

LAS 35694 – Geocache Alaska - Additional Stipulations and Information (Three year permit)

Authorized Areas of Operation

Geocaching operations within the following Alaska State Park Regions:

1. Mat-Su
2. Chugach State Park
3. Northern Area
4. Juneau/Southeast
5. Kenai/Valdez

Fees

- \$100 non-refundable application fee
- \$250 incompatible use fee per region
 - (\$250 × 5 regions = \$1,250)
- Total = \$1350

Permit Term - January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2029

A three-year permit is being issued due to the number of operational and compliance changes required, as outlined in the Special Stipulations below. An end-of-season report documenting progress toward compliance will be required by December 31, 2026, and will be used to inform future permit issuance. This end-of-season report is required annually.

Special Stipulations

1. State Historic Parks

Caches are prohibited in all State Historic Parks (including, but not limited to, Totem Bight State Historical Park, Independence Mine State Historical Park, and Big Delta State Historical Park). Any caches located within a State Historic Park must be removed no later than December 31, 2026.

Alaska State Park boundaries can be viewed using the Alaska Mapper system:

<https://mapper.dnr.alaska.gov/map>

Instructions for using Alaska Mapper are available here:

<https://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/permit/akmapperinstructions.pdf>

2. Designated Campgrounds

Caches are prohibited in all designated Alaska State Park campgrounds. Any caches located within a designated campground must be removed no later than December 31, 2026.

3. Chugach State Park – Cache Size Restrictions

Within Chugach State Park, only micro-sized caches (e.g., film canisters, bison tubes, preforms, or similar) are permitted. The permittee shall notify cache owners and ensure that any caches exceeding this size are removed or replaced with compliant micro-sized caches during the 2026 permit term.

4. Chugach State Park – Wilderness Zone

Caches are not permitted within the Wilderness Zone of Chugach State Park. The permittee shall notify cache owners and ensure that any caches located within the Wilderness Zone are removed no later than December 31, 2026.

5. Food and Scented Items

Food items, scented items, or items that may attract wildlife are prohibited from being placed in caches due to the potential to attract wildlife. Any container that has previously been used to store food is prohibited from being used as a cache.

6. Placement on Facilities and Structures

Caches are prohibited from being placed in, on, or tied to bear boxes, latrines, cabins, trees, picnic tables, or any other park facility or structure. Caches found in these locations may be removed and disposed of by Alaska State Parks staff.

7. Annual Cache Inspection

All caches must be inspected annually by the cache owner to ensure they remain intact and free of litter. Caches that are damaged, deteriorated, or no longer intact must be removed.

8. Education and Resource Protection

The permittee (GeocacheAlaska! Inc.) shall provide clear education to cache owners and users regarding proper cache placement, including requirements to avoid the creation of side or social trails and to minimize impacts to park resources. The permittee is responsible for all caches placed under this permit and shall ensure each cache location and placement method comply with all permit conditions and park rules. The permittee shall provide clear education to cache owners, and the permittee shall monitor cache locations as needed to prevent resource impacts and shall promptly relocate or remove any cache that results in, contributes to, or is reasonably likely to cause side/social trail formation or other resource damage.

9. Cache Quantity Limit

Caches are limited to a maximum of 500 total caches across all Alaska State Parks. This limit is intended to ensure manageability, resource protection, and consistency across State Park units.

10. Cache Size and Marking (General)

Unless otherwise specified above, caches are limited to the size of an ammunition can or smaller. Caches shall be marked in permanent marker on log and/or container as: "AK State Parks Permit / GeocacheAlaska". No permit number is required.

11. End of Season Report

An end-of-season report from GeocacheAlaska! Inc. is due no later than **December 31, 2026**.

The report must include the following:

- a. A summary of which stipulations (1–10) were successfully addressed during the 2026 permit term.
- b. Identification of any stipulations that were not fully addressed, including an explanation of remaining issues and a plan for achieving compliance during a subsequent permit term.