

1	Kris Holderied	Kris Holderied <kholderied@gmail.com>		<p>I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the proposed change by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) to 5 AAC 95.310, dealing with the prohibition of the use of personal watercraft in the Fox River and Kachemak Bay state-designated Critical Habitat Areas. As a resident of Homer, AK in the Kachemak Bay region, I'm writing to express my opposition to the proposal by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) to repeal the regulation because use of personal water craft is incompatible with the purpose of these critical habitat areas to protect and preserve habitat areas especially crucial to the perpetuation of fish and wildlife.</p> <p>I have had the opportunity in the past year to review updates to the state management plans for the Fox River and Kachemak Bay CHAs (ADFG) and the Kachemak Bay State Park, including policies on use of personal water craft. While the proposed CHA management plan does not have a policy for personal water craft use (since personal water craft use was prohibited in the critical habitat areas under 5 AAC 95.310), the issue received a lot of attention because of the importance of personal water craft use and impacts to multiple public users. Based on concerns for the potential of PWC traffic to decrease populations of fish, wildlife and birds, I agree with the recommendation to maintain regulations under 5 AAC 95.310 and continue to prohibit use of PWCs in Kachemak Bay.</p> <p>My primary concern is that personal water craft traffic is more likely to routinely and repeatedly occur in nearshore and shallow waters than other small boat traffic, because of the shallow draft and nature of personal water craft use. The Kachemak Bay and Fox River Flats Critical Habitat Areas have extensive nearshore areas which support high concentrations of marine mammals, fish, seabirds, shorebirds and waterfowl. This creates the potential for increased, adverse impacts on multiple marine species within the critical habitat areas from personal water craft traffic, particularly if water craft are operated for extended periods of time in one area.</p> <p>I also recognize that the ability to evaluate potential impacts from personal water craft use is limited by the lack of information on how these water craft may be used in the critical habitat areas, since their use has been limited in the bay since 2001 under 5 AAC 95.310. A survey of personal water craft users and industry to gain information on potential uses within Kachemak Bay is one way that ADFG could obtain information needed to evaluate trade-offs between public recreation access with personal water craft and adverse impacts to fish, wildlife and bird populations that the critical habitat areas were designated to protect.</p>	1																	
1	Laurie Daniel	Laurie Daniel <lauriedanielnc@hotmail.com>	PO Box 3713 Homer, AK 99603	<p>Dear Commissioner Vincent-Lang, January 21, 2020</p> <p>I submit these comments in opposition to the Dunleavy administration interest to repeal the ban on personal watercraft (PWC aka jet skis) in Kachemak Bay. As you well know, ADF&G established the Kachemak Bay and Fox River Flats Critical Habitat Areas (CHA) in 1974 (AS 16.20.590) and 1972 (AS 16.20.580), respectively. The purpose of these CHAs is to "protect and preserve habitat areas especially crucial to the perpetuation of fish and wildlife and to restrict all other uses not compatible with that primary purpose". To that end, and after extensive public involvement, in 2001 the state enacted and has since then repeatedly upheld (2011, 2016-17) the ban on PWC in the Kachemak Bay and Fox River Flats CHAs.</p> <p>The science (observations, studies and published literature) clearly indicate that the use of PWCs in these waters is inappropriate and risks damaging the protected coastal habitat and therefore their use is not compatible with the purpose of the Kachemak Bay and Fox River Flats CHAs. This includes a 2019 National Park Service EIS, a detailed 2017 literature review by ADF&G, and the opinion of ADF&G's staff experts. Further, in 2017, ADF&G concluded in a written memo: "In summary, based on our review of information available since the PWC prohibition was adopted in 2001, we feel there is no new information that would warrant rescinding the prohibition, and in fact the newer information highlights most of the concerns identified when the prohibition was adopted." (emphasis added).</p> <p>The clearly evident special interest in this action by Gov Dunleavy flies in the face of governing public resources through the accepted and expected public process we rely on to manage our state. There appears no documentation of consultation with the biologists and management staff who are in the best position to evaluate the impact of, and disturbance from, PWCs on the habitats, fish and wildlife that occur within the CHAs and for whom these protected areas were established.</p> <p>The unique natural and ecological values of Kachemak Bay draws many thousands of tourists, as well as other Alaskans, to visit the area, which significantly drives the local economy. Alaskans have strongly and publicly supported the ban, both when it was established and again when it's been under review. It is simply bad governance, and very apathetic, to single-handedly try to reverse decades of work that protects commonly-held natural resources for the benefit of all to instead benefit a small special interest group that would damage those resources in practicing their recreational activity. That group, the Personal</p>	1																	
1	Parker Martyn	Parker Martyn <parker.martyn@gmail.com>	Bear Cove Property Owner 1102 Richard Berry Dr. Fairbanks, AK 99709	<p>As a property owner in the Kachemak Bay area I am distressed that the State of Alaska is considering opening the bay to use of jet skis. I would like to be put on record that this is not something I favor, and I am very opposed to it. Jet skis are very noisy and disruptive, and because they travel at fast speeds I believe they could increase disturbance and harm to sea life, such as fish, otters, whales, and water fowl, all of which are already being disrupted by routine water craft such as skiffs, fishing boats, water taxis, and other marine vessels. Please do not allow jet ski use in Kachemak Bay.</p>	1																	

4	Kim McNett	Kim McNett <kmmcnnett@gmail.com>	Homer, AK	<p>I am writing to discourage you from changing the restriction of PWC in Kachemak Bay. Designated as a Critical Wildlife Habitat Area, Kachemak Bay is a unique place because we have chosen to offer special protections that favor wildlife and their habitat, with human activities that have a minimal impact on the ecosystems here. Jet skis pose a threat to the CWSHA due to 1) Distribution to resting, feeding, and nesting wildlife 2) Lack of regulatory enforcement of violations 3) Degradation of the nature aesthetic that is a major selling point for already established local businesses and private users.</p> <p>1) I have been a sea kayak and nature guide in Kachemak Bay for 10 years. I facilitate locals and visitors with immersive personal experiences in nature. In the process, I have learned a lot about human instinct, and in general, people's lack of awareness for wildlife behavior. As a guide, I witness the instinctive urge to approach wildlife in a disruptive manner. Most people do not know the distances needed to avoid causing an otter to dive, a bird to fly off, or a seal to slip off a rock, and they rarely self-ascribe their own boundaries. Most people aren't even aware that if they cause those behaviors, they are taking energy from the animal that it could otherwise use in survival, and their activity is degrading the appeal of the habitat to the animals.</p> <p>People come to Kachemak Bay to see the abundant wildlife, they want to get close. Before starting a tour, I let people know that we will be viewing wildlife while trying to not disturb them, I need to be vigilant as a guide to prevent distributive behavior, even from a slow, human-powered kayak. From a skiff or a larger boat, I see hundreds of visitors approach Gull Island every day. Some know to go around the masses of floating murrelets. Others drive right through them, causing hundreds to dive and escape the oncoming threat. When visitors get to the island, they usually motor down and quietly watch, or slowly circle the island, appreciating the sounds of the birds. They take fuel-efficient and conservative routes near the island, then motor off to their other destinations.</p> <p>Imagine the difference in behavior of a jet-skier. A jet-ski is not usually a vehicle used for utility or transportation, like a skiff or a larger motor boat. It is also not a quiet or slow activity like a kayak or a paddle board. Their appeal is in the activity of driving them rambunctiously. The appeal of a jet ski is to be able to go fast, jump wake, and spin circles, to easily go over here, now over there, now back over here again as a way to get a thrill. While it's not in my taste, I am not opposed to it on principle, but it is painfully obvious that these behaviors would disrupt wildlife in Kachemak Bay. Otters resting around the mouth of the</p>	1																	
4	Tom and Jane Meacham	Thomas E. Meacham <tmeacham@gci.net>	9500 Prospect Drive Anchorage, Alaska 99507	<p>My wife and I are 53-year residents of Alaska. We are adamantly opposed to any change in existing regulations that would permit the use of personal watercraft (commonly known as "jet-skis") in areas of Kachemak Bay that are designated as Critical Habitat and are presently close to such uses.</p> <p>The existing designation as Critical Habitat means that human activities that are known to be particularly disruptive to wildlife, particularly recreational activities that can be conducted in vast areas of the state that are not designated as Critical Habitat, have been properly excluded, and should continue to be.</p> <p>The argument of "equal recreational access," when balanced against the purposes of Critical Habitat designation, simply carries no weight. Just as motorcycles are not allowed on bicycle and pedestrian trails, or snow machines on ski trails, outdoor recreation itself is not being prohibited, only the user's choice of an inappropriate vehicle for the particular location.</p> <p>We urge that the existing closure of the Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat area to the recreational use of personal watercraft be continued, and not be repealed.</p> <p>Please include these comments among those submitted to you regarding the proposed regulation change.</p>	2																	

4	Richard L. Gustafson	Richard Gustafson <rigust71ak@gmail.com>	P.O. Box 4144, 1039 Barnett Place Homer, Alaska 99603	I am opposed to the proposed repeal of the ban on jet skis or personal watercraft in Kachemak Bay and Fox River Critical Habitat. There is no new science to show that repealing the ban is prudent. As a resident and user of Kachemak Bay I feel they would cause more problems and stress to fish and wild life in Kachemak Bay and Fox River Critical Habitat. Additionally, I am concerned about the safety and negative economic impacts of allowing jet skis in the bay and potential conflicts with established users. I agree with Homer City Council 's resolution 20-007(S), urging the State of Alaska to retain the ban on personal watercraft in Kachemak Bay and Fox River Critical Habitat. The proposed repeal is bad public policy!!	1														
4	Andy Josephson	Andrew Josephson <andrewjosephson2003@yahoo.com>	4859 Pavalof Street A/A 99507	I strongly oppose the proposed rule-making that would allow for PWCs in Kachemak Bay. I have every belief that these PWCs would interfere with birds and fauna that live in Kachemak Bay. As a consequence, it would secondarily impact a thriving tourism economy that visits Kachemak Bay. AS 16.20.500, the enacting law for Kachemak Bay, reads that the area's purpose is "to protect and preserve habitat areas especially crucial to the perpetuation of fish and wildlife, and to restrict all other uses not compatible with that primary purpose." I have no idea how the PWC rulemaking would be consistent with this statute. I think it would invite, yet again, additional litigation against the State of Alaska. The science clearly shows that Jetskis and PWS's are NOT compatible with the purpose of the Kachemak Bay and Fox River Flats Critical Habitat to protect fish and wildlife, including a recent 2019 National Park Service EIS, a detailed 2017 literature review by ADF&G, and in the opinion of ADF&G's own staff experts. I surely worry about the morale at ADF&G if its experts and scientists are disregarded in place of a perceived political agenda. Given that 99% of Alaska is open to JetSkis, it's ok--really, it's ok--to continue to disallow the PWCs in Kachemak Bay.	1														
4	Willy Dunne	Willy Dunne <wdunne907@gmail.com>	40508 Waterman Rd. Homer, AK 99603	I oppose the repeal of 5 AAC 95.310. These regulations were enacted after a thorough deliberative process that included an extensive public comment process. The process being used now to repeal these regulations is flawed due to limited time for public comment, what appears to be deliberate timing of the process around major holidays, and the lack of formal public hearing. In two local Kachemak Bay area public meetings, the public overwhelmingly opposed repeal of the regs. After hearing from the public, the Kachemak Bay State Parks Citizens Advisory Board voted unanimously to submit a resolution opposing the repeal. The Homer City Council also passed a similar resolution after an open, public process. The City Council also requested an extension of public comment period to 90 Days which your agency did not grant. A process to review the Kachemak Bay and Fox River Critical Habitat Areas Management Plans is ongoing and potential recommendations for changes will be released at a future date. No regulation changes should be made until that process is completed. The AK Department of Fish and Game has revisited these regulations several times since enacted and has always acted to retain them. The 2017 ADFG memo spells out the reasoning for retaining the regulations and cites multiple scientific publications supporting the regulations. When I asked you for studies supporting the repeal, you replied the proposal was based on the opinions of staff. You later clarified that it was based on the opinion of staff who are aware of the studies and literature, yet you provided no documentation. These regulations must not be repealed, especially without adequate public process and without revised management plans in place.	1														
4	Chris Scudder	chris scudder <scudderchris@hotmail.com>		Please review all the ban on PWC. I live on the Kenai peninsula and would love to be able to go fishing off my Jet ski in the waters in my backyard in my backyard.															

8	Sarahlily Stein	Sarahlily Stein <sarahlily@escusting.com>		<p>I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposed repeal of the jetski ban in the Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat Area. Allowing jetskis into this area will be harmful to the wildlife, residents, and small businesses that call this area home. As a Critical Habitat Area, Kachemak Bay CHA is designated by the Alaska Legislature to "protect and preserve habitat areas especially crucial to the perpetuation of fish and wildlife, and to restrict all other uses not compatible with that primary purpose." As the scientists at the ADFG have repeatedly concluded, a jetski ban is appropriate and justified. There are many other recreational activities that are welcome in Kachemak Bay CHA, such as sea kayaking.</p> <p>I have worked in this area for the past two summers kayak guiding. From this experience, I have seen firsthand how crucial the wildlife is to small businesses in both tourism and fishing. Protecting this area from jetskis means protecting small businesses.</p> <p>Just like the fire ban this summer, the jetski ban is intended to protect Alaskans. For Kachemak Bay CHA, protecting our wildlife and small businesses means banning jetskis.</p>	1														
8	Carol Meares	Carol Meares <carolmeares@icloud.com>	3459 Main St. Unit 2 Homer AK 99603	see message: Comments opposing repeal of 5 AAC 95.310.msg in PWC8	1														
8	Darlene Holmberg	Aniak Light & Power <aniakinp@arctic.net>	Aniak	<p>Greetings, this is in regards to salmon habitat protection. There are many assaults upon our fish and wildlife habitats that we can't stop or mitigate, climate change being the foremost. There are a few that we can control or eliminate. Please take steps to reduce threats from recreational activities such as thrill craft traffic in areas known to be inhabited by fish, wildlife and birds. People who enjoy pristine and quiet and take pains to get there should not have to be in conflict with those riding for fun with nowhere in particular to go. If I want to go to my fish camp for the weekends to fish or relax, I should only see others with like sentiment, and the thrill seekers can do their thing closer to the town, where there is already lots of water traffic that is expected and not loathed. Most of the kids are doing their watercraft fun in view of the town, which also increases their safety, should they experience a mishap. There is no reason to allow the thrill rider to be in quiet neighborhoods or lakes or far from town, certainly not where fish and birds congregate to feed or rest. Please strengthen protections for vulnerable and critical habitats and occupants (migratory or otherwise), before there's nothing left to protect. Thank you.</p>	1														
8	Barbara Harris Owner / VP Marketing, Team CC	Barbara Harris <ads@teamcc.com>		Emailing: PWC ban20200120.pdf.msg MOVED SCANNED LETTERS TO FOLDER WITH HARD COPIES OF SAME FORM LETTER															
8	Alex L Koplin	bubba@horizonsatellite.com	Homer	<p>I am a resident of Kachemak City. I am opposed to having jet skis in the Bay. Kachemak Bay is considered a critical habitat area and allowing for jet skis in the Bay definitely puts more demand on the habitat of this beautiful area. I'm not sure why you are even thinking about allowing jet skis in the Bay. Has there been a change in the designation of our Bay?</p> <p>When the first otter fatality, first human injury, first mollusk that is gone because you allowed skis to be on the Bay, well that falls on you. The idea that you have to cater to another user group because they want it is not always reasonable because of the costs involved. The relationship between the land and the people is essential for our continued sustainability.</p> <p>There are many places in Alaska you can use jet skis; let's keep our Bay safe and not contribute to every whim people have so they can recreate. Please allow us to use protect our resources, both human, animal, and the environmental treasures we still have.</p>	1														
8	Ron Somerville	somerville@gci.net	8126 Keegan St., Unit A Juneau, Ak 99801	See message: FW: Personal Watercraft in Ketchemak Bay.msg in PWC8															
8	Kate Finn	hundredthmonk21@gmail.com	POBox 3364 Homer AK 99603	See message: Fwd: Continue the BAN on Jet-skis and PWC in Kachemak Bay!.msg in PWC8	1														
8	Kim H Madden	Kim Madden <57khmadden@gmail.com>		<p>As a Property own on the Bay I oppose Jet Skis being allowed. The Bay is a source of food, income and a water highway. The introduction of Jet Skis would interfere with these needs to the point of being a safety hazard. I for one would not wish to compete with Jet Skis to get back and forth from Homer or my cabin on the other side.</p> <p>Please consider these concerns. There are more than enough other places Jet Skis are allowed without adding Kachemak Bay to the list.</p>	1														

not counted here- should be counted with other form letters from TeamCC

1 Forwarded from Doug Vincent-Lang's personal email to DVL and RG ADF&G emails - check for duplicates

16	Joe Ray Skrha	Joseph Skrha <skrhalawoffice@alaska.net>	110 North Willow Street; Suite 137 Kenai, AK 99611 USA	My name is Joseph Raymond Skrha and I am a resident of Kenai, AK and practice law throughout Alaska for the past 37 years. I am against any proposed changes to allow personal watercraft in the Fox River Flats or Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat Area. For years I have seen whales frequent both of these areas. The reason we refer to Kachemak Bay as critical habitat area should be obvious. It is critical habitat and as such jet skis, and similar vehicles should not be permitted in these areas at all. I live on the mouth of the Kenai River. Jet skis are not permitted in this area either. Whales, Seals, otters, eagles and other wildlife rely on Fox River Flats and Kachemak Bay for their habitat. Jet skis would cause undue havoc to these animals. We who value these animals do not want to see these regulations changed especially for political reasons. I own two jet skis but would never use them in an area so critical as these to referenced areas. Lets put the wildlife first for a change.	1															
16	Chris Reynolds	Chris Reynolds <chris@reynoldstherapy.com>	17801 Steamboat Drive Anchorage AK 99516	Please register my voice in opposition to the proposed regulation changes potentially allowing the use of personal watercraft on Kachemak Bay. Personal watercraft are disruptive to the natural environment in ways that are not true of other forms of nautical transportation, making restrictions appropriate to protect the general public's interest. ☹	1															
16	Liliana Sotomayor	lilicovvet@gmail.com	215 Fireweed Ave, Homer, AK	It is with great concern that I have learned about " 5 AAC 95.310 is proposed to be repealed. The purpose of this repeal is to remove the prohibition on personal watercraft use in the Fox River Flats and Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat Areas." As fish stocks dwindle Homer's economy will further be dependent on tourism throughout the year. A wonderfully sustainable resource, which is natural beauty and the ability to observe wildlife in its natural habitat at close range and without much investment, will be severely hampered by the presence of personal watercraft. Yes, equal access to all, I personally support this idea, but as technology progresses, new forms of access such as motorized vehicles, drones, etc., start to impinge on other people's right to access: wildlife viewing, ability to make a living off tourism, freedom from noise pollution, privacy. All for a few person's access to entertainment. Please maintain the restriction on personal watercraft use in Kachemak Bay for wildlife protection, maintenance of Homer's tourism industry and other people's right to resources that make Alaska the gem it is....still.	1															
16	Josh Krohn	Josh Krohn <akfiddler@gmail.com>		No, do not repeal the PWC ban in Kachemak Bay. Doing so caters to a very small number of residents in the state, and without a broader debate that can't happen in the timeframe you've given, can't possibly reflect the will of the majority. While some PWC operators may be respectful to others using the area around them, and truly use them as transportation from point A to B, a good portion of PWC operators only ride for the thrill, and disregard the safety or enjoyment of those they are operating around. If you need proof of this, consider Lake Tahoe, where you can't drive a boat across the lake without a PWC rider jumping your wake. Imagine you want to take a quiet paddle with your family in kayaks, and a group of PWC riders decides to use that area as their personal play area. No more peace and quiet, and I wouldn't allow my children to paddle near where people are riding jetskis. Given that PWC are allowed in nearly every other body of water in the state, why get bent out of shape about not being allowed in Kachemak Bay? Your personal activism for this cause makes you unsuitable to coordinate this decision. While I have no illusions that you will take the honest and objective step to remove yourself, since you lobbied the governor for the privilege to pursue this personal crusade, I hope that you will at least take note of the different ways that people can enjoy the outdoors in Alaska. Some want to be able to appreciate it for what it is, others only see it as their personal playground and pay no attention to others around them, or the damage they may do. I look forward to seeing the public records of this process so we can see where your objectivity has slipped, and judge you accordingly. My interests are keeping Kachemak Bay PWC free.	1															
16	shawn grimes	shawn grimes <sgrimes907@gmail.com>		This ban needs to be repealed, Bottom line is equal access for all. There is no difference between watercraft , watercraft is watercraft.		1														
16	John Orbistondo	juan p <nenana7@yahoo.com>	Juneau	I support the repeal of 5AAC 95.310 to allow the use of personal watercraft in Kachemak Bay. PWCs should be allowed in areas that allow skiffs and non-motorized vessels.		1														
16	Dan Rainwater	dan rainwater <danrainh2o@gmail.com>	Homer	My name is Dan Rainwater, I live in Homer. I support pwc in the bay.		1														
16	Jon Fuglestad	jtfuglestad@gmail.com		I am in support of keeping the current ban on jet skis in Kachemak Bay . The bay is special in its diversity of wildlife and deserves some extra protection .	1															
16	Ron Somerville	somerville@gci.net	8126 Keegan St., Unit A Juneau, Ak 99801	See message: RE: Personal Watercraft in Ketchemak Bay.msg in PWC16																

1 3rd time- comments from R. Somerville, edits appear limited to spelling of "Kachemak" in text of letter

19	Colter Demers	Colter Demers <colterdemers@yahoo.com>		Jet skies should not be banned from Kachemak Bay in Homer, AK. I was born and raised in Homer and I feel that they are quieter and better for the environment than any prop skiff. The access provided is comparable with backcountry snowmachining and I feel that the ban was placed for personal gain by Mako Haggerty and his water taxi service and kayaking rental businesses. Do not ban jet skies, thank you Colter Demers.		1														
19	Daisy Berbeco	Daisy Wheeler <magmadaisy@gmail.com>	Seldovia AK 99663	I am a waterfront property owner in the Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat Area and I am strongly opposed to lifting the ban on personal watercraft under 16' because it goes against my interests. Please regard this as a NO vote on lifting the ban.		1														
19	Karen Northrop	Karen Northrop <kanorthrop@gmail.com>	Homer	I want to voice my opinion that allowing PWS or Jet Ski type watercraft in Kachemak Bay is not appropriate for the bay and the wildlife that call it home. I am against Fish and Game's proposal to repeal the existing ban.		1														
19	John. Jensen.	John Jensen <norwejohn@pci.net>	12900 Patrick Rd Anchorage 99516	We should not be considering removing the jetski ban in the Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat Area. The science says no. Reasonable people say no. It is not unreasonable to have a ban there because here are other open places to use. Those places may not be as convenient for some people but there are other values at play here and we should continue to value and protect critical habitats		1														
19	John Wiles	Jack Wiles <wilesmichaud@msn.com>	PO Box 639 Homer AK 99603	See message: Kachemak Bay Jet Ski Ban .msg in PWC19		1														
19	Chuck and Kelly Wirschem	Chuck Wirschem <alaskaskytrekking@gmail.com>	Bear Cove	We have been property owners in Bear Cove since 1978. We are vehemently opposed to jet ski usage in K-Bay. We cannot imagine a more offensive intrusion to our peace and quiet. It would be a total invasion of the cultural experience.		2														
19	JaDee Moncur	JaDee Moncur <jmoncur@ssa-tsg.com>	2220 E. 88th Avenue Anchorage, AK 99507	I am all for PWC having equal access in Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat. Not having access there is one of the reasons that I have not purchased a PWC. I was thinking about it until I did some research and found out that one of the areas that I wanted to explore was off limits. I am glad this rule change is being proposed.		1														
19	Mike Folkerts	Folkerts, Michael R CIV <Michael.R.Folkerts@uscg.mil>		I am in favor of the PWC ban repeal for K-Bay.		1														
19	Terry Yager	Terry Yager <terry@kachemakgroup.com>	Homer	I'm currently an owner of two Jet Skis or PWC's. I am totally against Jet Skis being allowed on Kachemak Bay. My Jet Skis are used at our lake property located in the upper Kenai Peninsula area. The lake does have some birds native to Alaska but not the sea otters, whales and many other marine animals that would be harmed by the quickness and speed of a Jet Ski. As a businessman that has lived in Homer for years and has been directly involved in the tourist business, I cannot begin to tell you how many times I have heard kayakers, paddle boarders or tour boat operators talking about how great it is to paddle up close to a sea otter and her pup eating a clam on her belly. The commercial usage of the oyster growers and the other types of user groups that depend on the calm waters of this one of a kind Kachemak Bay critical habitat area cannot survive without the normal usage of what Mother Nature has provided. What kind of rules and regulations would be necessary to not destroy what the Kachemak Bay and the Kenai Peninsula can never replace if this law was repealed. Please do not allow what nature has provided us in the lower Peninsula, that very few people every get to enjoy. Let the Jet Ski community enjoy their PWC's on areas that are not as fragile as our marine ecosystem, that we are so very fortunate to have in Kachemak Bay.		1														
19	Korey Cronquist, Team CC	Korey Cronquist <korey@teamcc.com>	Eagle River/ Wasilla	Please accept my comment in support to lift the PWC BAN in Kachemak Bay for all user groups to enjoy the waters.		1														
19	Brandon Young	Brandon Young <brandon.comanche@gmail.com>		As a transplant from Minnesota, I grew up riding jetskis. They're awesome. I have two little boys who would love them. But, I have to say no to them in our bay. Too much other stuff going on- boats, animals, camping. If they are allowed, I'd love a restriction to outside the smaller bays. Tutka, Jakalof, Sadie would all be ruined with them buzzing all times of the day and night.		1														
19	Cal Schmidt	Cal and Deb <cndsalso@gmail.com>	Homer, AK	Allowing jetskis and other personal watercraft in the Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat Area - please don't do it for all the reasons they were disallowed in the first place.		1														
19	Willy Dunne	Willy Dunne <wdunne907@gmail.com>		Hello Mr. Green, I understand questions regarding the proposed changes to Kachemak Bay and Fox River Flats Critical Habitat Area regulations relating to use of Personal Water Craft should be directed to you. Can you tell me what scientific literature and or studies the proposed rule change is based on?																
										1 shows response sent 12/12/2019 from R. Green										

20	Daniel S Dykema	Daniel S Dykema <ddykema@hotmail.com>		I see no harm of personal watercraft usage in Kachemak Bay. Fish and Game already has wildlife harassment laws on the books. Modern personal watercraft have just as good or better emissions than any boat running the same area. I only see it being a good thing for the community in bringing more business to an already struggling fishing community. Whittier and other communities in Alaska have personal watercraft for many years and I've seen no harm or issues in those towns. Any problems with personal watercraft would be the same with people using boats and can be handled by law enforcement in the same manner.		1													
20	???	Rick_Green@192.168.2.2		This e-mail contains a voice message. Double click on the attached file to listen. <2228@192.168.2.2>															
20	Kayci Hanson	Kayci Hanson <kaycihanson@gmail.com>	Ninilchik, Alaska	As we near the deadline with which to finalize decisions regarding the operation of Jetskis in Kachemak Bay, I would like to draw your attention to the voting members of our state population that disagree with an expansion of Jetski usage. The science clearly shows Jetskis and PWC's are NOT compatible with the purpose of the Kachemak Bay & Fox River Flats Critical Habitat to protect fish and wildlife, including a recent 2019 National Park Service EIS, a detailed 2017 literature review by ADF&G, and in the opinion of ADF&G's own staff experts. In addition, over 99% of Alaskan waters are open to Jetski use. The unique natural values of Kachemak Bay attract tens of thousand of tourists and Alaskans each year, and help drive our local economy. It makes no sense to threaten our resources and our economy so a few people can play on Jetskis. At this time, I encourage you to consider the impact this decision will have on the greater state, as opposed to the select few who believe this to be a low-impact decision. We are the Last Frontier. It is with a sense of responsibility to our children, to ourselves, and to the world, that we continue to remain as such, and allow for Kachemak Bay to remain unspoiled by a common-place instrument such as the Jetski. We are bigger and we are better. Let's meet that standard.		1													
PWC20	Jane Handy	Jane Handy <jhandy.ak@gmail.com>	PO Box 1015 Homer, AK 99603	I'm writing in opposition to permitting jet ski use in Kachemak Bay. The unique natural values of Kachemak Bay attract tens of thousand of tourists and Alaskans each year, and help drive Homer's local economy. Science clearly that shows Jet skis and PWC's are NOT compatible with the purpose of the Kachemak Bay & Fox River Flats Critical Habitat to protect fish and wildlife, including a recent 2019 National Park Service EIS, a detailed 2017 literature review by ADF&G, and in the opinion of ADF&G's own staff experts. Unlike skiffs and boats, jet skis and PWC have overpowered 200-300 horsepower engines. Jet skis are designed and intended to be ridden for fun – to jump waves, make tight turns and spins, run in super-shallow water and congregate in small areas. As a result, they pose unique threats to birds, marine mammals and humans alike. The law is clear: the purpose of the Kachemak Bay & Fox River Flats Critical Habitat Areas is to "protect and preserve habitat areas especially crucial to the perpetuation of fish and wildlife, and to restrict all other uses not compatible with that primary purpose." Alaska Statutes 16.20.500. Over 99% of Alaskan waters are open to Jet ski use. Please do not add Kachemak Bay to the lengthy list of accessible places people can ride their jet skis and any other type of PWC.		1													
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																			This message was sent along with the late comments, but shows a received on 4:48 pm 1/21 in th email- moved it to PWC20 and entered it here.

online PN	Jeffrey S Johnson	super.yooper@hotmail.com	Anchorage, AK, US	<p>My name is Jeff Johnson. I was the first park ranger at Kachemak Bay State Park, serving there for 10 years. I was also the first Boating Law Administrator for the State of Alaska as we became the last state to establish a boating safety program. As such, I actively represented Alaska on a wide range of recreational boating issues on the state, western region, and national levels for 20 years, including serving as president of the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators and on the National Boating Safety Advisory Council to the US Coast Guard. Over that time I have worked closely with some of the most respected boating professionals in the country.</p> <p>The purpose of my email is to express to you that, as a former ranger, resource manager and boating professional, any restrictions on activities on state land and water should be justified based on science or strong evidence and, if that evidence exists, there are a myriad of ways to manage those activities - short of general prohibitions.</p> <p>I was dismayed when the "Jet Ski" (a brand name used by the naive) ban was put in place on Kachemak Bay not because I am a PWC advocate or against resource protection or public safety but because the "science" presented at the time did not and still does not support a complete closure. Even the National Park Service, who's mission is generally more directed to resource protection, has walked back these kinds of closures in part because of weak evidence. I believed then and still do, that public waters of the state should be available for activities such as recreation and transportation by all boaters, with reasonable and enforceable regulations to protect public safety and our natural resources. In my view, a complete closure to PWC on Kachemak Bay was a solution for a problem that did not actually exist. If as state resource managers we are lazy enough to simply close state lands and waters to public use as a solution to our challenges (instead of carefully considering the evidence), we fall to do our jobs and fall far short of the public trust.</p> <p>While I know and respect many of the Kachemak Bay PWC ban supporters (we have a place in Homer) I believe public access to and enjoyment of our state lands and waters should be promoted, with reasonable protections. And if protections are justified, they should be based on solid evidence and common sense, not on ideology, opinion or interest group pressure.</p>																		
online PN	Leanna Stern	leannajo1126@gmail.com	Homer, AK, US	<p>I am opposed to the lifting of this ban. I am a jet ski rider, an avid outdoors woman and supporter of access for all, but this process by ADF&G is a joke. To repeal this ban, without any provisions for usage, boundaries, enforcement, explanation or plan makes me disgusted in the Dunleavy administration and it's hired buddies who have apparently decided, undemocratically, to simply lift the ban with no thought toward the future at all.</p> <p>Kachemak Bay is a precious commodity in AK. As time moves on, this type of serene area will be less and less available which makes it more and more valuable. The ban was put in place to support this magical ecosystem and it was put in place with the proper process. To attack the original process, and it's subsequent revisiting, without a democratic process is the most egregious form of government there is and we the people will not let it slide by.</p> <p>I have sent a comment to Rick Green as well, but quite honestly do not trust that the info will be shared truthfully or with out bias, considering his partisan stance on this issue as well as the questionable position he holds.</p> <p>I urge ADF&G to follow the democratic processes in place. Do not repeal the ban! If those opposed to the ban want to change it, they need to go through the proper channels that are in place to make it a fair and appropriate argument. If PWCs are allowed into Kachemak Bay, there needs to be funds ready for management and enforcement, regulations for usage and clearly outlined guidelines. Thank you.</p>	1																	
online PN	Kimberly Bailey	kimofalaska@hotmail.com	Solomon, AK, US	<p>I think opening the Kachemak. Bay protected area to jet-skis is a big mistake. There is a reason this area is closed to PWCs and the decision was made by biologists and scientists who had researched the area for years. This is critical habit to migrating birds, sea otters, fish, and countless other forms of wildlife. To open it up to a group of special interests, who have miles and miles of other places they could use their jet-ski, is ridiculous. Governor Dunleavy does not have the best interests of Alaskans or Alaska if he thinks this is a good idea. Far more tourists would be impacted by this decision than the group of people who want to jet-ski. People come from all over the world to view the wildlife in Kachemak Bay and the re-opening to jet-skis would have a detrimental impact on tourism. Not only would their wildlife be scared away, but instead, they would see motor-craft zooming around in an area they were expecting to see wildlife.</p> <p>I have seen first hand what jet-skis can do in a similar area. At Resurrection Bay in Seward, I watched as two jet-skis zoomed around in waters where there were sea otters and sea lions swimming around. The operators seemed to have no regard for the possibility that they could hit one of these animals or that they were disturbing them. As a visitor, it was shocking to me that they were even allowed to be in the area. I hope this will not happen in Kachemak Bay.</p> <p>Please leave the restrictions as they were for the past decades and keep jet-skis out of Kachemak Bay!</p>	1																	

