

# Historic Dalton Trail Road Maintenance Service Area Commercial February 2024

## **Authority**

Haines Borough Code: 7.08.050 D. Commercial Use. The service area board shall develop a fee schedule for commercial users. These funds shall be used for capital improvements and repairs.

## **Background**

Historically commercial users have created congestion of the river, roads and other areas within the service area (predominantly by the rafting companies). Taxpayers within the service area and through Borough expenditures have incurred significant expenses, rerouting the access road to the Tsirku River, culvert replacement and maintaining the landing. Also, brushing is required for safety because of the larger buses traveling the road. Costly work has been done along the Porcupine Road and Klehini River recently to protect the borough's road and maintaining access for the public and industry. Very few of the commercial users contribute toward these expenses, necessitating implementation of a commercial fee structure.

## **Rationale**

Funds are needed each year to brush, grade, ditch, cold patch and provide general maintenance. Commercial businesses often use buses, trailers and multiple trips causing additional wear on roads. The "cost causer" should participate as the "cost-payer" of expenses incurred for maintenance, repairs. An estimated \$14,000 will be spent to ditch and scrape Chilkat Lake Road in 2024. An estimated \$10,000 will be needed for two gradings of the Porcupine Road in 2024.

## **Recommendation for yearly commercial user fees**

- **Commercial Tourism:** A fee of \$1 per head shall be collected from all commercial tourism companies for each client that crosses the Klehini Bridge. This fee is due upon renewal of the annual tour permit and is based on the honor system for the previous year's clients. Businesses with tour permits to operate within the service area shall be charged \$50 per year for each commercial (company-owned, licensed) vehicle used within the service area.
- **Mineral Exploration and Placer Mining:** A fee of \$50 per company staff working in the service area and \$100 for each commercial (company-owned or leased) vehicle annually.
- **Forestry-based businesses:** A fee of \$250 per haul truck will be charged to occasional user (less than 30 days per summer). A fee of \$500 per haul truck will be charged for use of more than 30 days per summer. A fee of \$1000 per haul truck for industrial scale logging where the haul truck is making more than one trip per day.
- **Mineral Extraction:** \$1 per yard for hauling aggregate in any form. from within the RMSA e.g. soil, sand gravel, rock, etc.
- **Reality TV Shows:** A fee of \$50 per company staff working in the service area and \$100 for each commercial (company-owned or leased) vehicle annually.

### **Enforcement**

The Haines Borough will issue a vehicle sticker annually for every DMV-licensed vehicle owned or leased by commercial entities and used to conduct business within the Historic Dalton Trail Road Maintenance Service Area. Commercial vehicles operating within the service area without the borough sticker will be fined \$200. (Service companies supporting permitted operations. Ie. Delta Western bringing fuel, Community Waste Solutions, etc. are exempt this fee)

### **Payments in Lieu of Commercial Fees**

Commercial businesses may perform needed maintenance on borough-owned roads within the service area with the consent of the Borough Manager, the services provided, along with a statement of value shall be provided to the borough after the maintenance work is completed.

**Note** If this fee schedule is not adopted by the Assembly in time for the 2024 summer season, the clerk's office will send a letter to all commercial users of the RMSA asking for a voluntary donation until the fee schedule is finalized.

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