

Corri A. Feige
Commissioner



Department of
Natural Resources

www.DNR.Alaska.Gov

Anchorage, Alaska

STATE OF ALASKA

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: August 17, 2020

Risk of human-bear conflicts closes Eagle River's Albert Loop Trail

(Anchorage, AK) – Bears returning to feed on salmon near the Eagle River Nature Center have prompted Alaska State Parks managers to close the Albert Loop trail and nearby areas, effective Tuesday, Aug. 18 at 9 a.m.

The popular trail features several bridges across Eagle River and associated side channels, and winds past a number of beaver dams. Black and brown bears use the bridges and dams as fishing platforms, increasing the risk of human-bear conflict, said Kurt Hensel, Chugach State Park Superintendent.

Park managers have closed the trail each season since 1997, to reduce the potential for conflict and to protect the safety and well-being of both humans and bears, Hensel said.

The closure does not affect the Iditarod/Crow Pass trail, the Rodak Loop and its viewing platforms, or the Dew Mound Trail, all accessible from the Eagle River Nature Center trailhead. The Albert Loop trail will likely be reopened at freeze-up, when most bears go into hibernation.

Those recreating anywhere in Chugach State Park are encouraged to take appropriate bear-aware precautions and be prepared to encounter bears and other wild animals.

CONTACT: Kurt Hensel, Chugach State Park Superintendent, 907-345-5014, csp@alaska.gov

###

STAY CONNECTED:

DNR Newsroom: http://dnr.alaska.gov/commis/dnr_newsroom.htm

DNR on Social Media: http://dnr.alaska.gov/commis/social_media.htm

DNR Public Information Center: <http://dnr.alaska.gov/commis/pic/>