



**SPECIAL AREA PERMIT FH18-IV-GP15-SA (Amendment #1)**

**ISSUED:** January 1, 2019  
**EXPIRED:** December 31, 2022

General Public:

**Re: Goose Bay State Game Refuge – Wintertime Off-Road Vehicle Use**

In response to public need for access to and across the Goose Bay State Game Refuge (GBSGR), the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Habitat has determined that both the public interest and the proper protection of fish and wildlife and their habitat would be served by the issue of a general permit. This general permit, issued pursuant to 5 AAC 95, authorizes certain types of off-road motorized vehicle use and the landing of aircraft within the GBSGR.

The GBSGR was established in 1975 pursuant to AS 16.20.030 to protect and preserve natural habitat and game populations. Alaska State statutes authorize multiple land use activities on the refuge if the activity provides proper protection of fish and game. The operation of off-road vehicles and aircraft is not expected to adversely impact important habitat values, fish and wildlife populations, or public recreation provided all activities are conducted in strict accordance with the conditions and stipulations contained herein.

**This permit must be in your possession during off-road vehicle use and aircraft landings.**

**Off-road Vehicles**

**Less than 1,000lbs GVW**

The off-road use of any wheeled, tracked, or other ground effect motorized vehicle less than one thousand pounds (1,000 lbs) gross vehicle weight (inclusive of operator and gear) is authorized from November 9 through March 31 in the following areas provided the following condition exists:

- On all refuge lands, provided there is at least twelve inches (12") of snow cover and sufficient ground frost to prevent the penetration of or disturbance to the soil surface or plant roots. Ice cover on wetlands and other waterbodies must be of sufficient thickness to support the weight-bearing load of the off-road vehicle.

**Aircraft Landings**

The landing of fixed-wing aircraft is authorized year-round within the GBSGR except when it is closed to aircraft landings from April 1 through May 15<sup>th</sup> to avoid disturbance of waterfowl populations during spring staging. The landing of rotary aircraft within the GBSGR requires an individual Special Area Permit from the Division of Habitat.

**These restrictions do not apply to the Goose Bay Airport.**

Pursuant to 5 AAC 95, the operation of vehicles and aircraft within the GBSGR as described above is authorized provided all activities are performed in strict accordance with the stipulations below:

1. The operation of vehicles within open waters on the GBSGR is prohibited. In addition, ice cover on wetlands and waterbodies must be of sufficient strength to support the laden weight of the vehicle.
2. Harassment of wildlife is prohibited.
3. Vehicles or equipment shall not be left unattended within the GBSGR. The use of vehicles and aircraft within the refuge shall not restrict or interfere with public access to or across state land, or to fish and wildlife resources.
4. No material of any kind, including waste products, debris, supplies, or equipment shall be stored or disposed of

within the GBSGR.

5. No vehicles leaking fuels, oils, hydraulic or cooling fluids shall be operated within the Goose Bay State Game Refuge.

Please be advised that this authorization applies to public lands within the GBSGR and does not authorize the use of or trespass onto private lands. The off-road use of a wheeled, tracked, or other ground-effect motorized vehicle other than specified above is not allowed, except by individual Special Area Permit. Please contact the Division of Habitat at (907) 861-3200 for more information.

The vehicle / aircraft owner and operator or the legal guardian of minor dependents (the permittee), is responsible for the actions of contractors, agents, or other persons who participate in the approved activity. For any activity that deviates from the approved activity, the responsible party shall notify the Division of Habitat at the above letterhead address or telephone number, and obtain written approval in the form of an individual Special Area Permit before beginning the activity. Any action taken by the permittee or an agent of the permittee that increases the activity's overall scope or that negates, alters, or minimizes the intent or effectiveness of any stipulation contained in this General Permit will be deemed a significant deviation from the approved activity. The final determination relative to the significance of any deviation and the need for an individual Special Area Permit is the responsibility of the Division of Habitat. Therefore, it is recommended that the Division of Habitat be consulted immediately when a deviation from the approved plan is being considered.

For the purpose of inspecting or monitoring compliance with any condition of this permit, you shall give an authorized representative of the state free and unobstructed access, at safe and reasonable times, to the permit site. You shall furnish whatever assistance and information as the authorized representative reasonably requires for monitoring and inspection purposes.

This letter constitutes a General Permit issued under the authority of 5 AAC 95. Please be advised that this approval does not relieve you of the responsibility for securing other permits: state, federal, or local.

The permittee shall mitigate any adverse effect upon fish or wildlife, their habitat, or any restriction or interference with public use, which the commissioner determines may be expected to result from, or which actually results from, the permittee's activity, or which was a direct result of the permittee's failure to: 1) comply with a permit condition or a provision of 5 AAC 95; or 2) correct a condition or change a method foreseeably detrimental to fish and wildlife, or their habitat.

The recipient of this permit (the permittee) shall indemnify, save harmless, and defend the Division of Habitat, its agents, and its employees from any and all claims, actions, or liabilities for injuries or damages sustained by any person or property arising directly or indirectly from permitted activities or the permittee's performance under this permit. However, this provision has no effect if, and only if, the sole proximate cause of the injury is the Division of Habitat's negligence.

Pursuant to 5 AAC 95.920, an interested person may initiate an appeal of a decision made under this chapter in accordance with the provisions of AS 44.62.330 - 44.62.630 by requesting a hearing under AS 44.62.370.

Sincerely,

Doug Vincent-Lang, Acting Commissioner

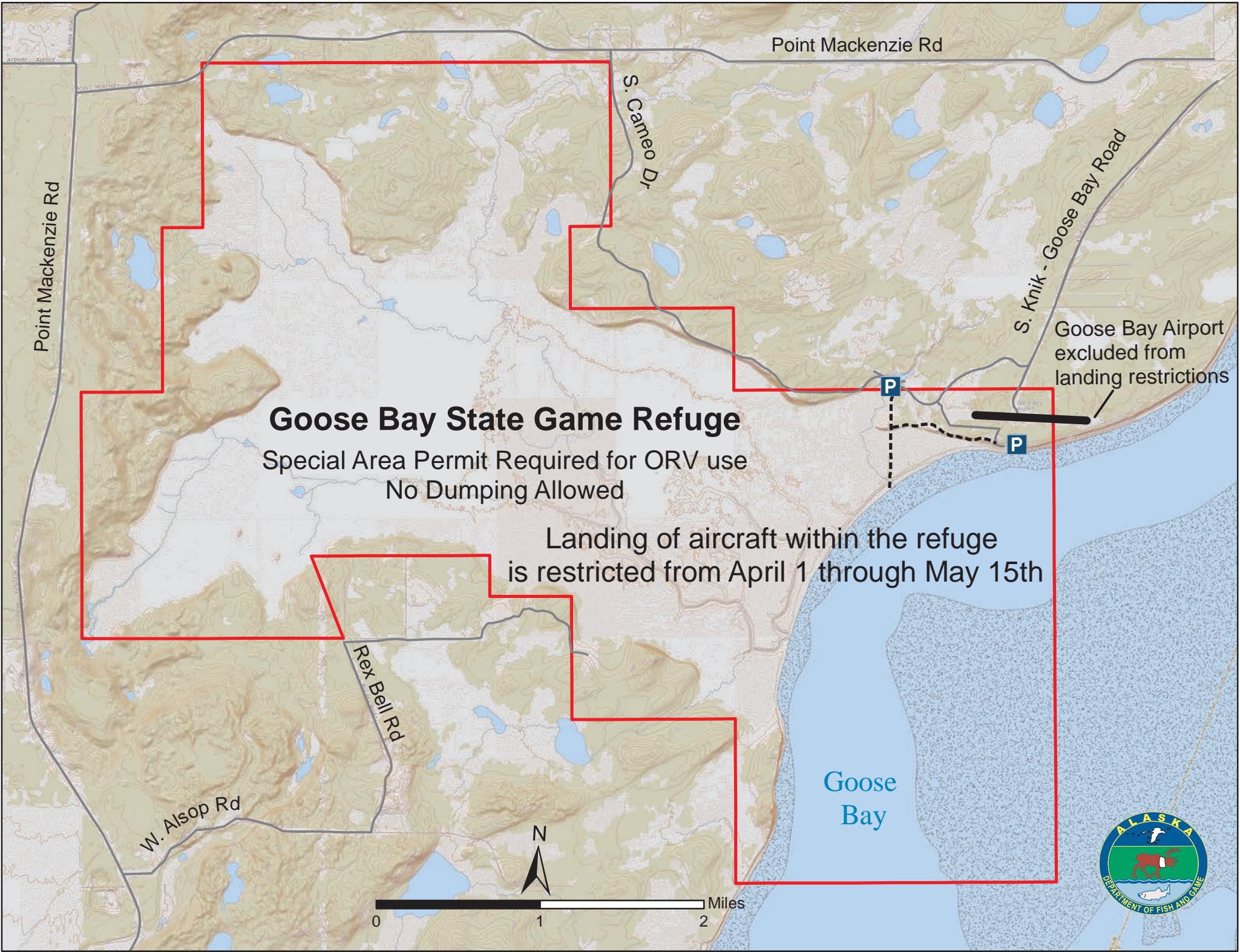


By: Jonathan Kirsch  
Matanuska-Susitna Area Manager  
Division of Habitat  
(907) 861-3200

-jmk

cc:	D. Dahl, AWT	S. Ivey, SF	A. Ott, Habitat	T. Long, SF
	Pagemaster, COE	E. Weiss, WC	J. Meehan, WC	D. Hill, WC
	T. Peltier, WC	M. Burch, WC	C. Larson, DMLW	T. Massie, Habitat
	M. Fink, WC	Permits, SF		





Point Mackenzie Rd

Point Mackenzie Rd

S. Cameo Dr

S. Knik - Goose Bay Road

Goose Bay Airport excluded from landing restrictions

# Goose Bay State Game Refuge

Special Area Permit Required for ORV use  
No Dumping Allowed

Landing of aircraft within the refuge is restricted from April 1 through May 15th

Rex Bell Rd

W. Alsop Rd

Goose Bay

