

KENAI RIVER PROFESSIONAL GUIDE ASSOCIATION

MARCH 2019

2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The next KRPGA meeting is on Tuesday, March 12th at the 4D Professional Building.

The February meeting had good attendance and we had some productive discussions. Once again, there were some familiar faces as well as some new attendees.

As we enjoy this wonderful white snowy winter, The KPRGA Board has continued to meet on a regular basis to get 2020 Board of Fish proposals drafted and sent off by the deadline. Colton Lipka, the new area sportfish biologist, attend the February meeting and was very helpful with proposal language. Mr. Lipka has been with ADFG quite a while yet is new to this area. He has been working hard getting up to speed with our complex fishery and its management. On March 6th, we met again with Mr. Lipka at the ADFG office for three hours to get some of our proposals finalized. The proposals should be available at the meeting for those that want to look over them.

For those who are not up to speed; unfortunately, the Kenai will start the early run with restrictions. As we all know, for the past several years the early run has had both ups and downs. As in-river users, I feel we have been proactive in the past 15 years protecting the resource and am optimistic that we will see better salmon runs in the future.

As an ironic positive note, the early run forecast has historically been only about 44% accurate. So, we could potentially see a decent return May and June. This could allow in-season management to relax the restrictions and allow a responsible harvestable surplus as was done in 2017.

The Kenai River Guide Academy will start on Monday, March 11th and continue through the 15th. Oral exams will be on Friday at 8 am. Please call me at 907-398-2854 if you are willing to help, as we can always use some extra hands. We will also need help with Guide Academy classes in April.

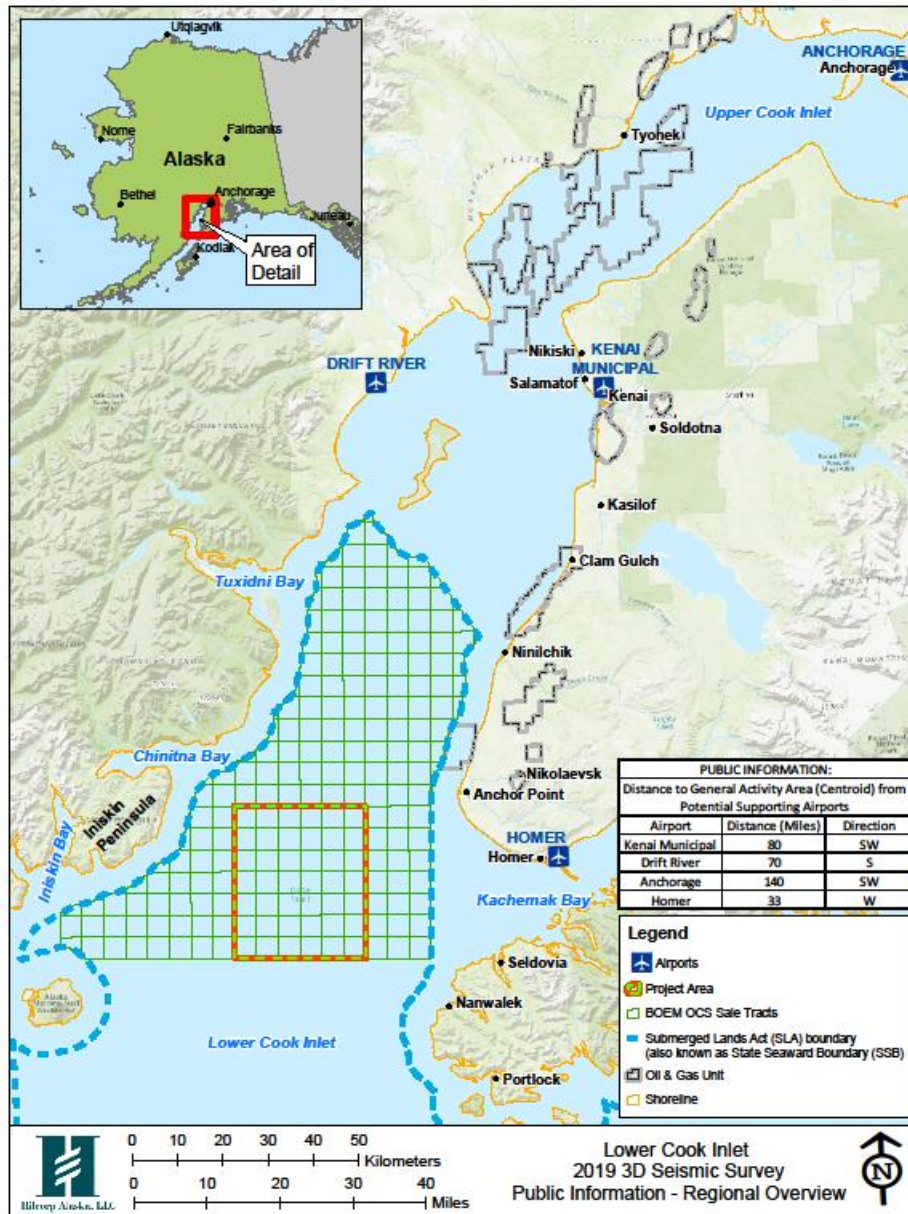
The Kenai River Sportfishing Association has a new executive director, Ben Mohr. We would like to congratulate him on this position and look forward to a great sportfishing relationship.

Hilcorp will conduct seismic work in Cook Inlet this spring and summer from May 4th to approximately June 15th. This will affect the fishing areas in Cook Inlet. (See attached map) On Friday March 7, 2019, Hilcorp conducted an informal meeting with the public. We hope that our membership took the opportunity to attend this meeting at the Cannery Lodge from 5:30 to 7pm.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

The Kenai River Professional Guide Association continues to increase its membership. Without a strong member base, we cannot function so please contact new and old guides to join. Also remember that you can encourage local business friends and families to join as an associate member for 50 dollars. My mom is a member.

That is about all I have currently. If you have any concerns, please contact one of the KRPGA Board Members and let them know.



Thanks again & keep a tight line!

Ray DeBardelaben, President



JOIN OUR ASSOCIATION AND HELP US SUPPORT YOU AND OUR FISHERY

The Kenai River Professional Guide Association (KRPGA) is comprised of sport fishing guides, business owners and individual citizens concerned about the future of the fisheries and the guide industry.

As a professional guide, being a member of the KRPGA has many benefits. Some of these benefits can include discounts at local merchants, pro-gear suppliers and some insurance policies. The KRPGA.org website includes links to member's websites and contact information.

KRPGA's goal is promote sport fishing guide opportunity and industry on the Kenai River and the Kenai Peninsula. Additionally, it is our goal to achieve a fair and equitable allocation of salmon resources for sport fisheries and fishing guides.

2018-19 Membership

Professional Membership:

In order to be a professional member, you must hold an Alaska State Parks commercial operators permit for the Kenai River. Membership dues are \$100 per year and are good until October 31st.

Associate Membership:

Any person or non-fishing guided business may become an associate member. If you are interested in helping the Kenai Peninsula Sport Fishery, this is a great place to start! Membership dues are \$50 per year.

Please circle one: **PROFESSIONAL / ASSOCIATE** Is this a renewal? **YES / NO**

Personal Name: _____

Business Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Website: _____

I am interested in these community service opportunities KRPGA is involved in:

Kenai River Clean Up Take a Kid Fishing Day Kenai River Guide Academy

Salmon Celebration Scholarship Committee

For more information and a list of our current members, please visit our website at www.krpga.org

KRPGA PO Box 3674 Soldotna, AK 99669

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

2018-2019 Memberships are now due. If you have not yet done so, please return your membership form and payment to the office.

KRPGA's March meeting is on Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the Four D Professional Building Conference Room.

Agenda items include:

Kenai Soldotna AC - Mike Crawford

KRSA - Ricky Gease

NPF - Mike Flores

KRSMA - Monte or Joe Connors

Salmon Celebration

Kenai River Clean Up - Mark Glassmaker

Board of Fish

Charitable Fishing Days

LA LIO office - Monte Roberts

Fundraiser

Good of the order



CONTACT US

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Association

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