Kenai-Russian River Confluence

Welcome to the Kenai and Russian Rivers!
The Kenai-Russian River Confluence lies 110 miles south of Anchorage and 40 miles east of Soldotna, surrounded by the Chugach National Forest and the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge. This unique area combines world-class fishing opportunities, important cultural heritage sites, and spectacular scenery.

Each year, over 150,000 people visit the Russian River Campground, Ferry Access Site, Sportsman’s Boat Launch, Russian River Falls, Russian Lakes Trail and K’Beq’ Cultural Site.
The Dena’ina people have lived in this region, known as Sqilantnu (Ridge Place River), for thousands of years. It remains an important site for present-day Alaskans.
Whether your visit includes connecting with your culture, nature, or harvesting food, we hope you enjoy your stay, and join us in respecting the cultural and natural resources. Chiqinik (Thank you)!

Tips for Catch & Release
- If you’re planning to release a fish, keep it under water at all times—this increases its chance of survival and reproduction. If you want a photo, keep the fish out of the water for less than 10 seconds.
- Using barbless hooks and a rubber net makes it easier to release fish.

Treat Your Catch with Care
Salmon is one of the most nutritious foods in the world. By taking excellent care of your fish, you can look forward to many delicious meals.

Fish Waste Attracts Bears!
Bears eat fish heads, backbones, and other parts left behind from filleting. Reducing fish waste (and all human food sources) will help reduce bear-human conflicts.
- Remove fish whole and fillet it offsite. (Take it home or to a local commercial fish processor.)
- If you must fillet onsite, use the cleaning tables at the Kenai-Russian confluence, or at the ferry.
- After filleting, cut carcasses into many pieces and throw them into fast-moving currents.

For all Visitors
- Stay on trails and make noise to prevent surprise encounters.
- Do not run from bears. Running could trigger a pursuit.
- Stay in a group and keep children close.
- Do not approach or follow bears, or behave in other ways that cause conflicts between people and bears.
- Keep a clean camp. Store all attractants in bear resistant containers or your vehicle.

For anglers
- If a bear approaches while you are reeling in a fish, cut the line. Do not let a bear get a fish from your line.
- Don’t let bears get an easy meal of fish waste. Carry your catch out whole, or chop your fish waste into small pieces and throw them in fast-moving water.

For Campers
- Keep a clean camp. Store all attractants in bear resistant containers or your vehicle.

Special regulations in effect!
- All attractants and equipment used to cook and store food must be stored in a bear-resistant container, enclosed in a hard-sided camper or stored in your vehicle.
- On the river, all personal items such as backpacks must be within 3 feet of you (preferably on you).
- Stringers of fish must be kept within 12 feet of you.
- Pets must be leashed at all times.
- Discharging a firearm is prohibited except in defense of life or property. No warning shots. No hunting.

Failure to comply with these regulations is subject to citation. 50 CFR 36.39(j) (5) & (11) and 36 CFR 261.50 (a) and 36 CFR 261.10 (d).
Sport fishing in the Kenai and Russian Rivers is managed by the State of Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G). Anglers are required to have a State of Alaska fishing license and obey all regulations and emergency orders. Information can be obtained online at www.adfg.alaska.gov.