
Subject:

FW: Letter Regarding Kachemak Bay Water Trail

From: [Heather Rice@nps.gov](mailto:Heather_Rice@nps.gov) [[mailto:Heather Rice@nps.gov](mailto:Heather_Rice@nps.gov)]

Sent: Thursday, October 04, 2012 4:46 PM

To: Blankenship, Johni

Subject: Letter Regarding Kachemak Bay Water Trail

Dear Mayor Navarre and Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly Members:

The NPS Rivers, Trails and Conservation (RTCA) program provides technical assistance to community initiated and led outdoor recreation and resource conservation projects. Since October 2011, RTCA's Alaska staff have worked with a steering committee of ten volunteers from a number of Kachemak Bay communities who are dedicated to creating the Kachemak Bay Water Trail -

Adventure Beyond the End of the Road

A 125-mile water trail that inspires exploration, understanding, and stewardship of the natural treasure that is Kachemak Bay

Over the past year, this vision has gained traction in the imaginations of those who live and work around Kachemak Bay. This trail will be more than a simple route connecting recreational sites around the Bay. It will connect individuals and places along its length in understanding and celebrating what they share, from Homer, up the length of the bay to its head, and back around to Seldovia. It will connect the many people and organizations who are working to protect the natural resources of the Bay as a foundation for both for their businesses and quality of life. With the trail will come opportunities for supporting the economic vitality and creativity of local communities; for helping families and kids be active outdoors and promoting healthy communities; for promoting an ethic of respect for public, private, and Alaska Native lands and traditional sites; and for enabling people of all abilities to experience the wild and scenic places around Kachemak Bay, now and for generations to come.

In late 2011, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar released a final 50-State America's Great Outdoors Report outlining more than 100 of the country's most promising projects designed to protect special places and increase access to outdoor spaces; the Kachemak Bay Water Trail was one of two Alaska projects highlighted.

Given growing recognition of the trail's value and benefits, both locally and nationally, the NPS RTCA program has awarded the Kachemak Bay Water Trail a second year of technical assistance and hopes to be standing alongside the community members when they cut the ribbon and make this bold vision a reality in the summer of 2014.

Sincerely,

Lisa Holzapfel, RTCA Program Manager, and Heather Rice, RTCA Outdoor Recreation Planner

Heather Rice, Outdoor Recreation Planner NPS Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program

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"Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can." --Theodore Roosevelt

Subject:

FW: Kachemak Bay Water Trail

From: Robert Archibald [<mailto:robert.e.archibald@gmail.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, October 09, 2012 10:33 AM

To: Blankenship, Johni

Subject: Kachemak Bay Water Trail

Good Morning,

I wanted to pass on my support for the Kachemak Bay Water Trail. I am on the Steering Committee, along with a number of dedicated citizens who are working to make this trail a reality.

The Assembly has before it today Resolution 2012 - 079 which would state support of the Kenai Peninsula Borough for this project.

Your support along with the Cities of Homer, Seldovia and other organizations will greatly help in our pursuit in making this Water Trail come true.

Respectfully

Robert Archibald

Steering Committee Member

Kachemak Bay Water Trail

P.O. Box 2460

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