CORRESPONDENCE -- RESOURCES GENERALLY
January 19, 1956

Mr. Phil Holdsworth
Commissioner of Mines
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Phil:

Herewith is a marked copy of the resources article as it now stands in the second reading. We do not anticipate any substantial changes in further plenary session.

Your wire was received but I could not identify the suggested changes with our present proposal. However, since they were minor, I did not consider that it was too important.

If you see any important changes that should be made, there will still be an opportunity in the third reading.

Please advise.

Sincerely,

J. C. Boswell

B/c

Enclosure
REFERENCE FINAL COMMITTEE ARTICLE WOULD SUGGEST CHANGE WORD AND TO OR ON PAGE FIVE LINE FIVE TO CONFORM WITH WORDING PAGE FOUR LINE NINE. WOULD ALSO BE INCLINED TO INSERT WORD OR AFTER COMMA PAGE THREE LINE FIVE. OTHERWISE AM IN AGREEMENT WITH LANDS AND MINERAL SECTION OF RESOURCES ARTICLE.

PHIL R HOLDSWORTH COMMISSIONER OF MINES
December 21, 1955

Mr. Paul Robison
First National Bank Building
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Sir:

Enclosed are three copies of the Committee proposal on Lands and Resources which Mr. Al Anderson has requested by wire to be sent to you.

You will note that this proposal is labeled tentative and it is expected that further revision will be made following the holiday recess for hearings.

Yours very truly,

J. C. BOSWELL

Encl.
THANKS AND REGARDS

AL ANDERSON ALASKA RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

1955 Dec 21 PM 3:46

Box 170
December 19, 1955

Mr. John Dimond  
Attorney at Law  
Box 366  
Juneau, Alaska  

Dear John:

Enclosed is tentative copy of Committee Proposal for a Constitutional Article on Resources. I should appreciate your critical review and criticism as a Constitutional lawyer. Because there is much about the article which requires further attention, it is being circulated for comment as a strictly tentative draft in order that Committee members may have the benefit of others views over the recess.

With personal regards and best wishes for the season I am

Sincerely,

Burke Riley

Enclosure
December 22, 1955

Honororable B. Frank Heintzleman, Governor
Territory of Alaska
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Governor Heintzleman:

Enclosed is a "tentative" proposal covering the Lands and Resources article for the Constitution. The Resources Committee expect to withdraw this proposal after the recess, for further revision to correct it for any suggestions or criticisms that are developed by the public hearings that are to be held throughout the Territory.

The Committee has attempted to write a meaningful article on resources that takes into consideration the problems and establishes the broad principles that many Western states have had to develop the hard way over the past 45 years since their Constitutions were drafted. Nothing in this proposal is intended to make operation on State lands more difficult than on the Federal public domain and I am certain that all the Committee realizes that we must keep our State lands in a reasonably competitive position with the Federal public domain if they are to receive attention and development.

In order to appreciate the problem of drafting this proposal it must be read along with H. R. 2535 of the 84th Congress. We have tried to avoid tying our hands to the language in the proposed enabling bill, as you will note in the last sentence of the first paragraph of Section 7. Particularly in regard to the non-alienation of minerals and the requirement that all minerals in State lands must be leased.

Any suggestions you may have that will improve or clarify the proposal will be appreciated. If you agree with the substance and broad general principles of the proposal it would be helpful to have your endorsement when it comes up for second reading.

Yours very truly,

J. C. Boswell
Resources Committee

Encl.
Mr. W. O. Smith, Chairman,
Committee on Resources,
Constitutional Convention,
College, Alaska.

Dear Mr. Smith:

At a December 13th, 1955, meeting the following resolution was passed by people interested in, or associated with, the mining industry, Quote:-

RESOLVED THAT Section 2 of Appendix 1 of "Proposed Lands and Resources Article" as contained in Volume 1, Section 3, Page 79, ALASKA CONSTITUTION AND THE STATE PATRIMONY prepared by PUBLIC SERVICE ADMINISTRATION be deleted in its entirety and also any reference to this Section in subsequent paragraphs of this Article.

FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the laws governing the utilization and conservation of the natural resources be determined by the Legislature of the future State.

Signed by-
Text of a Proposed Lands and Resources Article

Section 1. (General) The State of Alaska shall have the power to provide for the orderly development, maximum utilization, and conservation of all of the natural resources of the lands and waters of the State, to the end that such resources shall be developed, utilized, and conserved for the benefit of the whole people of the State.

Section 2. (Lands and Mineral Rights) The public lands of the State which are now or hereafter may be acquired may be sold, granted, deeded, patented, or leased under such general laws as may be established by the Legislature. Each sale, grant, deed, or patent shall be subject to and contain a reservation to the State of all of the minerals in the lands so sold, granted, deeded, or patented, together with the right to prospect for, mine, and remove the minerals. Mineral deposits shall be subject to lease by the State under such general laws as the Legislature may enact. Provided; that the Legislature may by general law alienate the State's right, title, and interest to minerals in the case of homesteads or areas of lesser acreage; and provided further, that no person, company, or corporation shall hold such alienated mineral rights in an amount greater than the acreage of one homestead.

No person, company, or corporation shall deny a mineral lessee of the State access to such minerals; but such access shall be taken only upon payment of just compensation to the surface owner, grantor, or lessee.

Section 3. (Waters and Water Resources) The use of waters of the State is hereby declared to be a public use, and subject to the regulation and control of the State in a manner to be prescribed by law.

The State may sell, grant, deed, patent, or lease the submerged and tidal soils under such general law as the Legislature may enact. The provisions on the non-alien ability of minerals of Section 2 of this Article shall apply to submerged and tidal soils.

No citizen of the State or of the United States shall be denied the free ingress and egress of the navigable waters of the State, except that the State may by general law regulate and limit this use for power development or other beneficial and public purposes.

The Legislature shall pass no law creating a several fishery in the navigable waters of the State.

Section 4. (Forest Lands) Sales, grants, deeds or leases of forest lands of the State, where such lands are to be developed and utilized primarily for their forest resources, shall contain provisions binding the purchaser, grantee, or lessee to adhere to the principles of sustained yield management of the forest areas so sold, granted, deeded, or leased.

Section 5. The specific provisions of Sections 2, 3 and 4 of this Article shall not be held to preclude or limit the power of the State over other natural resources.

Comments or suggestions should be air mailed to W.O. Smith, Chairman Natural Resources Committee, Alaska Constitutional Convention College, Alaska.
TELEGRAM
ALASKA COMMUNICATION SYSTEM
SIGNAL CORPS, UNITED STATES ARMY
FEDERAL BLDG., FAIRBANKS, ALASKA

1955 DEC 5 PM 4 21

NNNN KPA61KA031
FA JU066 20 TY NL PD JUNEAU ALASKA 5
BURKE RILEY 527
ALASKA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION COLLEGE
PLAN TO ARRIVE FAIRBANKS WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 7 PREPARED TO TESTIFY
ON RESOURCES AT COMMITTEES CONVENIENCE ON EITHER EIGHTH OR NINTH
AL ANDERSON ALASKA RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Mr. Burke Riley, Delegate  
Alaska Constitutional Convention  
University of Alaska  
College, Alaska  

Dear Mr. Riley:

Received your letter of November 19, 1955 to Purse Seiners Union in regards to all natural resources concerning the State of Alaska.

The membership went on record as favoring the new State of Alaska to have and hold exclusive rights to all resources.

These would include: Fisheries, water and power development, recreation areas, lakes and streams. Provisions should be made so that the public would have access to such lakes and streams without being confronted with "No Trespassing signs". That the State never relinquish any of its resources to private exploitation.

This is a subject of vital interest to the present and future welfare of the State. We realize that much depends upon U.S. Congress, how much of the national resources will be turned over to the State. As we are not to familiar with any of the details, we trust that you will to the best of your ability safeguard the resources of the State, to the best interest of the majority of the people.

Truly yours

John E. Rahm, Secretary  
Fishermen & Allied Workers  
Local 30, ILWU
December 1, 1955

Mr. Al Anderson
Alaska Resource Development Board
Hdqts. Federal Building
P. O. Box 50
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Anderson:

Thank you for your letter of November 28 wherein you indicate your availability to meet with the Resources Committee.

Although the Committee has scheduled Saturday afternoon hearings for this week and next, for the general public, it was its purpose in writing to you to meet with you in regular Committee session. Should it be possible for you to be in Fairbanks to appear before the Committee on the 7th, 8th or 12th of December, appearance on any one of those dates would best fit into the present Committee schedule.

Awaiting your further word I am

Sincerely,

Burke Riley, Secretary
Resources Committee
November 25, 1955

Mr. William E. Colby
Attorney at Law
Mills Tower
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Colby:

The Alaska Constitutional Convention (now in session pursuant to Act of the Territorial Legislature) is considering constitutional coverage in the natural resources field, and would like to have the benefit of your views should you be disposed to comment on the enclosed "staff paper", or otherwise.

The committee feels that you could render invaluable help to the Convention and hence hopes that you may see fit to express yourself freely.

Thanking you for your kindness, I am

Sincerely yours,

Burke Riley
Secretary
Committee on Resources
Mr. Henry Roden
Attorney at Law
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Roden:

The Alaska Constitutional Convention (now in session pursuant to Act of the Territorial Legislature) is considering constitutional coverage in the natural resources field, and would like to have the benefit of your views should you be disposed to comment on the enclosed "staff paper", or otherwise.

The committee feels that you could render invaluable help to the Convention and hence hopes that you may see fit to express yourself freely.

Thanking you for your kindness, I am

Sincerely yours,

Burke Riley
Secretary
Committee on Resources
Mr. Burke Riley, Secretary  
Committee on Resources  
Alaska Constitutional Convention  
College, Alaska  

Dear Mr. Riley:

This will acknowledge the invitation of the Committee on Resources to submit our views on constitutional provisions in the resources field. I should like to be able to present our views to the Committee personally so that I will be able to answer any questions which Committee members might wish to ask.

If the Committee has scheduled hearings please advise me so that I can appear.

Sincerely,

Al Anderson  
Executive Director
Mr. Roger R. Robinson, Supervisor
Bureau of Land Management
P. O. Box 480
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Mr. Robinson:

Among committees of the Alaska Constitutional Convention now considering subject matter for inclusion in the Constitution is that on Resources, whose field includes all natural resources which will be the concern of the State of Alaska.

In pursuing its work the Resources Committee expects to conduct hearings and to entertain the views of those familiar with the several resource fields as to appropriate subject matter and scope for constitutional coverage.

The Committee wishes to ascertain whether it may have the benefit of your views, if you should have suggestions for Committee consideration.

If you should wish to meet with the Committee at College, will you kindly advise me of your preference as to time. Should a personal appearance not be possible, a brief written statement summarizing your views as to suitable constitutional provision in the resource field would be of interest to the Committee.

Sincerely yours,

Burke Riley
Secretary
Committee on Resources
Mr. Leonard Berlin  
Public Survey Office  
Bureau of Land Management  
Juneau, Alaska

Mr. Clarence L. Anderson  
Director, Territorial Department of Fisheries  
Juneau, Alaska

Mr. Phil Holdsworth  
Commissioner of Mines,  
Juneau, Alaska

Hon. E. L. Bartlett  
House Office Building  
Washington D. C.

Mr. Elmer Rasmussen, President  
Alaska National Bank of Fairbanks  
Fairbanks, Alaska

Mr. Leo Saarela  
Regional Mining Supervisor  
Conservation Division  
U. S. Geological Survey  
Box 259  
Anchorage, Alaska

D. Ernest Fatty, President  
University of Alaska  
College, Alaska

Mr. Don McKernan, Chief  
Commercial Fisheries Branch  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Juneau, Alaska

Dr. John Burkley  
Fish and Wildlife Research  
University of Alaska  
College, Alaska

Professor Fred Dean  
Wildlife Management  
University of Alaska  
College, Alaska

Mr. Robert Simon  
Territorial Department of Fisheries  
College, Alaska

Arthur W. Greeley  
Regional Forester  
U. S. Forest Service  
Juneau, Alaska

Mr. Henry Roden  
Attorney at Law  
Juneau, Alaska

Mr. William E. Colby  
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Mills Tower  
San Francisco, California

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Bureau of Land Management  
P. O. Box 480  
Anchorage, Alaska

Clarence J. Rhode  
Administrator of Wildlife,  
Fish and Wild Life Service  
Juneau, Alaska

Mr. Ben Gellenbeck  
711 N. 1st Street  
Tacoma, Washington

Mr. William T. Foran  
2116 Alki Way  
Seattle, Washington

Alaska Miners Association  
411 Central Building  
Seattle, Washington

Mr. Ralph Browne  
Anchorage, Alaska

Mr. Al Anderson  
Alaska Resources Development Board  
Juneau, Alaska

Mr. Harold T. Jorgenson  
Chief of Land and Minerals  
Bureau of Land Management  
P. O. Box 430  
Anchorage, Alaska
Secretary, C.I.O.
Purse Seiners Union
Ketchikan, Alaska

Secretary,
Halibut Fisherman's Association
Ketchikan, Alaska

D. Earl Beistline, Dean
School of Mines
University of Alaska
College, Alaska

Mr. James H. Wilson
Commissioner of Agriculture
Palmer, Alaska

Mr. A. H. Boddy, President
Alaska Sportsmen's Council
Juneau, Alaska

Mr. J. M. Honeywell
U. S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Box 1481
Juneau, Alaska

Mr. James A. Williams
Department of Mines
Box 1391
Juneau, Alaska

Mr. James D. Crawford,
Vice President,
U. S. Smelting Refining and Mining
Fairbanks, Alaska

Mr. Gabrielson

Mr. De Spain

Gov. Ernest Gruening
Juneau, Alaska
Arthur W. Greeley
Regional Forester
U. S. Forest Service
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College, Alaska
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Fairbanks, Alaska

Mr. Gabrielson

Mr. De Spain

Gov. Ernest Gruening
Juneau, Alaska
In reply to your communication of recent date, there is enclosed a statement in explanation of the Convention action taken regarding establishment of commissions for the regulation and administration of fish and game under the Constitution, as well as a copy of the enrolled Resources Article.

A full understanding of this matter may not be possible until you have had an opportunity to read the entire Constitution. I can assure you that this problem was not passed over lightly, but received many hours of consideration by both the Resources Committee and the full Convention.

Sincerely,

William A. Egan
President
STATEMENT REGARDING FISH AND WILDLIFE RESOURCES

One of the first actions taken by the Constitutional Convention was to pass the following resolution: "That the Constitution should be a document of basic principles of fundamental law...". The aim throughout has been to avoid legislative matter, and leave this to the discretion of future legislatures.

Before the Convention convened, and since, individual delegates and particularly the Resources Committee have received many communications and heard much testimony regarding the management and regulation of Alaska's fish and game. Opinions varied greatly from advice to leave the matter entirely to the legislature, to adoption of the full "Missouri plan", supported by the Alaska Sportsmen's Council and others.

The Resources Committee considered the "Missouri plan" in detail, and decided that it was entirely legislative matter and therefore not proper material for inclusion in the Constitution. After further lengthy consideration, the committee on a split vote adopted the following language as section 5 of its committee proposal on resources: "Regulation and administration of the commercial fisheries and of the wildlife, including game fish, shall be delegated to a commission, or to separate commissions, under such terms as the legislature shall prescribe." This of course was a compromise between divergent points of view.

When the Resources Article was reported to the floor of the Convention, a motion to strike section 5 was passed by a vote of 34 to 21. Two days later, on a motion to reconsider, the same action was supported by a vote of 35 to 20.

One delegate, speaking on the floor, expressed what appeared to be the majority opinion in the following terms:

"To place these valuable resources in a third-rate place in our state government under a constitutionally established commission or commissariat would be to do a grave injustice to the resources themselves and to all the people of the future state.

"In the interest of seeing these resources accorded the recognition, the appropriations and the flexibility needed to develop and preserve them for the commercial fishermen, the sportsmen and all of the people of our State, I must oppose freezing them into the Constitution under a commission or commissariat clause.

"I desire to see them in nothing less than a principal department of our state government, which under our Constitution may be a multi-headed department with staggered terms
of office and all of the other safeguards to assure a non-political continuity of policy and the broadest possible authority, attention to, and preservation of Alaska's fish, fur and game resources."

Secondly, during consideration of the Finance Article, delegates decided overwhelmingly that there would be no more earmarked funds in the State of Alaska "except where state participation in Federal programs will thereby be denied." For example, this exception allows for participation in Dingell-Johnson and Pittman-Robinson funds.

Finally, the majority of delegates felt that sufficient constitutional coverage of the matter was provided in other basic sections of the Resources Article. An enrolled copy of the article is enclosed, and attention is invited to sections: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 14, 15, 17 and 18.
RESOLVED, that the following be agreed upon as part of the Alaska State Constitution:

ARTICLE ON STATE LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCES

1. It is the policy of the State to foster and encourage settlement and development through the maximum use and availability of its natural resources consistent with the public interest.

2. The State of Alaska shall consist of all the territory, together with the territorial waters appurtenant thereto, included in the territory of Alaska upon the date of ratification of this constitution by the people of Alaska.

3. The State of Alaska shall provide for the utilization, conservation and development of all of the natural resources belonging to the State, including land and waters for the maximum benefit of its people.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Text</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Section 3. Forests, fish, wildlife, grass-lands and other replenishable resources belonging to the State shall be administered, utilized and maintained on the sustained yield principle, subject to preferences among beneficial uses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Section 4. Fish, wildlife, and waters wherever occurring in their natural states, are reserved to the people for common use.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Section 5. Facilities, improvements and services may be provided to assure greater utilization, development, reclamation and settlement of lands, and fuller utilization and development of the fisheries, wildlife and waters.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Section 6. Laws and regulations governing the use or disposal of natural resources shall apply equally to all persons similarly situated with reference to the subject matter and purpose to be served by the law or regulation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Section 7. Sites, objects and areas of natural beauty or of historic, cultural, recreational or scientific interest may be acquired, preserved, and administered for the use, enjoyment and welfare of the people, under the laws of the State, and may be reserved from the State public domain.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
State Public Domain  

Section 6. Lands and interests therein, including submerged and tidal lands, possessed or acquired by the State, and not used or intended exclusively for governmental purposes, constitute the State public domain.

The Legislature shall make provision for the selection of lands granted to the State by the United States, and for the administration of the State public domain.

Leases  

Section 9. The Legislature may provide for the leasing of and the issuance of exploration permits on any part of the public domain, or interests therein, subject to reasonable concurrent uses.

Leases shall provide, among other conditions, for payment by the party at fault for damage or injury arising from noncompliance with terms governing concurrent use and for forfeiture in the event of breach of conditions.

Sales and Grants  

Section 10. The Legislature may provide for the sale or grant of State lands or interests therein, and establish sales procedures subject to the following conditions:

All sales or grants of State land shall contain such reservations to the State of all
resources as are required by the Congress, or
the State, and shall provide for access thereto;
except that the reservation of access shall not
impair the owners' use, prevent the control of
trespass, nor preclude compensation for damage.

Section 11. Disposals or leases of state
lands or interests therein shall be preceded
by such public notice and other appropriate
safeguards of the public interest as the
Legislature shall prescribe.

Section 12. Discovery and appropriation
shall be the basis for establishing a right in
those minerals subject to location under the
Federal mining laws in force upon the date of
ratification of this Constitution by the people
of Alaska and thereafter reserved to the State,
as well as in all other metallic minerals re­
served to the State. Prior discovery, location
and filing shall, as prescribed by law, give
prior right to such minerals and to issuance of
permits, and transferable licenses, leaseholds,
deeds, or patents if authorized by the Congress,
and by the State, for the extraction thereof.
Except as title to mineral lands shall have been
conveyed by the State, continuance of such right
shall depend upon performance of annual labor; on
payment of fees, rents, or royalties, or such
other requirements as may be prescribed by the
Legislature.

Surface use of such lands, by the mineral
claimant, shall be limited to those necessary to
either the extraction or basic processing of
mineral deposits.

The Legislature shall provide for the
issuance, type, and terms of leases for coal,
oil, gas, oil shale, sodium, phosphate, potash,
sulfur, pumice, and other minerals as may be
prescribed by law.

Leases and permits giving exclusive right
of exploration for specific periods and areas,
subject to reasonable concurrent exploration as
to different classes of minerals, may be
authorized for exploration conducted for coal,
oil, gas, oil shale, sodium, phosphate, potash,
sulfur, pumice and other minerals as may be
prescribed by law. Like permits and leases
may also be authorized by law for the use of
geophysical, geochemical and similar methods of
prospecting for all minerals.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Water Rights</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>Section 13. All surface and subsurface waters reserved to the people for common use, shall except mineral and medicinal waters, be subject to appropriation. Priority of appropriation shall give prior right. An appropriation of water, except for public water supply, shall be limited to stated purposes and subject to preferences among beneficial uses, concurrent or otherwise, as prescribed by the Legislature.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Access to Navigable Waters</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Section 14. Free access to the navigable or public waters of the State as defined by the Legislature shall not be denied any resident of Alaska or citizen of the United States, except that the State may by general law regulate and limit such access for other beneficial or public purposes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Exclusive Right of Fishery</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Section 15. There shall be no exclusive right or special privilege of fishery created or authorized in the natural waters of the State.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divestment of Rights</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>Section 16. No person shall be involuntarily divested of his right to use of waters, his interests in lands, or improvements affecting either, except for a superior beneficial or public use and then only with just compensation and by operation of law.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Section 17. Proceedings in eminent domain may be undertaken for private ways of necessity to permit essential access for extraction or utilization of resources, and just compensation for such taking, as well as for the taking of or damages to inferior property rights, shall be made.

Section 18. The enumeration of specified powers shall not be construed as limitations on other implied powers of the State in relation to the utilization, development and conservation of natural resources, except as specifically provided herein.
13 Howard Houtz, Anchorage

14 Sitka Sportsmen's Assn.
   Cecil C. McClain, Sec.
   Sitka

15 Anchorage Sportsmen's Assn.
   Burton O. Ablestram, Sec.
   Anchorage, Alaska

16 Ed M. Howell, Vice Pres.
   Alaska Sportsman Council
   Anchorage

17 Alaska Range Assn.
   Alton B. Cross, Pres.
   Anchorage

18 Stikine Sportsmen's Assn.
   Maurice S. Burness, Sec-Treas.
   Wrangell, Alaska
7. Anchorage Chapter, Izook Walton League of America
   Louis Juhreke, Sec.
   Anchorage

8. Alaska Native Brotherhood - Camp No. 1
   Albert S. Davis, President
   Sitka

9. Anchorage Sportsmen's Assoc.
   Jess Morrison, Pres.
   Anchorage

    Mirth B. Sarvela
    Sitka

11. Anchorage Sportsmen's Assoc.
    A.W. Long, Sec.
    Anchorage

12. Jean A. Blanchard
    Anchorage
    (No further address)
1. Ketchikan Rod and Gun Club
   Al Wright, Pres.
   Ketchikan

2. Thlinket Tribe, No. 4
   Improved Order of Redmen
   Ketchikan

3. Marcus Jensen
   Juneau

4. Alaska Native Brotherhood
   Wm. L. Paul, Grand President
   Juneau

5. Arthur Skinner
   Juneau

6. Juneau Vessel Owners
   Roel M. Fleming, Sec.
   Juneau
1. Harry Cowans Sport & Outfitting Center
   Ketchikan

2. Cordova District Fisheries Union
   Cordova

   Myrth B. Sorensen
   Sitka

A. Alaska Native Brotherhood
   Herbert Bradley, Grand Vice-president
   Wrangell

5. Alaska Development Board
   Al Anderson, Director
   Juneau
11  √ Edmund A. Hicke
     Box 967
     Juneau

12  √ Mrs. Cliff Webber
     Anchorage

13  √ Alaska Sportsmen's Council
     Box 761
     Juneau

14  √ Izpok Walton League of America, Inc.
     Anchorage

15  √ Donald L. McKenna
     U.S. Dept. of Interior
     Fish and Wildlife Service
     Juneau

16  √ John E. Longworth
     Petersburg

17  √ Marcus F. Jensen
     Douglas

18  √ Stikine Sportsmen's Assn.
     Wrangell

19  √ Cordova Fish & Cold Storage
     F. A. Schwartzbacher, Supt.
     Cordova
Hon. William Egan, President,
College, Alaska.

Dear Mr. Egan;--

In response to your kind favor of the 28th, I have to note several items that need clarification;--

Sec. 15 doesn't mean what it says if the opinion of the solicitor of the United States states the law correctly. The White Fisheries Act has the same provision and we thought it would prohibit fish traps because from their nature, they are an exclusive form of fishing, an opinion concurred in by a former Secretary of the Interior. That is why I advised the committee last December to add these words—"provided that where one may fish, all may fish".

With respect to a provision requiring the government of fisheries by a commission and game and fur by another, this organization is fully prepared for the rough and tumble of the political fight which will come from the defeat of this provision. Our only concern was to minimize the degree of politics that will ensue.

The convention also should understand that this organization has never claimed any power to control a block of votes, nor do we have anybody who would master-mind the native vote, but we can claim that on matters that concern the natives of southeastern Alaska, this organization speaks their mind, and if some would ask how many natives we might expect would be influenced by this organization, I would say all the natives in this Division; that is to say 28.5% of the population.

We don't understand why certain delegates call us a pressure group in a bad sense. We are interested in shaping the future of our own welfare. We are the people along with others. Those who fear or resent pressure merely confess their weakness. Of such people, we are glad to say your convention has a minimum.

Our best wishes for your ultimate success goes to the convention from all of our membership. Let the constitution be as good a one as possible and let its articles be not colored by any intentional weakness.

Yours sincerely

William L. Paul, Sr.
Grand President
ALASKA NATIVE BROTHERHOOD
President, Alaska Constitutional Convention  
University of Alaska  
College, Alaska  

Dear Mr. President:  

The members of the University of Alaska Wildlife Club, numbering about 40 men engaged in acquiring professional training in wildlife management, strongly recommend the inclusion of provision for wildlife administration in the Constitution.  

We respectfully urge that the following section be inserted as Section 5 of Committee Proposal 8A.  

"Regulation and management of the commercial fisheries and of the wildlife including game fish, shall be delegated to separate commissions under such terms as the Legislature shall provide. Provision shall be made by the Legislature for appointment of commissioners to staggered terms to provide the necessary continuity of programs and prevent undue political interference with proper management. In the administration of wildlife resources, license fees and other revenues shall be available to the commission without reservation and dedicated to management of these resources."  

We trust that you and the other delegates will reconsider your action, and include such a section in our Constitution.  

We also urge that some provision to prohibit further pollution and provide for abatement of present sources of pollution be included.  

Sincerely yours,  

David T. Hoopes  
Corresponding Secretary
Tanana Valley Sportsmen's Association
INCORPORATED
P.O. Box 669  Fairbanks, Alaska

January 23, 1956

Mr. William A. Eagan
President, Alaska Constitutional Convention
College, Alaska

Dear Mr. President:

It is respectfully requested that the contents of this letter be read on the floor of the convention to the delegates and directed to the special attention of the 4th Division Delegates.

This association, numbering 437 members, and by request speaking in this letter for the Alaska Sportsmen's Council, representing approximately 2300 members, desire to express objection to and recommend corrective action in the case of certain constitutional matters as follows:

1. We take great exception to the action of the delegates in amending the resources committee proposal through deletion of paragraph 5 of Section 8-A and request again that in lieu of said deletion the following be inserted, "Regulation and management of the commercial fisheries and of the wildlife, including game fish, shall be delegated to separate commissions under such terms as the legislative shall provide. Provisions shall be made by the legislature for appointment of staggered terms of office to provide indispensable continuity of program and prevent undue political interference with proper management." This recommendation represents not just an opinion but is the result of extensive research and consideration of the facts. We cannot accept anything less than this minimum.

2. We again express our objection to the prohibition of the valuable practise of earmarking of funds. It is desired that the convention delete or substantially modify this provision. Our immediate purpose in making this recommendation is to permit license fees and similar wildlife revenue sources to be made available without reservation or interference to the management of these resources. It is desired to remind the convention that those who purchase such licenses are not relieved of paying any other normal or just tax. That in fact these persons pay this fee gladly over and above all other contributions. It is unjust that such revenue be diverted to any other purpose than the perpetuation of wildlife. It is also desired to invite the attention of the delegates to the fact that earmarking is a form of financial control, a self imposed insurance. In lieu of ear marking, some other form of financial control must inevitably arise. The delegates would do well to investigate this matter of ear marking to a far greater degree than the receipt of expressed opinion of some students of government.

3. It is the opinion of this association that Alaska stands on the verge of an era of considerable industrial expansion. In view of this belief and in the light of experience elsewhere it would be highly desirable to include in our constitution provisions which would check stream and lake pollution. It is recommended that the following be inserted into the constitution: "Industrial or domestic waste shall not be added
to Alaskan waters in the event that such waste be deleterious to human or other animal life, provided further that the legislature shall make reasonable provision for the progressive elimination of existing sources of deleterious material through modification of method or other solution."

Sincerely

Dr. James C. Beckley, Pres.
Tanana Valley Sportsmen's Association

cc: Leonard King
Editor, Daily Alaska Empire  
Juneau, Alaska.  

Petersburg, Alaska  
January 22, 1956.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the Page 1 article of Friday’s Empire, relative to the request made by the Terr. Sportsmen, Inc. for two separate agencies to administer Alaska’s fish and game.

Delegates are now working to draw up the best and fairest constitution possible for all Alaskans. It might be presumed that the best constitution would be one that takes care of fundamentals, leaving the supporting legislation to future legislatures. I am glad to see that W. C. Smith and his Resources Committee felt that way on the matter of the Fish and Game.

It is very possible that the economy of operating the new state government may decide whether or not Alaskans will want it. If it starts out loaded with duplicity we may not even have a chance of having statehood granted us.

What IS the basic reason for wanting a separate agency to handle game and fish, while another agency handles commercial fish (will this commercial fish agency have jurisdiction over fur-bearing animals, that in themselves are not game to be hunted, but are trapped commercially for their pelts?)

Suppose two agencies or departments are created, what in particular will it solve? There would be duplicate directors; duplicate clerical staffs; duplicate enforcement officers; duplicate operating equipment; duplicate biological staffs; duplicate engineering staffs; duplicate publicity departments; duplicate airplanes chartered to carry duplicate officials to the same destination for the same purpose; duplicate numbers of lobbyists to harrass legislators who by this time are seeing double for ever getting themselves into such a hell of a mess. But that necessarily, isnt the worst of it. Who will be the big loser? the fish and game. The greater share of the taxpayers money will go casually and continuously down the drain as the rival agencies funds and energies are dissipated in an interagency dogfight.

Its of little interest to the coho whether the fellow on the business end of a spinning rod is a southern Democrat or a New England Republican. Hed have the same interest when he was wr ped up in a 250 fathom seine. Proving only this, that the wildlife has no interest in politics or pressure groups, and by the same token these groups should be entirely out of the wildlife picture.

If one department or agency were established to handle all fisheries, a more efficient and realistic management could, and I believe, would be effected. I am sure it would ultimately provide the greatest good for the greatest number of Alaskans, and that is exactly what our delegates are earnestly trying to achieve.

Let us have a good and able Director for our Wildlife, a staff of competent personnel, and let them expand their total efforts toward a goal of enlightened wildlife management, knowing that while they are competently performing their tasks, the political complexion of the then present legislature will mean little or nothing.

c.c. W. C. Smith, Delegate  

John E. Longworth-Petersburg
CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION COLLEGE

WE URGES THAT YOU RECONSIDER WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SECTION AND CONSIDER PROPOSAL ALASKA SPORTSMENS COUNCIL

SITKA SPORTSMENS ASSN CECIL C MCCLAIN SECRETARY
Recommendations to Constitutional Delegates

Fairbanks, Alaska - January 16, 1956

The undersigned commercial fishermen believe the Missouri state constitutional provision is the best in the U. S. and this is endorsed by leaders in the conservation field. We would like to see a modified form adopted for Alaska. As an absolute minimum we believe nothing less than the following will be acceptable:

"Regulation and management of the commercial fisheries and of the wildlife including game fish, shall be delegated to separate commissions under such terms as the Legislature shall provide. Provision shall be made by the Legislature for appointment of commissioners to staggered terms to provide the necessary continuity of programs and prevent undue political interference with proper management.

In the administration of wildlife resources, license fees and other revenues shall be available to the commission without reservation and dedicated to management of these resources."

---

[Signatures and names of fishermen]
Joe Krull
H.E. Jacobson
Bill Ray
Pat Robinson
Art Holstwick
Peter Bond
Mike Brown
Herman Licik
Joseph C. Borzech
E.O. Roman

Gerard Z. Karrickman
Chris T. Garvan
Louis M. Neil
Joe Fuchs
George W. Abbott
Paul Kenney
Paul C. Patchen
A. G. Mood

Doughle Blakem
Box 2162, Jermyn
OUR RECOMMENDATION REGARDING FISH AND WILDLIFE REGULATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE COMMERCIAL FISHERIES AND OF THE WILDLIFE INCLUDING GAME FISH SHALL BE DELEGATED TO SEPARATE COMMISSIONS UNDER SUCH TERMS AS THE LEGISLATURE SHALL PROVIDE. (PROVISION SHALL BE MADE BY THE LEGISLATURE FOR APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONERS TO STAGGERED TERMS TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY CONTINUITY OF PROGRESS AND PREVENT UNDUE POLITICAL INTERFERENCE WITH PROPER MANAGEMENT.) PLEASE GIVE THIS RECOMMENDATION YOUR FULL CONSIDERATION.

STIKINE SPORTSMENS ASSOCIATION
MAURICE S BUNESS
SEC TREAS
January 13, 1956

Mr. A. W. Boddy
Juneau
Alaska

Dear Mr. Boddy:

Your wire of the 13th speaks of the tentative resources proposal which has since been withdrawn by the committee for further attention.

On return to Fairbanks early in January the committee met and considered the language proposed to me by your group. It is a nine man committee. I had told you I personally would not resist the inclusion of your group's brief language favoring separate commissions and so advised the committee. The language adopted by the committee is as follows:

"Regulation and management of the commercial fisheries and of the wild life, including game fish, shall be delegated to a commission, or to separate commissions, under such terms as the legislature shall prescribe."

A number of considerations prompted the committee to adopt such language and to make no mention of staggered terms or removal of the commission from politics. In most, if not all, of the 30 or 40 territorial boards and commissions with which I have been acquainted, the staggered term concept is followed. It is firmly fixed in legislative thinking in Alaska and the committee looks upon such arrangement as one which will inevitably continue, without mention in the Constitution.

As to politics, all share the view that resources management of all types, including game and wild life management, be removed from politics. Its mention in the Constitution, however, in the committee's judgement, would not accomplish the purpose sought; but instead would be merely a pious and unrealistic gesture. The problem is one of defining "Politics", and of naming selfless, responsible people to the commission. Certainly the sportsmen will make their wishes and preferences known to every Governor who may appoint game commissioners. Just as certainly, in so doing, the sportsmen themselves will be engaged in politics, although not in the sense you have used the word.
Likewise, in appearing before the legislature or before any other public body to advance a particular program, any group becomes engaged in politics, in that politics and government under our system are inseparable. I know that this is not the sense in which you have employed the term, but in considering its full range of meaning, you will see the objections to its use in the Constitution.

In support of this view I might mention that the Convention has twice adopted the term "non-partisan", once with respect to the Judicial Council and once in providing for a Board of Reapportionment. In each instance the Style and Drafting Committee — the last committee to consider each article and put it in final form — has stricken the word "non-partisan" because of its uncertainty of meaning and doubtful enforceability. Just yesterday that committee announced that intention on the convention floor, and no objection was made.

Another consideration bearing on the committee language quoted above is that no other executive agency's structure is spelled out in any detail in the articles under consideration by the convention. The language covering game and wild-life is the fullest treatment given any executive agency, and I have no reason to believe there will be such detailed treatment given others in the final draft of the Constitution.

Since the committee proposal is not, of course, final, and will be subject to amendment on the floor, I am wondering if you have circulated your group's most recent statement (that which I discussed with you in Juneau) among the entire membership of the convention. Such distribution would at least put the matter clearly before the entire body. Should that be done, copies could go in one package to the Convention's Secretary for distribution.

As to the Finance provision, I have discussed the matter both in the Resources Committee and with members of the Finance Committee. All I have spoken to have felt that the Finance article covers the situation as fully as it should appear constitutionally, and that with such constitutional coverage explicit provision to meet the situations you described in Texas and Illinois would then be in the province of the Legislature.

I know that you appreciate the close questions which often arise in determining what is legislative and what is constitutional subject matter. It is a question constantly before the convention. It is the consensus of the Convention that the constitution shall consist of a brief statement of broad fundamental principles within which the legislature may perform. Many groups and
January 13, 1956

Mr. A. W. Boddy

interests, while in substantial agreement with that, have doubtless felt that fuller treatment should be given in the constitution to the matters of particular interest to them. Such a very understandable situation is only human and is one which is reflected in the convention itself. Yet the individual delegates, to achieve a balanced and overall creditable document, have frequently made personal sacrifices of position in favor of the document's improvement. I am sure that the same spirit is shared by most Alaskans.

With personal regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Burke Riley

P. S. I have had other communications in this respect and am taking the liberty of sending copies of this letter to those who share your concern for game management.

cc/ Sitka Chamber of Commerce
Sitka, Alaska

Tanana Valley Sportsmen's Association
Fairbanks, Alaska
CARE ALASKA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION COLLEGE

THE TENTATIVE PROPOSALS MADE IN SECTION 3 OF RESOURCES ARTICLE ARE IN OUR OPINION INCOMPLETE IN REFERENCE TO WILDLIFE AND SPORTS FISH WORKING SHOULD BE "COMMISSION" COMMISSIONS SERVING STAGED TERMS ALSO SOME WORDING SUCH AS BEEN SUGGESTED PREVIOUSLY ASSURING COMMISSION WILL BE AS NON PARTISAN AS POSSIBLE REGARDING COMMERCIAL FISHERYS WE NOTE THERE IS NO PROVISION FOR COMMISSION TYPE MANAGEMENT SUCH AS WAS PROPOSED WE FEEL THIS IS OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE HAVE TALKED TO MANY FISHERMEN IN THIS AREA HAVE YET TO FIND ONE WHO DOES NOT WANT THIS PROVISION IN CONSTITUTION AGAIN WOULD URGE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN

PAGE TWO JU013

DONALD MCKERNANS BRIEF OUR PROPOSAL REGARDING FINANCES FOR WILDLIFE AND SPORTS FISH I BELIEVE YOU REALIZE IS A MUST HOPING THIS ARTICLE ON RESOURCES CAN BE DRAFTED IN SUCH A MANNER THAT IT CAN BE ENDORSED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF ALASKA SPORTSMEN COUNCIL

A W BUD BODDY

3

(48)
ALASKA CONSTITUTION CONVENTION FBX

REQUEST ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES CONTROL SPORT AND COMMERCIAL 
FISHERIES. BELIEVE THESE TWO FUNCTIONS SHOULD NOT BE SEPARATED.

CORDOVA FISH & COLD STORAGE CO F A SWARTZBACKER SUPT
KPA201KA993
FA JS034 13 PD SITKA ALASKA 13 131P
BURKE RILEY SECRETARY
RESOURCES COMMITTEE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION COLLEGE
SITKA CHAMBER URGES ADOPTION WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SECTION AS
PROPOSED BY ALASKA SPORTMEN'S COUNCIL
SITKA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

(31)
TELEGRAM
ALASKA COMMUNICATION SYSTEM
GESTOR CORPS, UNITED STATES ARM.
FEDERAL BLDG., FAIRBANKS, ALASKA

1956 JAN 12 PM 3 35

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FA ACA010 19 NL PD 2 EXA CORDOVA ALASKA 12

HON W O SMITH 1343

ALASKA CONSTITUTION CONVENTION FBX

URGENTLY REQUEST THAT SPORT FISHERIES AND COMMERCIAL FISHERIES BE
UNDER SAME AUTHORITY, NAMELY: ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES

CORDOVA DIST FISHERIES UNION HAROLD Z HANSEN EXEC SECY
Constitutional Convention
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Sirs:

At a regular meeting of the Wrangell Camp, Alaska Native Brotherhood and Alaska Native Sisterhood held on January 9, 1956 with 64 members present I was instructed to inform you of the following:

The local camp endorses recommendations made to the Constitutional Delegates by the Alaska Sportmans Council.

A copy of the recommendations is enclosed.

Yours truly,

Herbert Bradley
Grand Vice-President
January 11, 1956

Mr. William Egan, Chairman
Constitutional Convention
Fairbanks, Alaska

Gentlemen:

In a meeting of the executive board of the Stikine Sportsmen's Association held recently it was voted unanimously to make the following recommendation:

"Regulation and management of the commercial fisheries and of the wildlife including game fish, shall be delegated to separate commissions under such terms as the Legislature shall provide. Provision shall be made by the Legislature for appointment of commissioners to staggered terms to provide the necessary continuity of progress and prevent undue political interference with proper management.

We ask that you give this recommendation your full consideration.

Very truly yours,

STIKINE SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Maurice S. Buness
Sec-Treas.

MSBmeb
January 6, 1956

TO: Delegates to the Alaska Constitutional Convention

FROM: C. L. Anderson, Director, Alaska Department of Fisheries, on behalf of the Alaska Fisheries Board

SUBJECT: Fish and fisheries provisions in the Alaska Constitution

The Alaska Fisheries Board, at its 1955 spring and fall meetings, devoted considerable deliberation to the inclusion of fish and fisheries provisions in the Constitution of the future State of Alaska. The Board's findings were recorded after an extensive discussion and study on the matter. The Board's recommendations are listed below for your perusal.

1. The Constitution should include a provision guaranteeing everyone an equal right of fishery and should prohibit the grant of any exclusive or several right of fishery.

2. Some general statement should be included that would establish an overall policy for the conservation of all the natural resources, which, of course, would include fish.

3. The creation of boards and/or commissions for supervision of the various natural resources should be a legislative prerogative. Since Alaska is on the threshold of economic, social and political change, the organizations set up to administer the natural resources of the State should be flexible, subject to change by the legislature rather than to change by the complex and difficult method of Constitutional Amendment.

4. In case natural resources boards or commissions are created in the Constitution, all fish and fisheries should be administered by one department. The division of fish or fisheries into two departments would lead to duplication of effort and confusion. Such duplication of effort would be expensive, a luxury the people and fish of Alaska cannot afford. A prime example of this is offered by the State of Oregon where the Oregon Fish Commission regulates commercial fishing for salmon and the Oregon Game Commission regulates sport fishing for salmon. Both agencies maintain salmon hatcheries and do research on salmon. An interesting brief relating to this problem is enclosed.
For your information, the Alaska Fisheries Board was created by Chapter 68, SLA 1949. The Board consists of five members appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by a majority of all the members of the Senate and House of Representatives in joint session assembled. The Alaska Fisheries Board includes Mr. J. Howard Wakefield, Chairman, Port Wakefield; Mr. Kenneth D. Bell, Fairbanks; Mr. Robert C. Kallenberg, Dillingham; Mr. Nels E. Nelson, Ketchikan; and Mr. Ira H. Rothwell, Cordova.

C. L. Anderson

Enclosure
Mr. W. O. Smith, Chairman  
Alaska Constitutional Convention  
University of Alaska  
Fairbanks, Alaska  

Dear Mr. Smith: 

I appreciate very much your sending me a copy of the proposed report of the Committee on Resources for the Alaska Constitutional Convention. I wish it had been possible for me to respond earlier, but I just returned to Washington, D.C., yesterday and this is the first chance I have had to go through the mail. 

I have scanned it and in practically all respects find myself pretty much in accord with the proposition you have set forth. It seems to me that you have profited from the experience of other states. Certainly the philosophy represented by the several sections is sound. 

I am particularly interested at the moment in Sections 13 and 14. Some states-side people have expressed the fear that Alaska would attempt to adopt Constitutional provisions which might discriminate against non-Alaskans participating in fishery resources. I take these two sections to mean that all citizens of whatever state would have equal rights in fisheries under jurisdiction of Alaska. No specific regulations discriminating against non-Alaskans could be issued or legislation enacted without violation of these sections. 

I mention this because, after receiving a number of queries from Washington State, I had the point briefed by the Library of Congress. The consensus of the brief was that under the Constitution of the United States all citizens do have equal access — must be treated alike. As I said before, my interpretation of the provisions mentioned is in accord with the general thesis of the brief. 

I think you made a fine start and I wish you every success. Kindest regards. 

Sincerely, 

[Signature]
Mr. W. O. Smith, Chairman
Resources Committee
Alaska Constitutional Convention
Constitution Hall
College, Alaska

Dear Mr. Smith:

Thank you for sending me a copy of Committee Proposal 8, introduced by the Committee on Resources and entitled "State Lands and Natural Resources."

I have had my staff members make a preliminary study of the proposal and they recommend that it be presented to the Constitutional Convention on January 8, 1956. There may be some minor changes to be made but, on the whole, the proposal appears to contain the provisions necessary to safeguard the state lands and natural resources. I will be particularly interested in Sections 1, 8, 9, 10, and 17, since we have discussed these items many times during our Committee deliberations.

I commend you for the work the members of the Constitutional Convention are doing and trust that an acceptable constitution will be forthcoming.

Sincerely yours,

CLAIR ENGLE
Chairman
Honororable Burke Riley, Secretary  
Committee on Resources  
Alaska Constitutional Convention  
University of Alaska  
College, Alaska

My dear sir:

I feel honored to be called upon to provide your committee with material in the natural resources field. My own experience and training is in the field of fisheries and so I shall confine my remarks and ideas to this field. I shall also like to remind the members of your committee that I am not authorized to speak for the Fish and Wildlife Service nor the Department of Interior but only for myself.

As some of your committee members may know, I am a professional fishery biologist and have been working in the field of fisheries biology and management since 1938. I have worked not only for the Federal Government but also for the State Fishery Departments of Washington and Oregon. During my career I have also come in close contact with the fisheries division of the territory of Hawaii; therefore, I do have some first-hand knowledge of the fisheries organizations of West Coast States and the territory of Hawaii. In addition, I had the opportunity for about four months to study the research and management organizations throughout Japan, including those of about eighteen prefectures (states).

To review the administration of adjoining states, the State of Washington Department of Fisheries operates as a direct executive branch of the Governor. The Governor appoints the Director of Fisheries who then organizes his staff of both technical and operational personnel. The State of Washington also has a game department which is in charge of game species of fish and operates under a Game Commission. The State of Oregon has two separate Commissions, a Fish Commission and Game Commission. The Fish Commission is engaged in the management and regulation of commercial fisheries of Oregon, the Game Commission administers the game fish and game laws of the state. In Hawaii there is a Board of Agricultural and Forestry with one of its divisions the Fishery Division. California manages its resources with a Natural Resources Division and Commissions operating with each branch, such as the California Division of Fish and Game. Both game and food fish are administered by the same Department. The fisheries of British Columbia are regulated by the Central Government.
Perhaps the best way to approach the problem would be for me to draw up in rough form a basic organization which I feel would best administer the natural resources of the new State. It would be my recommendation that the natural resources be administered by a group of Commissions; thus there might be agricultural, forestry, fisheries and game commissions administering the natural resources of Alaska. The Commissioners to be appointed to overlapping terms by the Governor. Commissioners should be nonpartisan or with equal or nearly so representation of both political parties on the Commission, and in the case of fisheries the Commissioners should be primarily people with no close financial responsibilities to either commercial fisheries or game activities. Thus the majority of the men on the Commission would represent the people of Alaska rather than any one particular segment of the population.

Digressing for a moment, I do not think it healthy or advisable that a Fisheries Commission, for example, should be composed of predominately people financially involved in the commercial fisheries. It seems advisable to choose citizens who are not themselves involved in the harvest or exploitation of the resource for their own profit, thus their deliberations and decisions can be as free from bias as is humanly possible.

The smaller such a commission, the better. My recommendation would be for three members but not more than five, and since these members should represent the public as a whole, rather than districts or groups utilizing the resource, there is not the incentive for a large unwieldy commission representing only their own geographical area or economic group.

It is also essential that such commissioners participate on these commissions for some length of time in order to develop knowledge and stature. I suggest five-year terms of appointment with the possibility of outstanding members being reappointed at the will of the Governor. I know of one member of a Northwest State Commission who served for about thirty years under both democrats and republicans. He has served the people of his state well, and is an outstanding conservationist from all points of view (he is a lawyer by profession).

It is important that a Director of such a department be selected by the Commission for a five-year term also and be subject to reappointment. If a Commission felt that its policies were not being carried out, the Director could be replaced either by cause during his term or by not being reappointed for another five-year term. The Commission would be obligated to set policies for the Director, with the Director given the responsibility for carrying out the functions of the Department. The Commission by meeting monthly or bi-monthly should be insurance against changes in policy, and can determine whether the program is well designed, efficiently executed and economically operated.
I recommend that the Director be allowed to pick his Assistant Director and that all the remaining heads of the various divisions be Civil Service appointees and subject to removal only upon cause. This would insure the policy making members of the natural resource departments subject to the policies laid down by the resources Boards. The technical staff members would be assured of being of professional caliber and of competence and experience in their various fields.

Attached is a chart showing the basic idea of a Fisheries Commission; other natural resources commissions could be along the same lines with adjustments, at the discretion of the Director, for administrative and operational setups. Undoubtedly one particular argument will arise in providing for such natural resources administration under the Constitution. Whether or not to have a single division of natural resources or one that will at least combine commercial fisheries with game and game fish. It is my belief that, because of the difference in the outlook of the people directly concerned in harvesting the game resources and those harvesting the forestry, agricultural and commercial fishery resources, better mutual trust and understanding and consequently better conservation will occur from separating these Commissions and giving them equal status. It is my experience that with competent, alert citizens appointed to such Commissions and with the Constitution proving for replacement of Commissioners and administrative staff members the citizenry is amply protected against malfeasance or incompetence. It is essential that complete trust in such departments be developed by the public, and it is my view that where these are combined into one Commission or one organization the people making the most noise or possessing the greatest economic or political control dominate the single Commission sometimes to the detriment of the smaller, less vocal, less political and less economical resource group. On the long term basis this might mean the sacrifice of a potentially more valuable resource at the expense of some immediate gain by a relatively small segment of our population.

I hope this very brief summary of my views is helpful in at least stimulating your interest. If I can be of a further aid, please do not hesitate to call upon me.

Respectfully yours,

[Signature]

Donald L. McKernan
Administrator of Alaska
Commercial Fisheries
POLICY MAKING

Other Natural - - - - - - - - - - Fisheries Commission 1/
Resources Commission 5 members

Governor's Office

Director
Assistant Director (appointed)

Public education
and information

Operations
Management
Enforcement
Stream improvement
Engineering & construction
Aircraft
Vessels
Hatcheries

Research
District Biologists
Fundamental Research
Coordination with Universities

1/ I would recommend basically the same basic organization for all other natural resources with difference departmental divisions left to a great extent to the discretion of the Director.
SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE, SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON BACK HEREOF:

NITE LETTER

Dr. Ira N. Gabrielson
President of the Wild Life Management Institute
709 Wire Building
Washington 5, D. C.

RERUEL DECEMBER 13TH AGREEABLE STOP THANKS

cc: Reading  Classified  Confirmation

December 4, 1955  Time sent: 4:00 P. M.

BURKE RILEY
December 1, 1955

Mr. Donald L. McKernan  
U. S. Dept. of the Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. McKernan:

Thank you for your letter of November 28 and for your offer of a written statement stating further your views as to Constitutional coverage in the Resources field.

The Committee regrets your inability to meet with it, but appreciates your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Burke Riley, Secretary  
Resources Committee
Mr. Burke Riley, Secretary
Committee on Resources
Alaska Constitutional Convention
University of Alaska
College, Alaska

Dear Mr. Riley:

Because of urgency of official business at the present time, I cannot foresee within the next month any time to appear before your Committee in person. I have been authorized by our Washington office to supply you with a written statement and I shall do so within the next few days.

I hope this will satisfactorily provide your Committee with my views on the matter of conservation of the natural resources of Alaska.

Yours very truly,

Donald L. McKernan
Administrator of Alaska
Commercial Fisheries
Mr. Burke Riley, Secretary  
Alaska Constitutional Convention  
Committee on Resources  
College, Alaska  

Dear Mr. Riley:  

Thank you for your letter of November 19. I consider it a privilege to be able to present some of the views of the Alaska Department of Fisheries to the Committee on Resources. I certainly hope that we can be of some service to the Committee.  

I will be available at any time the Committee finds it convenient to hear me. I would appreciate, however, if advance notice of a day or two would be given, else your summons finds me in the field.  

Sincerely yours,  
Alaska Department of Fisheries  

Robert J. Simon, Jr. Biologist
Mr. Burke Riley  
Secretary, Committee on Resources  
Alaska Constitutional Convention  
University of Alaska  
College, Alaska  

Dear Mr. Riley:  

Thank you very much for your letter of November 19 inviting me to present my views and suggestions to your committee.  

I would like very much to meet with your committee and would be available at any time for such a meeting. I would appreciate one or two days' notice if possible, but if need be, I can appear with no advance notice.  

I feel that your committee has the most important and far-reaching problems of the entire Constitution before it, and I am deeply honored to be asked to participate in your activities.  

Sincerely yours,  

John L. Buckley  
Associate Professor of Wildlife Management
Alaska Fisheries Board
Juneau, Alaska

Gentlemen:

The day after your board meeting opens, the constitutional convention, to which I am a delegate, will convene at College, Alaska.

I have given considerable thought to possible provisions in the constitution concerning the fisheries of Alaska, and reached the conclusion that only a very general provision guaranteeing everyone an equal right of fishery and prohibiting the granting of any exclusive or several right of fishery can safely be made a part of the constitution. Any further provision could at some future time hamper the department of fisheries in the necessary control of our fisheries.

There are, however, several provisions which will probably be considered, and I would like very much to have your opinions on the following questions:

Should the fisheries board be established by a provision in the constitution, or should this be left to legislation?

In considering this question, it should be borne in mind that should the board be established by constitutional provision, the only method in which this can be changed is by constitutional amendment. If established by legislation, it can be changed merely by an act of the legislature.

It is a certainty that the first state legislature is going to be compelled to eliminate every possible expense and it might be considered necessary by some to eliminate all boards and commissions until such time as the state can support them financially.

The Alaska Sportsmen's Council has recommended that game and game fish be separated from the commercial fishery and administered under a commission established by constitutional provision. You will undoubtedly have further information on this.

I have informed the Alaska Sportsmen's Council that I felt it was essential that the Alaska Department of Fisheries have absolute regulatory powers over salmon wherever they may be caught and by whatever method.

I have also considered asking the convention to include a provision that any person, firm, corporation or association which is responsible for the blocking of any stream in which salmon spawn and over which the state has control, shall be compelled to:

1. Make adequate and satisfactory provision for the escapement or ascension of salmon.
2. Compensate the state annually for the loss of the salmon run.
3. Open, under the supervision of the Alaska Department of Fisheries, a now barren stream of like size or area to the one blocked, by the installation of a system of fish ladders.

The wording here leaves something to be desired, but the statement of policy made by the fisheries board a few years ago could be utilized to improve the wording.

I would appreciate an opinion from the Board concerning these questions as well as any suggestions or recommendations that the Board might like to make. With best wishes for a successful meeting, I am,

Sincerely,

/s/ W. O. SMITH

P.S. Any correspondence re above should be sent to me at The Constitutional Convention, College.
January 28, 1956

Mr. Tom Moore, President
Alaska Guides Association
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Mr. Moore:

In reply to your communication of recent date, there is enclosed a statement in explanation of the Convention action taken regarding establishment of commissions for the regulation and administration of fish and game under the Constitution, as well as a copy of the enrolled Resources Article.

A full understanding of this matter may not be possible until you have had an opportunity to read the entire Constitution. I can assure you that this problem was not passed over lightly, but received hours of consideration by both the Resources Committee and the full Convention.

Sincerely,

William A. Egan
President

WAE/wb
WE FEEL THAT THERE SHOULD BE SOME PROVISION WRITTEN IN THE CONSTITUTION TO PROTECT OUR NATURAL RESOURCES NAMELY COMMERCIAL FISHING WILD LIFE AND SPORTS FISHING. WE APPEAL FOR PROVISIONS OF NO LESS THAN THE PROPOSAL OFFERED IN SECTION 4 BY THE ALASKA SPORTSMANS COUNCIL. THIS PROPOSAL WAS APPROVED AT ALL FISH AND WILDLIFE PUBLIC MEETINGS AND OTHER GROUPS INCLUDING OUR ALASKA GUIDES ASSOCIATION. IT IS SHOCKING TO HAVE SUCH A PUBLIC OPINION IGNORED. IT WOULD BE A SERIOUS MISTAKE TO LEAVE THIS ENTIRELY TO GUESS WORK WITH NO WRITTEN PROVISION IN THE CONSTITUTION FOR PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT OF OUR 2 MOST VALUABLE RESOURCES.

TOM MOORE PRESIDENT ALASKA GUIDES ASSOCIATION
January 28, 1956

Mr. Luther R. Dillon  
Deadman's Curve  
Spenard, Alaska

Dear Mr. Dillon:

In reply to your communication of recent date, there is enclosed a statement in explanation of the Convention action taken regarding establishment of commissions for the regulation and administration of fish and game under the Constitution, as well as a copy of the enrolled Resources Article.

A full understanding of this matter may not be possible until you have had an opportunity to read the entire Constitution. I can assure you that this problem was not passed over lightly, but received hours of consideration by both the Resources Committee and the full Convention.

Sincerely,

William A. Egan  
President

WAE/wb
I appeal for written provision in constitution for protection and separate management of commercial fishing wild life and sport fishing as approved at all out public hearings.

(LUTHER DILLON)
January 28, 1956

Mr. Vernon Haik, President
Izaak Walton League of America
Anchorage Chapter
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Mr. Haik;

In reply to your communication of recent date, there is enclosed a statement in explanation of the Convention action taken regarding establishment of commissions for the regulation and administration of fish and game under the Constitution, as well as a copy of the enrolled Resources Article.

A full understanding of this matter may not be possible until you have had an opportunity to read the entire Constitution. I can assure you that this problem was not passed over lightly, but received hours of consideration by both the Resources Committee and the full Convention.

Sincerely,

William A. Egan
President

WAE/lg
WILLIAM EGAN

CHAIRMAN CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION COLLEGE

WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHY OUR WISHES ARE BEING IGNORED FOR INCLUSION OF SUBMITTED FISH AND GAME MANAGEMENT PROPOSALS IN HANDS OF RESOURCE COMMITTEE. THE EXCLUSION OF SOME FORM OF SAFEGUARD FOR OUR GAME WILL CERTAINLY CAUSE DEFEAT OF RATIFICATION. SINCERELY,

VERNON HAIK PRESIDENT IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA ANCHORAGE CHAPTER
January 28, 1956

Mr. A. W. Boddy, President
Alaska Sportsmen Council
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Boddy:

In reply to your communication of recent date, there is enclosed a statement in explanation of the Convention action taken regarding establishment of commissions for the regulation and administration of fish and game under the Constitution, as well as a copy of the enrolled Resources Article.

A full understanding of this matter may not be possible until you have had an opportunity to read the entire Constitution. I can assure you that this problem was not passed over lightly, but received hours of consideration by both the Resources Committee and the full Convention.

Sincerely,

William A. Egan
President

WAE/wb
WILLIAM A EGAN
PRESIDENT CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION COLLEGE

THE ANCHORAGE SPORTSMANS ASS'N STRONGLY FEELS THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION ARE DERELICT IN THEIR DUTY TO THE PEOPLE WHO ELECTED THEM BY NOT SPECIFICALLY PROVIDING FOR THE FISH AND WILDLIFE OF ALASKA IN THE CONSTITUTION OF ALASKA. WE HEARTILY AGREE WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ALASKA SPORTSMANS COUNCIL TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION. WE FEEL THAT IS THE ONLY SURE WAY TO PREVENT ALASKA'S FISH AND WILDLIFE RESOURCES FROM BECOMING A POLITICAL FOOTBALL WHEN WE ACHIEVE STATEHOOD.

HONORABLE ANCHORAGE SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION

JESS MORGAN PRES., AC MITCHELL V.P., AN LONG SEC., HARRY SWANK, ROBERT SEAMAN DIR., VERN HILTZ DIR., BURTON O AHLSTROM, LEE WINNINGS, JIM OSTLER, JUD BRUNDAGE, HL HOUTZ, TOUAN A MORSE, ROBERT LEUCH, LA BLANCHARD, JAMES HADLEY, GEORGE VAARA, ALFRED OPP, V SPEER, TO BE READ ON THE FLOOR.
WHY HAVE YOU NEGLECTED TO MAKE PROVISIONS FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE IN THE CONSTITUTION OF ALASKA. I BELIEVE THIS IS A NEGLECT OF DUTY AS A DELEGATE. TO BE READ ON THE FLOOR.

CLIFF WEBBER
Why have you neglected to make provisions for fish and game in the Constitution of Alaska. I believe this is a neglect of your duty as a delegate, to be read on the floor.

Jess Morrison
I feel that provisions should be made in the constitution for the fish and wild life of Alaska. Please read on floor.

Jean A Blanchard
BERRY WHITE  DELEGATE
CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION COLLEGE

ONLY BY INCORPORATING THE PROTECTION IN THE CONSTITUTION
AS RECOMMENDED BY THE ALASKA SPORTSMEN'S COUNCIL CAN
ALASKA'S FISH AND WILDLIFE BE SAFE FROM FUTURE MISHANDLING
BY PERSONS SEEKING POLITICAL GAIN.

A W LONG  SEC'Y ANCHORAGE SPORTSMEN'S ASS'N
RE MY WIRE TO MR SMITH REQUEST FISHERIES MANAGEMENT POLICY
BE SET FORTH IN RESOURCE ARTICLES IN CONSTITUTION
MIRTH B SARVELA NORTHERN FISHING VESSEL OWNERS ASSN
AS A SPORTSMAN AND VOTER I BELIEVE YOU ARE NEGligent
IN YOUR DUTY TO THE PEOPLE WHO ELECTED YOU BY NOT
SPECIFICALLY PROVIDING FOR THE FISH AND WILD LIFE OF
ALASKA IN THE CONSTITUTION OF ALASKA. TO BE READ ON FLOOR.

HOWARD HOUTZ
CONTRARY TO JOE KRAUSE CLAIM OF REPRESENTING ALL SEINERS IN SOUTHEASTERN ALASKA WE BELIEVE THE ALASKA NATIVE BROTHERHOOD MEMBERSHIP HAS THE GREATEST NUMBER OF SEINERS THEREFORE WE RECOMMEND A COMMISSION TO GOVERN FISH AND ANOTHER TO GOVERN GAME BE INSERTED IN THE CONSTITUTION.

ALBERT S. DAVIS  PRESIDENT  ANB CAMP NO 1
CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION-COLLEGE ALASKA

BY ACTUAL COUNT AND HAS OVER SEVEN HUNDRED COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN AND OVER HUNDRED FIFTY SEINE BOATS. WE ARE BY FAR THE LARGEST GROUP WHOLLY DEPENDENT ON FISHERIES IN ALASKA. WE CAN MUSTER OVER TWO THOUSAND VOTES WHEN ISSUE VITAL AS NOW. WE ONLY MENTION THIS BECAUSE KRAUSE CLAIMS HIS SMALL KETCHIKAN VESSEL OWNERS ASSOCIATION REPRESENTS ALL SOUTHEASTERN ALASKA SEINERS. WE HAVE OVER TWENTY SEINE BOATS EACH IN HYDABURG KLAUOCK KAKE ANGOON HOCANAH SITKA WRANGELL AND SMALL NUMBER ELSEWHERE. SOME OUR BOATS ALSO IN KETCHIKAN ASSOCIATION FOR LOCAL REASONS BUT IF ISSUE RAISED THEY WILL FOLLOW ANB. WE ANTICIPATE IF CONTROL FISH AND GAME LEFT TO LEGISLATURE THREEWAY POLITICAL FIGHT WILL DISRUPT EVERY LEGISLATIVE SESSION NAMELY ALASKA SALMON COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN AND JOE KRAUSE WITH ALASKA SALMON WINNER. TODAY WE ALL AGREE GAME COMMISSION BEAUTIFULLY NONPOLITICAL WHILE FISHERIES SPECTACULARLY POLITICAL AND THE RESULTING DEPLETION TRAGIC. WHY DOES ANY SENSIBLE PERSON FAVOR PRESENT FISHERIES COMMISSION PLAN WHICH IS ALREADY EMBROILED IN POLITICS YEARLY WHEN YOU COULD MAKE THE GAME COMMISSION PLAN PERMANENT. ARGUMENT THAT SPORTSMENS PLAN IS LEGISLATION AND HENCE MUST BE DISMISSED BY GENERAL FORMULA OPPOSING LEGISLATION IN CONSTITUTION NOT CONTROLLING WHERE THE MERITS OF PROPOSAL JUSTIFIES. IN THIS CASE WE ALREADY HAVE COMMISSION SYSTEM IN BOTH FISH AND GAME AND POLITICS ABSENT IN GAME BECAUSE REMOVED FROM EASY LEGISLATIVE HOCUS POKUS WHILE EVEN PRESENT LIMITED FISHERIES ALREADY RAMPANT WITH POLITICS. PLEASE READ TO CONVENTION AND INTO THE RECORD

ALASKA NATIVE BROTHERHOOD WM L PAUL GRAND PRESIDENT
TELEGRAM

KPAZ33KU041

FA AMB323 44 NL PD 3 EXA ANCHORAGE ALASKA 22

WILLIAM EGAN 24G

CHAIRMAN CONSTITUTION CONVENTION COLLEGE

REQUEST THAT THIS BE READ TO THE RESOURCE COMMITTEE WHY ARE OUR WISHES BEING IGNORED FOR INCLUSION OF SUBMITTED FISH AND GAME MANAGEMENT PROPOSALS IN HANDS OF RESOURCE COMMITTEE SOME FORM OF SAFE GUARD FOR OUR GAME IS NEEDED IN CONSTITUTION

LOUISE JUHNIKE SEC ANCHORAGE CHAPTER IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA
WILLIAM EAGAN

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION FBK

ALL ALASKANS AGREE THE DELEGATES TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION ARE DOING GOOD WORK PICKING OUT THE BEST FROM FORTY EIGHT STATE CONSTITUTIONS. BUT WHICH STATE HAD A FISH CONSERVATION PROBLEM WHEN ADMITTED STOP LEGISLATORS CAN CHANGE EVERY TWO YEARS, WHEREAS A PLAN TO UTILIZE FISH STOCKS TO THEIR FULLEST EXTENT TAKES YEARS STOP THE INTERNATIONAL PACIFIC HALIBUT COMMISSION HAS WORKED TWENTY FIVE YEARS TO BRING HALIBUT FISHING BACK STOP THEREFORE THE JUNEAU VESSEL OWNERS FEEL THERE SHOULD BE INSERTED IN THE STATE OF ALASKA CONSTITUTION AN ARTICLE SETTING UP A COMMISSION FOR FISHERIES YOURS VERY TRULY

REUÆL M FLEMING SECTY JUNEAU VESSEL OWNERS
WE URGE THAT YOU RECONSIDER WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SECTION AND CONSIDER PROPOSAL ALASKA SPORTSMENS COUNCIL

SITKA SPORTSMEN'S ASSN CECIL C MCCLAIN SECRETARY
FROM REPORTS RECEIVED MUST CONGRATULATE YOU ON SPLENDID JOB YOU ARE DOING AS PRESIDENT. STOP MAJORITY OF HUNTERS AND MANY FISHERMEN ARE DISAPPOINTED IN NOT HAVING CONSTITUTION DESIGNATE SEPARATE COMMISSIONS FOR GAME AND FISH. STOP DELEGATES OPPOSING THIS ACTION ARE CERTAINLY DISAPPOINTING A LARGE NUMBER OF VOTERS. STOP I FEEL ALASKA HAS SPECIAL PROBLEMS AND IT IS WELL FOR THE CONSTITUTION TO ELIMINATE FUTURE CONTROVERSY WHEN POSSIBLE. STOP THE SPORTSMEN'S GROUPS ARE NONPARTISAN. THEIR ONLY THOUGHT IS FOR BETTER DEVELOPMENT OF THESE NATURAL RESOURCES BY SEPARATING THE COMMISSIONS. STOP I STRONGLY URGE THE DELEGATES TO RECONSIDER THEIR ACTION. AS THE FEELING WILL CONTINUE TO GROW STRONGER IF THIS ISSUE IS IGNORED. STOP MY SINCERE WISHES FOR ALL YOUR EFFORTS TO CULMINATE IN A SATISFACTORY CONSTITUTION. PLEASE READ ON FLOOR.

SENATOR MARCUS JENSEN
ACTION BY DELEGATES OMITING SECTION IN CONSTITUTION PROVIDING FOR SEPARATE COMMISSION PLAN MANAGEMENT FOR WILDLIFE AND COMMERCIAL FISHERIES VERY UNPOPULAR URGE YOU TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO HAVE DELEGATES RECONSIDER THEIR ACTION WE RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THIS MESSAGE BE READ BEFORE ASSEMBLY OF DELEGATES AND BECOME A PART OF THE RECORD.
WE BELIEVED ABORIGINAL LANDS IN ACTUAL OCCUPATION OF NATIVE RACES AMPLY PROTECTED WITHOUT ADDITIONAL CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISION AND HOPE YESTERDAYS ACTION SUSTAINED PERIOD WHAT EVER SUPPORT WE HAVE GIVEN RESERVATIONS WAS BECAUSE OF WILLFULLY BAD ADVICE FROM WASHINGTON COUNSEL NO LONGER ASSOCIATED WITH US.

CYRUS E PECK GRAND SECRETARY ALASKA NATIVE BROTHERHOOD KTTL
THE ACTION OF THE CONVENTION IN REFUSING TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE CONTROL OF OUR FISH AND WILDLIFE WITH SEPARATE COMMISSIONS SPECIFIED IN THE CONSTITUTION HAS BEEN A STUNNING BLOW TO OUR FISH AND WILDLIFE AND TO THE PEOPLE OF ALASKA A GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT AS OUR REPRESENTATIVE WE EXPECTED YOU TO PROFIT BY THE EXPERIENCE OF OTHER STATES INSTEAD OF BEING INFLUENCED BY POLITICIANS WITH AND AXE TO GRIND IT IS URGENT THAT YOU RECONSIDER THE ARTICLE ON FISH AND WILDLIFE I REQUEST THAT THIS BE READ TO THE CONVENTION IN SESSION

ARTHUR SKINNER
THE UNANIMOUS DECISION OF THE ALASKA SPORTSMAN COUNCIL MEMBER IN THE ANCHORAGE AREA THAT DELEGATES DO NOT IGNORE THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE ALASKA SPORTSMEN COUNCIL

ED M HOWELL  VICE PRESIDENT  ALASKA SPORTSMEN COUNCIL
I wish the delegates not to ignore the recommendation of the Alaska Sportsman Council.

Ed M Howell
KPA117KU135

FA ANA131 31 NL PD 1 EXA ANCHORAGE ALASKA 18

BILL EGAN 2073

CHAIRMAN ALASKA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION COLLEGE

IT IS THE WISH OF THE ALASKA RANGE ASSOCIATION THAT

THE DELEGATES ACT ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE ALASKA SPORTSMAN

COUNCIL INFORM DELEGATES FROM THE AREA NOT TO IGNORE THIS

ALTON B CROSS PRES ALASKA RANGE ASSN
WE URGE PROVISIONS FOR SEPARATE WILDLIFE AND COMMERCIAL FISHING COMMISSIONS

THLINKET TRIBE NR 4 IMPROVED ORDER OF REDMEN
FISHERMEN HERE UNANIMOUSLY CONCUR IN ACTION TAKEN BY ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES BOARD CONCERNING COMMERCIAL AND SPORTS FISHING DO NOT APPROVE OF ACTION TAKEN BY SPORTS FISHING GROUPS

N E NELSON
LOCAL SENTIMENT FAVOR FISH AND GAME PROVISIONS PROPOSED CONSTITUTION AS OUTLINED BY YOU IN KETCHIKAN ABSOLUTELY OPPOSED TO SEPARATION SPORT AND COMMERCIAL FISHERY RESOURCE AS BEING PROPOSED BY CERTAIN GROUPS

HARRY COMANS SPORT AND OURFITTING CENTER
KPA322KU023 KGA002

FA HK047 64 NL PD KETCHIKAN ALASKA 17 308P

HON WILLIAM A EAGAN PRES ALASKA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

CONVENTION HALL COLLEGE 1867

KETCHIKAN ROD AND GUN CLUB (300 MEMBERS) RECOMMENDS THE PROPOSAL

OF THE ALASKA SPORTSMEN'S COUNCIL FOR THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SECTION

OF THE CONSTITUTION OF ALASKA BE USED VERBATIM. PAST EXPERIENCES

BY THE VARIOUS STATES POSITIVELY SHOW THAT COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

CANNOT BE INCLUDED WITH SPORT FISHERIES, FUR OR GAME FOR PROPER

MANAGEMENT TO PROVIDE THE GREATEST GOOD TO THE GREATEST NUMBER

OF PEOPLE

AL WRIGHT PRES KETCHIKAN ROD AND GUN CLUB

300

(14)
TELEGRAM

ALASKA COMMUNICATION SYSTEM
SIGNAL CORPS, UNITED STATES ARMY
FEDERAL BLDG., FAIRBANKS, ALASKA.

KPAO62KUG0328G066
FA K663 80 NL PD 1 EXA KETCHIKAN ALASKA 17
U S SMITH 1905
CARE CONVENTION HALL FBK
WE OPPOSE FISH AND GAME DEPARTMENT SET UP IN CONSTITUTION GAME
DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE SET UP BY LEGISLATURE ON SAME SET UP AS OUR
FISHERIES DEPARTMENT IS SET UP ROD AND GUN CLUB ALL OVER TERRITORY
IS ENGINEERED BY SOME OFFICIAL OF WILDLIFE SERVICE IF IT BECOMES A
PART OF THE CONSTITUTION THEY HOPE TO RUN THE WILDLIFE SERVICE ON
ABOUT SAME PROCEDURE AS THE FWS IS RUN NOW DO AS THEY PLEASE WITHOUT
ANY INTERFERENCE FROM ANY ONE

J F KRAUSE PRESIDENT SOUTHEASTERN SEINE BOAT OWNERS ASSN
FWS
THE ALASKA NATIVE BROTHERHOOD STRONGLY ENDORSES THE PRINCIPLE INVOLVED IN THE PROPOSALS FOR GOVERNING CONTROL OF FISHERIES AND ALSO GAME AND FUR NAMELY THAT EACH BE CONTROLLED BY SEPARATE COMMISSIONS WHOSE PERSONNEL SHALL BE APPOINTED BY AN ELECTIVE GOVERNOR

WILLIAM L PAUL ST GRAND PRESIDENT ALASKA NATIVE BROTHERHOOD
WE OPPOSE FISH AND GAME DEPARTMENT SET UP IN CONSTITUTION GAME DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE SET UP BY LEGISLATURE ON SAME SET UP AS OUR FISHERIES DEPARTMENT IS SET UP ROD AND GUN CLUB ALL OVER TERRITORY IS ENGINEERED BY SOME OFFICIAL OF WILDLIFE SERVICE IF IT BECOMES A PART OF THE CONSTITUTION THEY HOPE TO RUN THE WILDLIFE SERVICE ON ABOUT SAME PROCEDURE AS THE FWS IS RUN NOW DO AS THEY PLEASE WITHOUT ANY INTERFERENCE FROM ANY ONE.

J F KRAUSE PRESIDENT SOUTHEASTERN SEINE BOAT OWNERS ASSN
FWS
PLEASE READ FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION REGARDING RESOURCES TO ASSEMBLED DELEGATES IT IS OUR FEELING THE PRIME REASON FOR A CONSTITUTION IS TO PROVIDE GUIDELINES OR LIMITS OF AUTHORITY FOR THE LEGISLATIVE, JUDICIAL AND EXECUTIVE BRANCHES OF THE STATE IT FAILS OF ITS PURPOSE IF IT DOES NOT ACCOMPLISH THIS WE BELIEVE ALASKA SHOULD BENEFIT BY THE EXPERIENCES OF THE VARIOUS STATES IN THE MATTER OF RESOURCES MANAGEMENT MANY OF THEM HAVE FOUND IT NECESSARY TO AMEND THEIR CONSTITUTIONS TO PROVIDE PROPER MANAGEMENT FOR GAME FISH WILDLIFE AND COMMERCIAL FISHERY ADMINISTRATION OTHER STATES HAVE HANDLED THE MATTER BY INITIATIVE OR REFERENDUM IN ALL CANBH
THE RESOURCES HAVE SUFFERED AS A RESULT THE DELEGATES HAVE HEARD DOCTOR IRA N. GABRIELSON AND OTHER EXPERTS SPEAK ON THIS MATTER. WE HAVE SUPPLIED THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE EMBERS WITH FACTUAL MATERIAL DEALING WITH MANAGEMENT OF THESE IMPORTANT RESOURCES WE BELIEVE WE HAVE ESTABLISHED SOME VERY GOOD REASONS FOR PROVIDING A SECTION IN THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF ALASKA WHICH WILL PROVIDE FOR SEPARATE COMMISSIONS FOR THESE RESOURCES. WE THE UNDERSIGNED REQUEST THAT DELEGATES TO THE ALASKA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN THE ARTICLE ON RESOURCES REGULATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE COMMERCIAL FISHERIES AND OF THE WILDLIFE INCLUDING GAME FISH SHALL BE DELEGATED TO SEPARATE COMMISSIONS UNDER SUCH TERMS AS THE LEGISLATURE SHALL PROVIDE. PROVISIONS SHALL BE MADE BY THE LEGISLATURE FOR APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONERS TO STAGGERED TERMS TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY CONTINUITY OF PROGRAMS AND PREVENT UNDUE POLITICAL INTERFERENCE WITH PROPER MANAGEMENT IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES LICENSE FEES AND OTHER REVENUES SHALL BE AVAILABLE TO THE COMMISSION WITHOUT RESERVATION AND DEDICATED TO MANAGEMENT OF THESE RESOURCES SIGNED A W. BODDY, PRESIDENT ALASKA SPORTSMANS COUNCIL AND PRESIDENT TERRITORIAL SPORTSMEN INCORPORATED INDEPENDENT FISHERMEN O. G. NOLDE.
PAGE TWO JUØ22

(Charles Roberts) (Charles Peterson) (William F. McNulty) (Charles McLeod)
Gil Bixby) Lon Nutrick) George E. Johnson) Ted P Childers) Ben Melvin
Edna Melvin) Other include Elton E. Engstrom Fish Buyer Northern
Vessel Owners Association Sitka) Mark Jensen Senator) Al Anderson
Alaska Development Board) Sitka Chamber of Commerce) Kodiak Conservation
Club) Alaska Guides Association) Juneau Rifle and Pistol Club)
Petersburg Chapter Issac Walton League) Anchorage Chapter Issac
Walton League) Issac Walton League Petersburg) Ketchikan Sportsmen
Group) Douglas Independent Fishermen) and Alaska Sportsmens Council

A W Boddy President Alaska Sportsmen Council Box 761 Juneau
Phone 436 or 15
OUR RECOMMENDATION REGARDING FISH AND WILDLIFE REGULATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE COMMERCIAL FISHERIES AND OF THE WILDLIFE INCLUDING GAME FISH SHALL BE DELEGATED TO SEPARATE COMMISSIONS UNDER SUCH TERMS AS THE LEGISLATURE SHALL PROVIDE. PROVISION SHALL BE MADE BY THE LEGISLATURE FOR APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONERS TO STAGGERED TERMS TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY CONTINUITY OF PROGRESS AND PREVENT UNDUE POLITICAL INTERFERENCE WITH PROPER MANAGEMENT PLEASE GIVE THIS RECOMMENDATION YOUR FULL CONSIDERATION

STIKINE SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION MAURICE S BUNESS SEC TREAS

(30)
WE URGENTLY DESIRE THAT THE MANAGEMENT OF THE COMMERCIAL FISHERIES BE REMOVED AS FAR AS PRACTICAL FROM POLITICAL PRESSURE GROUPS. SPECIAL COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED BY LEGISLATURE SEEMS ADVISABLE TO US. SHOULD TRY TO AVOID PROBLEMS EXPERIENCED IN OTHER COAST STATES

MYRTH B SARVELA SECRETARY NORTHERN FISHING VESSEL OWNERS ASSN
THE ANCHORAGE SPORTSMANS ASSN. RECOMMENDS THAT YOU ADOPT
THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ALASKA SPORTSMENS COUNCIL IN
PROVIDING FOR FISH AND GAME IN THE CONSTITUTION OF ALASKA.
SECRETARY BURTON O AHLSTRAM
PLEASE READ THIS MESSAGE TO ALL DELEGATES STOP CONSENSUS OF OPINION OF MANY FISHERMEN AND HUNTERS I HAVE TALKED WITH IS THAT WE ALL WANT THE SEPARATION OF THE RESOURCES OF GAME AND FISH SPECIFIED IN THE CONSTITUTION AS WORDED IN THE PROPOSAL MADE BY THE TERRITORIAL SPORTSMEN INC STOP I FEEL CONSTITUTION WILL PASS OR FAIL ON ISSUES SUCH AS THIS AND RECOMMEND THE WISHES OF THE PEOPLE BE CONSIDERED

SENATOR MARCUS F JENSEN
REQUEST ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES CONTROL SPORT AND COMMERCIAL FISHERIES. BELIEVE THESE TWO FUNCTIONS SHOULD NOT BE SEPARATED.

CORDOVA FISH & COLD STORAGE CO F A SWARTZBACKER SUPT
ALASKA CONSTITUTION, CONVENTION FBX

URGENTLY REQUEST THAT SPORT FISHERIES AND COMMERCIAL FISHERIES BE UNDER SAME AUTHORITY. NAMELY: ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES

CORDOVA DIST FISHERIES UNION HAROLD Z HANSEN EXEC SECY
BURKE RILEY, ALASKA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION  
January 12, 1956

THE TENTATIVE PROPOSAL MADE IN SECTION 3 IN RESOURCES ARTICLE ARE IN OUR OPINION INCORRECT IN REFERENCE TO WILD LIFE AND SPORT FISH. WORDING SHOULD BE COMMISSION (✓) COMMISSIONS SERVING STAGGERED TERMS. ALSO SOME WORDING SUCH AS PREVIOUSLY ASSURING SHOULD BE PROPOSAL ASSURE COMMISSION WILL BE NON-PARTISAN AS POSSIBLE REGARDING COMMERCIAL FISHERIES. WE NOTE THERE IS NO PROVISION FOR COMMISSION TYPE MANAGEMENT SUCH AS WAS PROPOSED WE FEEL THIS IS OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE HAVE TALKED TO MANY FISHERMEN IN THIS AREA HAVE YET TO FIND ONE WHO DOES NOT WANT THIS PROVISION IN CONSTITUTION AGAIN WOULD URGING SERIOUS CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN DONAL MCKERMANS BRIEF OUR PROPOSAL REGARD FINANCES FOR WILD LIFE AND SPORTS FISH. I BELIEVE YOU REALIZE IS A MUST HOPE THIS ARTICLE ON RESOURCES CAN BE DRAFTED IN SUCH A MANNER THAT IT CAN BE ENDORSED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF ALASKA SPORTSMAN COUNCIL.

A. W. BUD BODDY
Recommen
dations to Constitutional Delegates

Fairbanks, Alaska—January 16, 1956

The undersigned commercial fishermen believe the Missouri state constitutional provision is the best in the U.S. and this is endorsed by leaders in the conservation field. We would like to see a modified form adopted for Alaska. As an absolute minimum we believe nothing less than the following will be acceptable:

"Regulation and management of the commercial fisheries and of the wildlife including game fish, shall be delegated to separate commissions under such terms as the Legislature shall provide. Provision shall be made by the Legislature for appointment of commissioners to staggered terms to provide the necessary continuity of programs and prevent undue political interference with proper management."

In the administration of wildlife resources, license fees and other revenues shall be available to the commission without reservation and dedicated to management of these resources."

[Signatures]

Lance Jenkins, Douglas, Alaska

Martin Jenkins, Douglas, Alaska

Maurice Barkdoo, Douglas, Alaska

Dota Brown, Douglas, Alaska

L.W. Richards, Douglas, Alaska

Larry L. Begg, Douglas, Alaska

Ted Lamers, Douglas, Alaska

Robert Locky, Douglas, Alaska

Joseph L. Riedl, Douglas, Alaska

Ray Fox

L. Gasjas, Douglas, Alaska

Jim Tampa, Douglas, Alaska

Clarence Finley, Douglas, Alaska
Joe Riedl
E. E. Jacobson
Bud Ray
Pat Robinson
Art Kobbeik
Peter F. Bond
Peter B.
Herbert Sa'idke
Joseph C. Borchik
C. L. Brint
Bonner K. Burich
Chris F. Hansen
Chris W. Hult
H. Kirsch
George W. Alsp
Paul Harvey
Douglas, Alaska
Paul A. Peterson
E. C. Wood
Bottlen E. Greene
December 23, 1955

Dr. James C. Beckley, President
Tanana Valley Sportsman Association
1522 Cushman Street
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Sir:

Attached is the "tentative" proposal of the Resources Committee covering Lands and Resources. We expect to withdraw this proposal following the recess to incorporate suggestions and changes that may be developed as the result of public hearings to be held during the recess throughout the Territory.

We believe we have covered the basic principles that are important to Sportsmen in Sections 2, 3, 4, 6, 13 and 14. The important matter of access is covered in Section 9. You will also note that the matter of fish and wildlife in reservoirs caused by construction of dams is taken care of in the last sentence of Section 12 and further clarified in the commentary on this section.

The Committee studied the proposal submitted by the Alaska Sportsmen's Council and it is our feeling that this is proper material for legislative rather than constitutional consideration. We agree that it is a good approach and have voted to recommend to the Convention that a resolution be sent to the first State Legislature, recommending that part or parts of this proposal be followed in setting up the administration of game, fish and wildlife.

We appreciated the opportunity of hearing Dr. Ira Gabrielson and his suggestions and comments were helpful to the Committee. Any suggestions you may have that will improve or clarify the proposal will be appreciated. If your organization agrees with the substance and broad general principles set forth in the present committee proposal, it would be helpful to have your endorsement when it comes up for second reading in the Convention.

Yours very truly,

J. C. Boswell
Resources Committee

Encl.
December 6, 1955

Mr. Herb H. Hilscher
Alaska Constitutional Convention
University of Alaska
College, Alaska

Dear Herb:

As per your suggestion am enclosing herewith copy of recent correspondence
with Bob Bartlett's office regarding the proposed Wildlife Management Area
which the Fish and Wildlife Service is endeavoring to set up in the Kuskokwim
area.

I have very little confidence in Mr. Suomela's statement to the effect that
such a Management Area would not interfere with the development of natural
resources in that area. I do not mean to infer that I consider him unreliable,
but rather that despite his assurance that at present the Fish and Wildlife
Service may not contemplate restrictions which would interfere with normal
development of the resources in that district, there is always the ever present
danger that once such an area has been established, the time will change, if
not by the present management of the Bureau, then thru those who may follow.

It would seem to me that the Federal Government has already set aside too
many millions of acres in Alaska for one Department of the Government or
another, and I can see no reason why the residents of Alaska should sit idly
by and permit another Federal Bureau to withdraw additional millions of acres
of potential wealth producing lands from the State of Alaska. This is especially
tru because the residents of Alaska could not expect to profit by such action,
which appears to be primarily for the purpose of hunters in Canada and the
States. I am quite sure the wildfowl will continue to use that area for nesting
without the assistance of the Fish and Wildlife Service.

I doubt if you will find any organized help in prevention of this land grab
from the major oil companies, or even the mining companies, because in so many
instances they are motivated by the fact that such reserves as may be present
in that area can be used by future generations, hence they probably will make
no effort to prevent the establishment of such a reserve — if it is to be done,
it must be done by Alaskans and it would seem that now while you are engaged
in setting up the Constitution for the State of Alaska, it would be well to do
everything in your power to retain all the lands possible for the State rather
than permit vast acreages to be set aside for future Federal management.

With kindest personal regards to yourself and family, I am

Sincerely,

Ben G. Gellenbeck
Mr. Ben G. Gellenbeck  
711 North First Street  
Tacoma 3, Washington

Dear Mr. Gellenbeck:

You will want to see the enclosed letter from Acting Director Suomela of the Fish and Wildlife Service in the information contained therein has not otherwise come to your attention.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours

Mary Lee Council
November 16, 1955

Hon. E. L. Bartlett  
Delegate from Alaska  
House of Representatives  
Washington 25, D.C.

My dear Mr. Bartlett:

The letter of November 2 from Mrs. Margery Smith, your Assistant Secretary, regarding the proposed Kuskokwim National Wildlife Management Area, Alaska, is appreciated, since it affords an opportunity to correct a misunderstanding regarding the development and use of natural resources.

The Federal regulations which now apply to development of oil and other mineral resources on public land would continue in effect upon the establishment of the refuge. The refuge would not limit water traffic, including the transportation of oil.

The withdrawal of the lands for refuge purposes must be accomplished through the Bureau of Land Management. In accordance with established procedure, the proposal is to be discussed in public hearings in order that the people may be fully advised of the refuge objectives and learn how the refuge management program would relate to other interests, including the development of natural resources. The Bureau of Land Management has recently acted on the Service’s request for scheduling public hearings, and we understand that this matter will be discussed fully in the weeks ahead through a series of meetings in and near the refuge area under consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Suomela
Acting Director
December 2, 1955

Mr. Ben G. Gellenbeck
711 North First Street
Tacoma 3, Washington

Dear Mr. Gellenbeck:

Pending Bob's return to the office, I thought it best to write a letter to Director Woosley of the Bureau of Land Management, and you will find a copy of that letter enclosed. Any information developed will be sent on to you.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Mary Lee Council
December 2, 1955

Mr. Edward Woozley
Director,
Bureau of Land Management,
Department of the Interior,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Woozley:

By letter of November 16, 1955, Mr. Arnie J. Suomela, Acting Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, in writing me about the proposed Kuskokwim National Wildlife Management Area, Alaska, stated:

"The withdrawal of the lands for refuge purposes must be accomplished through the Bureau of Land Management. In accordance with established procedure, the proposal is to be discussed in public hearings in order that the people may be fully advised of the refuge objectives and learn how the refuge management program would relate to other interests, including the development of natural resources. The Bureau of Land Management has recently acted on the Service's request for scheduling public hearings, and we understand that this matter will be discussed fully in the weeks ahead through a series of meetings in and near the refuge area under consideration."

It would be greatly appreciated if you will let me know how large an area is proposed to be set aside in this connection, and when and where public hearings will be held as indicated in Mr. Suomela's letter. Any information you may be able to give me in this connection will be welcome.

Sincerely yours,

E. L. Bartlett
December 5, 1955

Miss Mary Lee Council, Secretary
E. L. Bartlett, Delegate from Alaska
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Dear Miss Council:

Thank you for your letter of December 2nd with copy of your letter to Director Woozley of Bureau of Land Management regarding the hearings on the proposed Wildlife Management Area in the Kuskokwim area, Alaska.

I discussed this matter with Herb Hilscher in Seattle Sunday (he came down to attend his father's funeral and was to have returned to the Constitutional Convention in Fairbanks last night). He requested that I send him copies of my correspondence with your office on this matter. He said he probably will take it up with the Convention because it would have great importance to the State of Alaska if large areas were retained for management by Federal Bureaus rather than by the State. Please advise Herb of my sending this material to Herb.

Thank you for keeping me advised on same.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Glen C. Gellenbeck

cc Herb Hilscher
November 15, 1955

Mr. W. O. Smith
The Constitutional Convention
College, Alaska

Dear Bo:

Your letter of November 3 was presented to the Fisheries Board at its recent meeting for consideration. After some discussion, there was unanimous agreement along the lines that you had proposed in your letter as follows: 'that only a very general provision guaranteeing everyone an equal right of fishery and prohibiting the granting of any exclusive or several right of fishery can safely be made a part of the constitution.' It might be well to include some general overall policy statement relative to the conservation of all our natural resources, including fish and game.

We do not believe that a fisheries board should be established by a provision in the constitution but should be left to the legislature. The same would hold true for a game commission, if such were to be organized.

The Board has gone on record that it would go along on legislation to incorporate all fish and game in one department if that is the wish of the people. It is believed that such an organization would avoid duplication of efforts and be the most economical. The Board would not oppose the creation of a game commission if the legislature so desired. It would, however, be opposed to the inclusion of sport fish in a game department. Such a move would just lead to confusion and duplication such as now exists in the State of Oregon. The Oregon Fish Commission regulates commercial fishing of salmon, maintains salmon hatcheries and does research on salmon. The Oregon Game Commission regulates sport fishing of salmon, and also maintains salmon hatcheries and does research on salmon.

It is the consensus of the Board that all the above matters could well be handled by the legislature rather than be included in provisions of the constitution. Just in case this subject should come up for discussion, there is enclosed for your information a brief on this fish and game control problem. You will undoubtedly find it of interest.

The Board is in agreement with your general statement of policy relative to blocking of salmon streams and compensation for damages. However, if the constitution is to be kept as short and brief as possible, it might be that such provisions might best be handled by the legislature and included in a general fisheries code. On the other hand, if the constitution develops into a lengthy detailed document, then by all means the above provisions should be included.
All the Board members extend their best wishes for a successful convention.

Sincerely,

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES

[Signature]

C. L. Anderson, Director

for the Alaska Fisheries Board:

J. H. Wakefield, Chairman

Kenneth D. Bell

Robert G. Kallenberg

Nels E. Nelson

Ira H. Rothwell

CLAlhw
Enclosure
Mr. W. O. Smith, Chairman
Committee on Resources
Constitution Hall
College, Alaska

Dear Bo:

Your letter of December 22, with enclosed copy of the report of the Committee on Resources, was received during the holidays. I have discussed it with members of the staff, with Mr. Arthur Greeley of the Forest Service, and others. Also talked with Leonard King for a few minutes. Then I discussed the report at some length with Burke Riley, Secretary of your Committee. Burke took down some notes and said he would convey these to you.

However, in order that you may have these thoughts in writing for your records, I will outline them for you.

Your statement of purpose and Sections 1, 2, and 3 seem to include the broad statement of policy that the Fisheries Board had in mind, but I would suggest the following changes in wording.

Section 2.

This should be changed to read, "Forests, fish, wildlife and other replenishable resources, etc. Fisheries are the acts or businesses of catching fish and are not a resource. Fish is the resource.

Section 3.

I would suggest that this be changed to read, "Fish, wildlife and waters, wherever occurring in their natural states, etc." Here again, fisheries is not the resource. The term fish includes all fish - commercial, game or sport, and others. The term "game fish" is therefore superfluous.

In view of the Board's strong stand with regard to the above, it might be well to amplify the reasoning behind the recommended change. As your Section 3 reads, it would appear necessary to define by genus and species, along with the common names, the game fish of Alaska. The word game fish is indefinite. For example, the northern pike is not a game fish in Alaska; it is classified in the codes and regulations of most of
the states as a game fish. Montana, Washington and many other states define whitefish as game fish in their codes and regulations; as you know, the Fish and Wildlife Service does not stipulate the whitefish of Alaska as game fish. Is a king, silver, humpie, or chum a game fish? Similar examples could be cited when speaking of "commercial fish". The word "fish" would include all fish. The codes adopted by the legislature of Alaska would define the species of fish for regulatory purposes.

Sections 4 and 6 are O.K., but if you are trying to keep the constitution as brief as possible, these two could be omitted. These would be included in the various codes on resources that will be set up by the legislatures in creating the several departments or agencies that will be designated to handle these resources.

Section 12.

Glad to see that you added the last clause, "and to the general reservation of fish and wildlife to the people for common use." This is usually put in the fish and game code in other states and, of course, could be by Alaska also.

Section 14.

This is, of course, one that we all wanted. I was wondering though if it should not be in another location, perhaps just after Section 3.

As you recall, the Fisheries Board has taken a stand in opposition to the inclusion in the constitution of provisions that would create a board or commission to set up its memberships and to describe its powers, etc. The Board feels these matters should be a function of the legislature, not the constitutional convention.

The reason I bring this up again is that I have heard that an effort is being made by certain groups to include a provision in the constitution that would create a sport fish and game commission to manage and regulate these resources. This would take the sport fish away from the Alaska Department of Fisheries, where it has been ever since the inception of the Department by the 1949 Territorial Legislature.

If it appears that such a move might be successful, I would suggest that you change this provision to read that the fish and game resources of the state shall be managed and regulated by a commission or commissions as may be authorized by the legislature. Then it will be up to the legislature to decide whether there shall be one commission or two, and to spell out the authority of each commission if more than one is authorized.
I hope that you and your family had an enjoyable holiday season and with best wishes for a successful termination to your efforts at Constitution Hall.

Sincerely,

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES

Clarence

C. L. Anderson, Director