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## Seasonal trail restrictions planned for Chena River State Recreation Area

(Fairbanks, AK) – On Thursday, April 26, the Angel Creek Valley, Angel Creek Hillside, Compeau, Stiles, Colorado Creek, East Fork, Yukon Quest Winter, and South Fork trails in Chena River State Recreation Area will close to all uses except walking. These closures will allow the trails to thaw and water to disperse without disturbance.

Alaska State Parks is reluctant to restrict any uses unless there are no other viable management alternatives. In this case, the benefits of protecting the state-maintained trails from degradation outweigh the inconvenience of seasonal restrictions.

The Angel Creek Hillside, Compeau and Stiles trails will reopen May 26 or sooner depending on conditions. The South Fork, Colorado Creek, East Fork, Yukon Quest Winter and Angel Creek Valley Trails are winter trails and will remain closed to motorized use during the summer. By design, winter trails cannot sustain use during unfrozen periods. After adequate snowpack is reached, the winter trails as well as all other motorized areas of the Chena River Recreation Area will be reopened to snowmachine use by director's designation.

Gates at the trailheads will be locked and posted with signs during the trail closures. Alaska State Parks encourages trail users to respect the integrity of the trails so others may continue to enjoy them. It is illegal to tamper with or attempt to drive around locked gates.

Violations of the trail closures can be reported to Alaska State Parks during business hours at 451-2695. On evenings and weekends, contact Alaska State Troopers and they will contact Alaska State Park rangers.

**CONTACT:** Brooks Ludwig, 451-2698, [brooks.ludwig@alaska.gov](mailto:brooks.ludwig@alaska.gov)

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