



Special Park Conditions

Activity: Fishing – Spin or Fly

A. Authorized Services

1. The commercial activity authorized by this permit is instruction in the basic skills of fly fishing.
2. This CUA does not authorize guided fly fishing in the Colorado River along the park boundary below Shadow Mountain Dam.

B. Instructor and Guide Certifications

1. **Instructors and Guides are required to:**
 - a. Be familiar with the park, know and obey park regulations and area closures, and assure compliance with regulations and area closures from participants.
 - b. Understand the hazards involved and prepare participants for conditions and situations which may be encountered. Be currently certified in standard first aid and CPR.
 - c. Assure that all members of the group are properly clothed and equipped for the trip.
 - d. All guides must carry a first aid kit suitable for backcountry emergencies and appropriately sized for the group they are guiding.
 - e. All guides are required to have and carry a cell phone at minimum. Cell phone coverage is limited in the park. A guide may need additional reliable emergency communication device which could include a GPS locator beacon, satellite messenger, or satellite phone.
2. A written list of guides, with description of basic qualifications, must be provided to the park prior to beginning operations. Copies of all certifications must be on file at the base of operations and may be requested by the Superintendent at any time.
3. All instructors/guides and clients must possess a State of Colorado fishing license. **The guide shop and/or guide must be registered as an outfitter with the state of Colorado.**
4. Must employ a staff with the expertise, training, and experience to operate all services authorized under the CUA permit.
5. Guides shall educate the group on LNT principles and practices.
6. Guides are required to take the Online Awareness course on Leave No Trace. It is free. [Leave No Trace: Overview \(lnt.org\)](#)

C. Conduct of Instruction

1. All groups must have a ratio of qualified guides to participants sufficient to permit a safe and meaningful experience. This ratio is 1 guide to 5 participants. Total group size must be limited to 12 persons.
2. Conservation will be stressed at all sessions. Park requirements pertaining to catch-and-release fishing of some species and in some waters, as well as the using of barbless hooks, will be adhered to. This means that the guide or clients may keep allowed species of fish in open waters. Where only catch-and-release fishing is allowed, no fish may be kept. There is a park-wide possession limit of 8 total fish (only 2 of which may be rainbow, brown, Colorado River, or non-native cutthroat, and 6-8 of which may be brook trout).
3. At no time will a guide conduct and/or offer fly fishing demonstrations at the same time or locations as those being offered by the park's interpretive staff.
4. **To prevent the spread of aquatic nuisance species (whirling disease, chytrid fungus, New Zealand mudsnails, etc.) all groups must disinfect their aquatic equipment (waders, nets, etc.) prior to coming into the park, between sites in different drainages, when moving to sites >2.5 miles apart in the same drainage and between trips.**
5. To help park management, learn more about fish populations in the park, Creel Cards must be returned for each trip. Creel Cards are available from the Management Specialist at (970) 586-1209.
6. All groups must honor the rights of others and always conduct themselves in a professional manner.
7. The guides are responsible for adhering to Leave No Trace practices at all times while in the park.

8. The CUA holder or guide shall provide all participants with an orientation prior to the trip which emphasizes safe practices while recreating in the park. At a minimum, the orientation should include nature and demands of the trips, safety and emergency procedures, weather conditions, park regulations, wildlife interactions, and Leave No Trace practices.

D. Prevention of Spread of Aquatic Threats

1. Humans unwittingly assist the spread of disease organisms by transferring them from one body of water to another on footwear, waders, nets, and other equipment. Help protect RMNP aquatic species by following the recommended prevention and disinfection procedures below.
2. **Guidelines**
 - a. Dedicate specific equipment to each separate site (lake) (optional). This may not be possible for all clients or guides. If equipment is specific to a site and has not been used elsewhere guidelines under number 4 do not need to be followed. If equipment will be used at only one site this year but have previously been used in other areas, follow the guidelines under number 4 to disinfect equipment prior to beginning work this season. Note: if a sampling site has a wider geographic reach follow the recommendations under number 4.
 - b. Do not use felt wading soles (highly recommended).
 - c. When fishing within a drainage, start at the top of the drainage and work downstream (highly recommended). Aquatic threats are typically located in lower elevation areas and this will minimize the risk of spreading organisms upstream.
 - d. Prior to fishing in park waters clean and disinfect any equipment that has been in contact with soil and water (required). Examples include boots, waders, nets, etc. Equipment also needs to be cleaned and disinfected in the following situations: a) after a visit to any area where whirling disease, *B. dendrobatidis*, or New Zealand mudsnails are known to exist; b) when moving within a drainage to sites that are >4 kilometers (2.5 miles) apart; and 3) before visiting different drainages. Steps a.-c. (below) are required. Note that under step b. you have an option to use either a diluted bleach solution for a longer period of time or a more concentrated bleach solution for contact time. Under step c. you can choose to use temperature (heat or cold) or chemical means to fulfill requirements.
 - i. Required: Remove mud, snails, algae and other debris from nets, boots, waders and other equipment utilizing brushes, screwdrivers, or other tools,
 - ii. Required: Wash all equipment and tools used to clean equipment with bleach solution. Soak equipment for 10 minutes in the 10% household bleach solution (5,000 ppm hypochlorite) or when sensitive equipment cannot be soaked disinfect equipment with a $\geq 50\%$ contact bleach solution, and
 - iii. Required: Freeze gear overnight or scrub and spray equipment with 50% solutions of Formula 409 (household cleaner) or soak equipment for >one minute in >120°F water (dishwasher cycles will provide adequate heat).
 - iv. Recommended: Allow equipment to air dry, preferably in direct sunlight >84°F for >four hours.

E. Additional Requirements for Off Trail Travel

1. **Off-Trail Travel:** Participants may travel off established trails and walkways to access summits and remote lakes adhering to ethics of “Leave No Trace Principles” Most of these areas are identified as a Management Class 1 or 2 area and groups shall follow specific guidelines to access these areas. These requirements must be met before traveling off established trails in the park.
2. The use of ropes, hardware, protection, snow anchors, crampons, and ice axes are not authorized. Activities that would require the use of such equipment are not authorized.
3. All groups must have a ratio of qualified guides to participants sufficient to permit a safe and meaningful experience. Maximum group size is **12** with a guide to client ratio of **1:5**.
 - a. **One guide should have Wilderness First Responder or higher emergency certification on the trip.**
 - b. All other guides must have a minimum of first aid and CPR.
4. Any route marking and building of rock cairns are prohibited.
5. Keep noise level to minimum to allow for other visitor’s enjoyment.
6. Guides shall educate the group on LNT principles and practices.

- a. Guides are required to take the Online Awareness course on Leave No Trace. It is free. [Leave No Trace: Overview \(Int.org\)](#)

F. General Provisions for All Permits

1. Guide Passes and Entrance Fees for Clients

- a. Guide Passes are to be used solely by the Permittee and designated employees to conduct official business under a Commercial Use Authorization/Special Use Permit or Concessions Contract and are not for personal use. **Guides must carry this pass at all times while in the park.**
 - b. Guide Passes must be kept with guides at all times in the park, to be presented as requested to park staff to confirm appropriate use and entry to the park. Permittee is responsible for ensuring that its guides comply with this requirement. ID is required.
 - c. Guides are required to present the guide card at the entrance stations along with their driver's license when entering the park to show that they are on official business. The guides are required to inform the entrance station staff on clients entering for the trips for example which vehicle, number of clients, etc.
 - d. Clients of the Permittee are not admitted free entrance to the park. The clients' options are:
 - i. Buy an entrance pass – pay when they enter with the Permittee
 - ii. Have a Current Entrance Receipt
 - iii. Have a Current Pass (Rocky Mountain National Park Annual Pass, Interagency Annual Pass, Senior, or Access Pass) (pass is valid & in the name of the client)
2. CUA Permit Holders and their clients are not authorized to use the fast pass lane for any commercial activities in the park. All CUA Permit Holders (i.e. guides) and clients must enter via a staffed entrance kiosk. Use of the fast pass lane by a CUA Permit Holder may result in revocation of their CUA permit.
 3. Frontcountry camping is available on a first-come, first-serve basis at Longs Peak Campground and by advanced reservation at Moraine Park, Glacier Basin, Aspenglen, and Timber Creek Campgrounds. Normal camping fees and regulations, including length of stay, will apply to the Permittee and its participants.
 4. Prior to initiating each trip, guides are encouraged to contact Park Headquarters (970) 586-1206 for information on current conditions.
 5. Proof of adequate general liability and automobile insurance coverage must be provided to the park prior to operating under this permit.
 - a. Commercial General Comprehensive Liability coverage is required in the amount of \$500,000 per person per accident.
 - b. Commercial Vehicle Insurance coverage is required for all owned, non-owned, and hired vehicles used by the Permittee who transport clients.
 - c. Minimum limits for Commercial Vehicle Insurance are 15 or fewer passengers, \$1,500,000 and 16 or more passengers, \$5,000,000. Rocky Mountain National Park must be listed as additional insurer.
 6. All incidents involving overdue parties or accidents involving property damage or personal injury must be reported to park dispatch at (970) 586-1203 within 24 hours of incident and to the Commercial Services Office.
 7. All advertisements/brochures which make reference to Rocky Mountain National Park must be approved by the Superintendent prior to publication, distribution, or broadcasting. All such publications must include a statement that the operator is authorized by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, to conduct services in Rocky Mountain National Park.
 8. Prior to engaging in any commercial filming or still photography using model(s) (posed or on camera talent), set(s), or prop(s) that are not a part of the location's natural or cultural resources or administrative facilities consultation with the Commercial Services Office is required. This activity may be subject to a separate permit.
 9. Violation of park regulations or the terms of this permit may result in the suspension of privileges granted by this permit and could lead to appropriate fines or citations, as well as non-renewal.