CERTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE FOR THE OPERATING SAFETY PLAN

_____	_____
Holder Signature	Date
_____	_____
Forest Service Authorized Officer Signature	Date

OUTFITTER/GUIDE

OPERATING SAFETY PLAN

Business Name: _____

Business License Number: _____

Company Status (check one):
Individual_____ Partnership_____ Corporation _____

Name of owner(s)/partner(s): _____

Phone Number(s): _____

Contact Name and Title of Person Authorized to Represent Your Business:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Phone Number: _____

Other Contact, if main contact is not available:

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Business Address: _____

Business Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Fax Number: _____

Email/Web Page Address: _____

Year Company was established: _____

Years with current owner (s): _____

Date prepared: _____

_____Ranger District(s)

Outfitter/Guide Operating Safety Plan

Chugach National Forest

I. *PURPOSE*

The purpose of this plan is to clearly define the responsibilities of the Chugach National Forest and the permit holder as they pertain to providing services and public safety as authorized through an outfitter/guide special use permit.

This plan does not supersede or nullify any clauses of the permit. It explains the general requirements to adequately provide for public service, health and safety. It defines required actions by the Holder and emphasizes the high degree of coordination and cooperation necessary to satisfactorily fulfill these responsibilities. The conditions of this operating and safety plan apply for all areas of operation as shown on the permit.

If your business has a standard Operating Plan, attach and reference where applicable.

II. *THE HOLDER RESPONSIBILITIES*

Holder is responsible for the safety of his/her employees and for the safety of the public while they are participating in activities covered by the terms of the permit. In redeeming this responsibility, the Holder will take the measures necessary to provide for safe conditions including: 1) providing safety equipment and supplies, 2) inspection, maintenance, and repairs of other equipment or animals used in connection with the permit, and 3) insuring all employees/guides are knowledgeable of terms and conditions of permits and operating and safety plans.

III. *BACKGROUND INFORMATION*

A. *Other Permitted Areas*

Please list other permitted areas (or applied for) by another district, forest, federal agency, state, or private agency:

B. *Compliance with Laws and Regulations*

Within the past five (5) years, have you or any of your company representatives or employees:

1. Been convicted of a Federal, State, or Local violation regarding Outfittting/Guiding operations or associated activities?

2. Had an Outfitter's license or Outfitter's Registration denied or revoked?

3. Had a U.S. Forest Service permit denied, suspended, or revoked?

IV. *OPERATION AND SAFETY*

Please complete thoroughly, on additional sheets as necessary. Attach any brochures your company uses to advertise your guided services.

A. *Services offered to the public, equipment used:*

- If specific trip dates are not known, indicate an approximation of the number of trips that are anticipated within a specific time period. For example, you might estimate that 3 trips will occur each month from May through September.
- Itineraries should include dates, locations, routes, camps, and/or trails that you will be using.
- Attach a map that identifies the location of activities. Access points to each area need to be indicated.

Use Area	**Activity**	**Equipment Used (Boats, etc.)**	**Trip Dates**	**Number of Clients**	**# Client Days (leave blank)**

B. ***Describe accommodations available to people with disabilities***:

C. ***Names of employees to be used and applicable License # for each***:

Name	**License #**	**Telephone #**

Please provide copies of appropriate certificates (ex. CPR/First Aid, Swift Water Rescue, EMT) for the above guides.

D. ***Emergency Survival Supplies and Safety Equipment:***

List emergency survival supplies and safety equipment that is taken on trips. A sample list may be available for your specific activity in the appendices section.

E. ***Communication Equipment and Procedures:***

What equipment do you use? How often do you check in with someone in town or with your base?

F. ***Lost and Overdue Procedures:***

What are your procedures in the event of lost or overdue clients or employees?

G. ***Emergency Notification Procedures***

In the event of serious accident, guides will be responsible for ensuring proper first aid and procuring evacuation assistance if needed. Requests for medical evacuation, search and rescue, or law enforcement assistance should be made from the appropriate agencies such as Alaska State Troopers, Coast Guard, etc. Please contact the appropriate district within 24 hours of an accident.

Glacier Ranger District
Chugach National Forest
P.O. Box 129
Forest Station Road
Girdwood, AK 99587-0129
(907) 783-3242

Cordova Ranger District
Chugach National Forest
P.O. Box 280
Cordova, AK 99574
(907) 424-7661

Seward Ranger District
Chugach National Forest
P.O. Box 390
334 – 4th Avenue
Seward, AK 99664
(907) 224-3374

Chugach National Forest Dispatch
Kenai Lake Work Center
HCR 64, Box 550
Seward, AK 99664
(907) 288-3679

H. ***Eagles and Eagle Nests***
The Bald Eagle Protection Act (16 USC 668-668d) will be adhered to. On land, Holder activities will occur beyond a 330-foot radius from bald eagle nest trees. "A bald eagle nest tree is a tree of any species that contains a structure built by eagles for the purpose of nesting. From river corridors, lakes, and coastal waters, bald eagle nest trees will be floated by without stopping, and clients will not be allowed onto the land.

I. "***Minimum Impact, No Trace" Techniques***

Various levels of Leave No Trace Techniques are required by permit holders. Ask permit administrator for details.

- Leave No Trace practices will be discussed with clients as part of every client orientation/safety briefing. Clients will be advised of the proper techniques for camping, hiking, garbage and human waste disposal, respecting wildlife, and the use of fire, as described in the "Leave No Trace – Outdoor Skills, and Ethics in Temperate Coastal Zones" brochure, published and distributed by National Outdoor Leadership School.

- All refuse will be packed out. No trash or food waste will be buried. If fires are allowed in a particular Holder's permit, and if fire danger permits, combustible trash may be burned. All non-burnable materials must be packed out to an approved sanitary disposal area.

J. ***Bear Safety***

Bear safety will be discussed with clients as part of every client orientation/safety briefing. Clients will be advised of the proper behavior in bear country and what to do in case of an encounter with a bear, as described in the "Bear Facts – The Essentials for Traveling in Bear Country" brochure, published and distributed by the State of Alaska Department of Fish and Game. It is up to the outfitter/guide what type of defensive equipment to have in the event of a bear attack.

K. ***Authorization in advance is required for the following uses:***

- Improvements of any kind
- Additional use above authorized limit
- Overnight camping

L. ***Use of Forest Service campgrounds and cabins is not allowed.***

VI. ***SPECIFIC STIPULATIONS***

Specific stipulations listed in the following appendices apply if the Holder is authorized for the particular activity and/or location in their permit. If the specific stipulation applies, the stipulations are part of the permit and will be monitored for permit compliance. The following lists all the appendices:

A. Fishing and Boating (excluding whitewater rafting)
B. Hiking, Camping, and Campfires
C. Use of Livestock
D. Mountain Biking
E. White Water Rafting
F. Access through Seward Ranger District Recreation Facilities
G. Winter Travel
H. Guided Helicopter Activities
I. Glacier Access and Parking
J. Group Size and Restrictions for Seward Ranger District Guided Activities