Kenai National Wildlife Refuge
Snowmobile Regulations

Snowmobiles are authorized only on designated areas delineated on this map and are subject to the following:

1) A **snowmobile** is defined as a self-propelled vehicle intended for off-road travel on snow, having a curb weight of not more than 1,000 pounds, driven by track or tracks in contact with the snow and steered by ski or skis in contact with the snow. Only snowmobiles with an overall width less than 46 inches and under 1,000 pounds are permitted.

2) The use of snowmobiles on the Refuge **may** be authorized by the Refuge Manager between December 1 and April 30 **only when snow depth is sufficient to protect underlying vegetation and terrain along the route of travel and only after public notification.**

3) Snowmobiles **may not** be used on maintained roads within the Refuge. Snowmobiles may cross a maintained road after stopping and when traffic on the roadway allows safe crossing.

4) Snowmobile use must be compatible with the purposes for which the Refuge was established. Use of snowmobiles in support of wildlife-oriented recreational activities such as fishing or trapping is compatible. **Activities such as racing, wildlife harassment or habitat destruction are prohibited**.

5) All areas above timberline, except Caribou Hills, are closed to snowmobile use. (See Map)

6) The area within sections 5, 6, 7 and 8, T.4N., R.10W., S.M., AK, east of the Sterling Highway right-of-way, including the Refuge Headquarters complex, the Environmental Education and cross-country ski trails, Headquarters and Nordic Lakes, and the area north of the east fork of Slikok Creek and northwest of a prominent seismic trail to Funny River Road, is closed to snowmobile use.

7) Within the Skilak Loop Special Management Area, snowmobiles are prohibited except on Hidden, Kelly, Peterson, and Engineer Lakes for ice fishing access only. Upper and Lower Skilak Lake campground boat launches may be used as access points for snowmobile use on Skilak Lake.

8) The Swanson River Canoe Route and portages are closed to snowmobile use. This area begins at Paddle Lake parking area, goes west and north along the Canoe System wilderness boundary to the Swanson River, continues northeast along the river to Wild Lake Creek, then east to the west shore of Shoepac Lake, south to the east shore of Antler Lake, and west to the beginning point near Paddle Lake. (See Map Section A)

9) An area, including the Swan Lake Canoe Route, and several road-connected public recreation lakes, bounded on the west by Swanson River Road, on the north by Swan Lake Road, on the east from a point at the east end of Swan Lake Road south to the west bank of the Moose River, and on the south by the Refuge boundary, is closed to snowmobile use. (See Map Section B)

10) Refuge lands, conveyed to native groups under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act or the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), are private lands and permission to snowmobile must be obtained from the appropriate native group.

The operation of off-road vehicles, commonly referred to as all terrain vehicles (ATV's – including 3-wheelers) is prohibited on the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge. The use of air cushion, airboat, personal watercraft, or other motorized watercraft, except motorboats, is not allowed on the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge, except as authorized by a special use permit from the Refuge Manager.

Off-road vehicle use, including operation on lakes and river ice is not permitted. Licensed highway vehicles are permitted on Hidden, Engineer, Kelly-Peterson and Watson Lakes for ice fishing purposes only, and must enter and exit lakes via existing boat ramps.

For more information, please contact:

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