

[REDACTED]

From: Linda Rutledge <potledge@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 10, 2018 2:28 PM
To: House Fisheries
Subject: HB 272 Tangle Lakes State Game Refuge

Dear Committee Members,

As residents of Alaska for 42 years, we have valued the region for the proposed Tangle Lakes State Game Refuge. We have hunted, fished, picked berries, camped and hiked through the area. This has been our breadbasket of food and recreation throughout our homesteading life. We value the area not only for what it provides for us, but also for the wonderful habitat it provides for other animals. The wildlife thrives in this homeland, and we should respect their need for healthy habitat and do everything possible to allow continued success for all. HB 272 would advance that goal and should be moved on with your approval.

Sincerely,
Linda and Charlie Rutledge
PO Box 91
Copper Center, AK 99573

From: Robin Mayo <willawaw@coppervalleyak.net>
Sent: Saturday, February 10, 2018 6:00 PM
To: House Fisheries
Subject: In favor of HB 272

Greetings, I'd like to express my support for HB 272 for the Tangle Lakes State Game Refuge. This area is vitally important habitat for the Nelchina Caribou herd and many other critters, a fantastic berry picking area used by many people from across the state, and an awesome recreation site for boating, fishing, and hiking. Protection as a Game Refuge would ensure that we can all keep up these subsistence activities.

Thank you for your service to this state
Robin Mayo
Copper Center, Alaska

From: Gay <g@wel.m.us>
Sent: Sunday, February 11, 2018 7:44 AM
To: House Fisheries
Subject: support for HB272

Please support HB 272. Our family spends time every year enjoying the beauty of the Tangle Lakes, fishing, hiking, berry picking. Please do whatever you can to protect this area from being spoiled.

Gay Wellman,
HC60 Box 227,
Copper Center, AK 99573
907-822-3418

From: Joe Donohue <donjr081@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 11, 2018 3:52 PM
To: House Fisheries
Subject: HB 272 February 13, 2018 Hearing

Dear Members of the House Fisheries Committee,

As a rural Alaskan, hunting is a integral part of my lifestyle. Access to world class hunting areas is one of the main benefits of living in rural Alaska. That is why I am writing you today in support of House Bill 272 Tangle Lakes Game Refuge. By protecting this piece of land for the Nelchina caribou herd, we will protect our ability to hunt here for generations to come.

This beautiful area draws hundreds of hunters from Anchorage, Fairbanks, and surrounding communities to harvest caribou every year. I am lucky enough to have hunted caribou and been berry picking in Tangle Lakes. HB272 would allow hunters to continue harvesting caribou here every year, while limiting mining, which would negatively impact caribou populations. Whether you go to Tangle Lakes for hunting, berry picking, or just canoeing and camping, HB272 would benefit all Alaskans by protecting a place essential to the Nelchina caribou herd.

Thank you for your consideration,

Joe Donohue
Kenny Lake, Alaska

From: matt obermiller <mattobermiller@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 12:41 PM
To: House Fisheries
Subject: Tangle Lakes

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Matt Obermiller. I'm a 25 year resident of the Copper Basin near Kenny Lake.

I hike and sight see in the Tangle Lakes area and strongly support protecting the wilderness and biological integrity of the Tangle Lakes area and strongly support HB 272.

Most of my subsistence meat harvest takes place close by where I live but many of my friends and acquaintances, residents of Kenny Lake and the Copper Basin fish, subsistence hunt and camp in the Tangle Lakes area and depend on the access it provides to healthy populations of harvestable animals.

Mining in the Tangle Lakes area is quite incompatible with the values and uses many of us in the nearby communities hold for this area so we would like to have the Tangle Lakes area protected from this destruction.

Thank you, Matt

Mile 56 Richardson Hwy.


From: Dave <d@wel.m.us>
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 12:45 PM
To: House Fisheries
Subject: HB 272 - Tangle Lakes State Game Refuge

House Fisheries Committee:

I understand that HB 272, concerning the Tangle Lakes State Game Refuge, is coming up for hearing before your committee tomorrow. I am writing to urge passage of this excellent legislation, which would wisely help to ensure the continued health of the Nelchina caribou herd, and also to conserve other valuable resources in this wonderful region of Alaska. As a resident and business owner in the Copper River Basin, I have for many years enjoyed the proximity of the Tangle Lakes for their bounty of berry picking, canoeing, fishing, sometime caribou hunting, and sheer natural beauty. These are resources that, if conserved by our generation, will be available undiminished for our great grandchildren. Alternatively, they could vanish in the flash of a few years of hasty and unwise intrusion. Of these two scenarios, I prefer the former, and hope that you will take a step in that direction by supporting HB 272.

Thank you!

—Dave Wellman

Owner, Wellwood Center Bed and Breakfast HC 60 Box 227, Copper Center, AK 99573


From: Felicia Riedel <f_riedel@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 1:01 PM
To: House Fisheries
Subject: HB 272 Tangle Lakes State Game Refuge

Dear Representatives,


As you listen to this bill tomorrow, I want you to have the perspectives of a couple who live where the impact of HB 272 will be felt. My husband and I have lived and raised a family in the Copper River Basin since 1977, having come here from Fairbanks where my mother homesteaded. I love this land and the lifestyle it affords! But I also am a mom and understand wanting jobs and a future for my kids.

I think HB 272 supports my desires to continue to be able to rely on game meat and enjoy the fascinating landscape and geology of the Tangle Lakes area. The bill's main purpose is to protect wildlife and their habitat, but that will double the purpose by also preserving the land.

My husband is an avid, fair-chase hunter, so game and salmon are what we eat for meat. I supply the non-meat side for the table, from the garden to the bread –but also berries, and the area is a good source for those. I relish going on hunts, even though I pick berries or take photos or facilitate kids, because hunters get out into the best places, like Tangle Lakes. My husband was also a recreational miner, and he made sure this bill didn't exclude that.

So when I think that there is a bill that will safeguard the caribou herd and be good for local businesses and protect the land for berry pickers, photographers, tourists, archaeologists, and others while not ruining anyone's jobs or future, I think it shows farsightedness and needs to be supported.

Thank you,
Felicia Riedel
Kenny Lake, AK


From: Mary Odden <fiddletunes@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 1:04 PM
To: House Fisheries
Subject: HB 272 Tangle Lakes State Game Refuge

Dear Alaska Legislature House Fisheries Committee,

We are long-time Copper Basin Residents and business owners. We hunt and fish in the Tangle Lakes area. We are not opposed to mining exploration and development in general, but with most other people in our region we recognize this area along the Denali Highway as a critical caribou habitat, long identified as such by state biologists. Please support the creation and funding of this refuge, important for the future of the Nelchina herd and all those who depend upon and enjoy its healthy population.

Respectfully,

Jim and Mary Odden

HC 1 Box 2520

Glennallen, Alaska 99588

From: Mark Luttrell <prufrock@arctic.net>
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 1:16 PM
To: House Fisheries
Subject: Support for HB 272 - Tangle Lakes State Game Refuge

The protection offered by a state game refuge is long overdue in the Tangle Lakes area. I fully support this bill and thank Representative Josephson for introducing it and the fisheries committee for discussing it.

My wife and I have enjoyed the Denali Highway and Tangle Lakes area for decades. We hike, pick berries and photograph wildlife. In the 80s, as an archaeologist with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, I surveyed much of the area near Tangle Lakes and Dickey Lake. We confirmed that the area is rich in cultural resources.

It's foolish to leave this area unprotected from damaging resource extraction.

Thanks

Mark Luttrell and
Ann Ghicadus
Box 511
Seward AK 99664

From: Diane Ellsworth <farmzoo@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 2:17 PM
To: House Fisheries
Subject: HB 272

Please support HB 272. We need to keep our wild lands wild and protect our caribou, fish and environment. It is time to use other sources of energy and time to realize that wealth is not only measured in dollars--the earth is our most valuable resource.

Thank you,
Diane Ellsworth
HC 60 Box 109N
Copper Center, Alaska 99573

From: Rebekah Donohue <beck.donohue@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 2:50 PM
To: House Fisheries; Rep. David Talerico; Rep. George Rauscher
Subject: HB 272 - Tangle Lakes State Game Refuge

I am writing to ask that you support HB 272, the bill to form a Tangle Lakes State Game Refuge. This region is simply too valuable to allow mining to impact it. With the Nelchina Caribou herd roaming over much of the land, it is an area rich in beauty and subsistence resources. I have many wonderful childhood memories from the area: quietly canoeing around the lakes, picking blueberries with my Mom, and my first caribou hunt with my Dad. I have continued these activities into adulthood, and look forward every year to an autumn trip to Tangle Lakes. I just had my first child this winter, and I look forward to sharing these same experiences with her in the years to come. Please do your part to protect this beautiful region for the wildlife that inhabit it, and for the rich experiences it offers for future generations.

Thank you,
Rebekah Donohue
Kenny Lake, Alaska
907-244-6623

From: Frank Keim <frankkeim@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2018 10:45 AM
To: House Fisheries
Subject: addendum


To members of the Fisheries committee:

I am back to my computer again, and wish to add the ways I have recreated in the proposed Tangle Lakes Refuge area since the early 1960's. Once upon a time, in the 1960's and 1970's, there used to be a LOT of caribou in the area, and I hunted them there. I also hunted moose there. For each of these species I was successful and, when a student, fed myself, and later, after I had a family, fed them too. From the 1960's to the present, I have canoed the area more than 40 times. I have also fished in the area, as well as hiked, mountain climbed, bird watched and cross-country skied. So, you see that I, along with my two wives, children, grandchildren, and so many friends and relatives, have used this area extensively many many times. And it is for these reasons that I/we feel the area should be set aside permanently as a State Refuge. Please help make it so. Thanks.

Frank Keim
2220 Penrose Lane
Fairbanks 99709

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Something will have gone out of us as a people if we ever let the remaining wilderness be destroyed...We simply need that wild country, even if we never do more than drive to its edge and look in.

Wallace Stegner




From: Don Kiely <don@donkiely.com>
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 5:10 PM
To: House Fisheries
Subject: HB 272 - Tangle Lakes State Game Refuge

Members of the House Fisheries Committee:

I am writing to thank you for considering HB 272 to establish the Tangle Lakes State Game Refuge. I urge you to support this bill, both to protect this incredible area to provide permanent protection for fish and wildlife populations and their habitats, as well as to protect the area for its incredible recreation opportunities, including fishing and hunting.

I often visit the Tangle Lakes area, mostly to paddle the Delta River and for tundra hiking and berry picking. It is an incredible resource, well worth giving our highest levels of protection.

Thank you!
Don Kiely
Fairbanks, AK


From: Bob Hadaway <hadaway.bob@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 5:26 PM
To: House Fisheries
Subject: House Bill 272

I strongly support HB 272 as a measure to protect the Tangle Lakes region. I've spent many years, camping, canoeing, fishing and hiking in this beautiful area and hope to see it protected for future generations.

Sincerely,

Bob Hadaway
(hadaway.bob@gmail.com)



From: dianalingle@gmail.com
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 5:50 PM
To: House Fisheries
Subject: Tangle lakes state game refuge

I wish to voice my support for HB 272. Tangle Lakes is a wonderful area for hiking, canoeing, kayaking, and camping and should be protected from mining or other industrial uses which would adversely impact its value for both humans and wildlife.

Thank you,
Diana Lingle,
P. O. Box 395, Ester, Ak 99725

Sent from my iPad

From: Peggy Raybeck <paycheck39@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 5:52 PM
To: House Fisheries
Subject: Support for HB 272

I strongly support the bill to create a refuge to protect the Tangle Lakes and Upper Delta R area.

I've spent many days in this fabulous area hunting, fishing, picking blueberries and canoe trips for pleasure and hunting down the river. First trip in the late 1960s was really exciting from the lake into (literally) the river. Also enjoyed a few snowmachine and ski trips in the Spring. It's a true wonderland.

[REDACTED]

From: Zak Penwell <zak.penwell@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 5:55 PM
To: House Fisheries
Subject: In support of HB 272

Hello,

I wanted to ask for your support of HB 272. My kids and I use the Tangle Lakes area to fish, canoe, and hike. This bill would be great for the long time protection of this area.

Thank you.

Zak Penwell
1659 Wolverine Lane
Fairbanks AK 99709

[REDACTED]

From: Larry Rundquist <rundquist@gci.net>
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 9:18 PM
To: House Fisheries
Cc: Representative_Geran_Tarr@legis.state.ak.us; Sen. Tom Begich
Subject: Please support HB 272

House Fisheries Committee Members...

I am in full support of HB 272 - Tangle Lakes State Game Refuge. Tangle Lakes are well known for great grayling fishing and the upper Delta Wild and Scenic River was one of the best paddle trips that I have taken. These waterbodies and their entire watershed should be protected with the creation of the Game Refuge. Development threats in recent years makes it imperative that this bill move forward to the legislature for passage this session.

Thank you for moving this bill to the legislature...

Larry Rundquist
2912 Alder Dr
Anchorage, Alaska 99508
907-279-7395

From: Frank Maxwell <maxwellasfrank@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 10:38 PM
To: House Fisheries
Subject: HB 272- Tangle Lakes Refuge

I have been visiting Tangle Lakes since the 1990s which is before I became an Alaska resident. It is a place where I take out-of-state visitors because it is such a vibrant, beautiful stop on the Denali Highway. I've used it for birding, camping, fishing and canoeing. The thought of the area being desecrated by large-scale mining has disturbed me for many years. I strongly support HB 272 to protect the irreplaceable, habitat, scenic and recreational values there.

Thank you Frank Maxwell, POB 84862, Fairbanks, AK 99708

From: Brad Snow <svaldonza@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 7:37 AM
To: House Fisheries
Subject: HB 272 - Tangle Lakes State Game Refuge

Dear Committee Members,

I'm writing you in support of HB 272 because I have had considerable experience canoeing, berry picking and hiking in the Tangle Lakes area over the last twenty-eight years, and feel it is one of the most beautiful and accessible areas we as Alaskans possess.

As founder in 1994 with a group of like-minded Alaskans, and later its president for ten years, I helped build Fairbanks Paddlers, a club for non-motorized water craft paddlers, from its inception into an organization of over 400 members. Its goals, "to promote the non-motoried recreational use of Alaskan rivers through conservation, training, safety, exchange of information; and to have fun in the process"(from the club charter), included the protection of areas like the Tangle Lakes. Many of our members have paddled this waterway multiple times, as its unique qualities, including its rare road-to-road access, are worth experiencing and cherishing over and over again.

And so I urge you to carefully consider the proposal before you, and vote to protect this most valuable Alaskan resource from encroachment.

Brad Snow
2650 Home Run
Fairbanks, AK 99709

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Brad Snow
svaldonza@gmail.com

From: karen jensen <kljensen64@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 7:54 AM
To: House Fisheries
Subject: Tangle Lakes Game Refuge - yes!

Dear Legislators:

My family and I have been going to Tangle Lakes area every summer, to birdwatch, canoe and camp. And pick berries! And get a few bug bites. The Tangle Lakes area and Delta river are a special Alaskan treasure, used by many but never feel overcrowded. I have just heard about legislation to make the area a state game refuge, and if that allows multiple uses without abuse and destruction, I'm all for it. Hunting and fishing, paddlers of all types, and lots of campers and wildlife watchers. Leave it that way; that's why we live here.

Thank you,

Karen Jensen
kljensen64@gmail.com
Fairbanks, AK

From: Jenna Jonas <jenna.e.jonas@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 8:07 AM
To: House Fisheries
Subject: HB 272

Dear committee members,

My name is Jenna Jonas and I live at 2240 Railroad drive in Fairbanks. I just wanted to send you a brief note and express my support for HB 272. I have worked as a canoe guide in the Tangle Lakes region and have been there on recreation, fishing, hunting, and berry picking trips. It is an incredible area, rich and diverse and I think that a State Game Refuge would be an appropriate designation and protect the most valuable resource there, the ecosystem which supports the Nelchina caribou herd. Thank you for considering this important bill.

Jenna Jonas

[Jenna.e.jonas@gmail.com](mailto:jenna.e.jonas@gmail.com)

From: Ann Biddle <annbiddle@cvinternet.net>
Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 8:29 AM
To: House Fisheries
Subject: HB 272

House Fisheries Committee Members,

I support the passage of HB 272, the establishment of the Tangle Lakes Game Refuge, put forth by Representative Andy Josephson. My family and I live and subsist in the Copper River Valley. We annually hunt and forage in the area under consideration.

Please consider passing this bill to ensure that the Nelchina caribou herd has land to roam and remains strong.

Thank you,
Ann Biddle
HC 01 Box 112
Gakona, AK 99586

From: Ruth McHenry <cca@coppervalleyak.net>
Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 8:36 AM
To: House Fisheries
Subject: HB 272 Tangle Lakes State Game Refuge
Attachments: TangleLksLetterToLegis.docx; TangleLksLetterToLegis.Signers.xlsx

Dear Fisheries Committee Members,

An impressive number of Alaskans, and some Outside visitors as well, have cared enough about the Tangle Lakes region to sign the attached Letter to the Legislature. This was not a quick, press-the-button sign-on. Many signed paper petitions at booths and events, and took the time to include how they use the area. They hunt, fish, pick berries, etc. (Please see "how recreate" column in attached spreadsheet.) Some of the signers are business owners. (See first column of spread sheet.) To make it easier for you to see which are from your districts, the list is arranged alphabetically by city.

Copper Country Alliance is a small non-profit conservation organization that has served the Copper River Basin for over 25 years. Our organization, partner organizations, and concerned individuals have sought spent years seeking ways to ensure that the Tangle Lakes region remains a place where wildlife flourishes and humans hunt, fish, and recreate.

We hope this information will help you understand the value of creating a Tangle Lakes State Game Refuge for the benefit of current and future Alaskans.


Sincerely,

Ruth McHenry

--

Ruth McHenry, Executive Director
Copper Country Alliance
HC60 Box 306T
Copper Center, AK 99573
907-822-3644

This email has been checked for viruses by AVG.
<http://www.avg.com>



From: Ronald Yarnell <ronaldyarnell@icloud.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 9:58 AM
To: House Fisheries
Subject: HB 272


To whom it concerns,

This is a no brainer. The Tangle Lakes Area is one of the most popular recreational areas in interior. We should be doing everything in our power to protect this valuable recreational area. Stop large scale mining in this area.

Please include my comments in the record.

Sincerely, Ron Yarnell(Fairbanks)

Sent from my iPhone



From: Judi Thurmond <madbluebird4444@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 10:51 AM
To: House Fisheries
Subject: HB 272

I support HB 272 - we use this area for canoeing, hiking and berry picking. Keep the pristine look of this area. Sincerely,
Judi Thurmond

From: Daniel Failoni <jkddfai@olypen.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 2:21 PM
To: House Fisheries
Subject: Tangle Lakes

I support the bill re:Tangle Lakes Refuge especially if hunting is allowed to continue. Thank you. Dan Failoni
360 582 9687

Matt Greening

From: gcarr64 <gcarr64@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 8:37 PM
To: House Fisheries
Subject: Hb272 bill

I Richard Carr 44 year resident supports the HB272 bill . It has been an important part of my life .

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

From: [Rep. Andy Josephson](#)
To: [Lisa Delaney](#)
Subject: FW: Tangle Lakes Game Refuge bill
Date: Monday, January 22, 2018 4:34:04 PM

From: [Frankie Barker](#)
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2018 4:10 PM
To: [Rep. Andy Josephson](#)
Subject: Tangle Lakes Game Refuge bill

Rep. Josephson,

Thank you for sponsoring the Tangle Lakes Game Refuge bill. Tangle Lakes is a special area which is enjoyed by many people in our community. It is an important bird migration area as well as an enjoyable recreation site. Good luck with sheparding this through the legislature.

Frankie Barker
Chickaloon

From: [Rep. Andy Josephson](#)
To: [Lisa Delaney](#)
Subject: FW: H.B. 272
Date: Tuesday, January 23, 2018 7:54:42 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Judith Donegan [<mailto:jdoneganak@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2018 5:35 PM
To: Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>
Cc: Rep. George Rauscher <Rep.George.Rauscher@akleg.gov>
Subject: H.B. 272

Dear Representative Josephson:

I enthusiastically support House Bill 272 to establish a Tangle Lakes State Game Refuge. This is an area that deserves protection for the benefit of both the animals that depend on it and the people who experience the unique beauty of the area. One important consideration is that the area is easily accessible to a large portion of the population of the state and so provides important wilderness experiences for large numbers of people. It is the favorite place of my grandchildren, who have learned to appreciate the importance of wilderness areas from their experiences camping, fishing, and hunting in the area.

Thank you for your consideration.

Judy Donegan
13603 E. Oceanview Rd.
Palmer
AK 99645

From: Rep. Andy Josephson
To: "Kate Sandberg"
Subject: RE: Thank you
Date: Tuesday, January 16, 2018 7:56:54 AM

From: Kate Sandberg [mailto:kesandberg@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, January 13, 2018 5:11 PM
To: Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>
Subject: Thank you

Dear Rep. Josephson,

Thank you for introducing HB 272. What a relief to have a representative doing something constructive and that will add to the quality of life and to preserve habitat. Thank you. What a gem the Tangle Lakes area is.

Kate Sandberg
Girdwood, AK

From: [Rep. Andy Josephson](#)
To: [Lisa Delaney](#)
Subject: FW: House Bill 272
Date: Thursday, February 01, 2018 2:14:23 PM

From: Melissa Heuer [mailto:heuer.melissa@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 01, 2018 11:44 AM
To: Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>
Subject: House Bill 272

Representative Josephson,

I am writing in strong support and appreciation for your bill to turn Tangle Lakes into a State Game Refuge. As an annual recreational user of this area, my family has spent a lot of time canoeing, camping, and berry picking in this beautiful and important area. I encourage you to keep moving forward with this important bill.

Thank you!

Cheers,
Melissa Heuer

Melissa Heuer, MBA
e: Heuer.Melissa@gmail.com
c: 907.242.4779
w: www.SporkAK.com

From: [Rep. Andy Josephson](#)
To: [Lisa Delaney](#)
Subject: FW: Thank You HB 272
Date: Wednesday, January 17, 2018 4:44:25 PM

From: Janelle Eklund [<mailto:jeklund@cvinternet.net>]
Sent: Friday, January 12, 2018 10:43 AM
To: Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>
Subject: Thank You HB 272

Dear Representative Josephson,

Thank you so much for introducing HB 272 that would establish Tangle Lakes as a State Game Refuge. This is great news and I hope it passes. I appreciate all your work, and that of your staff to get this bill introduced. I love the Tangle Lakes area and go there every year for the solitude and to pick blueberries, hunt, canoe, hike, camp, view wildlife, and take photographs. This is a very special and sacred place. It gives my spirit peace to go there. I belong to an environmental non-profit organization that helps sponsor the Project Healing Waters program at Tangle Lakes every year. It is amazing and hearwarming to see how the veterans and soldiers are transformed by interacting with nature. It is very healing to them. It would be a shame if mining companies or other entities came in and destroyed the healthy integrity of this special area.

Thank you again for taking the step to make Tangle Lakes a State Game Refuge so this area will be protected.

Sincerely,

Janelle Eklund
Kenny Lake, Alaska

From: [Rep. Andy Josephson](#)
To: [Lisa Delaney](#)
Subject: FW: Thank you!
Date: Friday, February 02, 2018 8:50:56 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Hugh Rose [<mailto:hughrose64@gmail.com>]
Sent: Friday, February 02, 2018 3:17 AM
To: Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>
Subject: Thank you!

Dear Andy,

Thank you for your work on the bill to designate Tangle Lakes a state game preserve!
I am a photographer and guide who has lived in Alaska for the past 26 years including the last 19 years in Fairbanks. I run a small guiding business taking people from all over the world to Prince William Sound, the Interior and the arctic (Dalton Highway). I am a one person operation, but occasionally hire a guide to assist me.

I am out in the field all the time and I am appalled by what I see in the way of management of state fish and game resources and state land and it has gotten much worse. In particular along the Dalton Highway. This is no longer 1948 and Alaska is no longer "The Last Frontier" Game regulations need to change to reflect the fact we are in the 21st century and there are now 700,000+ people living in the state! At this time when oil revenues are dwindling tourism is a bright spot on the economic horizon for the state. I just finished my 2017 book keeping and just my little business put \$300,000+ dollars into the local Alaska economy in the way of hotels, meals, flights, supplies, etc.

I would love to talk with you about the future and meaningful changes in game regulations to reflect the overwhelming majority of NON-CONSUMPTIVE game users. In turn ecotourism should be taxed, but only if game refuges are set aside where non-consumptive users can observe and photograph wildlife and birds while NOT being harassed by overly aggressive hunters! I am not suggesting banning hunting, in fact I am pro hunting and have hinted in the past myself. I am merely suggesting that certain areas are set aside for non-consumptive use, as this reflects what the majority of Alaskans want.

I am presently in Chile on my way to guiding a group in the Falkland Islands and then in to Antarctica for a 2 week work trip. I will be back in my office in Fairbanks in early March and would love to dialogue about this.

Thank you for your time to read this!

Regards

Hugh Rose

Please excuse spelling and grammar errors this email was Sent from my iPhone, and my fingers are too big for the keys!

From: [Rep. Andy Josephson](#)
To: [Lisa Delaney](#)
Subject: FW: Thank you for protecting Tangle Lakes!
Date: Tuesday, January 23, 2018 7:52:16 AM

From: Francis Adams [mailto:smada101@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2018 6:12 PM
To: Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>
Subject: Thank you for protecting Tangle Lakes!

Jeff Adams
2125 Yankovich Road
Fairbanks. 99709
907 978-1861

From: Rep. Andy Josephson
To: Lisa Delaney
Subject: FW: Thank you for introducing HB 272.
Date: Thursday, January 18, 2018 10:27:57 AM

From: Patrick Endres [mailto:patrick@alaskaphotographics.com]
Sent: Thursday, January 18, 2018 10:08 AM
To: Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>
Subject: Thank you for introducing HB 272.

Dear Representative Josephson,

Thank you so much for introducing HB 272 advocating for Tangle Lakes. And thanks to the work of your staff as well!

Sincerely,
Patrick Endres

Patrick J Endres
<http://AlaskaPhotoGraphics.com>
<http://Patrickendres.com>
2923 Moose Mountain Road, Fairbanks AK, 99709
907-750-4065
Your source for wild Alaska images: [Facebook](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Instagram](#)

From: Rep. Andy Josephson
To: Lisa Delaney
Subject: FW: Thank you for bill to establish Tangle Lakes State Game Refuge
Date: Monday, January 22, 2018 2:45:08 PM

From: Kendra Zamzow [mailto:kzamzow@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2018 1:06 PM
To: Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>
Subject: Thank you for bill to establish Tangle Lakes State Game Refuge

Dear Representative Josephson:
Thank you for introducing HB 272. I strongly support creating a game refuge in this area. It is also important bird habitat and a great area for biking and camping.

As a long time Alaskan, I recognize our natural renewable resources -- game, fish, millions of migratory birds, wilderness, quiet lakes -- to be critical to our economy, and a legacy to pass on. So many other states have not learned how important these are until they have paved, mined, drilled, and developed over most of them. Let's not make that mistake.

Thank you,

Kendra
Zamzow, PhD

Chickaloon, AK

907.354.3886

"We are drowning in information, while starving for wisdom." EO Wilson

From: Rep. Andy Josephson
To: Lisa Delaney
Subject: FW: Tangle lakes
Date: Tuesday, January 23, 2018 7:51:57 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: chugachfarm@gmail.com [<mailto:chugachfarm@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2018 6:21 PM
To: Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>
Subject: Tangle lakes

Please make wildlife and subsistence hunting and foraging a priority over mineral extraction in the Tangle Lakes area. We have used this area for many years as a source for our food. We value the Nelchina Caribou herd and we do NOT believe resource extraction can co-exist without damaging the herd's health. We value the public land as a priority for public use, NOT special interests. This is a very special place that has a long history of subsistence. Resource extraction is a short sighted, damaging use of this public land.

Jed Workman
Pob 1223
Chickaloon, AK 99674

From: Thomas Atkinson
To: Lisa Delaney
Subject: FW: Tangle Lakes State Game Refuge
Date: Sunday, January 21, 2018 6:36:55 PM

From: Steve Shannon [mailto:stvnshnn@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2018 3:37 PM
To: Thomas Atkinson <Thomas.Atkinson@akleg.gov>
Subject: Tangle Lakes State Game Refuge

To Representative Josephson,

Thank you for pre-filing House Bill 272. As an Alaskan resident, I have fallen in love with the Tangle Lakes area and brought my younger brother up from Florida this past fall to chase caribou around that area to try and fill my Unit 13 tag (DC 485). It's an incredible area and filled with opportunity for all sorts of renewable resource usage from hunting and fishing, to berry picking and hiking. I plan to write a comment piece thanking you for your support and I thought in the meantime you could read the article I wrote on my hunt in the Tangle Lakes area. My only request is that if you recognize the peaks, don't tell anyone where we were at. ;)

<https://journalofmountainhunting.com/brotherly-love/>

Sincerely,

Steve Shannon
Alaska Backcountry Hunters and Anglers

From: [Rep. Andy Josephson](#)
To: [Lisa Delaney](#)
Subject: FW: House Bill 272
Date: Thursday, January 25, 2018 3:31:13 PM

From: Chelsea Lindquist [mailto:chelserin@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2018 10:54 AM
To: Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>
Subject: House Bill 272

I am writing to show my support for House Bill 272, to establish a Tangle Lakes game refuge. The Tangle Lakes area has been the Nelchina Caribou Herd's most-used wintering habitat in Unit 13. Because lichens, the primary winter food of caribou, regrow slowly, caribou must move around and use different areas in different years. Caribou survival thus depends on making sure that favored habitats are not impacted. Caribou also use the area for the fall rut. The area is important for other wildlife as well—from moose to fox, from trumpeter swan to arctic warbler, from burbot to grayling. With climate change bearing down on our vulnerable wildlife, increasing habitat protection is vital.

Thank you,
Chelsea Vukovich
Anchorage, AK

From: [Rep. Andy Josephson](#)
To: [Lisa Delaney](#)
Subject: FW: Please support HB 272 - Tangle Lakes protection
Date: Friday, January 12, 2018 9:25:26 AM

From: Alison Carter [mailto:alisoncarter2@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, January 12, 2018 9:06 AM
To: Rep. Bryce Edgmon <Rep.Bryce.Edgmon@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Tuck <Rep.Chris.Tuck@akleg.gov>; Rep. Charisse Millett <Rep.Charisse.Millett@akleg.gov>
Cc: Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Mike Chenault <Rep.Mike.Chenault@akleg.gov>; Rep. Matt Claman <Rep.Matt.Claman@akleg.gov>; Rep. Harriet Drummond <Rep.Harriet.Drummond@akleg.gov>; Rep. David Eastman <Rep.David.Eastman@akleg.gov>; Rep. Les Gara <Rep.Les.Gara@akleg.gov>; Rep. Jason Grenn <Rep.Jason.Grenn@akleg.gov>; Rep. David Guttenberg <Rep.David.Guttenberg@akleg.gov>; Rep. DeLena Johnson <Rep.DeLena.Johnson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Jennifer Johnston <Rep.Jennifer.Johnston@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Scott Kawasaki <Rep.Scott.Kawasaki@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chuck Kopp <Rep.Chuck.Kopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Please support HB 272 - Tangle Lakes protection

Thank you for your hard work on Alaskan's behalf. This is a quick note to express how important the Tangle Lakes area is to my well-being. I hope you have spent time there. I make at least 2 trips there each year from Fairbanks and spend 10-14 days. I wish I could explain how that time recharges my spiritual battery and enhances the quality of my life. I always meet people from Anchorage and Mat-Su there.

Please help protect it from mining and other development that will spoil the pristine and peaceful nature of the area.

Sincerely,
Alison Carter
Fairbanks, AK

From: Rep. Andy Josephson
To: Lisa Delaney
Subject: FW: Tangle lakes region
Date: Tuesday, January 16, 2018 5:00:27 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: delmarjohnson2000@yahoo.com [<mailto:delmarjohnson2000@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Friday, January 12, 2018 9:19 PM
To: Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>
Subject: Tangle lakes region

Sent from my iPad. Thank you for all your efforts to preserve this area!! I have fished, hiked, photographed this area for more than 40 years. My children were raised camping 4th of July week at Landmark Gap Lake since they were babies. I never want this area to change. No trail or road improvements. To love this area, you have to earn it. If it was easy, it would be changed by those that would flood it, leaving traces of disregard. Protect it!!!!!!!!!!
Delmar Johnson.

From: Cliff Eames
To: [Lisa Delaney](#)
Subject: Re: release of bill
Date: Wednesday, January 17, 2018 4:50:47 PM

Again, a huge thanks to you and Rep. Josephson for introducing this bill. It's been a lot of work for you, we're well aware.



February 16, 2007

ATTN: BOG COMMENTS
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Boards Support Section
PO Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526
Fax: 907-465-6094

RECEIVED
FEB 16 2007
BOARDS

RE: Comment on Proposal 204, March 2007 BOG Meeting, Anchorage

Proposal 204 asks the Board of Game to use its authority to ask the legislature to establish a state wildlife refuge in Unit 13 between the general vicinity of Paxson to the Maclaren River and north of the Denali Highway. The exact boundaries of the proposed refuge are outlined in the proposal and the objective is to protect an area with high wildlife values from development and surface mining.

In the mid-1970s, I spent three summers studying nesting behavior of gyrfalcons in the much of the area defined by this proposal and I know there are excellent wildlife resources, especially for birds, as described in the proposal. Cliff-nesting raptors (including golden eagle and gyrfalcons), tree-nesting or ground nesting species (bald-eagle and merlin) are numerous and widely distributed in the area. Game birds and waterfowl are abundant especially in the Tangle Lakes, Glacier Lake, and Landmark Gap Lake areas. And, there are exceptional populations of other bird species including a large colony of long-tailed jaegers nesting in the flatland between the Denali Highway and Landmark Gap, and high numbers of arctic warblers along the Denali Highway.

After learning first hand about the outstanding wildlife resources in the area, I returned periodically for the next 15-20 years to pick berries, hunt ptarmigan, caribou, moose, and fish and canoe in the Tangle Lakes area. Others do the same, and this area is a great place for people, residents or nonresidents, to have exceptional wildlife and recreational experiences.

I am also aware of several archeological sites within the proposed refuge. One was named for stone points that I reported in 1975. They should be protected.

Even 30 years ago, I could see the value of protecting the wildlife values in this area because of its high use for recreation, hunting, fishing and wildlife observation. I support the proposal and encourage the Board to take a proactive step to protect wildlife resources now and into the future. I dream of returning and it is my hope I do not have to look a surface mining developments that rob the area of its unique scenic and wildlife resources.

Please act and pass Proposal 204. Thank you for your consideration.

Peter Bente
PO Box 1611,
Nome, Alaska 99762

*Peter Bente
02-16-2007
Nome, Alaska*

COMMENT# 219

RECEIVED TIME FEB. 16. 2:55PM



BACKCOUNTRY HUNTERS AND ANGLERS

ALASKA CHAPTER

www.alaskabackcountryhunters.org

AK BHA



Position Statement Proposed Tangle Lakes State Wildlife Refuge

The Tangle Lakes region off the Denali Highway is a unique area that is important to a wide array of Alaskans and nonresidents who hunt and fish and recreate there. Home to the wandering Nelchina caribou herd, abundant fishery resources, encompassing the Delta Wild and Scenic River, this area is the breadbasket of subsistence and recreational hunting and fishing and gathering for south central Alaska. It is also a growing and highly popular tourism destination.

Amidst the spectacular alpine scenery and abundant fish and wildlife resources, below the ground are platinum group metal deposits now being explored with the potential for large scale hardrock mining.

The potential for large scale hardrock mining concerns hunters, anglers and subsistence users of the Tangle Lakes region who depend on the renewable resources this area offers. They want some assurances that adequate protections are in place should any hardrock mining take place, that the Nelchina caribou herd and other resources won't be negatively affected, and that their traditional activities will continue unabated.

And so there has been a proposal to create a Tangle Lakes State Wildlife Refuge. Under Refuge status, the Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADFG) would have a lead role with DNR in any mine permitting process, and more adequate protections will be ensured for fish and wildlife and the habitat they depend upon. Hunting, fishing, trapping and other subsistence activities would also be protected.

For these reasons, AK BHA supports a Tangle Lakes Refuge. We believe more rigorous protection of our fish and wildlife habitat is necessary to ensure future productivity of the resources in the Tangles, and a refuge is a reasonable way to provide that protection. However, hard rock mining would not be precluded within the refuge. Areas with convincing mineral potential could still be developed as long as strong protections for fish and wildlife habitat were in force. Jobs associated with mining could still be created, while those associated with hunting, fishing, trapping, tourism and subsistence would be recognized, protected, and enhanced by refuge designation.



BACKCOUNTRY HUNTERS AND ANGLERS ALASKA CHAPTER



3/15/10

To: Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Division of Mining, Land, and Water
3700 Airport Road
Fairbanks, AK 99709-4699

Attn: Jack Kerin: "<mailto:jack.kerin@alaska.gov>" jack.kerin@alaska.gov
Brent Martellaro: "<mailto:brent.martellaro@alaska.gov>" brent.martellaro@alaska.gov

Re: APMA F109742—Pure Nickel 2010-2015 Exploration Permit Application

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on Pure Nickel's 2010-2015 exploration permit. We understand and appreciate the need to permit hard rock mining exploration in areas likely to hold good mineral resources. However, the area being proposed for large scale hard rock mining is in this case, critically important to the Nelchina caribou herd, one of the most accessible, extensively studied and heavily utilized caribou herds in Alaska. The Nelchina herd has provided food for Alaskans since time immemorial, and is managed to provide thousands of families with food to this day. We believe this property of the land, it's ability to provide a basic need for so many, is more important than the mineral resources that may be found. For this reason, AK BHA opposes granting Pure Nickel the exploration permit that could lead to large scale mineral exploitation.

We believe that mining exploration itself will cause significant negative impacts to the Nelchina herd and the people who utilize it. In all likelihood, the most disruptive result of exploration will be the numerous low elevation helicopter flights and landings, which have been shown to be highly disruptive to caribou, and certainly create an untenable situation for hunters attempting to fill their freezers. Noise from drilling camps, the prolonged presence of workers at these camps, and visual disturbances will also contribute to caribou stress, and will likely cause negative changes to migration habits and foraging behavior.

The Nelchina herd has recently shown signs of nutritional stress. Fires, in particular, have altered summer foraging patterns with the result that many caribou going into the rut are in poor condition, and calves are born small. It is particularly important therefore, that preferred winter foraging and rutting areas within the Tangle Lakes region, be free from disruption that could cause further harm to the herd. **The areas used by the herd in the fall and winter should receive special scrutiny and consideration from DNR during their permit deliberations. This includes the “Beta Complex” which abuts the Denali Highway and the Tangle Lakes/Delta River Wild and Scenic River System.** These areas are too important to numerous Alaskans to be valued only for their mineral potential.

DNR has a serious responsibility to safeguard the public trust they hold; they must without fail manage the land under their care to respect this trust, and consider the results of their actions not only on current citizens, but on those following. This ethic should be at the forefront of all decisions regarding mineral development in the Tangle Lakes region. The loss of our renewable wildlife resources due to a lack of concern for the same, would be an unforgivable breach of said trust.

Thank you again for your hard work, patience and consideration,

Dave Lyon
Co-Chair Alaska Backcountry Hunters and Anglers



COPPER COUNTRY ALLIANCE

HC 60 Box 306T
Copper Center, Alaska 99573
Phone (907) 822-3644
cca@coppervalleyak.net

a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation

*"Protecting the rural and wild natural environment of the
Copper Basin/Wrangeli Mountains region."*

MEDIA RELEASE

February 12, 2018

For immediate release

Contact: Cliff Eames, 907-822-3644; cca@coppervalleyak.net

BILL WOULD GIVE NELCHINA HERD, TANGLES LAKES A BIG BOOST

One of Alaska's favorite areas for subsistence and recreation may have additional protection in the future thanks to Representative Andy Josephson. House Bill 272 "To Establish a Tangle Lakes State Game Refuge" was pre-filed by Rep. Josephson this January.

For the Nelchina Caribou Herd the Tangle Lakes area is essential habitat, especially for fall rut and winter grazing. Archaeological evidence shows that the Tangle Lakes region has been a magnet for human activities for many centuries, and ever since the Denali Highway opened sixty years ago, the region has drawn hunters, fishers, paddlers, berry pickers, photographers and many other admirers. Periodically, Outside and foreign mineral exploration companies have raised Alaskans' worries about the threat of hardrock mining.

As the state Board of Game wrote in 2008 to then-Governor Palin, "We recognize the potential for mineral extraction in this area and in associated mineral leases, but remain convinced the long-term value of maintaining wildlife habitat far outweighs the potential benefits of possible development projects known at this time." John Schandemeier, who probably has spent more time in the region than anyone, has asked, "Are the minerals more valuable than what we already have here?"

HB 272 would not void existing mining claims, but it would preclude new hardrock claims and give the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) increased control over any development. The primary purpose of the designation is to protect wildlife populations so they remain available for hunters to harvest, and other visitors to see and photograph. In a state game refuge, ADF&G takes on the lead management role for fish and wildlife, human uses, and surface uses.

With or without any mining threat, the Tangle Lakes region stands on its own as a natural choice for a refuge. "[T]he importance of [these lands] as wildlife habitat, tourist destination, sport fishing, subsistence and sport hunting, subsistence food gathering and trapping area exceeds all mining value. All these uses except mining have minimal impact on the land and are renewable yearly," wrote ADF&G Game Biologist Bob Tobey (now retired).

Supporters of HB 272, including Copper Country Alliance, other organizations, and business owners, urge hunters, fishers, and other fans of Tangle Lakes and the Nelchina herd to ask their legislators to pass this bill. More information is at <https://www.savetanglelakes.org/>.

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BACKCOUNTRY HUNTERS AND ANGLERS

ALASKA CHAPTER



PO Box 47 Homer, AK 99603

To: Governor Sarah Palin
State of Alaska
3rd Floor, State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

July 10, 2008

Cc: DNR Commissioner Tom Irwin
ADF&G Commissioner Denby Lloyd

Re: Tangle Lakes Refuge Proposal

Dear Governor Palin,

Alaska Backcountry Hunters and Anglers (AK BHA) is a grassroots organization of Alaskans dedicated to working for the protection of fish and wildlife resources for present and future generations. We are residents of the state who hunt, fish, trap, and depend on the living, renewable resources of this great state to sustain us. We believe the future of our hunting and fishing heritage depends on prudent management of intact ecosystems, and habitat protection.

You have heard from the Board of Game, former and current ADF&G biologists, citizens groups such as the Copper County Alliance, and other individuals about the pressing need to protect the Tangle Lakes area. This region has been recognized for years as vital hunting grounds for area residents pursuing Nelchina caribou, and is known to support important, if not critical, caribou winter habitat. Many resident moose hunters, and both resident and nonresident bear and small game hunters also utilize this region. This is a unique area of the state that we believe has its highest value in the renewable fish and wildlife resources, rather than the recoverable minerals. The hunting and fishing residents we represent, and our children and their children, deserve to have this area protected from the long-term damage large scale industrial mining inevitably causes. Because the recreational and subsistence value of this area is so important to current and future Alaskans, we support creating a Refuge in the "Denali block" area of the Tangle Lakes.

Prioritizing the protection of fish and wildlife here makes sense to a diverse group of Alaskan outdoors enthusiasts, from hunters and anglers and trappers, to wildlife viewers, hikers, and snowmachiners.

We respectfully request your support for the protection of this area for subsistence and recreational use by the people, via Refuge status.

Thank you for your time and effort.

Sincerely,

Louise Seguela – Secretary AK BHA

<http://www.alaskabackcountryhunters.org>