

**STATE OF ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**  
**DIVISION OF MINING, LAND AND WATER**  
**Southcentral Regional Land Office**

Memorandum of Decision

**ADL 230693**

Kenny and Patti Barber Shooting Range  
Administrative Decision to Temporarily Close

AS 38.04.058

**Action**

The Southcentral Regional Land Office is authorizing the temporary restriction to the public of the Kenny and Patti Barber Shooting Range for the purpose of providing firearms safety training for the Division of Mining, Land and Water staff. The closure dates will be as follows:

July 15-16, 2024 from 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

August 5-6, 2024 from 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

August 12-13, 2024 from 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Each of those days the 25-yard shooting range will be closed to the public from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. The 100-yard shooting range will remain open for use by the public on each of those days.

**Background**

The Kenny and Patti Barber Shooting Range site easement was created for the purpose of a safe and localized shooting area with the explicit purpose of, “The development of a small-scale rifle range and day use parking area for the benefit of the public’s present and future needs of recreational target shooting within the Knik River Public Use Area.”

Publicly funded ranges are a rare resource to Alaskans and are constantly being used at capacity. Currently, the Kenny and Patti Barber Shooting Range consists of 18 lanes of fire at 100 yards, and 12 lanes of fire at 25 yards. The range is used by the public each and every open day. The shooting range is closed every Wednesday. Usage reports show the range is used most frequently Friday through Sunday, with Tuesdays and Thursdays having the least frequency of use.

**Authority**

This decision is pursuant to Alaska Statute 38.04.058 (restriction of public access).

**Scope**

The scope of this decision is limited to the temporary restriction of public access to the 25-yard range to enable firearm safety training for DNR staff that conduct field inspections for management of State lands in remote locations.

**Term**

The closures will take place on the following dates over the next 60 days:

July 15-16, 2024 from 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

August 5-6, 2024 from 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

August 12-13, 2024 from 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

**Administrative Record**

The administrative record for this action consists of case ADL 230693 and the Knik River Public Use Area Management Plan.

**Location**

The Kenny and Patti Barber Shooting Range is located approximately 2.7 miles down the Maud Road Extension, Northwest of Jim Lake. It can also be found by GPS grid 61.562775°, -148.931362°. It is located near the western boundary of the Knik River Public Use Area.

**Legal Description**

Seward Meridian, Township 17 North, Range 3 East, Section 16, containing 7 acres, more or less.

**Discussion**

Firearm safety training for DNR staff preparing to conduct field work is a requirement that must be completed prior to the use of firearms for wildlife protection.

**Decision**

In order to minimize conflicts of use and improve staff safety, the Director has decided to temporarily limit public access to the 25-yard range for the duration detailed above. After reviewing the administrative record, the Knik River Public Use Area Management Plan and other relevant information, I find this decision to temporarily restrict public access to the 25-yard range, consistent with the authority granted to me as the Director of the Division of Mining, Land and Water.

Christy Colles  
Christy Colles  
Director  
Division of Mining, Land and Water

6/11/2024  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

An eligible person affected by this decision of the department, and who provided timely written comment or public hearing testimony to the department, may request reconsideration to the DNR Commissioner per AS 44.37.011 and 11 AAC 02. Any request for reconsideration must be received by the Commissioner's Office within twenty (20) calendar days after issuance of the decision under 11 AAC 02.040. The Commissioner may order or deny a request for reconsideration within thirty (30) calendar days after issuance of the decision. If the Commissioner takes no action on a request for reconsideration within thirty (30) days after issuance of the decision, the request for reconsideration is considered denied. The Commissioner's decision on reconsideration, other than a remand decision, is a final administrative order and decision of the department. An eligible person must first request reconsideration to the Commissioner before seeking relief in superior court. The Alaska Court System establishes its own rules for timely appealing final administrative orders and decisions of the department.

Reconsideration may be mailed or hand-delivered to the DNR Commissioner's Office, 550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 1400, Anchorage, Alaska, 99501; or faxed to (907)-269-8918 or sent by electronic mail to [dnr.appeals@alaska.gov](mailto:dnr.appeals@alaska.gov). Reconsideration must be accompanied by the fee established in 11 AAC 05.160(d)(1)(F), which has been set at \$200 under the provisions of 11 AAC 05.160(a)-(b). A copy of 11 AAC 02 is available on the department's website at <https://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/pdf/DNR-11-AAC-02.pdf>.