

# Tikchik Narrows Lodge

## Sportfishing Guide Job Description / Requirements

### **REQUIREMENTS:**

Good communication skills, sound work ethics, service oriented, and self-motivated.

Healthy, physically fit, clean appearance, drug-free (pre-employment drug testing and random seasonal drug testing is required by U.S.C.G. regulations), and **non-smoker**.

Guiding experience is preferred with a sound working knowledge of fishing, fishing terminal tackle, angling methods, techniques and skills. Fly fishing and spin fishing knowledge required

Guides are required to have a current American Red Cross (or equivalent) First Aid and CPR card.

Guides are required to have an applicable US Coast Guard License (OUVP 6 pack) or be able to qualify for a OUVP 6 pack license,

**LICENSES** – Tikchik will purchase your State of Alaska Sport Fishing License, and King stamp, and a State of Alaska Guides Registration. Guides must be able to pass a pre-employment drug screen and be enrolled in Tikchik’s random drug testing through the term of employment, Tikchik will pay for the pre-employment drug test.

**SALARY:** \$2,500 to \$ 4,500 (DOE) per month plus:

**Transportation** – Tikchik will pay for transportation to and from Tikchik and your home.

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** While at the lodge, the guides/crew will be housed in cabins or rooms with bath facilities. Laundry facilities are provided for the guides along with bedding and towels.

**EMPLOYEE MEALS:** Our staff enjoys hearty meals served buffet-style in the crew dining room. Some of our guides and pilots will be asked to dine in the main dining room with the guests a night or two each week. There are always snacks, cookies and other baked goods available for staff.

**TIPS:** Our guests stay for an entire week and we recommend that they do not tip during the week, but leave their tip at the end of their stay. The tips are pooled together and divided amongst the crew equally. Pilots, guides, chefs and lodge staff all make the same amount. Last season gratuities were over \$600.00 per week per person for the full season. It takes all of our crew members doing their jobs well to make the operation run smoothly and be successful.

**DATES OF EMPLOYMENT:** Be available for the entire season from approximately mid-June through mid-September. *College students who have to return to school prior to September 15<sup>th</sup> should not apply.*

**DAILY SCHEDULE:** Breakfast is served at 6:30 am each morning. Our crew is expected to be at breakfast on time. The guides should prepare for the day's fishing before breakfast, so that when breakfast is finished they are ready and available to help out with the aircraft, boats, etc. Normally, we depart the lodge at approximately 8 am every morning except Saturday, to head out for fishing destinations by plane or by boat.

Each day we return to the lodge with fishermen between 4:30 pm and 5:30 pm. Dinner is generally served to the guests and the crew at 7:00 pm. When we return to the lodge in the evenings, we have airplanes to unload, fish to take care of, and equipment to put away. Guides need to be prepared to put in long days.

Fishing assignments are made the night before and are announced shortly after dinner. The guides then meet with the fishermen that they will be guiding the next day and decide on shore lunch or packed lunches, and what kind of fishing gear the guests should bring.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:** We require our guides to present themselves in a professional manner at all times. Our guests arrive on Saturday and depart the following Saturday. This means that we always have guests at the lodge. We will operate with a full guest schedule for 13 weeks straight. Our guides will be guiding almost every day. When our guides are not guiding for the day, we expect them to help with any of the other projects around the lodge such as chopping wood, construction, maintenance, repairs or whatever is necessary. **Because of our remote location, it is very difficult to replace any of our crew. We do expect a commitment from our guides to stay the entire season. It is important that our applicants understand the operation and what responsibilities will be required of them.**

**ATTITUDE:** Our guides have a position with very high guest exposure. It is important that our personnel enjoy people and enjoy showing the guests a good time. The macho guide or the mountain man attitude is not what we are looking for. We are looking for guides who can share knowledge in a positive format of encouragement, reinforcement and style. We would like all of our personnel to have a positive attitude, show extraordinary manners, and be courteous at all times.

**CONSIDERATIONS:** It is important to remember that guiding is not only the act of helping clients to catch fish, but more importantly, *guiding is a service industry*. Our guide applicants are required to be helpful, kind, and sincere towards Tikchik guests. Even though all of our applicants share a passion for fishing, that does not necessarily make one an excellent guide. A skilled guide is one who is able to communicate with their clients, thereby passing on their knowledge and skill. Our guides *never* fish while guiding. Oftentimes, a great client day is not measured in fish caught, but knowledge gained, experiences shared, and memories created.

**GUIDE EXPERIENCE:** We fish five major rivers and numerous smaller streams, along with several lakes. Because of the tremendous variety of water and 10 different species of sport fish, there will naturally be a learning curve. Guides will go through extensive training and river orientations. We do not expect our guides to be experts on our waters.

We are looking for guides who have past guiding experience with trout and salmon species, boat and outboard experience, as well as a well-rounded fishing knowledge including terminal tackle. Our guides must be congenial and friendly people with a positive outlook.

**EQUIPMENT:** We operate numerous 18 foot flat bottom river boats with 25 to 50 hp outboards. Almost every day our guides will be operating a boat. Boating safety and handling is an everyday responsibility.

**FLYING:** We are a daily fly out lodge. Our guides will be riding in the airplanes quite often and in some circumstances almost daily. Our guides should not have a fear of flying or get air sick easily.

**OUT CAMPS:** We operate three to four out camps all summer. These camps are equipped with boats, tents, camping gear, and food supplies. These camps fill a very important role in the operation. We have our guides live at these locations on the rivers. Usually, we rotate our guides between the out camps and the lodge. The guides will be at the camp for one, two or three weeks at a time, and then rotate back to the lodge. It is not uncommon, however, for some of our guides to choose to stay in the out camps most of the season. They prefer working the same river each day and enjoy the camping lifestyle. It is imperative that our guides are not afraid of camping in the wilderness.

The guides in the out camps will have fishermen arrive each morning by floatplane (with the exception of Saturdays). The fishermen depart from the river out camps in the late afternoons or early evenings.

**SPECIAL NOTE: Dogs, cats and other pets are not allowed.** We do not have the accommodations or the facilities to accommodate pets.

**TIKCHIK NARROWS LODGE IS ONE OF THE FINEST SPORTFISHING OPERATIONS IN THE WORLD. WE HAVE THIS REPUTATION BECAUSE OUR EMPLOYEES ARE DEDICATED PROFESSIONALS. DRUGS, SMOKING, ALCOHOL ABUSE AND "PARTYING" WILL NOT BE TOLERATED!**