

# Fact Sheet

## Trapping Cabin Permits



Alaska Department of  
**NATURAL  
RESOURCES**

Division of Mining, Land & Water  
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A trapping cabin permit is a nonexclusive, nontransferable permit to build and use a trapping cabin on state land for temporary shelter while trapping.

### ***Who is eligible to apply for a trapping cabin permit?***

To qualify for a trapping cabin permit, you must have a current, valid state trapping license and an established trapline. You must be able to prove that you use the trapline on a regular basis. Also, the trapline must be of sufficient length to justify the need for a cabin.

### ***What kind of proof will I need to show that I use my trapline on a regular basis?***

A combination of the following is generally acceptable to include with your application:

- Tax returns reporting income from furs
- Receipts from fur buyers showing date, quantity, and type
- Receipts for fur tanning
- State of Alaska Department Fish & Game biologists or wildlife protection officers.
- Sealing certificates

If any questions come up during review of your application, it may be necessary for you to provide supplementary proof, such as air charter receipts or statements of witnesses.

### ***How do I apply?***

First, check land status with the Department of Natural Resources to be sure that the land where you want to locate your cabin is owned by the state. Then, fill out a state trapping cabin permit application and submit it to the Department of Natural Resources office nearest the site you want to build on. You will also need to fill out an Environmental Risk Questionnaire stating whether you propose to use or store fuel at the site. In addition, if the cabin site is within the coastal zone, you will be given a Coastal Project Questionnaire to fill out. The combined application and permit fee (non-refundable) is \$100.

### ***What areas are open for issuance of trapping cabin permits?***

Generally, state public domain land is open to trapping cabin permits. If the cabin site is subject to an area land use plan adopted by the Department of Natural Resources, some restrictions may apply.

### ***Are there any special location rules?***

No trapping cabin will be authorized within a two-mile radius of another trapping cabin (yours or another permittee's), unless separated by a physical barrier such as a mountain range or a major river. Nor can a trapping cabin be located within 10 miles of a road ordinarily used by automobiles during the trapping season.

### ***Can I apply for an existing cabin?***

Yes, so long as the site is vacant (except for the trapping cabin itself) and is unappropriated, unreserved land. In other words, it must be ordinary public domain land with no complications such as an existing lease or a planned land disposal.

### ***Does a permit give me exclusive use of a trapping cabin site?***

No. The Department of Natural Resources may issue permits to more than one qualified person for the construction or use of the same trapping cabin.

### ***Do I have to apply separately for each trapping cabin site?***

No. As many as three cabins may be allowed under one permit. Only one main cabin is allowed.

***May I use the cabin for purposes other than trapping?***

No. The cabin cannot be used for a residence, private recreation, guiding, or any other purpose not directly associated with trapping fur-bearers.

***How long is a trapping cabin permit valid?***

Permits are issued for 10 years. To keep the permit in effect, evidence of a current trapping license must be submitted annually, along with evidence of continued use of the trapline. The cabin must be used at least during alternating trapping seasons. At the end of the 10-year period, a permit can be renewed if all of its conditions have been met and if continued use of the cabin does not conflict with other land uses planned by the Department of Natural Resources. The renewal fee is currently \$100.

***How large can a trapping cabin be?***

The size depends on whether the permit allows more than one cabin (the maximum is three cabins). If you apply for more than one cabin, you must designate which one will be the main cabin. The floor space of the main cabin cannot exceed 400 square feet. The other two cabins cannot exceed 192 square feet each. At each cabin site, any work sheds, caches, and outbuildings cannot exceed a combined total of 192 square feet, and all of these structures must be within 150 feet of the cabin.

***May I assign (transfer) my trapping cabin permit to another person?***

No. The permit is not transferable. When the permit is terminated for any reason, all interests in the cabin and the cabin site revert to the state. The Department of Natural Resources may require you to restore the site to its natural condition.

***Where can I get more information?***

Application forms and additional information are available at the offices listed below. Fact sheets on other programs such as Recreation Facility Leases and Leasing State Land are also available at these offices.

***For additional information contact:***

Department of Natural Resources  
Public Information Center  
550 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 1260  
Anchorage, AK 99501-3557  
907-269-8400

or

Public Information Center  
3700 Airport Way  
Fairbanks, AK 99709  
907-451-2705

Department of Natural Resources  
Division of Land  
Southeast Regional Office  
400 Willoughby Avenue, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Juneau, AK 99801  
907-465-3400