

KENAI RIVER GUIDE REALITY circa 2014

1923 – First Guided fishing trips on Kenai River and Drainages

Economic Impact of Kenai River Sport Fishing Guides

- ADFG's Study of Economic Impacts and Contributions of Sport Fishing shows that guided anglers on the Kenai River are responsible for nearly \$40,000,000.00 in direct expenditures annually.
- Kenai River Sport Fishing Guides Annual Fees account for \$360,875.00 to the State of Alaska annually. This number does not include additional daily boat launch and parking fees which recent studies suggest could bring the value of annual fees associated with Kenai River Sport Fishing Guides to a total of \$500,000.00

Kenai River Sport Fishing Guide Numbers

- 71% of Kenai River Sport Fishing Guides are Alaska Residents
- 285 Kenai River Sport Fishing Guides Registered in 2013.
- Loss of 111 Kenai River Sport Fishing Guides since 2007 (peak year of registered Kenai River Sport Fishing Guides of 396 total) due to economic attrition.
- 46% of Kenai River Sport Fishing Guides have ten (10) plus years of Kenai River Guiding experience.

Kenai River Guided Angler Effort

- On average 51,430 Guided Anglers fish the Kenai River annually.
- Guided Angler effort makes up 14% of the Total Angler Effort on the Kenai River annually.
- Total Angler Effort on the Kenai River down 67% from historical average.
- Early Run King Salmon Guided Angler Effort down 83% from historical average.
- Late Run King Salmon Guided Angler Effort down 70% from historical average.

Kenai River Sport Fishing Guide Regulations

- Most regulated group of sport fishing guides in the State of Alaska governed by a total of six (6) separate state and federal agencies.

- Required to pass a three credit college course in order to become a licensed Kenai River Guide (The ONLY sport fishing guides required to do in the State of Alaska)
- The State of Alaska Board of Fish has adopted policies that limit both the days of the week and hours of the day that Kenai River Sport Fishing Guides can operate. This has resulted in limiting the opportunities for both resident and non-resident guided anglers to access and fish the Kenai River.
 1. No fishing from a guide vessel Sundays or Mondays in May, June, and July
 2. No fishing from a guide vessel from 6:00 p.m. to 6 a.m. in May, June, and July.
 3. No fishing for Coho Salmon from a guide vessel downstream of the Moose River Confluence on Mondays in August and September.
 4. No more than five (5) passengers, including the guide/operator, may occupy a guide vessel in July.

Kenai River Sport Fishing Guide Fees – Annually

- Kenai River Sport Fishing Guides pay the highest annual licensing fees in the State of Alaska.
 1. Annual Resident Kenai River Guide Fee = \$1075.00
 2. Annual Non-Resident Kenai River Guide Fee = \$2075.00
- Annual Sport Fishing Guide License for the remainder of the State of Alaska is \$150.00 annually – Permitting guided activity on every drainage in the state except the Kenai River.

REFERENCES

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Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation,
Kenai River Special Management Area, Commercial Services Permits Data.