

**COMMERCIAL USE AUTHORIZATION FOR GUIDED INTERPRETATIVE SKIING AND
SNOWSHOEING OPERATING PLAN-Attachment B**

General Provisions

- 1) The CUA for Skiing and Snowshoeing allows the CUA holder to conduct guided interpretative nordic skiing, telemark skiing or snowshoeing trips.
- 2) Overnight backcountry use is not authorized.
- 3) Skiing is prohibited on groomed roads.
- 4) Guides/group leaders must carry a copy of the CUA (or keep in the vehicle), their guide card and photo id with them at all times when they are in the park. **All person/groups entering the park must come to a complete stop at park entrance stations; guides must show the attendant their guide card and pay the applicable park entrance fees for all clients (Clients may use personal park passes for entry). Clients are not exempt from paying park entrance fees when on your tour. It is the responsibility of the CUA holder to inform clients of this requirement prior to arrival at the park entrance station.**

If you are entering the park where there is no entrance station (i.e., Bechler, Gallatin areas) you must purchase the entrance passes **in advance** by calling the Visitor Services Office at (307) 344-2115.

- 5) We encourage CUA holders to stay on designated trails. If your groups travels off-trail, all off-trail travel must be reported in the monthly use reports (see reporting requirements)
- 6) Maximum group size for day use is 12 people including one qualified guide.
- 7) CUA holders are limited to three groups per day and each group must be dispersed a minimum of 60 minutes apart and may not congregate at a destination.
- 8) The CUA holders shall be liable for damage to any property of the United States resulting from the use authorized hereunder.
- 9) Violation of any park regulation or terms of this permit may result in issuance of a violation notice, suspension of privileges granted by this permit, or revocation of this permit.
- 10) Guides must meet clients outside of park concessioner's land assignment and NPS Visitor Centers.
- 11) The Concessioner may not provide ski schools, snowboard trips, or trips that include extreme skiing or technical mountaineering.
- 12) The Permit holder listed on the CUA permit may take short videos or photos to advertise the permitted business in areas permitted to operate without disruption to the public. Footage may be shot with a small handheld video camera, DSLR or Go Pro and tripod.

If the CUA holder hires a filmer or photographer to capture footage for advertisement purposes, a Commercial Film Permit is required. For Commercial Film Permit inquiries, please contact the Film Office at (307) 344-2272, or (307) 344-2115.

Administrative Requirements

13) Section 512 of the Credit Card Accountability Responsibility and Disclosure Act of 2009, P.L. 111-24, 123 Stat. 1764-65, allows persons to possess firearms while in units of the National Park and National Wildlife Refuge Systems if they are possessed in compliance with applicable federal and state law.

The Following are specific requirements for operating in Yellowstone National Park:

- CUA employees may not possess firearms while on duty. The superintendent, in his or her sole discretion, may grant exceptions to this prohibition upon consideration of a written request from the CUA's general manager with a thorough explanation of the basis of the request.
- CUA holders are responsible for determining how they will interpret and implement State firearm possession laws in regard to their clients. The CUA and/or its legal counsel should consult the applicable state attorney general's office for access to relevant state firearms laws.
- The Concessioner must articulate to the Service how it will implement this law in regards to its operation. The policy should address the two issue points:
 1. The on-duty employees in Yellowstone Park, will be prohibited from firearm possession:
 ___ Yes ___ No

 2. I will ___ will not ___ allow visitors to carry firearms while participating in this service.

Staffing and Employment

- 14) Each guide must have completed Level 1 Avalanche training if telemark skiing in the backcountry and off trail. Guides skiing in the front country areas and on designated trails are not required to have completed Level 1 Avalanche training.
- 15) Each guide must be equipped with transceivers and probes if telemark skiing in the backcountry and off trail. Guides skiing in the front country areas and on designated trails are not required to be equipped with transceivers and probes.
- 16) At a minimum, one guide on each trip must be currently certified in standard first aid and CPR, a carry a first aid kit. Wilderness 1st Aid or Wilderness First Responder certification is recommended. A written list of guides and dates of standard first-aid certification must be provided to the Concessions Management Office prior to the beginning of the operational season. Copies of first-aid cards need not be submitted.
- 17) Guides must be at least 18 years of age and trained in basic safety, resource protection, Leave No Trace principles, park rules and regulations, and the nature and demands of the trip. Leave No Trace certification is recommended.
- 18) The Concessioner will provide employee orientation to inform employees of park regulations and requirements, which affect their employment and activities while working in Yellowstone National Park.
- 19) The Concessioner will provide adequate, applicable training to each employee. Guides should be trained instructors of all the Nordic disciplines: cross country, skate and telemark skiing. Guides are

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encouraged to take part in annual interpretive training. Reading material is available on park history, Leave No Trace practices, winter ecology, Teton flora and fauna, geology, weather, animal adaptations, teaching natural history and field naturalist techniques.

- 20) One guide on each trip must have previous, relevant outdoor experience including previous experience on the trails and /or area they are guiding.
- 21) The guide for any trip, within the park, must have a basic knowledge of map reading, and must have a topographic map for the area of their trip. It is recommended the guide have a compass and knowledge of compass use.

Operational Requirements

- 22) All guides shall carry a basic first aid kit suitable for backcountry emergencies. Suggested items include 1 roll of two-inch medical tape, 1 roll of two-inch gauze, 1 two-inch ace bandage, 2 triangular bandages, 2 two-inch compresses, 6 four-inch compresses, 1 emergency blanket and several pairs of disposable gloves. Hot beverages, extra clothing, repair kit, and ensolite sitting pads should also be included.
- 23) Guides will ensure that clients are properly attired for the current and forecasted weather conditions. Routes will be determined based on clients' abilities and desires.
- 24) While in Yellowstone, the CUA holder or guide shall remain with their clients for the duration of the trip.
- 25) "Foot travel in all thermal areas and within the Yellowstone Canyon between the Upper Falls and Inspiration Point must be confined to boardwalks or trails that are maintained for such travel and are marked by official signs." 36 CFR, Ch1, se. 7.13(i) No off-trail travel is allowed; stay on designated boardwalks and trails.
- 26) The CUA holder must ensure that all clients and guides stay at least 100 yards from bears and wolves. A distance of 25 yards is required from bison, elk and other animals. Regardless of any distance, if any wild animal changes its behavior due to your group's presence, you are too close.
- 27) The CUA holder or guide shall provide all clients with an orientation prior to the trip which emphasizes safe practices while hiking in bear habitat, Leave No Trace ethics, park rules and regulations, and specific nature, demands, and dangers of the particular trip.
- 28) The CUA holder must abide by the Food Storage and Food Sanitation Guidelines found in Appendix A.
- 29) The CUA holder must provide all visitor services in a manner that is consistent with and supportive of the interpretative goals and objectives of the park.

Reporting requirements

- 30) All accidents must be reported to a ranger as soon as possible by calling **(307) 344-7381** and dial "0". You can also try to call 911 if you are in the backcountry and have a sat phone.

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31) The CUA holder will provide to the Concessions Management Office a monthly report indicating the date, number of visitors guided, and locations visited for the preceding month of operation. Specific written descriptions are preferred and/or by UTM. Reports must be received no later than the end of the following month.

32) CUA holders must submit the Annual Report, along with the % of gross receipts by January 31 each year.

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I have read and agree to the Skiing and Snowshoeing conditions. I hereby confirm that the above conditions will be reiterated to all guides associated with this business.

CUA Holder's Signature

Date

Title

Company Name

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