The Knik River Public Use Area (KRPUA) is a popular destination for campers, off-highway vehicle (OHV) riders, horses, hikers, bikers, and wildlife enthusiasts. The area is open to motorized and non-motorized recreational pursuits. Activities common to the area include the riding of off-highway vehicles (OHV's), hunting, fishing, horseback riding, biking, hiking, camping, and wildlife viewing.

Wildlife

The Knik River Area is home to a wide variety of wildlife including big game, small game, and furbearers. Big game animals found in the area include, Moose, Black Bear, Brown Bear, Dall Sheep, and Mountain Goat. Some examples of small game and furbearing animals include, Moose, Black Bear, Brown Bear, Dall Sheep, and Mountain Goat. Some examples of furbearing animals include Beaver, Mink, Muskrat, Marten, Fishers, and Bobcats. Wildlife viewing is a popular activity in the KRPUA, with many species visible throughout the area.

For More Information

State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Administrative Office 530 W. 7th Ave. Suite 1060 Anchorage, AK 99501-3557

Facebook: knikriver.alaska.gov

Kenny and Patti Barber Shooting Range

Located between Palmer and Butte Alaska, the Kenny and Patti Barber Shooting Range is at your own risk. Daily hours are 10:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.

Range Fees

Enforcement

Managers and the State Troopers have citation authority for enforcing 'Citable Offenses' on the entire area.

About the Area

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Knik River Public Use Area History

The Knik River Public Use Area (KRPUA) is a legislatively designated area (AS 41.23.180-230) managed by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Division of Mining, Land, and Water, Southcentral Regional Office. The area was created through a legislative process and signed into law by Governor Frank Murkowski on June 30, 2006. Land within the KRPUA boundary consists of approximately 269,310 acres of primarily state-owned lands east of the City of Palmer. DNR works hard to deconflict land uses with our adjoining land owners both within and next to the Public Use Area (PUA). Roughly 36,145 acres are retained in federal ownership awaiting transfer to Eklutna Native Corporation’s existing 22,962 acres. Another roughly 1,900 acres of private landowners are contained within the KRPUA’s boundary. Please respect the land ownership rights of these private parcels, as you would expect them to respect your own land and property.

Learn Outdoor Skills

Get informed, take a class, or invite an experienced friend. If you come prepared for the wilderness, it will be much kinder to you. Headed to the backcountry? Tell a friend where you’re going, who you’re going with, and when you’ll return. This is VERY important if something unexpected happens.

PLEASE, PACK OUT WHAT YOU PACK IN :)