Kevin Meyer Lieutenant Governor State Capitol Juneau, Alaska 99811 907.465.3520 WWW,LTGOV.ALASKA.GOV



530 West 7th Ave, Suite 1700 Anchorage, Alaska 99501 907.269.7460 LT.GOVERNOR@ALASKA.GOV

OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR ALASKA

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Ron Benkert

Department of Fish and Game

FROM:

April Simpson, Office of the Lieutenant Governor

465.4081

DATE:

December 10, 2020

RE:

Filed Permanent Regulations: Department of Fish and Game

Department of Fish and Game Regulation re: use of personal watercraft in Kachemak

Bay and Fox River Flats Critical Habitat Areas (5 AAC 95.310)

Attorney General File: 2019200826

Regulation Filed: 12/10/2020

Effective Date: 1/9/2021

Print: 237, April 2021

cc with enclosures:

Harry Hale, Department of Law Judy Herndon, LexisNexis

Rick Green, Special Assistant

Shellene Hunter, Regulations Specialist

ORDER ADOPTING CHANGES TO REGULATIONS OF THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

The attached one page of regulations, dealing with the repeal of the personal watercraft use prohibition in Kachemak Bay and Fox River Flats Critical Habitat Areas (5 AAC 95.310), is adopted and certified to be a correct copy of the regulation changes that the Department of Fish and Game adopts under the authority of AS 16.05.020 and AS 16.20.500 after compliance with the Administrative Procedure Act (AS 44.62), specifically including notice under AS 44.62.190 and 44.62.200 and opportunity for public comment under AS 44.62.210.

This action is not expected to require an increased appropriation.

In considering public comments, the Department of Fish and Game paid special attention to the cost to private persons of the regulatory action being taken.

The regulation changes adopted under this order take effect on the 30th day after they have been filed by the lieutenant governor, as provided in AS 44.62.180.

Date: Nov 20, 2020

Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner Department of Fish and Game

-April S.mpson for

FILING CERTIFICATION

I, Kevin Meyer, Lieutenant Governor for the State of Alaska, certify that on

provisions of AS 44.62.040 - 44.62.120.

Kevin Meyer, Lieutenant Governor

Effective:

January 9, 2021

Register:

237, Apr 2021

FOR DELEGATION OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S AUTHORITY

I, KEVIN MEYER, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ALASKA, designate the following state employees to perform the Administrative Procedures Act filing functions of the Office of the Lieutenant Governor:

Josh Applebee, Chief of Staff
Kady Levale, Notary Administrator
April Simpson, Regulations and Initiatives Specialist

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have signed and affixed the Seal of the State of Alaska, in Juneau, on December 11th, 2018.

OF THE SOL

KEVIN MEYER LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

K-Men

5 AAC 95.310 is repealed:

5 AAC 95.310. Personal watercraft use prohibited. Repealed. (Eff. 5/3/2001, Register

158; repealed 1 / 9 / 2021, Register 237)

5 AAC 95, 552(b) is amended to read;

(b) In this section, "personal watercraft" means a vessel that is

(1) less than 16 feet in length;

(2) propelled by a water-jet pump or other machinery as its primary

source of motor propulsion; and

(3) designed to be operated by a person sitting, standing, or kneeling.

on the vessel, rather than by a person sitting or standing inside it [HAS THE

MEANING GIVEN IN 5 AAC 95.310(b)]. (Eff. 8/6/2010, Register 195; am 1/9/202) Register 237)

Authority: AS 16.05.020 AS 16.20.020 AS 16.20.050

AS 16 05.050 AS 16.20.030 AS 16.20.060

MEMORANDUM

State of Alaska

Department of Law

The Honorable Kevin Meyer

Lieutenant Governor

File No.:

2019200826

December 10, 2020

Chief Assistant Attorney General

and Regulations Attorney

Legislation and Regulations Section

From: Steven C. Weaver Sew

Susan R. Pollard

Chief Assistant Attorney General Legislation and Regulations Section Tel. No.: 465-3600

Department of Fish and Game regulations re: use of personal watercraft in Kachemak Bay and Fox River Flats Critical Habitat Areas

(5 AAC 95.310)

The Department of Law has reviewed the attached regulations of the Department of Fish and Game against the statutory standards of the Administrative Procedure Act. Based upon our review, we find no legal problems. This memorandum constitutes the written statement of approval under AS 44.62.060(b) and (c) that authorizes your office to file the attached regulations. The regulations were adopted by the Department of Fish and Game after the close of the public comment period. The regulations repeal prohibitions on the use of personal watercraft in the Kachemak Bay and Fox River Flats Critical Habitat Areas.

The December 5, 2019 public notice, the December 19, 2019 supplemental public notice, and the November 20, 2020 adoption order all state that this action is not expected to require an increased appropriation. Therefore, a fiscal note under AS 44.62.195 is not required. We have made some technical corrections to conform the regulations in accordance with AS 44.62.125. Since 5 AAC 95.552, Izembek State Game Refuge, uses the definition of "personal watercraft" from now repealed 5 AAC 95.310, we reproduced the definition for 5 AAC 95.552 since the reference to 5 AAC 95.310 will no longer work. The corrections are shown on the attached copy of the regulations.

SCW

cc w/enc:

Hon. Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner

Department of Fish and Game

Shellene Hunter, Program Coordinator Department of Fish and Game

Rick Green, Special Assistant

Department of Fish and Game

Ron Benkert, Regional Supervisor **Habitat Section** Department of Fish and Game

Vanessa Lamantia, Assistant Attorney General, Natural Resources Section

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES ON PERSONAL WATERCRAFT USE IN THE FOX RIVER FLATS AND KACHEMAK BAY CRITICAL HABITAT AREAS IN THE REGULATIONS OF THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

The Department of Fish and Game proposes to change regulations on personal watercraft use in the Fox River Flats and Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat Areas.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game proposes to adopt regulation changes in 5 AAC 95.310 of the Alaska Administrative Code, dealing with the prohibition of the use of personal watercraft in the Fox River Flats and Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat Areas, including the following:

(1) 5 AAC 95.310 is proposed to be repealed. The purpose of this repeal is to remove the prohibition on personal watercraft use in the Fox River Flats and Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat Areas.

You may comment on the proposed regulation changes, including the potential costs to private persons of complying with the proposed changes, by submitting written comments to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game at: Rick Green, 333 Raspberry Rd, Anchorage, AK 99518-1565. Additionally, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game will accept comments by facsimile at 907-267-2499 and by electronic mail at rick.green@alaska.gov. Comments may also be submitted through the Alaska Online Public Notice System by accessing this notice on the system and using the comment link. The comments must be received not later than 5:00 p.m. on January 6, 2020.

You may submit written questions relevant to the proposed action to Rick Green at rick.grccn@alaska.gov or 333 Raspberry Rd., Anchorage, AK 99518-1565. The questions must be received at least 10 days before the end of the public comment period. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game may aggregate its response to substantially similar questions and make the questions and responses available on the Alaska Online Public Notice System.

If you are a person with a disability who needs a special accommodation in order to participate in this process, please contact Rick Green at rick.green@alaska.gov or 907-267-2228 not later than December 30, 2019, to ensure that any necessary accommodation can be provided.

A copy of the proposed regulation changes is available on the Alaska Online Public Notice System and by contacting Rick Green at rick.green@alaska.gov or at 333 Raspberry Rd., Anchorage, AK 99518-1565.

After the public comment period ends, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game will either adopt the proposed regulation changes or other provisions dealing with the same subject, without further notice, or decide to take no action. The language of the final regulation may be different from that of the proposed regulation. You should comment during the time allowed if your interests could be affected. Written comments received are public records and are subject to public inspection.

Statutory authority: AS 16.05.020; AS 16.20.500; AS 16.20.580; AS 16.20.590

Statutes being implemented, interpreted, or made specific: AS 16.20.500

Fiscal information: The proposed regulation change is not expected to require an increased appropriation.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Habitat Section keeps a list of individuals and organizations interested in its regulations. Those on the list will automatically be sent a copy of all of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Habitat Section notices of proposed regulation changes. To be added to or removed from the list, send a request to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Habitat Section at 333 Raspberry Rd, Anchorage, AK 99518-1565, giving your name, and either your e-mail address or mailing address, as you prefer for receiving notices.

Date: 12/2/19

Rick Green, Special Assistant to the Commissioner Alaska Department of Fish and Game

ADDITIONAL REGULATION NOTICE INFORMATION (AS 44.62.190(d))

1.	Adopting agency: Alaska Department of Fish and Game			
2.	General subject of regulation: Prohibition of personal watercraft - Kachemak Bay			
3.	Citation of regulation (may be grouped): 5 AAC 95.310			
4.	Department of Law file number, if any: 2019200826			
_	D 6 41	:		
5.	Reason for the proposed act	ion:		
	() Compliance with fede	ral law or action	n (identify):	
	() Compliance with new or changed state statute			
	() Compliance with federal or state court decision (identify):			
	() Development of program standards			
	(x) Other (identify): To r and Kachemak Bay C		on on personal watercraft in the Fox River Flats Areas.	
6.	Appropriation/Allocation:			
7.	Estimated annual cost to comply with the proposed action to:			
	A private person: \$0			
	Another state agency: \$0			
8.	Cost of implementation to the state agency and available funding (in thousands of			
	dollars):			
		Initial Year	Subsequent	
		FY 20	Years	
	Operating Cost	\$_0	\$ <u>0</u>	
	Capital Cost	\$_0	\$ <u> </u>	
	1002 Federal receipts	\$_0	\$_0	
	1003 General fund match	\$ <u> </u>	\$_0	
	1004 General fund	\$ <u>0</u>	\$0	
	1005 General fund/0			
	program	\$_0	\$_0	
	Other (identify)	\$_0	\$ <u>0</u>	

9.	The name of the contact person for the regulation:			
	Name: Rick Green			
	Title: Special Assistant to the Commissioner I			
	Address: 333 Raspberry Rd, Anchorage, AK 99518			
	Telephone: (907) 267-2228			
	E-mail address: rick.green@alaska.gov			
10.	The origin of the proposed action:			
	x Staff of state agency Federal government General public Petition for regulation change ⁷ Other (identify):			
	Other (identity)			
11.	Date: 12-2-19 Prepared by:			
	Name (printed): Ron Benkert			
	Title (printed): Fish and Game Coordinator			

	Telephone: (907) 267-2172			

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES ON PERSONAL WATERCRAFT USE IN THE FOX RIVER FLATS AND KACHEMAK BAY CRITICAL HABITAT AREAS IN THE REGULATIONS OF THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

The Department of Fish and Game proposes to change regulations on personal watercraft use in the Fox River Flats and Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat Areas.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game proposes to adopt regulation changes in 5 AAC 95.310 of the Alaska Administrative Code, dealing with the prohibition of the use of personal watercraft in the Fox River Flats and Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat Areas, including the following:

(1) 5 AAC 95.310 is proposed to be repealed. The purpose of this repeal is to remove the prohibition on personal watercraft use in the Fox River Flats and Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat Areas.

This is a SUPPLEMENTAL NOTICE adding to the NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES that was issued on December 5, 2019. This supplemental notice is providing an extension to the end date of the public comment period. You may comment on the proposed regulation changes, including the potential costs to private persons of complying with the proposed changes, by submitting written comments to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game at: Rick Green, 333 Raspberry Rd, Anchorage, AK 99518-1565. Additionally, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game will accept comments by facsimile at 907-267-2499 and by electronic mail at rick.green@alaska.gov. Comments may also be submitted through the Alaska Online Public Notice System by accessing this notice on the system and using the comment link. The comments must be received not later than 5:00 p.m. on January 21, 2020.

You may submit written questions relevant to the proposed action to Rick Green at rick.green@alaska.gov or 333 Raspberry Rd., Anchorage, AK 99518-1565. The questions must be received at least 10 days before the end of the public comment period. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game may aggregate its response to substantially similar questions and make the questions and responses available on the Alaska Online Public Notice System.

If you are a person with a disability who needs a special accommodation in order to participate in this process, please contact Rick Green at rick.green@alaska.gov or 907-267-2228 not later than January 14, 2020, to ensure that any necessary accommodation can be provided.

A copy of the proposed regulation changes is available on the Alaska Online Public Notice System and by contacting Rick Green at rick.green@alaska.gov or at 333 Raspberry Rd., Anchorage, AK 99518-1565.

After the public comment period ends, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game will either adopt the proposed regulation changes or other provisions dealing with the same subject, without further notice, or decide to take no action. The language of the final regulation may be different from that of the proposed regulation. You should comment during the time allowed if your interests could be affected. Written comments received are public records and are subject to public inspection.

Statutory authority: AS 16.05.020; AS 16.20.500; AS 16.20.580; AS 16.20.590

Statutes being implemented, interpreted, or made specific: AS 16.20.500

Fiscal information: The proposed regulation change is not expected to require an increased appropriation.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Habitat Section keeps a list of individuals and organizations interested in its regulations. Those on the list will automatically be sent a copy of all of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Habitat Section notices of proposed regulation changes. To be added to or removed from the list, send a request to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Habitat Section at 333 Raspberry Rd, Anchorage, AK 99518-1565, giving your name, and either your e-mail address or mailing address, as you prefer for receiving notices.

Date: 12/16/2019

Rick Green, Special Assistant to the Commissioner

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

AFFIDAVIT OF NOTICE OF PROPOSED REGULATION AND FURNISHING OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

I, Rick Green, Special Assistant to the Commissioner, of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, under penalty of perjury, certify the following:

As required by AS 44.62.190, notice of the proposed adoption of changes to 5 AAC 95.310, repeal of the prohibition of the use of personal watercraft use in the Fox River Flats and Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat Areas has been given by being

- (1) published in a newspaper or trade publication;
- (2) furnished to every person who has filed a request for notice of proposed action with the state agency;
- (3) furnished to appropriate state officials;
- (4) furnished to interested persons;
- (5) furnished to the Department of Law, along with a copy of the proposed regulation;
- (6) furnished electronically to incumbent State of Alaska legislators;
- (7) posted on the Alaska Online Public Notice System as required by AS 44.62.175(a)(1) and (b) and 44.62.190(a)(1).

As required by AS 44.62.190, additional regulation notice information regarding the proposed adoption of the regulation changes described above has been furnished to interested persons and those in (2), (4) and (6) of the list above. The additional regulation notice information also has been posted on the Alaska Online Public Notice System.

There is no notary public or other official empowered to administer oaths available to notarize this document as a result of social distancing requirements implemented statewide.

I certify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true.

Date: ///

Rick Green, Special Assistant to the Commissioner

State of Alaska Municipality of Anchorage

NCHORAGE DAILY NEWS AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

Account #: 270174 DEPT OF FISH AND GAME HABITAT DIVISION 333 RASPBERRY RD, ANCHORAGE, AK 99518

Order #: W0012617

Cost: \$393.44

STATE OF ALASKA THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Lisi Misa being first duly sworn on oath deposes and says that she is a representative of the Anchorage Daily News, a daily newspaper. That said newspaper has been approved by the Third Judicial Court, Anchorage, Alaska, and it now and has been published in the English language continually as a daily newspaper in Anchorage, Alaska, and it is now and during all said time was printed in an office maintained at the aforesaid place of publication of said newspaper. That the annexed is a copy of an advertisement as it was published in regular issues (and not in supplemental form) of said newspaper on

12/05/2019

and that such newspaper was regularly distributed to its subscribers during all of said period. That the full amount of the fee charged for the foregoing publication is not in excess of the rate charged private individuals.

Signed

Subscribed and sworn to before me

this 24th day of November 2020.

Notary Public in and for The State of Alaska.

Third Division

Anchorage, Alaska

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES

ANGELA M SIMMONS NOTARY PUBLIC State of Alaska

My Commission Expires Apr. 14, 2021

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES ON PERSONAL WATERCRAFT USE IN THE FOX RIVER FLATS AND KACHEMAK BAY CRITICAL HABITAT AREAS IN THE REGULATIONS OF THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

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(1) 5 AAC 95.310 is proposed to be repealed. The purpose of this repeal is to remove the prohibition on personal watercraft use in the Fox River Flats and Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat Areas.

You may comment on the proposed regulation changes, including You may comment on the proposed regulation changes, including the potential costs to private persons of complying with the proposed changes, by submitting written comments to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game at: Rick Green, 333 Raspberry Rd, Anchorage, AK 99518-1565. Additionally, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game will accept comments by facsimile at 907-267-2499 and by electronic mail at rick green@alaska.gov. Comments may also be submitted through the Alaska Online Public Notice System by accessing this notice on the system and using the comment link. The comments must be received not later than 5:00 p.m. on languary 6:2020. 5:00 p.m. on January 6, 2020.

You may submit written questions relevant to the proposed action to Rick Green at rick.green@alaska.gov or 333 Raspberry Rd., Anchorage, AK 99518-1565. The questions must be received at least 10 days before the end of the public comment period. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game may aggregate its response to substantially similar questions and make the questions and responses available on the Alaska Online Public Notice System.

If you are a person with a disability who needs a special accommodation in order to participate in this process, please contact Rick Green at rick.green@alaska.gov or 907-267-2228 not later than December 30, 2019, to ensure that any necessary accommodation can be provided.

A copy of the proposed regulation changes is available on the Alaska Online Public Notice System and by contacting Rick Green at rick green@alaska.gov or at 333 Raspberry Rd., Anchorage, AK 99518-1565.

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Statutory authority: AS 16.05.020; AS 16.20.500; AS 16.20.580; AS 16.20.590

Statutes being implemented, interpreted, or made specific: AS 16.20.500

Fiscal information: The proposed regulation change is not expected to require an increased appropriation.

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Date: 12/2/2019

//s// Rick Green

Special Assistant to the Commissioner Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Published: December 5, 2019

ANCHORAGE DAILY NEWS AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

Account #: 270174 DEPT OF FISH AND GAME HABITAT DIVISION 333 RASPBERRY RD, ANCHORAGE, AK 99518

Order #: W0012771

Cost: \$423.34

STATE OF ALASKA THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Lisi Misa being first duly sworn on oath deposes and says that she is a representative of the Anchorage Daily News, a daily newspaper. That said newspaper has been approved by the Third Judicial Court, Anchorage, Alaska, and it now and has been published in the English language continually as a daily newspaper in Anchorage, Alaska, and it is now and during all said time was printed in an office maintained at the aforesaid place of publication of said newspaper. That the annexed is a copy of an advertisement as it was published in regular issues (and not in supplemental form) of said newspaper on

12/19/2019

and that such newspaper was regularly distributed to its subscribers during all of said period. That the full amount of the fee charged for the foregoing publication is not in excess of the rate charged private individuals.

Signed_

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 24th day of November 2020.

Notary Public in and for The State of Alaska. Third Division

Anchorage, Alaska

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES ON PERSONAL WATERCRAFT USE IN THE FOX RIVER FLATS AND KACHEMAK BAY CRITICAL HABITAT AREAS IN THE REGULATIONS OF THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

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Statutory authority: AS 16.05.020; AS 16.20.500; AS 16.20.580; AS 16.20.590

Statutes being implemented, interpreted, or made specific: AS 16.20.500

Fiscal information: The proposed regulation change is not expected to require an increased appropriation.

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Date: 12/16/2019 /s/ Rick Green, Special Assistant to the Commissioner Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Published: December 19, 2019

ANGELA M SIMMONS NOTARY PUBLIC State of Alaska My Commission Expires Apr. 14, 2021

AFFIDAVIT OF AGENCY RECORD OF PUBLIC COMMENT

I, Rick Green, Special Assistant to the Commissioner, for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game being duly sworn, state the following:

In compliance with AS 44.62.215, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game has kept a record of its use or rejection of factual or other substantive information that was submitted in writing as public comment and that was relevant to the accuracy, coverage, or other aspect of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game regulation on banning personal watercraft in Kachemak Bay and Fox River Flats Critical Habitat areas.

Anchorage, Alaska

Date: 12/4/20

Rick Green, Special Assistant to the Commissioner

Subscribed and sworn to before me at

(date)

Notary Public in and for the State of Alaska

[NOTARY SEAL]

