

KENAI RIVER SPECIAL GUIDING REGULATIONS



• ALASKA STATE PARKS AND ADF&G DUAL REGISTRATION REQUIRED:

- Before guiding sport anglers on the Kenai River, each guide and vessel must license annually with ADF&G and register with the Soldotna office of the Alaska State Parks.
- In addition to the ADF&G sport fishing guide vessel decal, each guide vessel shall be identified by displaying the issued Department of Natural Resources Kenai River guide stickers, and the assigned three-digit guide vessel number on both sides of the vessel just aft of the midpoint and above the water line. For specific information on Department of Natural Resources guide registration and decal requirements, call the Donald E. Gilman River Center at (907) 714-2470.
- Businesses may not provide guides, boat operators, or boats for rent to anglers unless the guides, boat operators, and boats are licensed and registered as described above.
- It is unlawful for a sport angler or a third party to contract with an individual for the purpose of operating a boat and/or guiding unless the individual employed is licensed and registered as described above.

• THE FOLLOWING REGULATIONS APPLY TO FISHING FROM **GUIDE BOATS** ON THE KENAI RIVER:

Downstream from the outlet of Skilak Lake:

- In May, June, and July fishing is allowed only from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- In May, June, and July fishing is not allowed on Sundays or Mondays (except Memorial Day).
- In July, guide boats may carry no more than 5 persons, including the guide, clients, and other passengers.

From January 1 – December 31:

- Guides may not sport fish while a client is present or within the guide's control or responsibility, unless the guide is providing assistance to a client with a disability as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- The maximum number of fishing rods operated may not exceed the number of clients on board the vessel.

From August 1 – November 30:

- Downstream from the confluence of the Moose and Kenai rivers, fishing is prohibited from a guide vessel on Mondays (**except Labor Day**).
- Upstream from the confluence of the Moose and Kenai rivers, fishing for **coho salmon** from a guide vessel is prohibited on Mondays (**except Labor Day**). Any coho salmon caught must immediately be released.

ALASKA STATE PARKS BOATING REGULATIONS ON THE MAINSTEM KENAI RIVER

The Alaska State Legislature created the Kenai River Special Management Area in 1984 and charged Alaska State Parks with its management. Here are their boating regulations for the Kenai River, summarized for your convenience. For more information, call the Donald E. Gilman River Center at (907) 714-2470.

PASSENGER LIMITS

No more than 6 persons are allowed on board, including operator (*except for guided vessels in July, below the outlet of Skilak Lake, which may have no more than 5 persons on board*).

TYING UP

No one may tie up a boat to state land, easement, or rights-of-way more than 24 consecutive hours.

ANCHORING

No one may anchor a boat on the Kenai River that obstructs a primary traffic channel or drift fishing channel.

HORSEPOWER RESTRICTIONS

No one may operate a boat on the Kenai River upstream of a DNR marker located at approximately river mile 4.2 (downstream of the Warren Ames Bridge) with outboard or combination of outboards having a total propshaft rating greater than 50 HP. Propshaft horsepower rating means the boat motor's original manufacturer rated and labeled horsepower. Adding a jet drive unit to a motor does not change the propshaft horsepower rating of the motor powerhead and driveshaft configuration. These horsepower limitations do not apply to the operation of a boat on Kenai Lake, on Skilak Lake, and on the Kenai River between the Kenai Lake Bridge and river mile 80.7.

FOUR-STROKE/DIRECT FUEL INJECTION MOTOR REQUIREMENTS

Regardless of time of year or motor horsepower, no one may operate a motorized boat on the Kenai River upstream of a DNR marker located at approximately river mile 4.2 (downstream of the Warren Ames Bridge) unless the motor is a four-stroke motor or a direct fuel injection motor. This includes boats operated on Kenai and Skilak Lakes.

BOAT LENGTH REQUIREMENTS

Except on Kenai and Skilak lakes, no one may operate a motorized boat on the Kenai River upstream of a DNR marker located (at approximately river mile 4.0) downstream of the Warren Ames bridge that exceeds overall boat size to no more than 21 feet long and 106 inches wide.

DRIFT AREAS, MOTOR USE PROHIBITED

- Operating a boat by use of a motor is prohibited year-round on the Kenai River, from Skilak Lake inlet upstream to river mile 80.7.
- From March 15 to June 14, operating a boat by use of a motor on the Kenai River is also prohibited from river mile 47 upstream to the outlet of Skilak Lake.