

Amended: 5/7/89

6-1327E

Offered: 5/4/89

Referred: Rules

Original sponsor: Resources Committee

1 IN THE HOUSE BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE
2 CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 320 (Resources) am
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION
5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the Alaska Coastal Biological
7 Recovery Area."

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

9 * Section 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS. (a) The legislature finds that the
10 fish, wildlife, aquatic plants, and natural habitat of Prince William
11 Sound, the Outer Kenai Peninsula Coast, and the Kodiak area have long been
12 healthy, productive, and pristine. These areas were devastatingly affected
13 by the Exxon Valdez oil spill on March 24, 1989. The legislature finds
14 that strong steps must now be taken to protect Prince William Sound, the
15 Outer Kenai Peninsula Coast, and the Kodiak area from additional adverse
16 environmental effects, to assess the damage, and to aid in their recovery.

17 (b) The legislature finds that the commissioner of fish and game, as
18 state trustee under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation,
19 and Liability Act of 1980 and the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization
20 Act of 1986, is the officer most suited to fulfill the responsibility for
21 coordination of protection, enhancement, and recovery of Prince William
22 Sound and other affected areas.

23 * Sec. 2. AS 16.20 is amended by adding a new section to read:

24 Sec. 16.20.620. ALASKA COASTAL BIOLOGICAL RECOVERY AREA.

25 (a) The state tide and submerged land and water in Prince William
26 Sound and the Outer Kenai and Alaska Peninsula Coast north of a line from
27 Chignik Bay to Cape Douglas including the northern coast of the Kodiak and
28 Afognak Island group, then northeast to the southern most tip of the Kenai
29 Peninsula and extending northeast to Prince William Sound are designated as

1 the Alaska Coastal Biological Recovery Area and reserved primarily for the
2 protection, rehabilitation, restoration, and study of fish, wildlife,
3 aquatic plant populations, habitat, and the natural environment.

4 (b) The commissioner shall manage the biological recovery of the
5 Alaska Coastal Biological Recovery Area under AS 16.20.500 - 16.20.530
6 to

7 (1) prevent negative effects on the environmental recovery
8 and productivity of Prince William Sound, the Outer Kenai Peninsula
9 Coast, and the Kodiak area; and

10 (2) encourage the restoration and rehabilitation of fish,
11 wildlife, and aquatic plant resources.

12 * Sec. 3. AS 16.20.620 as enacted by sec. 2 of this Act is repealed
13 March 24, 1999.