



**SPECIAL AREA PERMIT SA24-V-0016-GP**

**ISSUED:** July 8, 2024  
**EXPIRES:** December 31, 2025

**RE: Limited Off-Road Use of Motorized Vehicles**  
**Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area**  
Vehicles Less Than 1,000 Pounds Dry Vehicle Weight

General Public:

Pursuant to AS 16.20.520, AS 16.20.530, 5 AAC 95.400-.440, and 5 AAC 95.700-.990, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), Habitat Section, has determined that both the public interest and the proper protection of fish and wildlife and their habitat would be served through the issuance of a General Permit (5 AAC 95.770) authorizing limited off-road motorized vehicle use in the Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area (RBCHA). This General Permit authorizes the use of motorized vehicles within the boundaries of the RBCHA when sufficient snow cover is present **November 16 through March 31**.

For the purposes of this permit, the dry weight of a vehicle is the weight of the vehicle without passengers, cargo, or fuel as specified by the manufacturer.

This General Permit authorizes only normal recreational travel of motorized vehicles less than 1,000 pounds dry weight under the conditions stipulated. The off-road use of heavier wheeled or tracked vehicles is not allowed in the Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area except by an individual Special Area Permit.

**Legislatively Designated Special Area**

The RBCHA was created in 1989 pursuant to AS 16.20.625 to ensure the protection and enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat and populations, continued fish and wildlife harvest, and public use in a high-quality environment. Alaska statutes and the Trading Bay State Game Refuge and RBCHA Management Plan allow for land use activities to be authorized by a Special Area Permit if the activity provides for the proper protection of fish and wildlife resources. The seasonal use of off-road vehicles is not expected to adversely impact important habitat values, fish and wildlife populations, or public recreation provided the conditions referenced herein are strictly adhered to.

In accordance with 5 AAC 95, project approval is given subject to the project description, the following stipulations, and the permit terms:

1. This permit must be on your possession during off-road vehicle use in RBCHA.
2. The use of off-road vehicles within the boundaries of the RBCHA between **April 1 and November 15 is prohibited.**
3. The off-trail use of vehicles less than 1,000 pounds dry weight is authorized on all critical habitat area lands from **November 1 through March 31** provided there is a minimum of 12-inches of snow cover and sufficient ground frost to prevent penetration of, or disturbance to, the soil surface or plant roots. In addition, ice cover on wetlands or other water bodies must be of sufficient thickness to support the weight-bearing load of the off-road vehicle.
4. There shall be no vehicles or equipment operated in the open waters of any specified river, lake, or stream.
5. The use of snow or ice bridges, access ramps, or cribbing to cross any specified river, lake, or stream is prohibited without prior written approval by ADF&G, Habitat Section.
6. No fuel shall be stored, nor vehicles leaking fuels, oils, hydraulic, or cooling fluids operated within the RBCHA.
7. Off-road vehicle use shall not restrict public access to or use of fish and wildlife resources.
8. No material of any kind, including vehicles, waste products, debris, supplies, or equipment shall be stored or disposed of within the RBCHA.

### **Permit Terms**

This letter constitutes a permit issued under the authority of AS 16.20.530 and must be retained on site during project activities. Please be advised that this determination applies only to activities regulated by the Habitat Section; other agencies also may have jurisdiction under their respective authorities. This determination does not relieve you of your responsibility to secure other permits; state, federal, or local. You are still required to comply with all other applicable laws.

You are responsible for the actions of contractors, agents, or other persons who perform work to accomplish the approved project. For any activity that significantly deviates from the approved plan, you shall notify the Habitat Section and obtain written approval in the form of a permit amendment in accordance with 5 AAC 95.740 before beginning the activity. Any action that increases the project's overall scope or that negates, alters, or minimizes the intent or effectiveness of any provision contained in this permit will be deemed a significant deviation

from the approved plan. The final determination as to the significance of any deviation and the need for a permit amendment is the responsibility of the Habitat Section. Therefore, we recommend you consult the Habitat Section immediately before considering any deviation from the approved plan.

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

In addition to the penalties provided by law, this permit may be terminated or revoked for failure to comply with its provisions or failure to comply with applicable statutes and regulations. You shall mitigate any adverse effect upon fish or wildlife, their habitats, or any restriction or interference with public use that the commissioner determines was a direct result of your failure to comply with this permit or any applicable law.

You shall indemnify, save harmless, and defend the department, 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 your performance under this permit. However, this provision has no effect if, and only if, the sole proximate cause of the injury is the department's negligence.

Please direct questions about this permit to Habitat Biologist Wayne Haimes at (907) 714-2478 or e-mail at [wayne.haimes@alaska.gov](mailto:wayne.haimes@alaska.gov).

Sincerely,

Doug Vincent-Lang,  
Commissioner



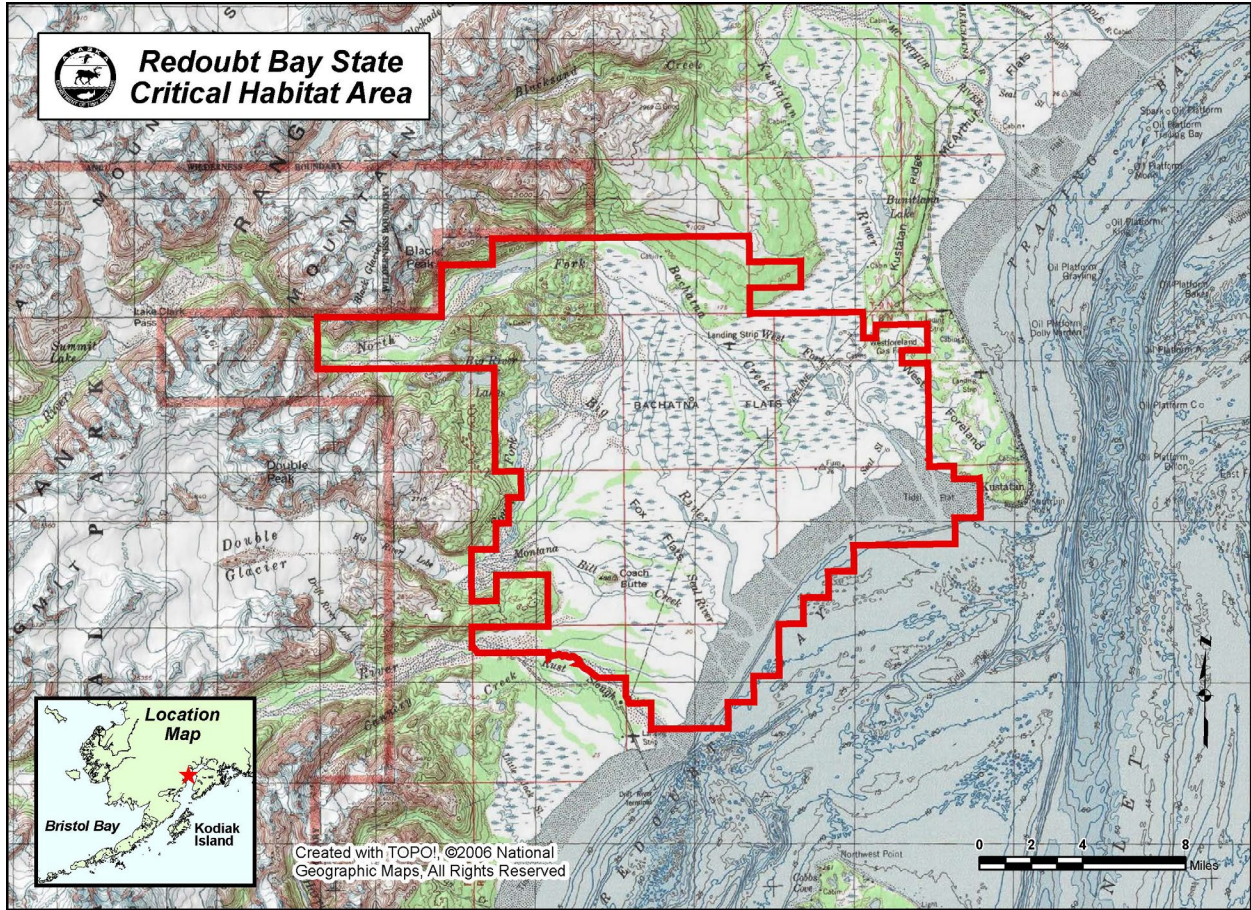
By: Kaitlynn Cafferty; Kenai Peninsula Area Manager

ecc:

KRC File  
C. Jaime, AWT  
S. Oslund, ADF&G SF

C. Brockman, ADF&G WC  
A. Ott, ADF&G Hab  
T. Massie, ADF&G Hab

H. Langendorf, ADF&GWC  
S. Rodman, ADF&G WC  
ADNR-SCRO Permitting



<https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=redoubtbay.main>

Map 1. Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area