

# Department of Natural Resources

## Division of Mining, Land and Water



## Fact Sheet: Trapping Cabin Permits

A Trapping Cabin Permit is a nontransferable permit to construct and/or use an existing shelter on state land for trapping purposes.

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

To qualify for a trapping cabin permit, you must have a current state trapping license and an established trapline in the area in which you are applying for a trapping cabin. You must provide proof that you have used the trapline on a regular basis for at least two (2) years. The trapline must be of significant length to justify the need for a shelter.

### ***What kind of proof will be needed to show that the trapline is used on a regular basis?***

Tax returns reporting income from furs trapped; receipts or a signed letter from fur buyers showing date, quantity, and type; receipts for fur tanning; sealing certificates; a statement from an Alaska Department of Fish and Game Biologist or Alaska Wildlife Trooper; and/or other documentation that sufficiently demonstrates the applicant has a history of trapping in the given area.

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

- Check the land status to be sure that your applied-for location is on state land
- Fill out the trapping cabin application and provide all necessary documentation of proof
- Provide a map indicating the location of the cabin(s) and established trapline route
- Provide a plan for the removal of the structure
- Pay the application fee when submitting the application and documents to one of the DNR offices

### ***Where can I apply to have a trapping cabin?***

Most general state-owned land is open to trapping cabin permits. You must be at least two (2) miles from any other authorized trapping cabins unless separated by a physical barrier such as a mountain range or a major river. Trapping cabins cannot be located within 10 miles of a road ordinarily used by automobiles during the trapping season.

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

Yes, but only if the owner/permittee of the existing cabin provides written approval, or if the cabin has no known

existing owner or permittee, and was not built by the applicant without authorization.

### ***How many cabins can I apply for?***

Up to three cabins may be authorized under a single permit.

### ***Are there any size restrictions?***

New Construction: The primary cabin (out of three) may be as large as 400 ft<sup>2</sup>. Any subsequent cabins cannot exceed 192 ft<sup>2</sup>. Outbuildings such as sheds are allowed but must be within a 150 ft radius of the cabin and their combined size cannot exceed 192 ft<sup>2</sup>.

Existing Cabins: Existing cabins may exceed 400 ft<sup>2</sup>, provided the applicant meets all other requirements set forth in AS 38.95.080 and 11 AAC 94.

### ***How long is a Trapping Cabin Permit valid?***

Trapping cabin permits may be authorized for a term of up to 10 years. At the end of the authorized term, a permit may be reissued if all conditions have been met and if continued use of the cabin does not conflict with other land uses planned by the Department.

### ***Can a permit be transferred to another person?***

No, permits are not transferable; however, an eligible person can apply for a permit to take over an existing cabin for trapping purposes. If the permit is terminated and the cabin and related structures are not removed by the permit holder within 90 days of termination, the cabin and structures become property of the State.

### ***What fees are associated with the permit?***

Pursuant to AS 38.95.080, an application fee of \$100 must be submitted with the application. If approved, there is an annual permit fee of \$25. The Department may also request a performance guarantee (bond) on the cabin site. The bond is to ensure compliance by the permittee and may be released to the permittee upon removal of the cabin and related structures.

### ***Where can I look up the statutes and regulations?***

[AS 38.95.075](#), [AS 38.95.080](#), and [11 AAC 94](#) are the guiding statutes and regulations for Trapping Cabin Permits.

**For additional information please contact one of the Regional Offices**

**Anchorage/Southcentral**

Southcentral Regional Land Office  
550 West 7th Ave., Suite 900C  
Anchorage, AK 99501-3577  
Phone: 907-269-8503  
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**Fairbanks/Northern**

Northern Regional Land Office  
3700 Airport Way  
Fairbanks, AK 99709-4699  
Phone: 907-451-2740  
Email: [nro.lands@alaska.gov](mailto:nro.lands@alaska.gov)

**Juneau/Southeast**

Southeast Regional Land Office  
PO Box 111020  
400 Willoughby Ave., 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Juneau, AK 99811-1020  
Phone: 907-465-3400  
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