



Salmon in the City

# Wildlands Update for mid-June

## Alaska Public Lands

Information Center

## Your Adventure Starts Here

### Nature in June

Watch out for wildlife! It's time to view harbor seal pups in protected bays and Dall sheep lambs on alpine slopes. Prepare for ducklings and goslings crossing roads. If you see one moose crossing the road, prepare for the young ones close behind. Please respect animal parents by keeping your distance as you observe them; carry binoculars and watch for signs of distress. Bears will be plentiful in June so know how to avoid bear encounters. Be Bear Aware by visiting <http://www.alaskabears.alaska.gov> For great spots to see wildlife on the Kenai Peninsula, check out [http://www.kenaipeninsula.org/kenai\\_guide/index.htm](http://www.kenaipeninsula.org/kenai_guide/index.htm)

Please remember that the Cook Inlet mudflats are dangerous. Do not walk onto the mudflats for any reason.

### Road Closures

Please be advised that entry into Alaska requires a passport or passport card as of June 1. Summer means construction season for Alaska. Glenn Highway: from Milepost 92 to Milepost 97 lane closed with long (45 minute) delays due to road construction work. Look out for flaggers from 6:00am to 7:00pm on weekdays and Saturdays. Parks Highway: from Milepost 185 to Milepost 289 (over 100 miles) traffic will be slow due to work on the shoulder. Sterling Highway: from Ninilchik River Bridge Milepost 135 to Deep Creek Bridge, there will be delays with a width limit in effect. A lane will be closed due to bridge construction work. For up-to-date information about road construction, dial 511 in Alaska, (866) 282-7577 outside Alaska or visit <http://511.alaska.gov>

### Alaska State Parks

Get ready for the summer by purchasing a 2009 Alaska State Park day-use pass at \$40 each or \$60 for two. Boat Launch passes cost \$75 each or \$115 for two. Passes are available on-line and at the AAPLIC (check or cash only; no Boat Launch passes), DNR Public Information Center, Potter Section House, REI, AMH, and Sportsman's Warehouse. Passes can also be ordered online, by mail and fax at <http://www.alaskastateparks.org>

Some public use cabins may still have openings for this summer, call (907) 269-8400 or visit the above website to make a reservation. The Eagle River Nature Center cabins and yurts show additional opportunities. Call (907) 694-2108 to make reservations. Improved trail information within state parks can be found at <http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/aktrails/ats.htm>

### Chugach State Park

Upper South Fork Eagle River Trailhead will be closed in June for improvements. Most trails are open and in good condition; trails in higher elevations may be muddy. Most of the Chugach is bear country, so be alert. The Alaska Conservation Corps is presently clearing and improving trails. Lifetime Adventures is renting bikes and kayaks at Eklutna Lake. A caretaker and search & rescue cabin is being built at Glen Alps at the base of Flattop Mountain. For more information, call headquarters at (907) 345-5014 on weekdays.

### Matanuska Susitna Area State Parks Independence Mine/Hatchers Pass

Experience a piece of Alaskan history at Independence Mine! The visitor center is open from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. daily. Guided tours begin June 20, departing, at 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. daily. There is a \$5.00/person fee for the tour in addition to the day use parking fee. Self-guided tours are available until 6 p.m. Panning with a pan and shovel are allowed in the park. For more information, call (907) 745-2827. Check out more trail information in the MatSu Valley at <http://www.alaskavisit.com/trails>

### Nancy Lake State Recreation Area

Ninety minutes north of Anchorage, this area offers many opportunities for camping, canoeing, and kayaking. Check out Lynx Lake Loop, an

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8-mile chain of lakes with well-marked portages. A three-mile hike into Red Shirt Lake invites good lake fishing. This is a great day trip, but you can make it an overnight by renting one of four public use cabins or by staying at one of the eight campsites on the lake.

### **Denali State Park**

Located just south of Denali National Park, the state park has three public use cabins requiring only a short hike (1/2 to 1 mile), so they are perfect for families with young children. There are also five campgrounds in the area with over 100 campsites. Canoe and kayaks are available for rental and there are several great hiking trails, some with great views of McKinley. Troublesome Creek Trail between the Upper Troublesome Creek Trailhead and alpine areas is closed for 2009 due to severe flood damage.

### **Kenai Peninsula State Parks**

There is a minus tide in late June providing for great clamming at Clam Gulch or Deep Creek. Clamming requires a fishing license. For more information, call (907) 262-5581 or go to <http://www.alaskastateparks.org>

## **Alaska Department of Fish and Game**

In most areas of Alaska, the king and sockeye salmon runs should be strong by mid-late June. For fishing reports, visit <http://www.sf.adfg.state.ak.us/FishingReports>

All sport licenses are now available to be printed on your home computer, find them at <http://www.adfg.state.ak.us>

## **Bureau of Land Management**

Enjoy camping along the Denali Highway at Tangle Lakes or Paxson this year. Most BLM campgrounds allow 14 day stays and are available on a first-come, first-served basis only (no reservations). For more information, call (907) 271-5960 or visit <http://www.blm.gov/ak/st/en.html>

## **National Park Service**

### **Kenai Fjords National Park**

The Exit Glacier Nature Center will be open daily from 9a.m.-8p.m. Ranger led walks are held at 10a.m., 2p.m., and 4p.m. daily, no reservations are needed, meet at the Exit Glacier Nature Center. Exit Glacier has a 12-site, walk-in tent campground (no fees) on a first-come, first-served basis. The visitor center in the small boat harbor is open daily 8:30a.m.-7:00p.m. Check the website for trail conditions to the Harding Icefield; guided hikes begin

July 5. For more information, call (907) 224-7500 or visit <http://www.nps.gov/kefi>

### **Denali National Park and Preserve**

The 2009 road lottery travel dates will be September 18-21. Entries into the road lottery must be postmarked on or before June 30, instead of July as in previous years. For more information on the lottery, go to <http://www.nps.gov/dena> The Denali Park Road is open to personal vehicles to Savage River (Mile 15). All tours and shuttles are in full service. Check out fee-free days June 20-21, July 18-19, and August 15-16. Call (907) 683-2294 or visit <http://www.nps.gov/dena>

## **Fish and Wildlife Service**

### **Kenai National Wildlife Refuge**

A prescribed fire is scheduled for Lily Lake intermittently throughout the summer. There are several campgrounds and thirteen public use cabins for rent on the refuge. Summer hours for the visitor center are 8a.m.-4:30p.m. on weekdays and 9a.m.-5p.m. on weekends. For more information, call (907) 262-7021 or go to <http://kenai.fws.gov>

## **National Forest Service**

### **Chugach National Forest**

All campgrounds are open with full services (and fees). Beigich-Boggs Visitor Center is open daily 9a.m.-6p.m. Check out the guided hikes, interpretive talks, and ice worm safaris. For further information, call (907) 783-2326 or visit the website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r10/chugach> For more information, call Glacier Ranger District at (907) 783-3242 or the Seward Ranger District at (907) 224-3373. Check out availability of cabins in Prince William Sound and the Kenai Peninsula by going to <http://www.recreation.gov>

The whistle-stop train to Spencer Glacier is two-for-one for the summer. For more information, call (907) 265-2494 or visit <http://www.akrr.com>

## **Urban Public Lands**

### **Municipality of Anchorage**

Check out the Anchorage Parks and Recreation Activities calendar for fun things to do this summer and listings for Summer Day Camps, running events, and classes. Visit <http://www.muni.org/parks>

## **Southcentral**

### **Visitor Centers**

#### **Eagle River Nature Center**

ERNC, located at Mile 12 of Eagle River road, is open from 10a.m.-5p.m.daily. The visitor center offers several free programs,

rents its facility, a cabin, and two yurts; parking is \$5.00 without a state parking pass. Call for updates on trails and bear sightings at (907) 694-2108 or go to <http://www.ernc.org>

### **Campbell Creek Science Center**

The Midsummer Night's Science Series features Alien Invaders on June 17 at 7:00p.m. July 1st focuses on Great Horned Owls. Enjoy the trails, but keep alert for bears. Rover's Run trail remains closed due to bear concerns. For more information, call (907) 267-1247 or visit <http://www.blm.gov/ak/st/en/prog/sciencecenter.html>

### **AK Islands & Ocean Visitor Center**

Located just off the beach in Homer, the visitor center is open from 9a.m. to 6p.m. daily. Check out the exhibits inside the center as well as the interpretive trails outside. To find out more, call (907) 235-6961 or visit <http://islandsandoccean.org>

## **Alaska Public Lands Information Centers**

The *Downtown Anchorage* location is open 9a.m.-5p.m. daily. The center offers movies on the half-hour and a walking tour at 11a.m. and 2:30 p.m. daily. Special programs at 2p.m. include the Alaska Zoo on Thursdays, Dog Sledding 101 on Fridays, and Bird Treatment & Learning Center on Saturdays. Stop by for trip planning, scavenger hunts for kids, and informative exhibits about Alaska. For more information, call (907) 644-3661 or 1-866-869-6887 or visit <http://www.nps.gov/anch>

The *Fairbanks Center* is operating from 8a.m.-6p.m. daily at the new Morris Thompson Cultural and Visitors Center at 101 Dunkel Drive downtown. Check out the film offerings, kid's events, and special programs. For more information, call (907) 459-3730.

The *Tok Center* is open daily from 8a.m.-7p.m. Call (907) 883-5667. Call 1-888-256-6784 for Alaska Marine Highway reservations.

The *Southeast Alaska Discovery Center* in Ketchikan is open weekdays from 8a.m.-5p.m. and weekends from 8a.m.-4p.m. Enjoy the dramatic exhibit rooms, trip planning, and movies. This center charges a \$5 entrance fee for adults and children older than 15. For more information, call (907) 228-6220.

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