



# United States Department of the Interior

## KENAI NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

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IN REPLY REFER TO:

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SUBJECT: Refuge Announces Partial Opening to Snowmachine Use

Refuge Manager Andy Loranger today announced a partial opening of the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge to snowmachine use. All areas of the Refuge traditionally open to snowmachining lying south of Kenai River will be open effective 12:01 a.m. on Saturday December 17, 2011. Closed areas in this portion of the Refuge include the Headquarters tract on Ski Hill Road and all areas above timberline except in the Caribou Hills.

Snow cover in eastern portions of the Refuge north of the Kenai River remains extremely sparse and is insufficient at this time to open for snowmachining. The attached map indicates areas to be opened as of Saturday, but users are encouraged to contact the Refuge Headquarters if unsure of boundaries.

The Refuge advises that snowmachine users exercise caution, especially on lakes, rivers and streams which may not yet be sufficiently frozen. In addition, rocks and tree stumps can be hazardous in areas of less snow accumulation. For more information, please contact Refuge Headquarters at (907) 262-7021, online at <http://kenai.fws.gov> or visit the Refuge Headquarters on Ski Hill Road in Soldotna.

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