

## What is the Kenai River Center?

The Kenai River Center is a multi-agency permitting, information and education center. Borough, state and federal agencies are working cooperatively to protect the rivers of the Kenai Peninsula, its watersheds, and its fish and wildlife resources. If you are doing a project near or in rivers or wetlands on the Kenai Peninsula, contact the Kenai River Center to see what permits may be required.

## Who is at the Kenai River Center?

### Kenai Peninsula Borough

Resource Planners

Floodplain Administrator

### AK Dept. of Natural Resources

Div. of Parks and Outdoor Recreation

Office of Habitat Management  
and Permitting

### US EPA Watershed Coordinator

### Kenai Watershed Forum

*Other agencies not located at the KRC, but with which the KRC works on a regular basis, include:*

### US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

KPB Coastal District Coordinator

### US Fish and Wildlife Service

AK Department of Natural Resources,

Office of Project Permitting  
and Management

### City of Soldotna\*

\*Other Cities on the Kenai Peninsula may also have regulatory authority over projects within city limits.

## Definitions

**Anadromous waterbody:** A stream, river or lake that provides spawning, rearing, or migratory habitat for fish species that are born in and spawn in fresh water but spend most of their lives in the ocean. Anadromous fish species on the Kenai Peninsula include salmon, steelhead and some Dolly Varden.

**Floodplain:** A floodplain is the area adjacent to a river, stream or lake that may be covered by water during high-water events. The **100-year floodplain** is the area that has a 1% chance of being flooded in any given year.

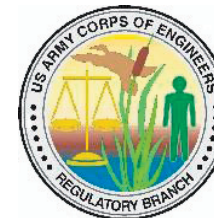
**Floodway:** The channel of a river and over-bank areas that carry the bulk of floodwaters, where velocities and forces are the greatest and most destructive.

**Waters of the United States:** Essentially all surface waters, including all navigable waters and their tributaries, all interstate waters and their tributaries, all impoundments of these waters, all wetlands adjacent to these waters, and certain isolated wetlands. Some examples include oceans, lakes, rivers, streams, ponds, marshes, wetlands, and mudflats.

**Ordinary High Water:** The Ordinary High Water Mark can usually be identified by the vegetation line along the bank or shore, or by other distinctive signs. It is defined as the mark along the bank or shore where the presence and action of water are so common and usual as to leave a natural line impressed on the bank or shore. That line may be indicated by erosion, shelving, changes in soil characteristics, destruction of terrestrial vegetation, or other distinctive physical characteristics.



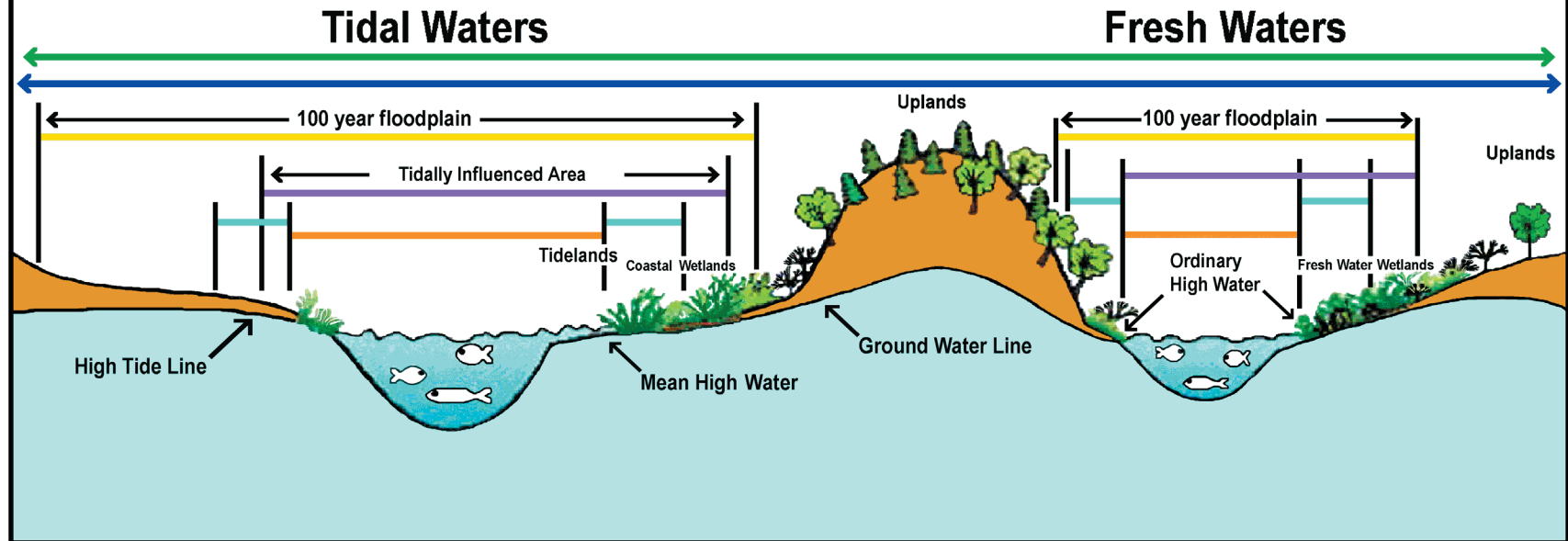
## Agency Jurisdictions



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[www.borough.kenai.ak.us/KenaiRiverCenter](http://www.borough.kenai.ak.us/KenaiRiverCenter)

# Kenai River Center Agency Jurisdictions



Yellow: KPB Floodplain Administrator

Orange: AK Department of Natural Resources

Teal: KPB 50 Foot Habitat Protection Area

Green: US Environmental Protection Agency

Blue: KPB Coastal Zone Management Program

Purple: US Army Corps of Engineers

## Areas of Regulatory Authority:

**KPB Resource Planners:** Lands within 50 feet of Ordinary High Water (OHW) (or within 50 feet of mean high tide in tidal areas) on streams covered by the KPB's Habitat Protection Area ordinance

**KPB Floodplain Administrator:** Lands within mapped floodplains and floodways in the Kenai Peninsula Borough

**DNR DPOR:** The area at and below OHW (or mean high tide in tidal areas) in the Kenai River Special Management Area

and any structures projecting over the water; commercial activities on Alaska State Parks lands and waters

**DNR OHMP:** Areas at or below OHW (or mean high tide in tidal areas) of catalogued anadromous streams and streams supporting high value resident fish species

**EPA:** All activities which may result in discharge of pollutants to waters of the United States, including streams, rivers, lakes, ponds, marine waters and wetlands

**KPB Coastal District:** The borough's coastal district includes all areas out to the 3-mile off-shore limit, up to

the 1000-foot elevation above sea level, and along the course of all documented streams important for salmon.

**US ACE:** Waters of the United States, including wetlands

**City of Soldotna:** Lands within 100 feet of OHW on the Kenai River inside Soldotna city limits