NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Kenai National Wildlife Refuge

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SUBJECT: Kenai National Wildlife Refuge to Hold Public Meetings

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) will hold two public meetings on a Proposed Rule which would amend the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge’s public use regulations. The meetings will be held on June 17, 2015 at the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center, 33398 Ski Hill Road, Soldotna, Alaska and June 18, 2015 at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Regional Office, 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, Alaska. Each public meeting will include an Open House meeting from 4 to 6:30 pm during which Refuge staff will be available to answer questions, followed by a public hearing for receiving public testimony on the Proposed Rule from 6:30 to 8:30 pm.

The proposed rule amends the public use regulations on the Refuge and furthers the implementation of the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) completed in 2010. The new regulations address three of the five primary planning issues identified with the public through the CCP process, including balancing increasing use with resource conservation while ensuring public safety.

The proposed rule published in the Federal Register on May 21, 2015, and may be accessed at http://www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=FWS-R7-NWRS-2014-0003. Public comments on the proposed rule will be accepted through July 20, 2015.

Additional information is available from Refuge Headquarters at 33398 Ski Hill Road, Soldotna Alaska 99669 or by calling 907-262-7021, and at the following website: http://www.fws.gov/refuge/kenai

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