



United States Department of the Interior

KENAI NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

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IN REPLY REFER TO:
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March 1, 2017

NEW RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SUBJECT: Black Bear Baiting Permit Applications Available

The Kenai National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) is offering opportunities for individuals to participate in black bear baiting. The application process to obtain a black bear baiting permit for 2017 will be the same as 2016.

A random drawing will be used to determine the order in which bait areas will be selected. In order to participate in the random drawing, permit applications must be received between March 1, 2017 and 4:30 p.m. on April 21, 2017. At 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 22, 2017, the random drawing will commence at the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center. You must be present when your name is drawn. Bait areas will be chosen and permits issued in the order drawn. After the drawing, all remaining sites will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Any applicants not present when drawn may select from these available sites. Black bear baiting permits are issued for exclusive one-square mile areas within that portion of the Refuge open to black bear baiting. These permits are issued for the harvest of only black bear over bait.

All bait stations, whether on or off the Refuge, must be registered with Alaska Department of Fish and Game. All hunters must have a valid Alaska hunting license and have completed a State of Alaska approved bear baiting clinic in order to get a Refuge bear baiting permit. Additionally, archers wishing to take a black bear over bait on the Refuge must have completed a State of Alaska approved bow hunter education course.

The signed application must be returned via fax, mail, or in person during the application period. Blank applications are available at Refuge Headquarters, on Ski Hill Road, or can be downloaded online at http://www.fws.gov/uploadedFiles/BBB_Permit_Application.pdf. No camping or overnight stays are allowed at the Visitor Center. If you have any questions, please contact the Refuge office between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., at (907) 262-7021, Refuge fax number is (907) 262-3599 and the mailing address is P.O. Box 2139, Soldotna, AK, 99669.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals, and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov. Connect with our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/usfws, follow our tweets at www.twitter.com/usfwshq, watch our YouTube Channel at <http://www.youtube.com/usfws> and download photos from our Flickr page at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usfwshq>.

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