



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

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BLACK BEAR BAITING PERMITS AVAILABLE

Permits for black bear baiting on the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge will be available beginning Monday, April 13, 2009. Permits are free and can be obtained at the Refuge Headquarters on Ski Hill Road in Soldotna weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. All black bear hunters hunting over bait on the Refuge must obtain a permit.

Permits are issued for exclusive one-square mile areas within that portion of the Refuge open to black bear baiting. Allocation of these areas is on a first come-first serve basis. The black bear baiting season on the Refuge extends from May 1 to June 15. All bait stations, whether on or off the Refuge, must also be registered with Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

Archers wishing to take a black bear over bait on the Refuge must have completed an approved bow hunting course. Additionally, all hunters **must** have a valid Alaska hunting license **and** proof of completion of a bear hunter clinic in order to get a Refuge bear baiting permit. For more information, contact the Refuge Headquarters at 262-7021.

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

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