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Commissioner

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Department of
Natural Resources

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STATE OF ALASKA

MEDIA ADVISORY

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No Wake Zone on Kenai River as High Water Levels Continue

(Kenai, Alaska) – The Alaska Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation (DPOR) has instituted a “No Wake Zone” on the north side of Kenai River around Kenai Keys through 8pm Friday, Sept. 15. Recent high-water levels are creating flooding and hazardous conditions for both boaters and property owners in the area.

“After yesterday’s voluntary guidance, the flooding became more of a concern as boat wakes and impacts to personal property have continued,” said Ricky Gease, Director of the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation. “This temporary localized action will help minimize these impacts, as well as protect riparian habitat and ensure bank stability. We appreciate the cooperation of the community as we monitor the river.”

The temporary safety measure is based on DPOR regulatory authority for emergency situations under 11 AAC 12.335(c). (Upstream travel with a wake is still allowed along the bank farthest from Kenai Keys.)

Boaters must be vigilant and cautious while on the river as the high waters are causing navigational hazards due to additional floating debris. Property owners along low-lying sections of the Kenai River must secure personal property such as boats, propane tanks, picnic tables, etc. that may enter the river.

The Division of Parks and Recreation’s mission is to provide outdoor recreation opportunities and conserve and interpret natural, cultural, and historic resources for the use, enjoyment, and welfare of the people.

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