



Reference Guide: Commercial Use Permit for Watercraft Delivery

This reference guide provides information on the permit required to deliver watercrafts for commercial use on Montana State Parks. Please note that commercial use on all Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks land is a privilege, not a right. Authorization may be denied, amended, or revoked at any time for cause.

Note: A separate commercial use permit is needed for watercraft delivery to Fishing Access Sites (FAS) and Wildlife Management Areas (WMA). Contact FWP Regional Offices for more information.

Permit Requirements

A Commercial Use Permit is required for watercraft delivery for businesses that deliver (or pick-up) watercraft at state parks for paying customers. The Commercial Use Permit for watercraft delivery is an annual permit that expires at the end of the calendar year. The permit authorizes the permit holder to use any state park in the region for this purpose. Requests to deliver watercrafts at state parks statewide will be subject to review by the permit administrator. A Commercial Use Permit is not required for businesses that rent watercraft off-site and do not enter or otherwise use a FWP site.

Additional services like guided tours and trips are permitted under the Service Provider fee category.

Permit Application Process and Fee

You must submit a completed Commercial Use Permit Application to the state park or regional office that oversees the site where you wish to operate. Applications are available on the Montana State Parks website at <http://stateparks.mt.gov/protect-and-respect/usePermits.html>. Applications are due at least 45 days before the use is intended to begin. Applications received under 5 days to intended use are subject to a rush permit fee of \$25 in addition to applicable use fees.

The permit fee for watercraft delivery is **\$150 per year**. Montana State Parks may adjust the fee on a case by case basis when the commercial use permit holder:

- Donates all proceeds, minus expenses, from the use or event to the management or improvement of fish, wildlife, or parks, including the maintenance, management, or the improvement or development of facilities; or
- Donates all proceeds, minus expenses, from the event or activity to a nonprofit organization or charitable cause and is not compensated for the service.
- The department may adjust commercial use fees on a case-by-case basis for special events involving children under the age of thirteen.
- The department may adjust commercial use fees on a case-by-case basis for commercial use when the sole purpose of the use is to promote department land and resources.

Terms and Conditions

The Commercial Use Permit is valid at the location(s) and time period specified on the permit. The terms and conditions are printed on your permit. Your compliance is important to ensure future opportunities to obtain a permit. FWP may require proof of liability insurance that names the State of Montana – FWP as additionally insured. The amount of coverage will vary depending on the type of use you wish to conduct.

For questions, please contact Maren Murphy, Senior Planner, at 406-444-3364 or marenmurphy@mt.gov.