



United States Department of the Interior
OFFICE OF AVIATION SERVICES
300 East Mallard Drive, Suite 200
Boise, Idaho 83706-3991

August 31, 2023

Memorandum

To: Jennifer Flynn, Associate Director, Visitor and Resource Protection.

From: Susan E. Bates, Director, Office of Aviation Services

Subject: Request for SEAT FARE approval – Lake Clark Air and Lake and Peninsula Airlines

As part of the annual renewal process, OAS conducts a Safety Data Inquiry for all aviation operators proposed for SEAT FARE approval. Since OAS has no oversight for pilots or aircraft under the SEAT FARE approval, this data point guides our decision.

After consult with John Buehler, Branch Chief Aviation, Lynn Ellis, Regional Aviation Manager, and Kevin Fox, OAS Alaska Regional Director, I've made the following decisions:

I approve the continued use for Lake and Peninsula Air under the OPM-17 Exception. We have shared their response and information from the NTSB data base with your Aviation managers.

Lake Clark Air is Not approved for SEAT FARE. OAS has been reaching out to the company since July 14th with no response. If we receive the requested information, we will contact John and Lynn for their input prior to making a decision.

OAS appreciates the continued partnership with the National Park Service. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.



**United States
Department of the
Interior**

National Park Service

Lake Clark National Park and Preserve

240 West 5th Ave.

Anchorage, AK 99501

June 26, 2023



Memorandum

From: Susanne Fleek-Green, Superintendent, Lake Clark National Park and Preserve
Subject: Lake Clark Air and Lake Peninsula Airlines Seat Fare Request

SUSANNE GREEN Digitally signed by
SUSANNE GREEN
Date: 2023.06.26
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As detailed in Operational Procedures Memorandum (OPM) – 15, *Acquisition of Seat Fares*, Lake Clark National Park and Preserve (LACL) requests an exemption as per OPM – 15, 3, B, (1). LACL desires to utilize two 14 CFR Part 135 vendors, Lake Clark Air and Lake & Peninsula Airlines, to access the Park and villages located within or neighboring LACL by use of seat fare. (OPM – 15, Chapter 4, paragraph A.) Neither Lake Clark Air nor Lake & Peninsula Airlines are listed on the DOT’s Certificated Air Carriers list or the US Commuter Air Carriers list. Neither vendor has a published schedule.

The LACL park unit and its remote neighboring communities (listed below) are only accessible by air. LACL has two administrative offices located on the Alaskan road system: one in Anchorage and the other in Homer. LACL also has an administrative office located within the Park boundary in the community of Port Alsworth, which is only accessible by air. LACL has an operational need to transport personnel between LACL administrative offices, the Park, and to (or between) its neighboring communities for the purposes of, but not limited to: attending government-to-government meetings, community relations, partnerships, NPS educational programming and out-reach, cooperative interagency or government-to-government scientific or cultural research, etc.

Both Lake Clark Air and Lake & Peninsula Airlines provide seat fares on regular 14 CFR Part 135 VFR and IFR flight services between Anchorage (PANC or PAMR), Homer (PAHO) or Kenai¹ (PAEN), and LACL or the following neighboring communities:

- Port Alsworth (TPO or PAKX)²
- Nondalton (PANO)
- Pedro Bay (4K0)
- Iliamna (PAIL)
- King Salmon (PAKN)³
- Kokhanok (9K2)
- Igiugig (PAIG)
- Lime Village (2AK)

¹ The Kenai airport (PAEN) is the closest airport that is road accessible for Lake Clark Air and Lake & Peninsula Airlines service to the LACL Homer office.

² Both Port Alsworth airfields (TPO and PAKX) are privately owned, thus only Lake Clark Air and Lake & Peninsula Airlines provide seat fare service to Port Alsworth.

³ The Port Alsworth-King Salmon route is only serviced by Lake Clark Air. Seat fare transportation between King Salmon and Port Alsworth is necessary to move personnel (with multi-park responsibilities) between Katmai National Park & Preserve and LACL.

Both Lake Clark Air and Lake & Peninsula Airlines regularly service these communities (daily, if passenger or cargo needs warrant). Both vendors provide seat fare services that are point to point (not special use), space available (on-demand), and that are only conducted with non-tandem seated aircraft. Both vendors determine their flight routes, villages serviced, departure/arrival times, and their choice of aircraft depending on passenger and cargo need. Thus, not every village is serviced daily nor is there a published schedule. Lake Clark Air has operational bases in Anchorage (PAMR) and Port Alsworth (TPO), and Lake & Peninsula Airlines has operational bases in Anchorage (PAMR), Port Alsworth (PAKX), and Iliamna (PAIL). LACL would like to use these two vendors when contract aircraft are not reasonably accessible or available.

Regional Aviation Manager Concur: **KRISTIN SWOBODA** Digitally signed by KRISTIN SWOBODA
Date: 2023.06.26
16:31:22 -06'00'

National Aviation Manager Approval: **JOHN BUEHLER** Digitally signed by JOHN BUEHLER
Date: 2023.06.27
07:02:36 -06'00'

Associate Director Visitor Protection Approval: **JENNIFER FLYNN** Digitally signed by JENNIFER FLYNN
Date: 2023.06.27 12:29:31 -04'00'

Office of Aviation Services Director Approval: _____