



**United States Department of the Interior**  
**KENAI NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE**

P.O. Box 2139  
Soldotna, Alaska 99669-2139  
(907) 262-7021



09027rkj

March 3, 2009

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Kenai National Wildlife Refuge

TELEPHONE: (907)-262-7021, TTY (907)-260-2803

E-Mail: [kenai@fws.gov](mailto:kenai@fws.gov)

**Amendments to Kenai National Wildlife Refuge Cabin Management Plan Proposed**

The Kenai National Wildlife Refuge is proposing three changes to the Kenai NWR Cabin Management Plan.

Background

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) to review the various alternatives available to establish a cabin management program for the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge (Kenai NWR) in 2004. The Plan and Environmental Assessment determined what form the program would take. Public input was solicited and input included in the final draft. In the ensuing years, historic structures have been restored and new public use reservation cabins have been built in non-Wilderness locations. The Plan called for a public use cabin permit and reservation system to be implemented with selected cabins remaining on a first-come-first served basis. The plan called for six new cabins to be constructed with three additional existing cabins to be replaced or relocated. To date, five new cabins have been completed and two existing cabins have been replaced and relocated. With these seven completed structures a total of twelve cabins are now available for public use under a permit and reservation system.

## Proposed Amendments

The three proposed changes are:

- 1) Move the proposed Headquarters Area Cabin site to Kelly Lake.
- 2) Modify the section of the plan that calls for the existing ENSTAR maintenance cabin to be relocated and placed on the public use reservation system to specify the cabin will remain in place and used by the public only for safety or emergency purposes.
- 3) Change the status of the Big Bay Cabin from an administrative/interpretation to Public Use-permit/reservation system cabin.

The public is invited to review and consider these changes to the 2004 Cabin Plan. Following public comment these proposed changes if finalized will become amendments to the Final Kenai National Wildlife Refuge Cabin Management Plan with respective construction and renovation projects planned for the 2009 field season. The proposed changes will be available for a 15-day public comment period. Please provide comments to:

Kenai National Wildlife Refuge  
Attention: Cabin Management Plan Amendments  
P.O. Box 2139  
Soldotna, AK 99669

Comments should be postmarked by March 20, 2009. Additionally, comments can be faxed to (907) 262-3599 or e-mailed to [kenai@fws.gov](mailto:kenai@fws.gov).

*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](http://www.fws.gov)*

X X X