



# KENAI RIVER

**Special Management Area**

*"Working together...for the river"*

## ADVISORY BOARD

Kenai Region Office  
PO Box 1247  
Soldotna, AK 99669  
907-262-5581

### Kenai River Special Management Area Advisory Board Meeting

November 14, 2024

6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Attend virtually or in person at the

Soldotna Public Library

Soldotna, AK 99669

#### CALL TO ORDER

A. Roll Call/Introductions

(In attendance Dave Maternowski, Shannon Martin, Terri Carter, Rich Conover, Bill Tappan, Oz Arundell, Monte Roberts, Joell Todd, Tyler Best, Ruth D'Amico, Mary Inovejas, Hans Rinke, Tom Anthony)

B. Agenda Changes and Approval

(Motion made by Monte Roberts to conduct Board elections, seconded by Bill Tappan, Dave Maternowski voted in a President, Shannon Martin voted in as Vice President)

C. Public Present

(Brendah Ahlberg, Nick Conner, Brandon)

#### REPORTS

A. Agency and Government Reports

a. DNR State Parks –Park Staff

Chief Ranger Tom Anthony provided a report of guide violations for the field season, along with enforcement trends from the past season, retaining snagged fish and habitat closures are both top enforcement actions. Chief Ranger Anthony also introduced the ADF&G and Parks Habitat closure signs, and concerns from river users on difficulty of interpretations. Parks will be seeking Board input on "green sign" updates prior to summer 2025.

Superintendent Rinke Briefed the Board on facility improvement updates at Eagle Rock, Big Eddy, and Morgan's Landing, in addition to updating the Board on EVOS property acquisitions near the Lower Killey and Bear Creek.

b. DEC – Mary Inovejas

Mary provided updates on AQUA Grant Applications

c. ADF&G – Phil Stacey (not present)

d. USF&WS - Andy Loranger/Matt Conner (not present)

e. USFS – Ruth D'Amico

Ranger DiAmico state the Russian River was less hectic then in 2023, the access road is under construction for the season and should be completed in the fall of 2025 with paving occurring as soon as April of 2025. Additionally, the USFS has been burning piles created by spruce bark beetle mitigation activities in Moose Pass, and air curtain burner was purchased and put to use in an effort to expedite this effort.

f. City of Kenai – Tyler Best

Tyler reported the City had a busy year during the dip net season, the north beach is gaining in popularity, the Dip Net end of year report is being finalized and should be out by mid December. The City is looking to add a Kids Don't Float Life Vest station.

g. City of Soldotna – Joell Todd

Joell reported Swiftwater and Centennial Park numbers were pretty normal compared to previous years, closed areas were significantly impacted by foot traffic

h. Kenai Peninsula Borough – (not present)

B. Committee Reports

a. Guide Advisory

Dave Maternowski provided an update on the guide violations, and guide use at Eagle Rock

b. Habitat and River Use (no report)

**I. OLD BUSINESS:** (none)

**II. NEW BUSINESS:** Solicited interest in President and Vice President Positions (vote on positions)

**III. CORRESPONDENCE** (none)

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Comment provided by Nick Conner, comments pertained to improving the public knowledge of the Advisory Board meetings and working on a strategy to improve public outreach.

**V. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

**VI. ADJOURNMENT:** at 7:22 pm

Next Meeting: December 12<sup>th</sup> 2024