

**DRAFT**  
**BYLAWS**  
**SUSITNA BASIN RECREATION RIVERS**  
**ADVISORY BOARD**

I. PURPOSES

A. The purposes of the Susitna Basin Recreation Rivers Advisory Board (hereinafter referred to as "the Board") are:

1. Pursuant to AS 41.23.430(b), to serve in an advisory capacity in preparing, adopting, implementing, and revising the Susitna Basin Recreation Rivers Management Plan, and regulations affecting use and management of the Recreation Rivers.
2. To represent interests of the general public, user groups, and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough.
3. To assist the Department holding public meetings, and consulting with and soliciting recommendations from the public;
4. To address management issues, review and make recommendations on budgeting priorities, permits and other field operations or policy matters, and advise the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources of such recommendations.

B. Other purposes of the advisory board are:

1. To provide a forum for the collection and expression of public opinions and recommendations on matters relating to the Recreation Rivers;
2. To promote the protection of resources in the Recreation Rivers, including its aesthetic values, vegetation, wildlife, soils, fisheries, water, historic, and outdoor recreation opportunities;
3. To promote balanced management, including the protection and enhancement of the Recreation Rivers;
4. To inquire into matters of public interest relating to the Recreation Rivers to bring matters of interest to the attention of the public; to appear and testify at public hearings as representatives of the Board;
5. To make recommendations, when the Board deems appropriate, to local, state and federal agencies and to legislative bodies relating to issues within the Recreation Rivers;

6. To promote interpretation and public awareness of the natural and human history of the Recreation Rivers;
7. To increase public awareness and understanding of human impacts on the Recreation Rivers and their resources;
8. To promote cooperation between the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, municipalities, the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, and other state and federal organizations;
9. To propose and advise on cooperative agreements and land acquisitions or exchanges;
10. To enlist public and legislative support for the Recreation Rivers Management Plan policies and programs.

## II. PUBLIC ATTENDANCE

Meetings of the Board are open to the public. The Board shall prescribe rules of procedure and decorum while specifying limits, and the manner of, public participation in the meetings.

## III. REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

As specified by AS 41.23.430(a), there shall be thirteen voting regular members on the Board appointed by the governor. The members will represent:

- (1) commercial fishing;
- (2) sport fishing;
- (3) sport hunting;
- (4) conservation;
- (5) subsistence;
- (6) forest products;
- (7) mining;
- (8) powerboat users;
- (9) recreationally-oriented commercial users;
- (10) other recreational users;
- (11) private property owners within the recreation river corridor;
- (12) the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Commission from the membership of the planning commission, and
- (13) the mayor of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough or the designee of the mayor.

Under AS 41.23.430(a) Board members serve without compensation and are not entitled to per diem and travel expenses authorized by law for boards and commissioners under AS 34.20.180.

#### IV. MEETINGS

- A. Meetings shall be held at least once each year and may meet at other times as necessary. Meetings may be held in person or virtually using a virtual meeting platform.
- B. Special meetings may be called by the Chair (or in his/her absence, the Vice Chair), or by any five board members, or by the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources or their designees. The Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources shall make a reasonable attempt to deliver notice of all special meetings to each member five days prior to the meeting date. All notices of special meetings shall state the purposes thereof.
- C. A quorum for the transaction of business at any regular or special meeting of the members shall consist of a majority of the members of the Board (7). Any number of members present at a duly called meeting constituting less than a quorum shall postpone the meeting to a time and place where a quorum is expected to be present. A majority of a quorum is required to approve items of business unless as otherwise required.
- D. No person shall represent anything as the position of the Board, except when the position has been approved by vote of a majority of the quorum.

#### V. OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

- A. The officers of the Board shall be a Chair and a Vice Chair, each of whom shall be elected by the Board. Such other officers and assistant officers as are deemed necessary may be elected by the Board. Board officers shall serve without salaries.
- B. The Chair shall, in general, supervise and coordinate all the affairs of the Board and shall, when present, preside over all meetings of the Board. They shall also act as spokesperson for the Board at Recreation Rivers Planning Team meetings. The Vice Chair will fulfill these responsibilities in the Chair's absence.
- C. The officers of the Board shall be nominated and elected annually by the Board. Each officer must consent to being nominated. The nominated candidate receiving the greatest number of votes for each office shall be declared elected. Each officer shall hold office until his or her successor has been duly elected, except that a vacancy shall be filled in the manner hereinafter provided.
- D. Any officer elected by the Board may be removed from that office by a seven-member vote of the full Board membership whenever, in its judgment, the best interest of the Recreation Rivers and the public would be served thereby. Any such removal shall not affect that person's membership on this Board.

- E. A vacancy in any officer position because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification, or otherwise, may be filled by a seven-member vote at any board meeting.
- F. The Chair may appoint such standing and special committees as necessary, in order to promote the efficient conduct of Board business and active participation of the public. Each committee may have non-Board members as non-voting participants, but shall have at least one member of the Board.

## VI. RECOMMENDED REMOVAL OF BOARD MEMBERS

- A. Removal Upon Unexcused Absence. By a seven-member vote of the entire Board, the Board may recommend to the governor that a member be removed from the Board if that member has, without previously being excused by the chair, failed to attend three meetings of the board within any twelve-month period, or two consecutive meetings.
- B. Removal for Cause. By a seven-member vote of the entire Board, the Board may recommend to the governor that a member be removed for cause from the Board.
- C. Notice of Proposed Action. Any motion that a Board member be removed under A or B above must be adopted by the Board as an agenda item for a meeting occurring at least one month after the motion is made to take such action. The member whose position is proposed to be declared vacant shall receive notice of the proposed action at least 20 days prior to the action, and shall be permitted to respond, in writing and orally, before such action is taken.

## VII. AMENDMENTS

The Board may adopt, alter, amend, or repeal the bylaws with a seven-member vote of the entire Board, with the concurrence of the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources.

## VIII. SUPPORT

The Alaska Department of Natural Resources shall furnish the following staff and services to the Board as staffing allows:

1. Upon request, furnish a meeting room or provide for a meeting via a virtual meeting platform;
2. Provide the notices and agendas of meetings, and provide public notice of the meetings;
3. Prepare, circulate and keep minutes of the meetings;

