



April 15, 2020

For Immediate Release on behalf of the Kenai Watershed Forum Staff and Board of Directors:

The Kenai Watershed Forum announces the **cancellation of the 2020 Kenai River Festival**, scheduled for June 12-14 in Soldotna Creek Park.

The decision to cancel reflects our organizational values of community and partnerships and prioritizes the health of our families, friends and neighbors throughout Alaska. We will continue to work together to flatten the curve and protect the things we hold most dear.

We will work with our partners and supporters to refund those that had commitments to this year's festival. We will also encourage our partners to extend their commitment this year into 2021, helping us support and sustain the Kenai River Festival into the future.

The festival is one way for our organization, the families of the Kenai Peninsula, and Alaskans to build a sense of place and community, to celebrate the Kenai River and to provide environmental education. We will miss making those connections with you all this year, but we are committed to a future beyond COVID-19 and we envision that future to include the Kenai River Festival.

After an appropriate step back and a deep breath, our staff and board will shift their focus and begin planning for the 2021 Kenai River Festival, scheduled for June 11-13, when we will celebrate the festival's 30th anniversary.

We appreciate your support for the Kenai River Festival and for the Kenai Watershed Forum, and moving forward we will continue to focus on the needs of our community.

During this period of hunkering down to stop the spread of COVID-19, our office remains closed and we are working from home. If you have a question, please contact Kenai Watershed Forum Executive Director, Branden Bornemann at branden@kenaiwatershed.org or 907-953-2605.

Sincerely,

Branden Bornemann
KWF Executive Director

Denise Newbould
KWF Board President