as stated in paragraph 11. The acceptance of any fee for the liquidated damages or any other act of administration relating to the continued tenancy is not to be considered as an affirmation of the permittee's action nor shall it operate as a waiver of the Government's right to terminate or cancel the permit for the breach of any specified condition or requirement.
9. Revocation Policy: This permit may be revoked by the Regional Director of the Service without notice for noncompliance with the terms hereof or for violation of general and/or specific laws or regulations governing national wildlife refuges or for nonuse. It is at all times subject to discretionary revocation by the Director of the Service. Upon such revocation the Service, by and through any authorized representative, may take possession of the said premises for its own and sole use, and/or may enter and possess the premises as the agent of the permittee and for his/her account.
10. Damages: The United States shall not be responsible for any loss or damage to property including, but not limited to, growing crops, animals, and machinery or injury to the permittee or his/her relatives, or to the officers, agents, employees, or any other who are on the premises from instructions or by the sufferance of wildlife or employees or representatives of the Government carrying out their official responsibilities. The permittee agrees to save the United States or any of its agencies harmless from any and all claims for damages or losses that may arise to be incident to the flooding of the premises resulting from any associated Government river and harbor, flood control, reclamation, or Tennessee Valley Authority activity.
11. Removal of Permittee's Property: Upon the expiration or termination of this permit, if all rental charges and/or damage claims due to the Government have been paid, the permittee may, within a reasonable period as stated in the permit or as determined by the refuge official in charge, but not to exceed 60 days, remove all structures, machinery, and/or equipment, etc. from the premises for which he/she is responsible. Within this period the permittee must also remove any other of his/her property including his/her acknowledged share of products or crops grown, cut, harvested, stored, or stacked on the premises. Upon failure to remove any of the above items within the aforesaid period, they shall become the property of the United States.
12. Collected Specimens: You may use specimens collected under this permit, any components of any specimens (including natural organisms, enzymes, genetic materials or seeds), and research results derived from collected specimens for scientific or educational purposes only, and not for commercial purposes unless you have entered into a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) with us. We prohibit the sale of collected research specimens or other transfers to third parties. Breach of any of the terms of this permit will be grounds for revocation of this permit and denial of future permits. Furthermore, if you sell or otherwise transfer collected specimens of any components without a CRADA, you will pay us a royalty rate of 20 percent of the gross revenue from such sales. In addition to such royalty, we may seek other damages and injunctive relief against you.

Instructions for Completing Application:

You may complete the application portion electronically and submit to the refuge for review.

1. Enter the name of the refuge at which you are applying for a permit.
2. Under Application Date, fill in the date of application.
3. Under Period of Use, fill in the date(s) for which the activity is requested (inclusive)
4. Under Applicant Information, fill in your name, organization (if applicable), address, phone, fax, and email.
5. Under Purpose, check one of the following categories:
 - a. Agriculture- haying, grazing, crop planting, logging, beekeeping, and other agricultural products.
 - b. Commercial activities- commercial fishing, trapping, and other commercial activities.
 - c. Research/Monitoring - any investigations or monitoring projects proposed for the refuge.
 - d. Commercial filming -audio, video, and photographic products with a monetary value.
 - e. Commercial visitor services- outfitters/guides; for hunting, fishing, canoing, kayaking; and other visitor services.
 - f. Special Events - weddings, fishing tournaments, one-time events, and other special events.
 - g. Other- specify any other activity(ies) not mentioned above.
6. Under Describe the Above Activity, provide detailed information on the activity, including locations, times, methods, routes of travel, number of people, types and number of vehicles, etc. If you are proposing a research project, you may be asked to submit a research proposal. Contact the refuge for details.
7. Click on the Print button to print the application (if using the tillable version).
8. Under Applicant Signature and Date, sign and date the application, then submit to the refuge per their instructions (fax, mail, in-person)
9. The refuge official will review and, if approved, fill out the remaining information, sign, and return a copy to you.

The form is not valid as a permit unless it includes refuge approval, a station number, a refuge-assigned permit number, and is signed by a refuge official.

ARCTIC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
Special Conditions
Special Use Permit XXXXX
Page 1 of 4

Regional Standard Special Conditions

1. Failure to abide by any part of this special use permit; violation of any refuge related provision in Titles 43 (Part 36) or 50 (Subchapters B and C) Code of Federal Regulations; or violation of any pertinent state regulation (e.g., fish or game violation) will, with due process, be considered grounds for immediate revocation of this permit and could result in denial of future permit requests for lands administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. This provision applies to all persons working under the authority of this permit (e.g., assistants). Appeals of decisions relative to permits are handled in accordance with 50 Code of Federal Regulations 36.41.
2. The permittee is responsible for ensuring that all employees, party members, aircraft pilots, and any other persons working for the permittee and conducting activities allowed by this permit are familiar with and adhere to the conditions of this permit.
3. The permittee may not sublet any part of the authorized use area and is prohibited from subcontracting clients with any other guide. The permittee must also be personally present with each client in the refuge designated use area at least once during each contracted hunt.
4. Any problems with wildlife and/or animals taken in defense of life or property must be reported immediately to the refuge manager and/or Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and be salvaged in accordance with State regulations.
5. The permittee and permittee's clients do not have the exclusive use of the site(s) or lands covered by this permit, except for the authorized camp facilities.
6. This permit may be cancelled or revised at any time by the refuge manager in case of emergency (e.g., high fire danger, flooding, unusual resource problems, etc.).
7. The permittee shall notify the refuge manager during refuge working hours in person or by telephone before beginning and upon completion of annual activities allowed by this permit.
8. The permittee shall maintain comprehensive general liability insurance (\$300,000 each occurrence, \$500,000 annual aggregate) throughout the use period specified on the permit, with the Fish and Wildlife Service named as coinsured.
9. Annually, prior to beginning any activities allowed by this permit, the permittee must provide the refuge manager with: 1) aircraft and other vehicle types to be used, with identification information, if different from the original permit or previous year; 2) changes in names of assistant guides and other employees; and 3) any other changes in information provided in the original permit/proposed operations plan.
10. The permittee is responsible for accurate record keeping. By December 31 each year, the permittee must provide the refuge manager with a client use report showing the number of clients; the dates each client was on the Refuge; the species each client hunted; and the number of each species harvested. The permittee must also provide a legible copy of the State's "Hunt

Record" for each client. This report shall be certified by the permittee as being complete and accurate.

11. The Permittee will remit all required annual fees (client use day, and reserved land site) within 30 days after receiving a bill for collection.
12. This permit authorizes use on State selected lands. If any of these lands are conveyed during the term of this permit, the permittee will no longer be authorized to use those State lands, and must seek authorization from the Alaska Department of Natural Resources.
13. This permit authorizes use only on the Native corporation selected lands specifically identified in the description block of this permit. If any of these lands are conveyed during the term of this permit, the permittee will no longer be authorized to use those private lands, and must seek authorization from the appropriate Native corporation landowner.
14. In accordance with the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 470aa), the removal or disturbance of archeological or historic artifacts is prohibited. The excavation, disturbance, collection, or purchase of historical or archaeological specimens or artifacts on refuge lands is prohibited.
15. Permittees shall maintain their use areas in a neat and sanitary condition. Latrines must be located at least 150 feet from springs, lakes, and streams to avoid contamination of water resources. All property (except cabins and/or tent frames) of the permittee must be removed from refuge lands annually upon completion of permitted activities.
16. The construction or clearing of landing strips or pads is prohibited. Incidental hand removal of rocks and other minor obstructions may be permitted.
17. The use of off-highway vehicles is prohibited unless specifically authorized in writing in this permit.
18. The operation of aircraft at altitudes and in flight paths resulting in the herding, harassment, hazing, or driving of wildlife is prohibited. It is recommended that all aircraft, except for take-off and landing, maintain a minimum altitude of 2,000 feet above ground level (AGL).
19. All aircraft being used in a commercial guiding operation must have 12" identification numbers in contrasting colors which are readily visible.
20. Construction of cabins or other permanent structures is prohibited.
21. The permittee's operation plan, as amended and accepted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, is hereby incorporated in its entirety as a special condition. All deviations from the operations plan must receive prior written approval by the Refuge Manager or his designee.
22. Any action by a permittee or the permittee's employees which unduly interferes with or harasses other refuge visitors or impedes access to any site is strictly prohibited. Examples of prohibited acts include, but are not limited to, low flights over camps or persons at less than 500 feet (unless landing), parking aircraft or placing other objects (rocks, tents, etc.) on any area so as to restrict landing use by other aircraft or persons, and the placement of ghost camps (i.e., unoccupied tents) to falsely indicate the use of an area.

23. Fuel storage sites must be approved in advance by the Refuge Manager. Preparations to prevent and respond to a fuel spill must be fully adequate at all sites for the amount of fuel stored on site.
24. All food and garbage will be secured in a manner that minimizes attraction to wildlife and must be removed from the field before vacating the site for the season.
25. As soon as practicable, but in no case to exceed 30 days, the permittee shall notify the refuge manager of any state or federal fish or wildlife related violations by the permittee or persons employed by the permittee as a guide or assistant guide (if known to the permittee), who have been convicted, pled nolo contendere, forfeited collateral, or had a guiding license suspended or revoked. Notification is required for violations without regard to where they occurred.
26. As soon as practicable, but in no case to exceed 30 days, the permittee shall notify the refuge manager of any accidents or other safety related incidents associated with permitted activities on the refuge. Reportable incidents include those that result in a death or physical injury requiring immediate medical attention beyond basic first aid, or that involve significant property damage or loss.

Refuge Specific Special Conditions

27. The permittee must not interfere with subsistence activities of rural residents or restrict their access to refuge lands. This may include but is not limited to disturbance of wildlife and their movements near subsistence hunters, and damage to cabins, trails, traditional campsites or caches used by subsistence users.
28. Aircraft will be used for access only; aircraft will not be used to search for game. This will help ensure that guided hunting promotes a positive reputation for the sport; upholds positive hunter ethics, such as fair chase; minimizes dependence on mechanized and motorized equipment; reduces flight time over the Refuge; and limits visual and auditory impacts to other Refuge users.
29. Dog teams and other means of surface transportation may only be used when adequate snow cover is present and in such a manner as to prevent damage to the Refuge. The phrase "adequate snow cover" means the snow is deep enough to protect the underlying vegetation and soil.
30. Any human-wildlife interactions of the permittee, persons working under the authority of this permit, or clients that have resulted in animals obtaining food, destroying property, or posing a threat to human safety must be reported to the Refuge Manager immediately at (907) 456-0250, as soon as communication becomes available. The permittee is required to submit a written report within 30 days to the Refuge Manager for all interactions with grizzly bears that have resulted in 1) bears obtaining food, destroying property, or posing a threat to human safety; or 2) the death of a grizzly bear. This data can be used to help prevent future human-bear conflicts. Animals taken in defense of life or property must be reported to the Refuge Manager and to the Alaska State Troopers at (907) 451-5350 immediately and be salvaged in accordance with State regulations.
31. Legal take and harassment of polar bears is limited to defense of life. Any killing or harassment of a polar bear in defense of life must be reported to the Refuge Manager and to the US Fish and Wildlife Service Office of Law Enforcement at (907) 456-2335 immediately, as soon as communication becomes available. The permittee is also required to submit a report to the Refuge Manager for all interactions with polar bears that have resulted in 1) bears obtaining food,

destroying property, or posing a threat to human safety; or 2) the death of a polar bear. This data can be used to help prevent future human-bear conflicts.

32. Use of fuel stoves is encouraged over use of wood for cooking and heating. Only dead and down wood may be used for fires and other purposes. Live and standing dead wood must not be cut or damaged.
33. Each year before beginning field activities on Arctic Refuge, the permittee shall provide to the refuge manager in writing 1) the names of all clients, the species each client will hunt, and the dates the client is contracted to be in the field; or 2) a copy of each hunt contract.
34. When operating within 25 miles of the Beaufort Sea coastline, the permittee will store attractants (human food, dog food, garbage, etc.) in "bear-resistant" containers to minimize attracting polar bears and avoid conditioning bears to human food. Containers must be approved as "bear-resistant." Information about certified "bear resistant" containers can be found at <http://www.igbconline.org/html/container.html>.
35. Motorboat operators must possess a U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) license for all passenger-carrying operations, if required by USCG regulations.
36. This permit does not authorize use of Native selected lands within the permit area unless approved by the refuge manager. The applicant must provide the refuge manager with written views from the affected Native organization(s) before authorization to use the selected lands can be considered. However, if the affected Native organization(s) provide no response to the permittee's request for views, the permittee may provide the refuge manager with a copy of the letter that he/she sent requesting the views of Native organization(s). If any of the selected lands are conveyed during the term of this permit, the permittee will no longer be authorized to use those lands.
37. Equipment caches and locations must be approved in advance by the Refuge Manager. Each cache must be clearly marked with the permittee's name, blend in with the surrounding environment, and be bear-proof.
38. All temporary accommodations (including tents) must blend in with the immediate surroundings.
39. Base camps must be located on durable surfaces.
40. Landing sites that are used for more than one client's hunt annually (e.g., the landing site used to access a base camp or a spike camp that is used more than once during the hunting season) are limited to non-vegetated surfaces such as gravel bars, ridge tops, and other areas with no apparent plant cover when viewed from the air. Airplanes are prohibited from landing on saturated or fragile sites. Water landings are allowed and ski operations may continue where adequate snow cover exists. If the Refuge Manager determines there are threats to resources or substantive user conflicts due to repeated landings, the permit may be modified to restrict the permit holder to designated sites or types of sites.
41. In base camps and at gear caches, game meat, horn/antler, cape, and food storage areas must be surrounded by an electric fence.

Permittee: _____

Date: _____

Issuing Officer: _____

Date: _____