

North Slope Borough

PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT



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Chastity Olemaun, Director

Important Guidelines for Recreational Users of North Slope Borough Lands

Seeking Landowner Permission, Safety Precautions, and Wildlife Awareness

Attention Recreational Users of North Slope Borough Lands!

Exploring the breathtaking beauty of North Slope Borough Lands is an adventure like no other. However, it is vital that we prioritize safety and respect for the land and its inhabitants. Please take a moment to read and understand the following guidelines to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience.

1. Obtain Landowner Permission:

Before entering any private land within the North Slope Borough, it is essential to seek individual landowner permission. Respect the rights and privacy of landowners by obtaining explicit written consent prior to your visit. Obtaining permission shows respect for their property and helps preserve the delicate balance between recreation and land stewardship.

2. Travel Prepared:

When venturing into remote areas, it is crucial to be prepared for any situation. We strongly recommend that all recreational users carry a Personal Locator Beacon (PLB) or an InReach device. These devices allow you to send distress signals in emergency situations, ensuring help can reach you quickly. Prioritize your safety by making these essential tools a part of your equipment.

3. Share Your Travel Plan:

Notify a non-traveling party about your detailed travel plan before embarking on your adventure. Provide them with a schedule of your activities, including departure and expected return times. This step is crucial for your safety, as it allows someone to be aware of your plans and take appropriate action if you fail to return on time.

4. Wildlife Interaction and Polar Bear Awareness:

While exploring North Slope Borough Lands, encountering Alaska's unique wildlife is a possibility. It's important to be aware of potential interactions and respect the natural habitats of these incredible creatures. Exercise caution when encountering animals, maintain a safe distance, and never approach or feed them.

One particular wildlife species to be mindful of is the Polar Bear (*Ursus maritimus*). These bears are known for their strength and territorial behavior. If you encounter a polar bear or any other wildlife, remember to:

Keep a safe distance and observe from afar.

Never attempt to approach, feed, or provoke them.

Store food securely to avoid attracting wildlife.

Familiarize yourself with proper wildlife safety protocols.

Remember, respecting wildlife and their habitat ensures their protection and the preservation of North Slope Borough Lands' natural beauty.

Together, Let's Safeguard North Slope Borough Lands!

By adhering to these guidelines, we can protect the land, its inhabitants, and ourselves. Help preserve the beauty and accessibility of North Slope Borough Lands for future generations.

For more information and resources, visit <https://www.north-slope.org/departments/planning-community-services/applications-forms/> or call 907-852-0320.

Note: The information provided in this flyer is advisory in nature and not legally binding. Always exercise caution and follow local regulations and guidelines while enjoying North Slope Borough Lands.

Chastity Olemaun, NSB Land Management Administrator
Heather Dingman, Director of NSB Search and Rescue

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