



PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY & REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Updated April 24th, 2018

Draft Compatibility Determination for Karluk Lake Nutrient Modification Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge (Kodiak Refuge), Kodiak, Alaska

At the direction of a 2017 Federal Appropriation Bill, Report 114-281, the Refuge Manager of Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge is evaluating whether a proposed lake fertilization project within Kodiak Refuge is compatible with the purposes for which the Refuge was established. The 2016 Karluk Lake Nutrient Enrichment Final Environmental Assessment (EA) contains details of the permit request and determined that the Refuge would not allow the use. A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), signed on January 20, 2016, selected the “No Action” alternative to continue current management of the fishery.

Unlike the Environmental Assessment, this Compatibility Determination (CD) only evaluates whether the proposed action is compatible with the Refuge purposes - it does not provide authorization for an activity. We invite the public to provide relevant information and express their views on whether or not this kind of activity will materially interfere with or detract from the refuge’s ability to meet its mandated purposes. Refuge purposes include: conserving fish and wildlife populations and habitats in their natural diversity; fulfilling international treaty obligations with respect to fish and wildlife and their habitats; providing the opportunity for continued subsistence uses by local residents; and ensuring water quality and necessary water quantity within the refuge.

The draft CD will be available for review and comment beginning April 20th for 28 days.

The draft CD, the 2016 EA, FONSI, and more information can be found on the Kodiak Refuge website: www.fws.gov/refuge/Kodiak/what_we_do/resource_management/planning.html

A hard copy is available at:

- Kodiak Refuge Visitor Center, 402 Center Ave, Kodiak, Alaska
- Kodiak Refuge Headquarters Office, 1390 Buskin River Road, Kodiak, Alaska
- Kodiak Public Library

Written comments must be submitted by **Friday, May 18, 2018** to Refuge Manager Michael Brady at 1390 Buskin River Road, Kodiak, or via email at michael_brady@fws.gov. If you have questions about this activity, please contact Mr. Brady at 907-487-0226 or via email. The final determination will be posted to the Refuge website listed above and available at the Refuge office. ***Please Note: All comments received, including those with individual identifying information, become part of the public record and can be made available to the public upon request.***

The 1997 National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act requires the Refuge Manager to determine whether any proposed or existing public use will "materially interfere with or detract from" the refuge's conservation mandates before it is permitted or allowed to continue. All compatibility determinations must be made in writing and follow uniform procedures that include providing notice to the public and inviting comment on pending determinations.