

Cook Inlet Oil and Gas Units

State of Alaska
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Oil and Gas
December 2023



0 2.5 5 7.5 10
Miles
Scale: 1:500,000

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Boating Regulations

In Alaska, the International Rules apply to all vessels registered in the United States. The Kenai River Rules assign tasks to each vessel in certain situations should "keep out of the way" of others, the Rules never grant any vessel the "right of way." Also keep in mind that the ordinary practice of seamanship requires precaution and prudent action by all boaters. The Rules are important, but they must be prepared to depart from the Rules if necessary to avoid a collision. Boaters should obtain and become familiar with the complete Rules available from a link on www.alaskaboating.org.

It is illegal to anchor in a manner that obstructs a primary traffic channel or fishing channel of any section of the Kenai River.

Downstream from Skilak Lake, all power boats are limited to six passengers on board, including the operator. In July, guides are limited to a total of five people on board including the guide.

Both state and federal law requires that life jackets be worn at all times by children under the age of 13 when in an open boat or on deck.

Remember, you are not only responsible for your boat, but also your wake. Be sure to approach other boats, docks and piers with caution, to avoid collisions. Use appropriate speeds and travel mid-river whenever possible to keep your wake low.

Boating in the Kenai River SNA

The Kenai is a big, fast, and cold river. You must be prepared for conditions that may be different from those you are used to. The Kenai and Skilak lakes in particular are very cold and subject to sudden high winds and big waves. Drift boats, canoes, inflatables and power boats all have a place on the Kenai, so learn the best places to launch your type of watercraft. You must be experienced at safely loading, fueling, and launching your boat.

No one ever expects boating emergencies, but they happen—so always be prepared. Most boating fatalities on the Kenai involve a combination of sudden cold water immersion and fast currents. Without a life jacket, even the best swimmers are at high risk of drowning. The first and most important step in surviving a boating emergency is to **ALWAYS wear a life jacket**.

Area Regulations—General

Camping is only permitted in developed campgrounds. All other undeveloped state lands, including the Skilak and Seldovia National Wildlife Refuges, are closed to camping. Regulations so check with the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge at (907) 262-7021 or www.fws.gov/refuge/kenai and with the U.S. Forest Service at (907) 224-3374 or www.fs.usda.gov/tuhsach.

Fires are permitted only in provided metal fire rings or in metal-bottomed fire pans with sides. Use only dead and down wood. Never leave your fire unattended until the embers are cold.

Please respect private property along the river. Do not trespass, dock, park, fish or camp on private lands without written permission.

Time of Year

REGULATIONS (Consult Regs.)	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Chinook (King)—1" Run												
Chinook (King)—2" Run												
Chinook (King)—3" Run												
Sockeye (Gold)—1" Run												
Sockeye (Gold)—2" Run												
Sockeye (Gold)—3" Run												
Coho (Silver)—1" Run												
Coho (Silver)—2" Run												
Pink (Humpy)—on even numbered years												
Pink (Humpy)—on odd numbered years												
Daily Vendors												
Lake Trout—In lakes in the Kenai River system												
—ENTIRE YEAR—												
—ENTIRE YEAR—												

Kenai River Special Management Area—Amenities

- A. Kenai City Dock—A M B
- B. Kenai River Flats—A M B
- C. Cunningham Park—M B
- D. Eagle Rock—A M B
- E. The Pillars—A M B
- F. Cechanski—A M B
- G. Big Eddy—A M B
- H. Skilak Creek—M B
- I. Centennial Park—A M B
- J. Seldovia Creek—M B
- K. Swiftwater Park—A M B
- L. Rotary Park—A
- M. Keystone—A
- N. Funny River—A M B
- O. Morgan's Landing—A M B
- P. Izak Walton—A M B
- Q. Bings Landing—A M B
- R. Lower Skilak Lake—A M B
- S. Upper Skilak Lake—A M B
- T. Hidden Lake—A M B
- U. Jim's Landing—A M B
- V. Russian River Ferry/Sportsman's Landing—M B
- W. Russian River Campground—A M B
- X. Cooper Creek—A M B
- Y. Cooper Landing—A M B
- Z. Quartz Creek—A M B
- AA. Trail River—A M B
- BB. Ptarmigan Creek—A M B
- CC. Ptarmigan Campground—A M B

Legend

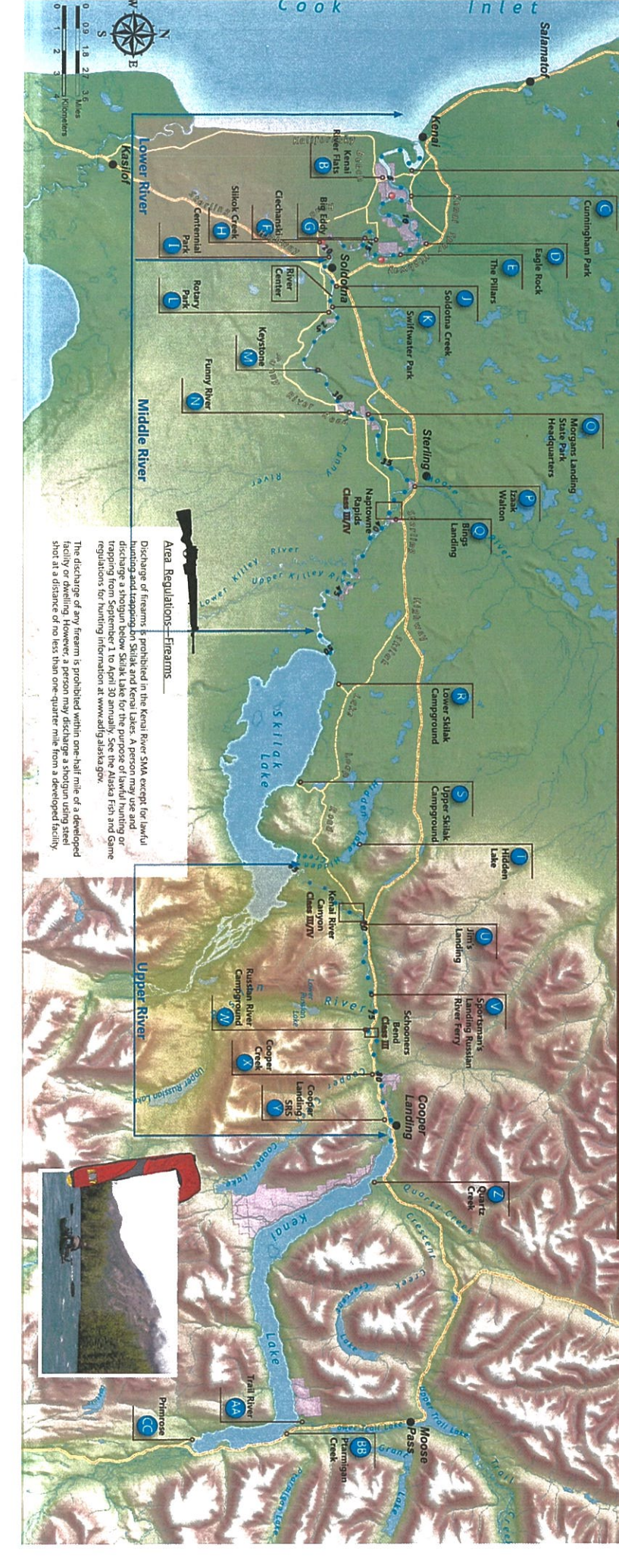
- KSMA Area Boundary
- Highway
- Road
- Gravel Road
- ADF&G Fish Sonar Counter
- Boat Launch
- Restrooms
- Camping
- Picnicking
- Fishing
- Drinking Water
- RV Dump Station

Watercraft Requirements

Boats operating in Kenai River SNA are limited to 21 feet in length and 106 inches in width, and a 50-horsepower motor, except on Kenai and Skilak lakes, which are unrestricted. All boats must be registered in the state and have a valid title and registration (DNR throughout the year).

Depending on the watercraft type and size, mandatory safety equipment requirements (requirements apply) vary.

Check www.alaskaboating.org for the full list of requirements.



Area Regulations—Firearms

Discharge of firearms is prohibited in the Kenai River SNA except for lawful hunting. Discharge of firearms is prohibited in the Kenai River SNA except for lawful hunting. Discharge of firearms is prohibited in the Kenai River SNA except for lawful hunting.

The discharge of any firearm is prohibited within one-half mile of a developed facility or dwelling. However, a person may discharge a shotgun using steel shot at a distance of no less than one-quarter mile from a developed facility.



Anchor River Fritz Creek State Critical Habitat Area

