

STATE OF ALASKA

THE LEGISLATURE

1983

Source

Legislative
Resolve No.

SCSHCR 31(Res)

26



Relating to protection and preservation of the Kenai River.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

WHEREAS the legislature finds that the Kenai River is an important natural resource and that it must be protected and preserved for the maximum benefit of all Alaskans; and

WHEREAS the vitality of the Kenai River is threatened; power boat wakes and streambank development have contributed to the erosion of river banks and degradation of fish beds; increased user traffic on the river endangers fish and wildlife habitats; competition among sportfishers, professional guides, and persons who use the river for recreation and transportation creates overcrowded, hazardous, and unpleasant conditions; and

WHEREAS a multitude of state and federal agencies with jurisdiction over various aspects of the Kenai River has created a labyrinth of regulations without effectively preventing the deterioration of the river; and

WHEREAS a need exists for an interagency effort to make a comprehensive study of the problems of the Kenai River, to recommend a coordinated approach to solving those problems, and to take emergency action necessary to deal with the most immediate problems of the river;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the governor to organize through the governor's office representatives from the Departments of Environmental Conservation, Fish and Game, Natural Resources, and Public Safety who shall

(1) solicit and consider information from federal agencies, local governments, industries, landowners, persons

engaged in fishing, and others who have an interest in the Kenai River;

(2) make a comprehensive study of state and federal laws affecting the Kenai River, users of the river, land adjacent to the river, and fish and wildlife resources dependent on the river;

(3) identify areas of overlapping or conflicting jurisdiction among state and federal agencies that have jurisdiction over the Kenai River;

(4) identify Kenai River problems over which no agency has jurisdiction;

(5) publish a list of priorities for the uses of the Kenai River;

(6) recommend, in a coordinated and comprehensive manner, regulations to be adopted or actions to be taken by state and federal agencies to address the problems of the Kenai River; and

(7) report the findings and recommendations to the Second Session of the Thirteenth Alaska State Legislature.