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Department of  
Natural Resources

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STATE OF ALASKA

PRESS RELEASE

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## **Chena River State Recreation Area trail access limited until dry**

**(Fairbanks, AK)** –Several trails in the Chena River State Recreation Area will be closed to all uses except foot travel, to allow them time to dry out during this season's early melt.

The Compeau, Stiles and Angel Creek Hillside trails will be closed on April 10, about 10 days earlier than normal due to an early seasonal melt. They are scheduled to reopen on May 23 or sooner, depending on weather and trail conditions.

In order to protect the state's investment and sustain summer use of these popular trails, it is necessary to allow the trails to thaw and the water to disperse without disturbance.

Other trails that are seasonally closed in the recreation area include the East Fork, Colorado Creek, and Angel Creek Valley trails. These are winter-only trails and open to snowmachine use from October 15 to April 10.

Alaska State Parks is reluctant to restrict any uses unless there are no other viable management alternatives. In such cases, the benefits of protecting the usefulness of these trails outweigh the inconveniences of seasonal restrictions.

Park managers urge trail users to respect the integrity of the trails so all may continue to enjoy them. Violations may be reported to the State Parks office at 451-2695 during the day. During evenings and weekends, call Alaska State Troopers and they will contact the park enforcement team.

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