

COMMITTEE REPORT

SENATE

Mr. President:

Date 7/25/77

The Committee on FINANCE has had SB 87

under consideration. A Majority of the members of the Committee

- recommends it DO PASS
- recommends it DO NOT PASS
- recommends it DO PASS WITH ATTACHED AMENDMENT(S)
- recommends it BE REPLACED WITH CS FOR _____ AND THAT
CS FOR _____ DO PASS
- "and" recommends it BE REFERRED TO THE _____
COMMITTEE
- reports it back WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION
- "other"

Members signing the Majority report:

Members NOT concurring in the Majority report:

_____ recommends:
 _____ recommends:
 _____ recommends:
 _____ recommends:
 _____ recommends:

Chairman

STATE OF ALASKA
Inter-Department Route Slip

TO:
MAIL STATION NUMBER _____

DEPARTMENT Legislative Finance

ATTENTION _____

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Approval | <input type="checkbox"/> Note & Return |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Signature | <input type="checkbox"/> Initial & Return |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Comment | <input type="checkbox"/> Return As Requested |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contact Me | <input type="checkbox"/> Return For Approval |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare Reply | <input type="checkbox"/> Necessary Action |
| <input type="checkbox"/> For Your File | <input type="checkbox"/> Your Information |

Remarks:

FROM:
MAIL STATION NUMBER _____

DEPARTMENT _____

BY J. Robert DATE 2-13-75

The Legislature of the State of Alaska
FISCAL NOTE

First Session - Ninth Legislature

I. REQUEST

Bill No. SB 88

Title: Re special appropriation F&G to purchase property within Potter Point Refuge

Requested by: Senator Bill Ray Date: 2/13/75

Return Date Requested: 2/18/75

Agency: Fish and Game Program: Natural Resources

Management & Environmental Conservation

II. FISCAL DETAIL

Budget Request Unit(s) Affected: Division of Game

A. EXPENDITURES: (Thousands of dollars)

OBJECT	FY 75	FY 76	FY 77	FY 78	FY 79	FY 80
100 PERSONAL SERVICES						
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL						
400 COMMODITIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES		300.0				
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS, ETC.						
TOTAL		300.0				

B. FUNDING: (Thousands of dollars)

GENERAL FUND		75.0				
FEDERAL FUNDS		225.0				
OTHER						

C. POSITIONS:

PERMANENT/TEMPORARY	/	/	/	/	/	/
MAN MONTHS (P./T.)	/	/	/	/	/	/

III. ANALYSIS (See Fiscal Note Preparation Instructions, Section III)

Subject piece of Legislation merely establishes a State Game Refuge. The Department of Fish and Game envisions no impact upon operating budget in the foreseeable future of this department as a result of this piece of Legislation. It is conceivable that at some point in the future it may be desirable to develop access to the land in question.

IV. ATTACHMENTS

V. DATE: 2/13/75

PREPARED BY: Vern Roberts

Vern Roberts, Admin. Director

Original: Legislative Finance
cc: Budget and Management
Prime Sponsor (First Legislator Named)

Introduced: 1/28/75
Referred: Resources and
Finance

1 IN THE SENATE

BY RADER, BRADLEY
CROFT AND RODEY

2 SENATE BILL NO. 88

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act making a special appropriation to the Depart-
7 ment of Fish and Game to purchase real property within
8 Potter Point State Game Refuge; and providing for an
9 effective date."

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

11 * Section 1. The sum of \$75,000 is appropriated from the general fund
12 to the Department of Fish and Game for purchasing real property within the
13 area known as the Potter Point State Game Refuge.

14 * Sec. 2. This Act takes effect July 1, 1975.
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Introduced: 1/28/75
Referred: Resources and
Finance

BY RADER, BRADLEY
CROFT AND RODEY

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4 NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

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COMMITTEE REPORT

1/28/75

SENATE

Mr. President:

Date _____

The Committee on RESOURCES has had SB 88
Special action to purchase real property within Potter Point State Game Refuge
under consideration. A Majority of the members of the Committee

- recommends it DO PASS
- recommends it DO NOT PASS
- recommends it DO PASS WITH ATTACHED AMENDMENT(S)
- recommends it BE REPLACED WITH CS FOR _____ AND THAT
CS FOR _____ DO PASS
- "and" recommends it BE REFERRED TO THE _____
COMMITTEE
- reports it back WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION
- "other"

Members signing the Majority report:

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Members NOT concurring in the Majority report:

_____ recommends:

_____ recommends:

_____ recommends:

_____ recommends:

_____ recommends:

_____ Chairman

NOTES
SENATE RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING
FEBRUARY 10, 1975

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Senator Poland, at 2:10 pm. Those present were Senator Rader, Senator Orsini, and Senator Rodey. Senator Huber arrived later on in the meeting and Senator Croft sat in on the meeting.

Senator Poland brought up SB 88, "An act making a special appropriation to the Department of Fish and Game to purchase real property within Potter Point State Game Refuge; and providing for an effective date." She pointed out that this bill had passed in the Senate 20 to 1 last year, but had died in the House.

Senator Poland introduced Frank Jones, Director of the State Fish and Game Division. He stated that he wished he had been able to bring maps, etc, to make the areas being talked about clearer, but that they would be able to discuss the areas and explain what they wished to do with the money.

He stated that the areas consisted of approximately 1272 State-owned acres, 744 privately owned acres, and 350 belonged to the Greater Anchorage Area Borough. These acres of course, are above the tide mean line. They are used by waterfowl on both their northbound and southbound flights - a few utilize the area for nesting purposes. It is set aside as a State Game Refuge. The purpose of this bill is to provide money to the Dept to buy more land for the Refuge. We feel if the money is granted, it would give us enough money to tie up the access to this area. 1100 people used the marsh in 1972 and the number is increasing each year. It is also used by many groups, as well as private individuals.

However, Mr. Jones also pointed out that he felt the bill was not clear in that it did not state that the Department has matching funds from the federal government which would give them a total of \$300,000. In response to a question from Senator Orsini, Mr. Jones answered that with proper management we could increase the present utilization 10-15 times and then proceeded to explain the matching funds. These are used only for game rehabilitation and the money lasts for three years. But if it is not used within the 3 year limitation, it reverts back to the federal government. We have lost 45 billion dollars in this way in the past. The funds are matched on a 3 to 1 basis (federal government to state funds)

Mr. Jones pointed out that the Alaska Range Association has 62 acres, but we presently have the lease on it. This is used as a shooting range.

The Purpose of the Bill, he continued, is that we need to get more acreage in order to assure that the area is not used for something other than what we intend it for.

Senator Rodey asked what the eventual plans for the range were and added that the idea of the range seemed inconsistent with the idea of a refuge not only because of the shooting but also because of the noise factor. Mr. Hones answered that they had held hearings in the Anchorage area on this and a number of people are on both sides of the issue. There is no danger with the shooting range as there are backstops which have been set up. But the noise element is there. Anchorage hardly has anywhere else to go for shooting. Sen. Rodey pointed out that there is a possibility of setting up a range at Campell point and the city has plans for such. Senator Orsini confirmed this.

Mr. Jones continued by stating that the area is utilized by more than 600 people per week and the majority of these are on the weekend...Are getting so many people that it is difficult to handle them. The Dept. has been negotiating with the Borough and has made arrangements for them to help manage and make some improvements.

Senator Rader asked if the range interfered with the nesting of the birds. Mr. Jones stated they didn't seem to think so. The birds were nesting not far away, but it didn't seem to bother them much. In response to another question he added that they do permit duck hunting a few days during the waterfowl season. But Senator Croft stated that Section 1 is closed all year around to hunting of any kind. Sections 2 - 6 were open.

Senator Rader asked if they could control hunting on the public lands, or on the private lands? The answer came that yes they could. He added that they did not yet know how the private lands were zoned but that part of this land is important to us for access in order for poeple to be able to get to the area. The accessibility is our first priority.

Senator Rader asked if he thought public access was important for this area. Mr. Jones answered that he thought it was important for people to be able to use all the areas of the refuge. Concerning access, Senator Orsini asked if people were allowed in the closed areas, but not allowed to hunt. Mr. Jones answered that with these funds we want to assure that people would have access to the area, to be able to use it for photography, etc. There will be many times when we would want to restrict entry - like when the birds are nesting. But we do want it for people to be able to use when it is compatible with the waterfowl.

Senator Croft answered a question of how many actual nesting birds there were compared to those just passing through. He said that about 300 geese this past year were raised or were nesting in the area. The Department indicated that was a substantial increase over the past. They had just completed a banding operation. They also had a considerable number of swans that used the area too, before continuing south. He referred to a booklet which estimated 50-75

kinds of birds, over 1/3 of the species in Alaska, that use the area.

Senator Rodey stated that access to the area is already had so that is not really an issue in the problem.

Senator Rader stated that he felt access was a primary reason as well as gaining better control of the area.

Senator Croft added that the only place which had good access was off of the road near Section 1 where the range is located. But at the present time there is no access off of the bluff. Several parcels of land in there would give access from the bluff down into the marsh. Second, there is nothing to keep anybody from filling in sections of the marsh as happened in one area this past summer. One of the primary purposes is to maintain this kind of habitat. Land development is also pressuring the Borough of Anchorage.

Senator Rodey stated that houses built on the edge of the Bluff with kids playing and dogs running would tend to scare the wildlife.

Senator Rader asked that if the Bill was passed what the procedure would be. Mr. Jones answered that they would have the land appraised to be sure it was title free, assure the federal government of such, and then purchase it.

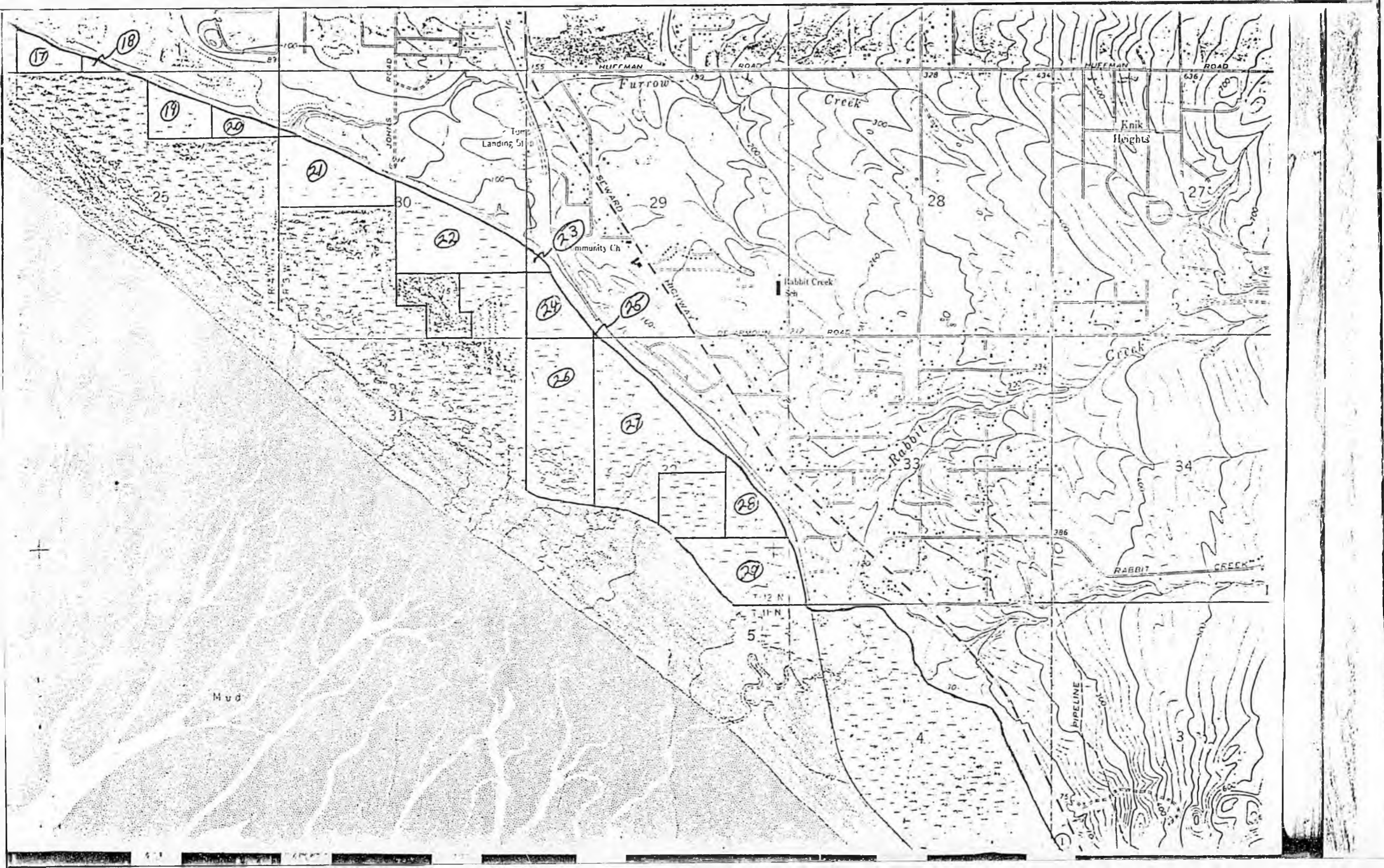
Senator Poland thanked Mr. Jones for coming up to testify on SB 88. Senator Croft made some additional comments to the effect that this bill was passed overwhelmingly last year and was even more critical this year. Mr. Jones added that they had a hearing in Anchorage this last October and a poll was taken. Only one person in 100 was opposed to the State taking the land.

Senator Orsini moved that we pass the bill. Senator Poland concurred and the bill passed with unanimous consent of those present.

Senator Poland announced that Norman Lipton would be with us at Friday's meeting. Committee members requested if possible that it be moved up to Wednesday due to the three day holiday coming up.

Senator Poland also discussed and passed out a report on the Outer Continental Shelf hearings and the action recommended to be taken from the Resources committee. Various ideas were discussed and they decided to continue this topic at a later date.

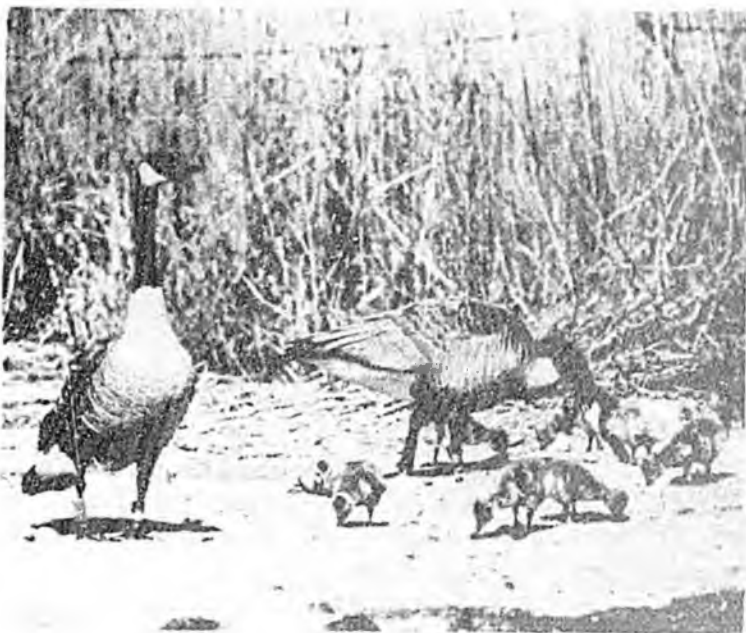
The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.



House Resumes
Return
to Gray
Van Doren

3 to 1 match
Pitman - Robinson
(ammo-queen)

Shooting range



SHORE AND WATER BIRDS

	A	B	ST.	
Horned Grebe	UC	PL	56	—
Red-necked Grebe	C	PL	52	—
Arctic Loon	UC	PL	54	—
Baird's Sandpiper	UC	PL	7	—
Least Sandpiper	C	PL BSP	51	—
Pectoral Sandpiper	C	PL	56, 7	—
Solitary Sandpiper	UC	PL SW	51	—
Spotted Sandpiper	UC	PL, B	50	—
Sanderling	B	PL	7	—
Northern Phalarope	C	PL PL	58	—
—	—	—	—	—
American Golden Plover	UC	PL	7	—
Semi-palmated Plover	UC	PL	56	—
Killdeer	F	PL W	50	—
Long-billed Dowitcher	UC	PL BSP	50	—
Short-billed Dowitcher	C	PL BSP	51	—
Greater Yellowlegs	C	PL PL	51	—
Lesser Yellowlegs	C	PL PL	51	—
Hudsonian Godwit	UC	PL	51	—
Red Bird	UC	PL	7	—
Willet	UC	PL	7	—

SONG BIRDS

	<u>A</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>St.</u>	<u>S</u>
Golden-crowned Kinglet	C	BSW SBW	SR R	—
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	A	SBW BSW	SR	—
Fox Sparrow	C	SW SBW	SR	—
Golden-crowned Sparrow	C	SW, M	SR	—
Lincoln's Sparrow	C	FWM BSB SW	SP	—
Savannah Sparrow	A	FWM SW BSB	SR	—
White-crowned Sparrow	A	SW	SR WV	—
Cliff Swallow	UC	B	SP	—
Tree Swallow	A	SW SBW SW	SR	—
Violet-green Swallow	A	SW SBW SW, B	SR	—
Swainson's Thrush	C	SBW SW SW	SR	—
Varied Thrush	C	SBW SW SW	SR	—
Myrtle Warbler	A	SBW SW SW	SP	—
Orange-crowned Warbler	A	SBW SW SW	SR	—
Wilson's Warbler	A	SW SBW	SR	—
Cyrfalcon	UC	SW SW SW	WV	—
Peregrine Falcon	UC	FWM S, PL	SR	—
Goshawk	UC	SBW SW	R	—
Marsh Hawk	C	FWM BSB	SR	—
Pigeon Hawk	UC	SBW	SR WV	—
Red-tailed Hawk	C	SBW SW	ER	—
Rough-legged Hawk	C	SBW	T	—
Sharp-shinned Hawk	UC	SBW SW	SR WV	—
Boreal Owl	C	SSW B	F	—
Great Horned Owl	C	SW SW	R	—
Short-eared Owl	C	FWM BSB	SR	—

HAWKS & OWLS



HAWKS AND OWLS

	<u>A</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>St.</u>	<u>O</u>
American Bald Eagle	UC	B,M SW FWM	SR	—
Golden Eagle	C	B,M SW FWM	SR	—
Common Redpoll	C	SDW BW BSW GW	P	—
Snow Bunting	C	FWM SW,M	WV,T SR	—
Robin	C	SW BW SBW	SR	—
Gray Jay	UC	BSW SBW	R	—
Black-billed Magpie	C	SW,M	WV,M	—
Common Raven	C	SW,M	WV,R	—
Rusty Blackbird	C	SW SW BSW BW	SR	—
Say's Phoebe	UC	B,M	SR	—
Olive-sided Flycatcher	C	SBW	SR	—
Black-capped Chickadee	C	SW BW SBW	R	—
Northern Shrike	UC	SW SW	SR WV	—
Pine Grosbeak	C	SBW BSW	SR WV	—
Pine Siskin	C	SW SBW BSW BW	SR	—
Slate-colored Junco	A	SW BW BSW SW	SR WV	—
Logland Longspur	C	FWM SW	T	—
Yellow Warbler	C	SW	SR	—



WATERFOWL AND
GAME BIRDS

	<u>A</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>St.</u>	<u>O</u>
Dobblers				
Green-winged Teal	C	FWM PL, S	SR	—
Blue-winged Teal	UC	FWM PL	SV T	—
European Widgeon	R	FWM PL	V	—
American Widgeon	C	FWM PL	SR	—
Godwoll	UC	FWM PL	SR	—
Mallard	C	FWM PL, S	SR	—
Pintail	A	FWM PL	SR	—
Shoveler	C	FWM PL	SR	—

There is a column where each bird or mam-
mal observed can be checked off when
sighted.

GULLS AND TERNS

	<u>A</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>St.</u>	<u>O</u>
Arctic Tern	C	FWM PL BSB	SR	—
Bonaparte's Gull	C	FWM PL	SR	—
Glaucous Gull	R	FWM PL	V	—
Glaucous - Winged Gull	C	PL FWM	SR	—
Herring Gull	A	PL FWM	SR	—
Ivory Gull	R	FWM PL	V	—
Mew Gull	A	FWM PL	SR	—

GULLS & TERNS

GENERAL INFORMATION

The status of each bird or mammal is indicated by R for year-round resident, SR for summer resident, SV for summer visitant, T for transient, WR for winter resident, WV for winter visitant, and V for visitant.

The abundance of each is indicated by an A, C, UC, or R for abundant, common, uncommon, or rare.

The habitat where each bird or mammal is found is indicated by B for bluffs, BSW for black spruce woodland, BSB for black spruce bog, BW for birch woodland, FWM for fresh water marsh, M for mountains, PL for ponds and lakes, S for streams, SBW for spruce birch woodland, SW for streamside woodland.

Divers				
American Goldeneye	C	FWM PL,S	SR	_____
Barrow's Goldeneye	UC	FWM PL,S	SR	_____
Greater Scaup	UC	FWM PL	SV T	_____
Lesser Scaup	UC	FWM PL	SR	_____
Bufflehead	C	FWM PL,S	SR	_____
Canvasback	R	FWM PL	SV	_____
Harlequin	UC	PL,S	SR	_____
Red-breasted Merganser	UC	PL,S	T	_____
American Merganser	C/UC	PL,S	SR	_____
Cackling Canada Goose	UC	FWM PL	SR	_____
Lesser Canada Goose	C	FWM PL	SR	_____
Snow Goose	UC	FWM PL	SR	_____
White-fronted Goose	UC	FWM PL	SR	_____
Trumpeter Swan	UC	FWM PL	SR	_____
Whistling Swan	C	FWM PL	SR T,V	_____
Sandhill Crane	C	BSB FWM PL	SR	_____
Wilson's or Jacksnipe	A	BSB FWM BW	SR	_____
Willow Ptarmigan	UC	BSB FWM	Wh	_____

GAME MAMMALS

	<u>A</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>St.</u>	<u>O</u>
Beaver	UC	FWM FL,S	R	—
Black Bear	C/UC	All Areas	SV WV	—
Coyote	C	All Areas	R	—
Hare	C	SBW B,SW BW	R	—
Land Otter	UC/A	FWM FL,S	R	—
Lynx	C/UC	All Areas	SR WR	—
Mink	UC	FWM B,PL SW,S	R	—
Moose	C/UC	All Areas	SV WV	—
Muskrat	UC	FWM FL,S	R	—
Porcupine	UC/H	SW SBW BW, D	R	—
Red Fox	C	All Areas	R	—
Red Squirrel	C	SBW SW, R BW	R	—
Weasel	UC	FWM SW,S PL, R	R	—

This marsh is also important as a production area where horned and red-necked grebes, sandhill cranes, Canada geese, and a variety of ducks nest and raise young.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game is managing this marsh to provide the waterfowl the maximum opportunity to breed and reproduce and also to provide the public an opportunity for involvement in wildlife photography, understanding and awareness of wildlife and the outdoors through environmental education and sport hunting.

The Department's Game Division staff hopes that your field trip has been enjoyable and rewarding--return soon.

INTRODUCTION

POTTER MARSH

Authorized by the Alaska State Legislature and Governor William A. Egan on May 19, 1971, this 15,000 acre tidal marsh located between Potter and Anchorage on the Turnagain Arm was established as a State Game Refuge to protect the unique marsh habitat and waterfowl resource.

"Potter Marsh" is important as a staging area for spring and fall migrating waterfowl, especially pintail, widgeon, rallards, green-winged teal, lesser Canada geese and whistling swans occupying the Pacific and western portions of the Central Flyway.

With technical assistance and advise from Dimitri Bader, Game Biologist, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, this publication was developed by Mike Norton, Student, Service-Henshaw High School, as his Senior Environmental Education Project. Special thanks is given to Bobbie Booher for her excellent typing skills and time spent on this pamphlet.

To better manage Potter Marsh the Alaska Department of Fish and Game needs the following information.

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN YOUR PARTY
VISITING THE REFUGE _____

Activity _____ Date _____

Affiliation (club, school, etc.) _____

This is your refuge, if you have any suggestions on how the refuge should be managed please write them below.

and send this portion of the checklist to:
Alaska Department of Fish & Game
233 Raspberry Road
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

G A M E M A M M A L S

STATE GAME REFUGE

POTTER POINT

OF THE

WILDLIFE

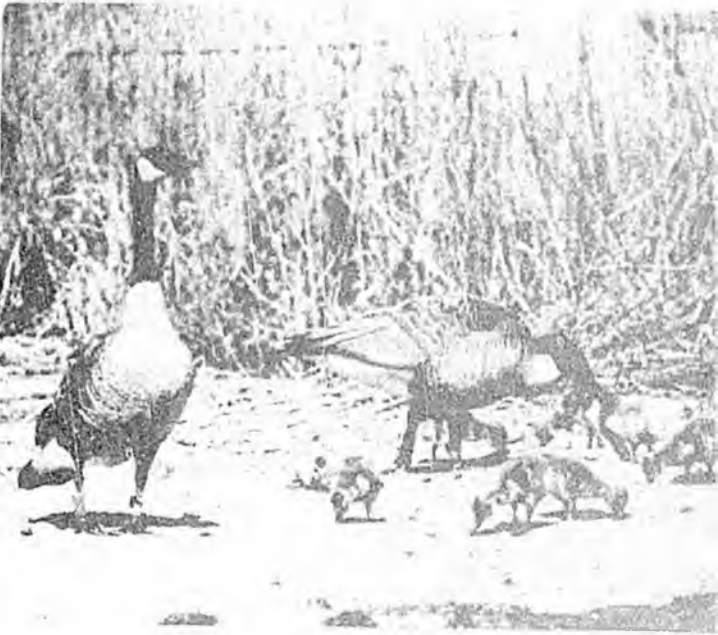
NOTES
(ABOUT YOUR OBSERVATIONS)

Date _____ Total _____

Observers _____

Weather _____ Time _____

Remarks: _____



SHORE AND WATER BIRDS

	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>
Horned Grebe	100	11	2
Red-necked Grebe	0	11	11
Arctic Loon	100	10	11
Baird's Sandpiper	100	100	10
Least Sandpiper	0	100	100
Pectoral Sandpiper	0	115	120
Solitary Sandpiper	10	100	100
Spotted Sandpiper	100	100	10
Sanderling	0	11	1
Northern Phalarope	0	100	10
Tattler	0	100	10
American Golden Plover	100	100	1
Semi-palmated Plover	100	11	10
Plover	0	100	10
Long-billed Dowitcher	100	100	10
Short-billed Dowitcher	100	100	100
Greater Yellowlegs	0	100	10
Lesser Yellowlegs	0	100	10
Redoxonin Gull	100	100	100
SOOTY Bird	100	100	100
Willet	100	100	100

SHORE & WATER BIRDS

SONG BIRDS

	<u>A</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>St.</u>	<u>O</u>
Golden-crowned Kinglet	C	NSW SDW	SR R	_____
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	A	SDW BSW	SR	_____
Fox Sparrow	C	SW SBW	SR	_____
Golden-crowned Sparrow	C	SW, M	SR	_____
Lincoln's Sparrow	C	FWM BSB SW	SR	_____
Savannah Sparrow	A	FWM SW BSB	SR	_____
White-crowned Sparrow	A	SW	SR WV	_____
Cliff Swallow	UC	B	SP	_____
Tree Swallow	A	FW SDW SW	SP	_____
Violet-green Swallow	A	DW SBW SW, B	SR	_____
Swainson's Thrush	C	SBW DW SW	SR	_____
Varied Thrush	C	SBW DW SW	SR	_____
Myrtle Warbler	A	SBW BSW DW	SR	_____
Orange-crowned Warbler	A	SBW BW SW	SR	_____
Wilson's Warbler	A	SW SBW	SR	_____
Gyr Falcon	UC	SBW SW DW	WV	_____
Peregrine Falcon	UC	FWM S, PL	SR	_____
Goshawk	UC	SBW SW	R	_____
Marsh Hawk	C	FWM BSB	SR	_____
Pigeon Hawk	UC	SBW SW	SR WV	_____
Red-tailed Hawk	C	SBW SW	SR	_____
Rough-legged Hawk	C	SBW	T	_____
Sharp-shinned Hawk	UC	SBW SW	SR WV	_____
Boreal Owl	C	SBW B	R	_____
Great Horned Owl	C	SBW BW	R	_____
Short-eared Owl	C	FWM BSB	SR	_____

HAWKS & OWLS



HAWKS AND OWLS

	<u>A</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>St.</u>	<u>O</u>
American Bald Eagle	UC	B, M SW FWM	SR	_____
Golden Eagle	C	B, M SW FWM	SR	_____
Common Redpoll	C	SBW BW BSW SW	R	_____
Snow Bunting	C	FWM SW, M	WV, T SR	_____
Robin	C	SW BW SBW	SR	_____
Gray Jay	UC	BSW SBW	R	_____
Black-billed Magpie	C	SW, M	WV, R	_____
Common Raven	C	SW, M	WV, R	_____
Busty Blackbird	C	SBW SW BSW BW	SR	_____
Say's Phoebe	UC	B, M	SR	_____
Olive-sided Flycatcher	C	SBW	SR	_____
Black-capped Chickadee	C	BW BW SBW	R	_____
Northern Shrike	UC	SBW SW	SA WV	_____
Pine Grosbeak	C	SBW BSW	SR WV	_____
Pine Siskin	C	SW SBW BSW BW	SR	_____
Slate-colored Junco	A	SBW BW BSW SW	SR WV	_____
Leisland Songspur	C	FWM SW	T	_____
Yellow Warbler	C	SW	SR	_____



WATERFOWL AND
GAME BIRDS

	<u>A</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>St.</u>	<u>O</u>
Dabblers				
Green-winged Teal	C	FWM PL,S	SR	_____
Blue-winged Teal	UC	FWM PL	SV T	_____
European Widgeon	R	FWM PL	V	_____
American Widgeon	C	FWM PL	SR	_____
Gadwall	UC	FWM PL	SR	_____
Mallard	C	FWM PL,S	SR	_____
Pintail	A	FWM PL	SR	_____
Shoveler	C	FWM PL	SR	_____

There is a column where each bird or mammal observed can be checked off when sighted.

GULLS AND TERNS

	<u>A</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>St.</u>	<u>O</u>
Arctic Tern	C	FWM PL BSB	SR	_____
Bonaparte's Gull	C	FWM PL	SR	_____
Glaucous Gull	R	FWM PL	V	_____
Glaucous - Winged Gull	C	PL FWM	SR	_____
Herring Gull	A	PL FWM	SR	_____
Ivory Gull	R	FWM PL	V	_____
Lesser Gull	A	FWM PL	SR	_____

GULLS & TERNS

GENERAL INFORMATION

The status of each bird or mammal is indicated by R for year-round resident, SR for summer resident, SV for summer visitant, T for transient, WR for winter resident, WV for winter visitant, and V for visitant.

The abundance of each is indicated by an A, C, UC, or R for abundant, common, uncommon, or rare.

The habitat where each bird or mammal is found is indicated by B for bluffs, BSW for black spruce woodland, BSB for black spruce bog, BW for birch woodland, FWM for fresh water marsh, M for mountains, PL for ponds and lakes, S for streams, SBW for spruce birch woodland, SW for streamside woodland.

Diversa				
American Goldeneye	C	FWM PL, S	SR	_____
Barrow's Goldeneye	UC	FWM PL, S	SR	_____
Greater Scaup	UC	FWM PL	SV T	_____
Lesser Scaup	UC	FWM PL	SR	_____
Bufflehead	C	FWM PL, S	SR	_____
Canvasback	R	FWM PL	SV	_____
Harlequin	UC	PL, S	SR	_____
Red-breasted Merganser	UC	PL, S	T	_____
American Merganser	C/UC	PL, S	SR	_____
Cackling Canada Goose	UC	FWM PL	SR	_____
Lesser Canada Goose	C	FWM PL	SR	_____
Snow Goose	UC	FWM PL	SR	_____
White-fronted Goose	UC	FWM PL	SR	_____
Trumpeter Swan	UC	FWM PL	SR	_____
Whooping Swan	C	FWM PL	SR T, V	_____
Sandhill Crane	C	BSB FWM PL	SR	_____
Widgeon or Jacksnipe	A	BSB FWM BW	SR	_____
Willow Ptarmigan	UC	BSB FWM	WR	_____

GAME MAMMALS

	<u>A</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>St.</u>	<u>O</u>
Beaver	UC	FWM PL,S	R	_____
Black Bear	C/UC	All Areas	SV WV	_____
Coyote	C	All Areas	R	_____
Hare	C	SDW B,SW BW	R	_____
Land Otter	UC/R	FWM PL,S	R	_____
Lynx	C/UC	All Areas	SR WR	_____
Mink	UC	FWM B,PL SW,S	R	_____
Moose	C/UC	All Areas	SV WV	_____
Muskat	UC	FWM PL,S	R	_____
Porcupine	UC/R	SW SBW BW,B	R	_____
Red Fox	C	All Areas	R	_____
Red Squirrel	C	SBW SW,B B ¹	R	_____
Weasel	UC	FWM SW,S PL,B	R	_____

This marsh is also important as a production area where horned and red-necked grebes, sandhill cranes, Canada geese, and a variety of ducks nest and raise young.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game is managing this marsh to provide the waterfowl the maximum opportunity to breed and reproduce and also to provide the public an opportunity for involvement in wildlife photography, understanding and awareness of wildlife and the outdoors through environmental education and sport hunting.

The Department's Game Division staff hopes that your field trip has been enjoyable and rewarding--return soon.

INTRODUCTION

POTTER MARSH

Authorized by the Alaska State Legislature and Governor William A. Egan on May 19, 1971, this 15,000 acre tidal marsh located between Potter and Anchorage on the Turnagain Arm was established as a State Game Refuge to protect the unique marsh habitat and waterfowl resource.

"Potter Marsh" is important as a staging area for spring and fall migrating waterfowl, especially pintail, widgeon, mallards, green-winged teal, lesser Canada geese and whistling swans occupying the Pacific and western portions of the Central Flyway.



With technical assistance and advise from Dimitri Badex, Game Biologist, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, this publication was developed by Mike Norton, Student, Service-Menshew High School, as his Senior Environmental Education Project. Special thanks is given to Bobbie Booher for her excellent typing skills and time spent on this pamphlet.

To better manage Potter Marsh the Alaska Department of Fish and Game needs the following information.

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN YOUR PARTY
VISITING THE REFUGE _____

Activity _____ Date _____

Affiliation (club, school, etc.) _____

This is your refuge, if you have any suggestions on how the refuge should be managed please write them below.

and send this portion of the checklist to:
Alaska Department of Fish & Game
333 Caspary Road
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Number

Weather

Observer

Date

NOTE
(FABRIC YOUR OBSERVATIONS)

WILDLIFE

OF THE

POTTER POINT

STATE GAME REFUGE



September 26, 1974

Mrs. Dorie Clark, Director
Department of Parks and Recreation
Greater Anchorage Area Borough
3330 "C" Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

Dear Mrs. Clark:

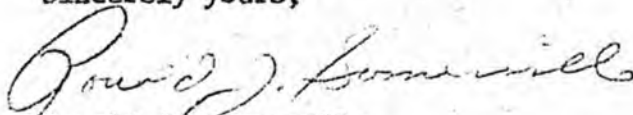
Attached is the final copy of our "Preliminary Proposal Concerning Potter Point State Game Refuge".

As I mentioned, the Commissioner's office has indicated a keen interest in seeing this proposal and for an expression of interest by the Greater Anchorage Area Borough. The possibility of backup legislation may be a topic the Commissioner will have to discuss with the Governor; thus, it is absolutely essential that some decision be expedited at the Borough level.

In my opinion, the entire package has the best chance of being approved if there is at least a nominal commitment on the part of the Borough.

Thank you again for your active interest, Dorie.

Sincerely yours,


Ronald J. Somerville
Regional Game Supervisor

cc: Brooks, Commissioner
Jones, Director

bcc: Senator Chancy Croft ✓

A Preliminary Proposal
Concerning Potter Point State Game Refuge

Drafted by:

Ronald J. Somerville
Regional Game Supervisor
Alaska Department Fish & Game
Anchorage

And

Dorie Clark
Director
Department of Parks & Recreation
Greater Anchorage Area Borough
Anchorage

A Preliminary Proposal

Concerning Potter Point State Game Refuge

This is a proposal to match \$50,000 of Borough funds with \$350,000 of State & Federal Aid monies for the purpose of purchasing critical marsh lands adjacent to the Potter Point State Game Refuge.

The Potter Point State Game Refuge was created in 1971 by the Alaska State Legislature (see attached act). It includes all state-owned lands and adjacent state waters south and west of and adjacent to the toe of the bluff from Campbell Point to Potter Creek. In addition to the 1,212 acres of state owned marsh land in the refuge, there are 745 acres of privately and 35 acres of Borough owned marsh land from the toe of the bluff seaward. They are adjacent to the state owned parcels and physiographically are part of the marsh. However, they were not included in the refuge by the legislature. These private lands also provide most of the public access to the marsh. The creation of the refuge was supported by diversified local outdoor oriented organizations and innumerable students from the Borough School System, and rightfully so. Potter Marsh is the only large contiguous piece of existing tidal marsh in close proximity to Anchorage and thus accessible to the vast numbers of Anchorage residents. The marsh is a large and varied piece of land which currently provides many man days of recreation and educational opportunities to the residents of Anchorage, particularly the youth of the area who may lack the means of traveling any great distance to enjoy wildlife and open country.

This highly productive brackish water marsh experiences spring and fall bird concentrations of thousands of migrating waterfowl including ducks, geese, swans, sand hill cranes, snipe and loons. Most of these birds use the refuge as a staging area for feeding and resting before moving on to the larger nesting areas such as the Yukon-Kuskokwim Flats or wintering areas located mainly in the Western United States.

The thousands of birds found here during the spring and fall months are the main attraction to the citizens of the Greater Anchorage Area Borough. Annually, nearly 3,000 students and teachers from local schools have enjoyed the opportunity to watch, photograph and study the marsh wildlife and habitat. In addition, hundreds of local people use the refuge lands throughout the year.

In just that portion of the refuge located south of Rabbit Creek and between the two Seward Highways, the Department of Fish and Game, through its concept of time and space management zoning policies, has increased annual Canada goose production from less than 20 young to approximately 150 and duck production from less than 50 to approximately 400 young.

In May of 1972, the Greater Anchorage Area Borough requested a sewer line easement across the central portion of the refuge. In February of 1973, to offset the loss of waterfowl habitat incurred during the construction of this line, the Borough developed a 3,000' x 200' complex of ponds and berms at a cost of \$118,470. Duck and goose production in the area has increased steadily in the two years since completion of the project.

During September and October, fathers with sons or daughters fill the marsh in the pursuit of the time honored sport of waterfowling. In 1971, 502 ducks were harvested providing 536 hunter days of recreation. In 1972, 917 ducks were harvested providing 416 hunter days of recreation. Many additional hunting days were spent pursuing Canada geese, snipe and sand hill cranes.

In prior years, most of the marsh area was open to waterfowl hunting for the entire season. However, to better achieve management goals, the Department of Fish and Game has limited waterfowl hunting to Saturdays, Sundays, Mondays and Wednesdays.

Potter Point State Game Refuge is one of the last feeding and resting areas in Cook Inlet for fall migrating ducks where total numbers of birds passing through could exceed 20,000 and at a given time could reach 5,000 birds.

The wildlife populations and production levels now existing on the refuge are small when compared to the potential levels that could be realized through habitat reclamation programs. Through intensive management and rehabilitation, waterfowl populations and compatible recreational uses could be increased 10-15 times.

The Department of Fish and Game and Greater Anchorage Area Borough, Department of Parks and Recreation consider the "inholdings" of private land in the marsh (from the toe of the bluff seaward) to be a major

problem. The private lands should be included in the refuge to provide not only a contiguous and manageable unit of marsh, but also assure access to the marsh for the residents of Anchorage. Most of the private lands are adjacent to the bluff. The most valuable parcels (several owners involved) are marked "A" and "B" on the Priorities Map.

The parcels, in addition to being highly productive waterfowl habitat, are needed for access to the marsh. Without these parcels, access to the marsh over public lands by Anchorage residents is limited to one small area near Campbell Lake and across the railroad tracks near the "closed area." In the "B" priority area, some of the private land within the marsh has been filled in within the last year.

Interested legislators, anticipating the loss of the marshland and access to the marsh because of future development of those private parcels, introduced a bill in the last legislative session to begin purchase of the top priority private lands. The bill was not enacted, probably because it appeared so late in the session. With real estate appreciating at its present rate, the Department of Fish and Game and the Greater Anchorage Area Borough, Department of Parks and Recreation feel that it is imperative to purchase as soon as possible the needed parcels of private inholdings.

The most feasible and expedient way to purchase these lands at this time is to match \$50,000 in Greater Anchorage Area Borough funds with \$50,000 in State Pipeline Impact Funds available to the Borough. The resulting \$100,000 could then be matched on a 1:3 basis with unappropriated

Pitmann-Robertson(PR) Federal Aid Monies to provide a total of \$400,000 to begin purchasing the needed parcels. These Federal Aid monies can be used to purchase lands for wildlife purposes. Also, the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee could approve the interim spending of the PR funds. This would make the funds available to purchase the needed lands as soon as possible, thus minimizing the ever inflating land values and the destructive filling which is now occurring on the marsh.

Another advantage to buying the lands in this manner is that \$50,000 of Borough funds would be buying \$400,000 worth of open recreational lands for use by the people of the Greater Anchorage Area Borough.

The Department of Fish and Game is currently drawing up alternative land use management plans for the existing Potter Point Game Refuge to be presented at a public hearing during October, 1974. If appropriate, this land acquisition plan could also be presented at that time.



LAWS OF ALASKA

1971

Source

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Chapter No.

81

AN ACT

Creating the Potter Point State Game Refuge; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. AS 16.20.030 is amended to read:

Sec. 16.20.030. REFUGES ESTABLISHED. (a) Those land areas now included in the National Wildlife Refuge System which are cited in this subsection are designated as state game refuges, and the board shall assign them appropriate refuge names:

- (1) Aleutian Islands Refuge (except Umnak, Unalaska, Akutan, Sarax, and Tigalda Islands);
- (2) Bering Sea Refuge (St. Matthews and Hall Islands, and Pinnacle Islet in Bering Sea);
- (3) Bogoslov Island Refuge;
- (4) Chamisso Island Refuge;
- (5) Forrester Island Refuge;
- (6) Hagen Bay (Nunivakchak and Krigegeg Islands);
- (7) Kazy Islands Refuge;
- (8) Kenai National Moose Range;
- (9) Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge;
- (10) Nunivak Island Refuge;
- (11) St. Lazarus Island Refuge;

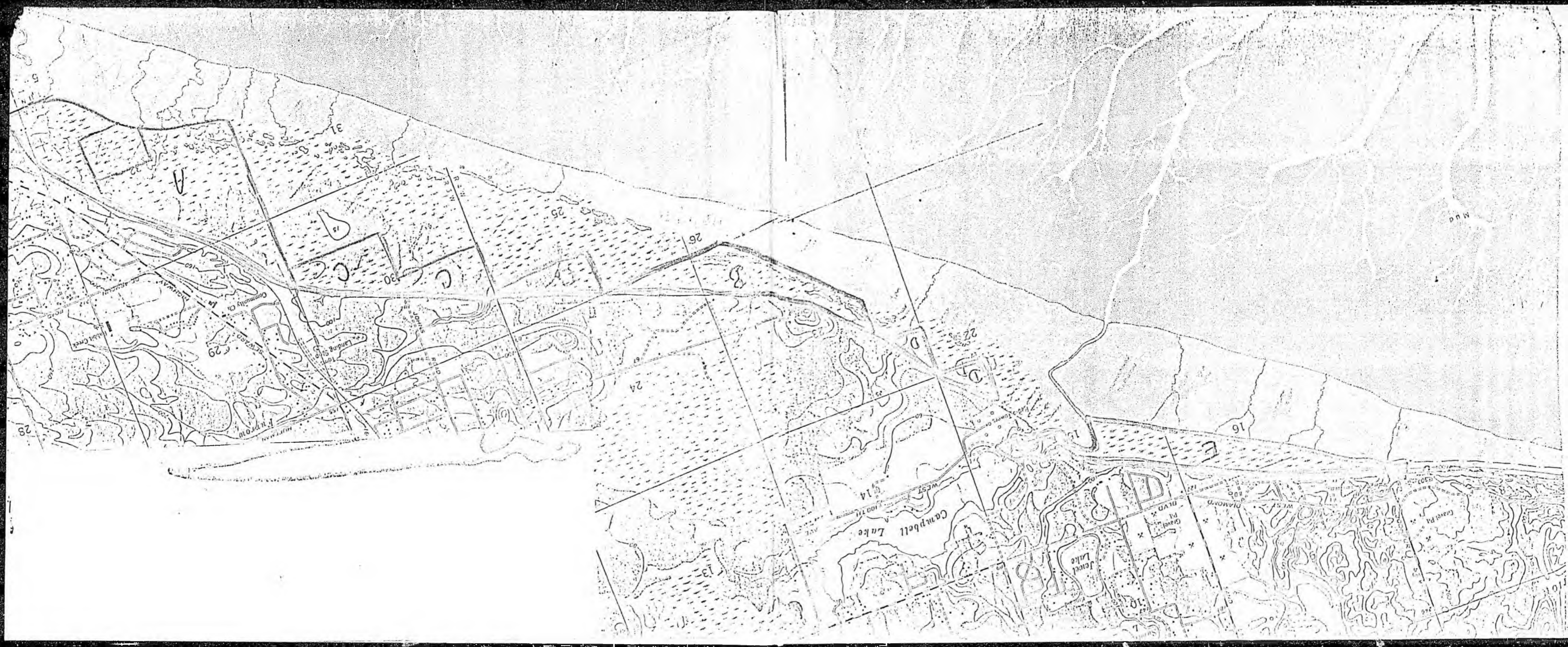
Chapter 81

(12) Semidi Islands Wildlife Refuge;

(13) Tuxedni Refuge (Islands in Tuxedni Harbor).

(b) The following described state-owned lands and adjacent state waters, excluding existing applied-for highway, pipelines and railway rights-of-way as of the effective date of this Act, are established as the Potter Point State Game Refuge: All lands and waters south and west of and adjacent to the toe of the bluff which extends from Campbell Point southeasterly to Potter Creek.

* Sec. 2. This Act takes effect on the day after its passage and approval or on the day it becomes law without approval.



MEMORANDUM

State of Alaska

TO: Frank Jones
Director
Division of Game
Juneau

DATE: January 2, 1975

FILE NO:

TELEPHONE NO:

FROM: Ronald J. Somerville *RJS*
Regional Supervisor
Division of Game
Anchorage

SUBJECT: Potter State Game Refuge
Meeting

Attached is a copy of Julie Mohr's summary of the public testimony given at the Public Meeting on the Potter Point State Game Refuge and the Rabbit Creek Rifle Range. In addition, I have attached a copy of the summary of the questionnaire distributed at the meeting.

Personally, I was quite happy with the meeting, not only from the public response, but also from the standpoint of providing some direction to the Department. Much of the testimony was not just pro and con but also it reflected innovative thinking on the part of many individuals. In discussing it with some of the local Legislators who attended, the feeling was expressed that the meeting also provided a feeling of cooperation between us and interested individuals in the public sector.

A review here actually covers two separate topics: (1) Future expansion, development and use of the Refuge and (2) possible purchase and development of the Rabbit Creek Shooting Range. Unfortunately, the desires of the public present at the hearing were not quite as clear on the shooting range as they were concerning the Refuge.

We have discussed aspects of the developmental uses, cooperative agreements, costs and other items concerning the Refuge since the meeting and have made several conclusions. We feel there is strong support for the concept of purchasing private lands within the existing Refuge description. There is also some concern for expanding the Refuge by including wetlands toward Point Woronzof. The latter is a little more complex in light of the existing airport and Borough facilities. We sincerely hope that an agreement can be made with the present Administration and Legislature to purchase critical habitat within the Refuge. As I understand, a bill for the Department has been submitted and hopefully will be supported by the Governor's office. It is my understanding that similar legislation is being drafted by interested local Legislators who have been kept informed and involved from the very beginning of this project. I seriously doubt that the appropriated funds will come anywhere near providing for purchase of all of the land within the Refuge; thus, it is going to behoove us to carefully select those lands that are critical to maintain the integrity of the Refuge as well as to provide for free public access where desired. I believe we are prepared to do this with our existing information and tentative development plans.

It seemed apparent that segmenting the Refuge to provide for a variety of "compatible" uses was somewhat acceptable. The stressing of a primary viewing area between the existing highways and allowing for controlled limited hunting on the remainder of the Refuge seemed most beneficial. Enforcement of regulations, public safety, protection of private property and of course, adequate control on hunting were all discussed and are considered valid concerns. Both the Department of Fish and Game and Department of Public Safety must give additional weight to the problems of enforcement as they are critical to the maintenance of a properly managed refuge system. In addition, it behooves us to give continuous support to improving viewing, improving waterfowl production, and continually evaluating the short and long-term effects of hunting in this particular area. I believe our programs of banding, bag checks, hunter contracts, periodic checks on abundance and enforcement efforts in the area are adequate initial steps to keep a handle on the biological situation. Undoubtedly, there can always be some improvement in this area.

Dr. Jim Scott testified later in the meeting and offered the suggestion that as hunting pressures increased, consideration be given to restricting hunting to primarily juveniles. Considering the availability of waterfowl marshes to the Greater Anchorage Area, our Hunter Safety program and the ever increasing hunting pressures, this suggestion should be considered as having merit. We will have to pursue the legality of limiting use to a certain age segment of the public from the Attorney General's office. Unfortunately, Dr. Scott testified so late in the meeting that we were unable to offer this question to many of the individuals who did testify earlier. We hope to pursue the suggestion further.

Maintenance and improvement of the existing viewing area between the Old and New Seward Highways was an expressed concern for most of those who testified. In addition, it was obvious that one problem we recognized earlier should be rectified as soon as possible--that concerns public safety along the existing highways. Carefully located pullouts for public viewing have to be provided. Hopefully, this can be accomplished without the loss of too much key habitat in this area. We plan on discussing this with the Department of Highways here locally so that possibly they can give us some assistance in design and possibly monetary considerations. If development money were available this coming year, we foresee that the best expenditure would be to utilize this in cooperation with the Department of Highways to provide for better public viewing and safe pullout areas.

Because of the expressed interest of those who attended the meeting and others who have discussed it with us before and after, we feel that it is appropriate to take a close look at snow machines and other ATV uses this winter. Possibly, we should consider restricting all vehicular trespass, at least on a portion of the refuge.

There is one issue which I may be misreading but feel that it was improperly represented at the meeting. That concerns the use of the area for dog training. The reason for asking this question was obvious to us; however,

it appears that some of the public felt that we would be allowing training in the viewing area and during the nesting season. Our intentions were not to allow this and in fact, if feasible, would only allow it in the least productive waterfowl areas, if at all. This issue will probably remain in limbo until we can more adequately review the potential uses and demands for the area. Above all, we shouldn't allow any of these if they are incompatible with the initial refuge purposes.

As you can see from the questionnaire results, the shooting range question was virtually unresolved. Almost everyone did support the concept of providing a shooting range in the metropolitan Anchorage area, but it is obvious that almost everyone wants it to be someplace else other than next door. Certainly we can all understand that aspect from a personal standpoint. It was mentioned that there is a shooting range provided by the Isaac Walton League north of Anchorage in the Birchwood area. This is a good point and one that shouldn't be overlooked as a potential for expansion to handle a portion of the shooting public. The reason for our acquiring the present lease on the Rabbit Creek range, though, was as a result of our review which indicated that there is a tremendous demand for more than what was provided at the existing Birchwood facility. Without question the public complaints concerning unregulated shooting on private property supports the analysis that there is an additional demand for areas to shoot safely in the Anchorage area.

The recommendation that we look elsewhere for potential shooting range land is also a good suggestion and one that we will continue to pursue. As you are aware, we have already spent considerable time attempting to work out something for both indoor and outdoor shooting with local governments and private individuals with little or no success. I question we should drop the Rabbit Creek lease and purchase program in hopeful anticipation that something will develop. The rising land costs and open undeveloped land requirements of the greater metropolitan Anchorage area are such that locating an adequate shooting range closer to the congested populated areas is infeasible. At this point, we would like to recommend that we continue with the program to purchase the shooting range. In addition, we must stress the concerns of the local homeowners in establishing priorities for facility development. The expressed concerns for noise pollution and safety requirements should prompt us to attempt to divert some monies for baffles, abutments and improved facilities. The potential agreement with the Greater Anchorage Area Borough which would allow for full-time maintenance and supervision will provide some relief in the area of shooter safety. In addition, income derived from operating the range should be immediately diverted into improved facilities concerned with safety and noise pollution. I am convinced with local support initially that we can assist in providing a first-rate shooting range which will be acceptable to the local homeowners and compatible with the basic purposes of the Refuge.

Mr. Frank Jones

-4-

1/2/75

It should be stressed that purchase of the Rabbit Creek Range will provide a very key access point to a major portion of the Refuge.

Attachment

cc: J. Vania
D. Bader

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
PUBLIC MEETING
POTTER POINT STATE GAME REFUGE

The following is a summary of public testimony at the public meeting held on October 28, 1974 in the Pioneer Hall, Anchorage, Alaska:

1. Dena Cline, representing Anchorage Audubon Society (225 members):

In favor of purchasing private lands with public monies or other funds. Supported some waterfowl production improvement, but not a duck factory. Recommended that the area between Campbell Point and the G.A.A.B. sewer plant be added to the Refuge. Questioned location of rifle range because of noise and felt it should be located elsewhere. If this not possible, it should be adequately set up and maintained by someone all of the time.

2. Mike Hershberger, (Member Alaska Waterfowl Association):

Interested in having the State operate land to satisfy everyone. Would not comment on rifle range. Would like to see an area for shooting waterfowl near Anchorage.

3. Stan McGroty, representing self:

Has done a 200 page ecological case study on Potter Marsh. Reported this area was lowered 3 feet by the 1964 earthquake and the majority of the duck habitat was lost in this area because of this lowering. He felt redevelopment is a very feasible program here. He favored purchase of private land holdings. Wants non-consumptive users to pay also for the use and management of the Refuge. Likes hunting for this area. Rifle range can be a realistic source of sport. Many problems can be worked out, but didn't know about the noise. Department of Fish and Game can take care of the firearms training.

4. Margaret E. Heller, representing self as a bird watcher:

Recommended pull-out areas for cars on the New Seward Highway for bird watching. Suggested that no trails be allowed between the Old and New Seward Highways because of the nesting areas located there. Trails would ultimately destroy these nesting areas. Rifle range should be upgraded. Have seen some improvement already since Fish and Game has started managing it. Area from rifle range to Campbell Point should be used for habitat and could be used by hunters and watchers. Felt the educational impact on our young people from this area is very important and should be preserved. Favored State purchasing private lands.

5. Rick Kentopp, representing self:

Stated biggest problem is enforcement of present laws and signs are needed to permanently mark the refuge and rifle range. If possible, we could find an unproductive area for the rifle range. However, ranges are needed--at least two. South of Rabbit Creek is the biggest enforcement problem. Recommended Old Seward Highway be dead ended at weigh station. This could possibly eliminate racing problems, etc. Reported there was land available in this area for a recreation area. Fish and Game should consider holding more public hears on other subjects and areas. Pollution should be watched. Recommended purchasing private lands for Refuge and making parking areas for viewing, creating information center and more nesting sites in Area I. Does not favor trails between Old and Seward Highways, picnic areas, boat launch facilities and snowmachine areas for Area I. Felt the upland should be protected as well as the marsh lands.

6. Mary Evans, representing Alaska Center for the Environment:
Should manage Refuge for the species. Rifle range is understaffed and badly managed and should be removed if alternative place can be found. It should also be turned over to the Borough for management. Opposed hunting within the Refuge. Against snowmachines using Refuge. Questioned that Fish and Game can be funded and staffed to manage the Refuge. Recommended increasing Refuge by buying private lands.

7. Duane Conger, representing Alaska State Rifle and Pistol Association:
We can teach and train students in the handling of firearms, but definitely need a public range. Recommended purchase of land and improvement of the present rifle range with a resident Range Master. Need public range and this is a good start. Knows of no other location for a rifle range accessible to the Anchorage public. Favored purchase of private lands for the Refuge.

8. Stanley J. Erickson, representing self (24 year resident of Alaska):
Recommended the whole Fish and Game project and more. We should dedicate the Refuge to the goals set forth or we will make the same mistake as we did many years ago with the Ship Creek area. Reported that private property in Area II and some in Area III are going to be sold for oil tank reserve storage. Recommended putting hiking trails only at the edge of the Refuge and at the beginning of Area II. Felt everyone should get behind this project as similar reserves around the country are considered some of the State's most valuable areas. Favored rifle range.

9. Alda Grames, representing self:

Would like to see the Refuge become a haven for waterfowl. Change name to Potter Marsh Sanctuary and this would eliminate a lot of our problems there. Would like some input from Fish and Game that they represent all of the people not just hunters. Had been told that our priorities were to the hunters not the non-consumptive users. Against hunting in the Refuge too close to city. Migration time is the greatest time for viewing when hunters are there. Rifle range should be located in an area away from the wildlife. First priority is buy private property now and prevent higher prices, etc. All other things come second. Dogs should not be allowed on the Refuge. Snowmachines can be very destructive on the Refuge habitat.

10. Pam Stevens, representing Knik Group, Alaska Chapter Sierra Club:

Supported purchase of private lands by State. Backed bill last year to do the same. Would back another bill this year. Suggested State look into negotiating agreements with the private land owners to maintain their lands in the natural state in exchange for tax break. The Refuge is valuable to the wildlife and the users. Personally speaking, allowing hunting on Refuge would depend upon its impact and would bear close scrutiny.

11. Williams Siemens, representing Alaska State Rifle and Pistol Association:

Stated there was a need for a facility like the rifle range.

Realized the problems there, but other locations are scarce. Supported all land purchases. Felt Fish and Game have done an excellent job and the rifle range can be made compatible in the Refuge.

12. Ralph M. Alley, representing Sunset Hills West Homeowners Association:

Felt the State should purchase private lands and urged legislation to act on this now. Did not support the rifle range as he felt it is contrary to the daily living conditions and the rifle range is no longer isolated. Suggested another location be found for the range because of the noise and safety factors as he knows of no way of combating these problems. Reported that the Isaac Walton League has a rifle range in 80 acres of land in the Birchwood area available for shooting.

13. Bob Hickey, representing the Alaska State Rifle and Pistol Association:

There is a need for a public shooting range. It is also necessary for proper instruction and training in hunter safety and it cuts down plinking, etc. Have tried to locate proper areas for shooting ranges in Anchorage, but have not been able to find them. Issac Walton League is too far out. Many ranges throughout the world are in the built up areas of the cities. Noise in ranges can be reduced. Supported purchase of private lands for the refuge.

14. Ethel Kyzer, representing self:

Against purchase of private lands until definite areas are set up.

for hunting areas. There is no control now on the tidelands. People are hunting year around in Area I now. Restrict hunting on tidelands. Lease arrangements with land owners would be good.

15. G. A. Carley, representing self (lives in Area II):

Favors land acquisition in all areas. Supports rifle range. Favors proposed management of area. It is necessary to maintain wildlife habitat close to Anchorage. Opposes opening Refuge to motorized vehicles. There is some priority about the rifle range being there first and this is a place we now have. The range should be developed and retained. If lands are not acquired in the Refuge, alternative uses will occur. Rifle range will cut down on illegal hunting. Complimented Fish and Game on their presentations.

16. Jack Hendrickson, President of Alaska Waterfowl Association:

Land acquisition is good in this area to put this Refuge together. Hunting when down should be regulated. Wants Goose Bay and Palmer Hay Flats Refuge bills passed. Refuge needed badly for young people in this country (close to home). Supports nesting platforms for waterfowl. Advocates limited hunting in these areas to 3 days per week. Supports viewing areas for Area I. Rifle range is a must--see no alternatives. Does not favor trails in Area I. Floating blinds take too much money and manpower. Adopt easement approach if land cannot be purchased (like done in Canada). Fish and Game commended on this hearing.

17. W. H. Hancock, representing self (owns 250 acres of tidelands in Refuge): Opposed operation of rifle range in R1A zoned land in defiance of intent of the Borough for R1-A zoning. Safety rules should preclude this range. Time to change since rifle range has changed hands. Idea of sanctuary as opposed to hunting will come ultimately. Controlled hunting could be allowed on Refuge. Would not like to see public use of his land in Area II because of the present use of public lands. At present time there is shooting at all times of day and night in the rifle range area. Would like to retain his own land. Dislikes present use of rifle range and the problems associated with them. Since Fish and Game operated rifle range, shooting on his land has improved.
18. Mrs. William Anderson, representing self (lives in Area III on bluff): Have problems with hunters from shooting trees, etc. Frightened during hunting season. Can hear shooting from rifle range. Acquisition of land would depend on what was done with it-- not for hunting. Not opposed to hunting per se, but opposed to shooting from public lands to private lands.
19. Jack O'Bar, representing self (lives in Area III on bluff): Has had hunters below cliff in his back yard. Would be well to curtail hunting in residential areas. Asked Fish and Game Commission to make area behind homes into a sanctuary. Controlled hunters

(permits, etc.) would be desirable. Favored purchase of private lands for Refuge.

20. John Grames, representing self:

Potter Marsh is a source of pride. Area cannot take too much pressure. Wild animals serve a greater purpose than domesticated animals. Hoped that State can purchase lands as soon as possible. Had mixed emotions about shooting range--have to have it somewhere. If this is the only place with fairly reasonable access, then you need a backstop, a fenced in area and regulations. Leave area alone as much as possible--nature can take care of itself. Did not like Fish and Game Department managing this Refuge because they are only interested in hunting, etc. Would like it taken over by the Borough.

21. Bob Childes, representing self:

If we used the same type facilities as shown in pictures by Jack Alexander, then we could find other areas in the Borough for a range. Would be worth investigating. Personally endorses a well developed rifle range. Use area for watching birds, hunting and target shooting. Would not encourage snowmachine use on Refuge until it was found they did not abuse habitat. Favored purchasing private lands and also picnic areas on high lands. Possible legislature reform to obtain access easements across private lands, and it could be done uniformly over the entire state.

22. John Pletcher, representing Alaska Gun Collectors Association:

Some want duck hunters to fly or travel miles and miles elsewhere to shoot ducks so they can view their duck locally. Some tax monies should go for shooters' facilities. Hunter Safety program needs a safe and convenient place for training and teaching. Most convenient place is where it is presently located over the mud flats. We are years away from a facility like the one in Sacramento. Rifle range doesn't seem to affect the birds. Birchwood range is too far away and facilities are not good. It is also right next to an airport and this will cause incompatibility and difficulties later. Military have enough use of their facilities and will not let civilians use them. Favor Fish and Game overseeing the rifle range and upgrading it. Get a supervisor and set reasonable hours. Someone should live there 24 hours for control. Various gun clubs will help Fish and Game work on the rifle range. We pay good money for Fish and Game expertise and we should back them. Not opposed to purchase of private lands, but would be if we lose the rifle range. Commended Alexander on his work on the rifle range.

23. Frank O'Brink, representing self:

Favors purchase of private lands and bird production. Favors purchase of land for rifle range elsewhere. Not against hunting on Refuge, but it should be limited. Have rare opportunity to maintain area of beauty and wildlife in refuge. If we don't purchase

private lands now, industrial development will take place and crowd out wildlife in that area.

24. Dr. Jim Scott, representing self:

Have unequaled opportunity to develop the Refuge into wildlife area. Area I could be made into a sanctuary and also parts of Area III. Proposed learning area for young hunters under 16 who would be supervised by adults. Limit number of people. Favored purchase of private lands. Strongly urged increase of waterfowl productivity. Would like to see a good rifle range in town, but not in this area. Suggested Tudor Road area (adjacent to military lands) for a rifle range. Limit hunting to training of young people. Set up foot trails in Refuge, but no vehicle traffic.

25. John Garrett, representing self:

Refuge should be developed into area for viewing and compatible hunting. Anchorage area needs a good rifle range which is properly supervised--facilities poor now. It is a long way to Birchwood rifle range. A rifle range is compatible with Refuge uses. Favored purchased of land.

26. Frederick McGinnis, representing self:

Favors very strongly securing all private lands for preservation of Refuge. Rifle range should be controlled rigidly. If not, it should be eliminated. State should not be involved in such an

operation. Issues should be divided into two rifle range and Refuge. Proposed a bill be passed to prohibit industrial development within or near wildlife refuge regions. Did not favor leasing land.

27. Richard A. Weinig, representing self:

Fish and Game taking of the rifle range was the greatest thing that has happened here in 20 years. A properly developed and operated rifle range would be a great asset to the community. Range should be operated with a small range fee to curtail shooting. The noise is unavoidable. Area I, etc. should be developed and endorsed purchase of private lands. Though a hunting area for young people was a good idea. Snowmachines should not be allowed on Refuge.

28. Bob Huff, representing self (28 year resident in Area V):

Has had to call police on target shooters. Enforcement is mandatory if we are going to have a Refuge area. If the land is purchased without enforcement, it won't be any better than it is now. He was not interested in selling his land. Felt motorcycles would damage land, but not snowmachines. Favored a rifle range, but not in present location as it is not compatible with a waterfowl refuge. Suggested an area about a mile from the airport for a rifle range. Recommended that the Refuge be posted and the public be made aware of the boundaries and firearms laws. Limiting hunting to young people with supervision considered an excellent idea.

POTTER POINT STATE GAME REFUGE
QUESTIONNAIRE

Do you favor the State purchasing private marsh lands below the bluff?
81 Yes 1 No Comment: 1 No Answer
 98% 1% 1%

Do you favor charging a user fee for those who use the refuge?
31 Yes 50 No Comment: 2 No Answer
 37% 60% 3%

Do you favor leaving the refuge in an undeveloped state?
56 Yes 22 No Comment: 5 No Answer
 68% 27% 5%

Do you favor the Department of Fish and Game more intensively managing the
 refuge for greater waterfowl production?
75 Yes 8 No Comment:
 90% 10%

Do you favor developing a viewing center for waterfowl on the refuge?
56 Yes 26 No Comment: 1 No Answer
 68% 31% 1%

Do you favor managing the refuge for viewing purposes only?
27 Yes 53 No Comment: 3 No Answer
 33% 64% 3%

Do you favor allowing waterfowl hunting ON A PORTION of the refuge?
55 Yes 28 No Comment:
 66% 34%

Do you favor continuing use of the Rabbit Creek rifle range?
46 Yes 37 No Comment:
 55% 45%

Do you favor charging a user fee for use of the rifle range?
53 Yes 14 No Comment: 16 No Answer
 64% 17% 19%

Do you favor allowing dog training and field trials on the refuge?
42 Yes 38 No Comment: 3 No Answer
 51% 46% 3%

Do you favor allowing the use of snowmachines on the refuge?
6 Yes 77 No Comment:
 7% 93%

Do you favor allowing the use of motorcycles, tracked vehicles, etc. on the
 refuge at certain times of the year?
4 Yes 79 No Comment:
 5% 95%

Do you favor allowing cross country skiing and hiking on the refuge?
68 Yes 15 No Comment:
 82% 18%

GENERAL COMMENTS:

83 people filled out questionnaires.



(ADFG photos by Dimitri Bader)

ENHANCEMENT PROJECT—Waterfowl habitat enhancement project at Potter Point is designed to replace nesting habitat lost in the 1964 earthquake. Ponds and berms provide new resting, feeding and rearing areas for waterfowl.

A haven for waterfowl

POTTER MARSH STATE

By Dimitri Bader
Game Biologist
Anchorage

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ON APRIL 28 a v-shaped flock of nearly 1,000 ducks flew into upper Cook Inlet. Along the Seward Highway south of Rabbit Creek, the marsh was already host to 30 nesting pairs of lesser Canada geese. Other species, such as pintails, mallards, green-winged teal, red-breasted mergansers, and horned grebes were looking for suitable places to nest.

This annual spring migration of thousands of birds to Potter Marsh is a main attraction for both young and old citizens of the Anchorage area. In 1973, approximately 6,000

persons enjoyed the marsh and the sense of freedom associated with its waterfowl.

Potter Marsh serves waterfowl which use the Pacific and Central flyway systems by offering them a nesting place on their way south and again on their northward spring migrations. Returns from banded birds show that in the spring, the ducks and geese stopping at Potter Marsh are headed for nesting grounds of the Yukon/Kuskokwim River deltas, the North Slope and Siberia. In the fall, the thousands of ducks and geese that filter through

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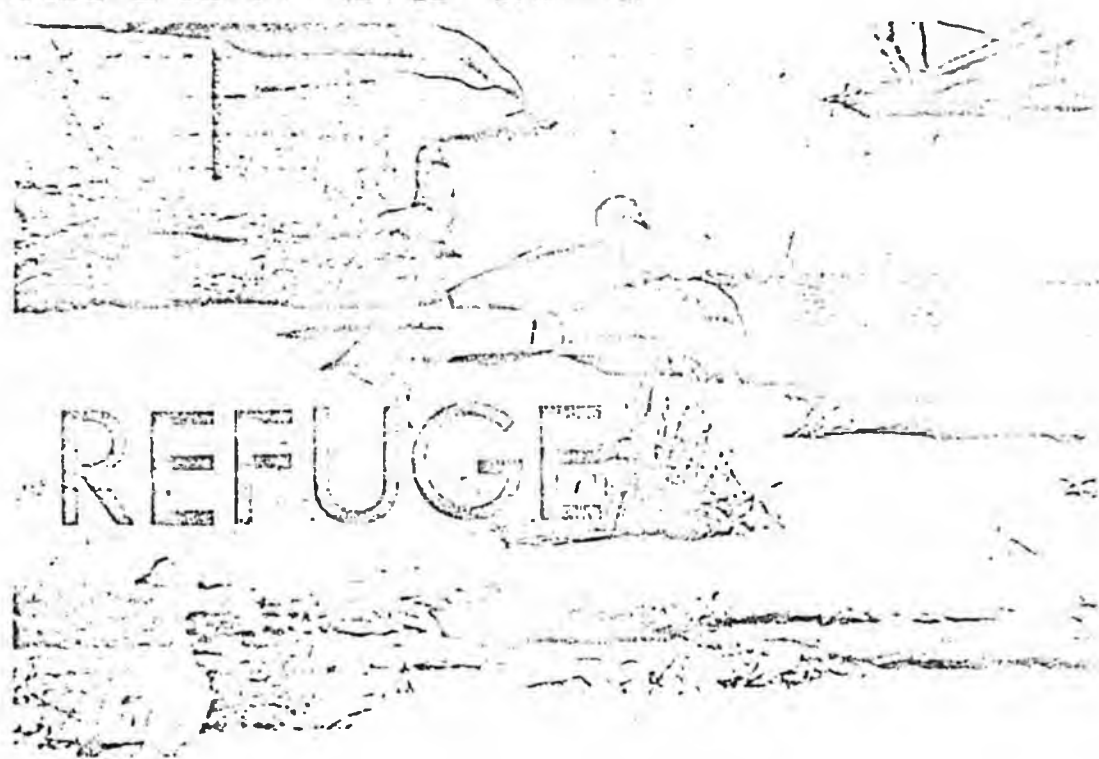
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Wetland areas throughout the United States produce millions of waterfowl. However, through the efforts of man in draining and fill-



Malheur (left) and yellowlegs (right) are some species of waterfowl that utilize Potter Point State Refuge.

PAUSE FOR FOOD—Snow geese feed on tubers and roots before heading on to nesting grounds in Siberia.



GAME REFUGE

ing these areas for agricultural, industrial and residential development, the total amount of natural nesting and wintering habitat has drastically diminished.

Waterfowl nesting areas are being lost to human development in Alaska and because of this, Gov. William A. Egan in 1971 signed into law a bill designating this 4,000-acre tidal marsh as the Potter Marsh State Game Refuge.

The Good Friday earthquake of 1964 physically altered Cook Inlet's waterfowl nesting habitat and significantly reduced the an-

nual waterfowl production.

Full development of the Potter Point State Game Refuge would need major nesting habitat enhancement projects in order to replace this lost habitat. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game in cooperation with the Greater Anchorage Area Borough has already become involved in such projects. For example, just south of the outlet of Campbell Lake, nearly two-thirds mile of ponds and berms were constructed in 1973 to replace some of the nesting habitat lost in the earthquake. This project cost

\$118,470 and even before the construction of the project ended waterfowl were utilizing the new habitat for nesting, feeding and eventually rearing young.

However, the entire picture of Potter Marsh is not bright. Nearly 20 per cent of the marsh lands within the refuge are privately owned. This checkerboard pattern of land ownership and control prevents any meaningful, long-term management programs from being initiated.

An attempt to purchase these private lands was made earlier this

cont'd on page 20

POTTER MARSH STATE GAME REFUGE

MANAGEMENT JOB—Young ducks and geese were banded at Potter Marsh this spring as part of the refuge management program. Participating were John W. Hendrickson, left, president of the Alaska Waterfowl Assn., Dimitri Bader, game biologist. →



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There are two areas in the marsh which are of great importance to the public as well as to the waterfowl resource. One of these areas possesses the quality habitat which waterfowl utilize heavily. The

numerous birds, in turn, provide the public with a high level of recreational use. The other area encompasses one of the few remaining public access corridors to the marsh. Because these areas are privately owned, they may be lost to development.

Even though a land ownership problem exists in the refuge, there are state-owned parcels of waterfowl habitat which are large enough to lend themselves to productive management. For instance, in just that portion of the refuge located south of Rabbit Creek and between the two Seward highways where Department of Fish and Game time and space management zoning

policies were in force, from 1972 to 1973 Canada goose production increased from less than 20 young to approximately 150 and duck production from less than 50 to approximately 400.

The potential development of the Potter Point State Game Refuge in conjunction with the identification and management of other local marsh areas promises to make upper Cook Inlet one of the most important waterfowl production and migration areas in Alaska. However, the future of this refuge, its management and realization of its potential depend completely on the desires of the people. ■

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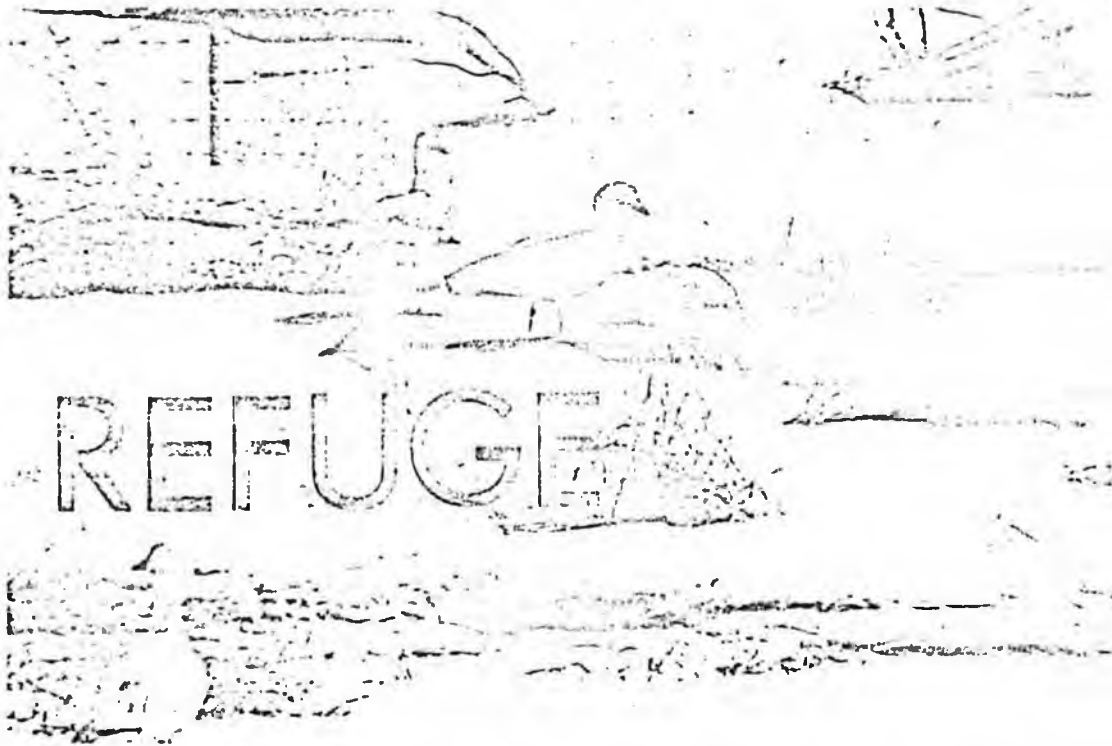
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393



← MARSH HUNTING—Snow geese and other species of waterfowl utilize Potter Marsh State Game Refuge.

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GAME REFUGE

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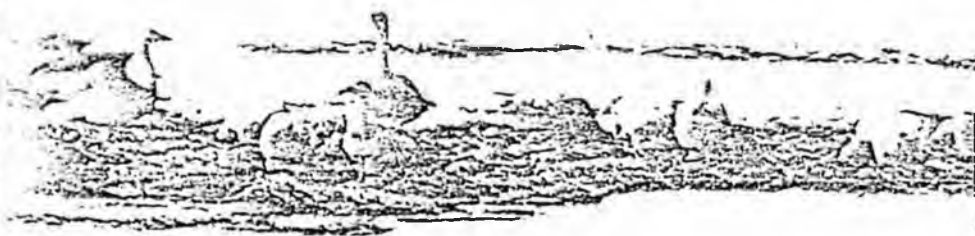
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POTTER POINT STATE GAME REFUGE

In Alaska, waterfowl nesting areas are being lost to human development projects as well as natural disasters such as the 1964 Good Friday earthquake. Because of the rapid rate of development in the Greater Anchorage area bowl local duck hunters, bird watchers, nature photographers, students, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, dog trainers, teachers and numerous other concerned citizens persuaded Senators Croft, Groh, Thomas and Josephson to introduce Senate Bill #214 during the 1971 legislative session. The bill eventually passed and resulted in the creation of the Potter Point State Game Refuge.

On deeper examination of the Refuge's land ownership status twenty nine privately owned parcels of land totalling 745 acres were found to exist within the 4,000 acre refuge.

An attempt to purchase these private lands was made during the 1973 legislative session when the newly formed Alaska Waterfowl Association persuaded Senators Chancy Croft and Lowell Thomas of the Senate Resources Committee to introduce a bill into the State Senate requesting a \$50,000 appropriation from the general fund. The bill passed the Senate 20-0 but failed in the House. Had this money been appropriated, it would have been matched with \$150,000 in federal matching funds from the Pittman-Robertson Federal Aid to Wildlife Restoration Act.

This hearing is being held to determine how the public feels about purchasing this private land. We are also interested in getting the public views on the Rabbit Creek rifle range being part of the refuge as well as comments on other uses of the land such as hunting, viewing and intensive waterfowl management.

For discussion and possible future management purposes, the refuge will be discussed by physiographically separable areas with past, present and future management, development and uses mentioned.

Area 1 exists between the Old and New Seward Highways from Potter to Rabbit Creek whose course forms the northern Boundary. This area still maintains its identity as a natural undisturbed marsh and contains a large variety of waterfowl and aquatic plant communities. Waterfowl production, hunting and viewing have been the past high uses of this area. Due to the good access and visibility of large numbers of waterfowl, the use of the area was changed to provide for increased public education and viewing opportunities. Waterfowl hunting was discontinued in 1972. No privately owned land exists in this unit.

Area 2 exists on the west side of the New Seward Highway from Rabbit Creek North to the Ocean View Sewer outflow channel. Extensive ponds exist adjacent to the inlet shore where a variety of abundant waterfowl and aquatic plant food exist. The Rabbit Creek Rifle range is situated on the south end of the unit. For years, local residents have

used the rifle range for target shooting and the adjacent tidal marsh for duck hunting. Since the 1964 earthquake Canada geese have begun to nest and feed here.

The Rifle range and a majority of the marsh used by waterfowl and hunters in this unit exists on private property totalling approximately 307 acres.

If the public wants to maintain the use of the rifle range, bird watching, waterfowl use, duck hunting, and preserve the marsh this land should be purchased to provide protection for future use and management.

Area 3 begins at the Ocean View sewer outflow channel and extends north to a point where Klatt Road approaches and ends near the marsh. The area is typical natural coastal marsh, except that plant succession has advanced to the point where significant waterfowl utilization has been eliminated. Limited access points, the great distance to ponds and the difficulty of traversing the terrain by foot limits public entry. Past and present public use has been primarily duck hunting. The Lesser Canada goose is establishing itself here as a resident nester. The extensive sedge bog that exists here lends itself ideally to habitat improvement projects proved to increase waterfowl nesting and reproduction. Approximately 226 acres of privately owned marsh lands exists in this unit. If the public wants to increase waterfowl utilization, waterfowl reproduction, hunting, viewing and preserve the marsh the land should be purchased to provide protection for future use and management.

Area 4 begins at the marsh narrows near the end of Klatt Road and extends north to Campbell Creek. Extensive natural and artificial ponds mixed with sedge stands and other aquatic plant foods exist here and provides the greatest variety of shore birds and waterfowl a place to feed, rest, and nest. Public access to this part of the marsh is restricted by private property. Even so the past and present public use has been waterfowl hunting and viewing. Approximately 87 acres of privately owned marsh lands exists in this unit. If the public wants to maintain the critical shallow ponds and marsh where the greatest variety of shore birds and waterfowl gather on the refuge during spring and fall migrations, and where the refuges second highest hunting and viewing area exists the private property should be purchased.

Area 5 begins at Campbell Creek and extends north to Point Campbell. This area, shared with area 4, contains the Campbell Creek delta where the Lesser Canada Goose is establishing itself as a resident nester and numerous shore birds and waterfowl gather throughout the unfrozen months of the year. This area also contains ponds, sedge and grass communities, Campbell Creek and the only sandy beaches found within the refuge. Limited access has prevented appreciable public use; even though, past and present public use has been waterfowl hunting, viewing, hiking and snowmobiling. Approximately 125 privately owned marsh acres exist in this unit. This private land in addition to the privately owned acres found in the other 4 areas make up approximately 19% of the marshland found in the refuge. A majority of these parcels are located at critical

access points, and/or are presently used extensively by shore birds and waterfowl for feeding and nesting; they are also used by the public for viewing, school field trips, wildlife photography, retriever dog training, hunting, target shooting, hiking, berry picking, snow machining, horse riding, nordic skiing, and peace of mind. If the public wants to retain these uses or the option for future use the private lands should be purchased.

- * Dept. proposal 1st priority
- + Dept. proposal
- Possible future dept. objectives

Development Options	Unit I	Unit II	Unit III	Unit IV	Unit V
Purchase private property		*	*	*	*
Construct new parking areas	+	+	-	-	-
Improve existing parking areas	+	+			
Construct viewing trail systems	-				
Construct elevated nesting platforms	+	+	+	+	+
Improve stream fish production	-			-	
Construct refuge information center	-	-			
Construct waterfowl viewing towers	-	-	-		
Pond and pothole blasting	-	-	-	-	-
Mound or island construction	-				
Construct permanent water control structures		-	-		
Construct Creek boat launch facilities	-			-	
Improve rifle range facilities		+			
Construct floating blinds		-	-	-	-
Construct buried blinds			-		
Plant cereal crops		-	-		
Improve access to marsh ponds	-		-	-	
Construct Bar-B-Ques and picnic areas		-			
Reclaim a portion of the inlet mud flats					

225 -

1991 case above

1751 below mean
high tide

3742

POTTER POINT STATE GAME REFUGE

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Improve rifle range facilities		+			
Construct floating blinds		-	-	-	-
Construct buried blinds			-		
Plant cereal crops		-	-		
Improve access to marsh ponds	-		-	-	
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Reclaim a portion of the inlet mud flats					

POTTER POINT STATE GAME REFUGE

In Alaska, waterfowl nesting areas are being lost to human development projects as well as natural disasters such as the 1964 Good Friday earthquake. Because of the rapid rate of development in the Greater Anchorage area bowl local duck hunters, bird watchers, nature photographers, students, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, dog trainers, teachers and numerous other concerned citizens persuaded Senators Croft, Groh, Thomas and Josephson to introduce Senate Bill #214 during the 1971 legislative session. The bill eventually passed and resulted in the creation of the Potter Point State Game Refuge.

On deeper examination of the Refuge's land ownership status twenty nine privately owned parcels of land totalling 745 acres were found to exist within the 4,000 acre refuge.

An attempt to purchase these private lands was made during the 1973 legislative session when the newly formed Alaska Waterfowl Association persuaded Senators Chancy Croft and Lowell Thomas of the Senate Resources Committee to introduce a bill into the State Senate requesting a \$50,000 appropriation from the general fund. The bill passed the Senate 20-0 but failed in the House. Had this money been appropriated, it would have been matched with \$150,000 in federal matching funds from the Pittman-Robertson Federal Aid to Wildlife Restoration Act.

This hearing is being held to determine how the public feels about purchasing this private land. We are also interested in getting the public views on the Rabbit Creek rifle range being part of the refuge as well as comments on other uses of the land such as hunting, viewing and intensive waterfowl management.

For discussion and possible future management purposes, the refuge will be discussed by physiographically separable areas with past, present and future management, development and uses mentioned.

Area 1 exists between the Old and New Seward Highways from Potter to Rabbit Creek whose course forms the northern Boundary. This area still maintains its identity as a natural undisturbed marsh and contains a large variety of waterfowl and aquatic plant communities. Waterfowl production, hunting and viewing have been the past high uses of this area. Due to the good access and visibility of large numbers of waterfowl, the use of the area was changed to provide for increased public education and viewing opportunities. Waterfowl hunting was discontinued in 1972. No privately owned land exists in this unit.

Area 2 exists on the west side of the New Seward Highway from Rabbit Creek North to the Ocean View Sewer outflow channel. Extensive ponds exist adjacent to the inlet shore where a variety of abundant waterfowl and aquatic plant food exist. The Rabbit Creek Rifle range is situated on the south end of the unit. For years, local residents have

used the rifle range for target shooting and the adjacent tidal marsh for duck hunting. Since the 1964 earthquake Canada geese have begun to nest and feed here.

The Rifle range and a majority of the marsh used by waterfowl and hunters in this unit exists on private property totalling approximately 307 acres.

If the public wants to maintain the use of the rifle range, bird watching, waterfowl use, duck hunting, and preserve the marsh this land should be purchased to provide protection for future use and management.

Area 3 begins at the Ocean View sewer outflow channel and extends north to a point where Klatt Road approaches and ends near the marsh. The area is typical natural coastal marsh, except that plant succession has advanced to the point where significant waterfowl utilization has been eliminated. Limited access points, the great distance to ponds and the difficulty of traversing the terrain by foot limits public entry. Past and present public use has been primarily duck hunting. The Lesser Canada goose is establishing itself here as a resident nester. The extensive sedge bog that exists here lends itself ideally to habitat improvement projects proved to increase waterfowl nesting and reproduction. Approximately 226 acres of privately owned marsh lands exists in this unit. If the public wants to increase waterfowl utilization, waterfowl reproduction, hunting, viewing and preserve the marsh the land should be purchased to provide protection for future use and management.

Area 4 begins at the marsh narrows near the end of Klatt Road and extends north to Campbell Creek. Extensive natural and artificial ponds mixed with sedge stands and other aquatic plant foods exist here and provides the greatest variety of shore birds and waterfowl a place to feed, rest, and nest. Public access to this part of the marsh is restricted by private property. Even so the past and present public use has been waterfowl hunting and viewing. Approximately 87 acres of privately owned marsh lands exists in this unit. If the public wants to maintain the critical shallow ponds and marsh where the greatest variety of shore birds and waterfowl gather on the refuge during spring and fall migrations, and where the refuges second highest hunting and viewing area exists the private property should be purchased.

Area 5 begins at Campbell Creek and extends north to Point Campbell. This area, shared with area 4, contains the Campbell Creek delta where the Lesser Canada Goose is establishing itself as a resident nester and numerous shore birds and waterfowl gather throughout the unfrozen months of the year. This area also contains ponds, sedge and grass communities, Campbell Creek and the only sandy beaches found within the refuge. Limited access has prevented appreciable public use; even though, past and present public use has been waterfowl hunting, viewing, hiking and snowmobiling. Approximately 125 privately owned marsh acres exist in this unit. This private land in addition to the privately owned acres found in the other 4 areas make up approximately 19% of the marshland found in the refuge. A majority of these parcels are located at critical

access points, and/or are presently used extensively by shore birds and waterfowl for feeding and nesting; they are also used by the public for viewing, school field trips, wildlife photography, retriever dog training, hunting, target shooting, hiking, berry picking, snow machining, horse riding, nordic skiing, and peace of mind. If the public wants to retain these uses or the option for future use the private lands should be purchased.

- * Dept. proposal 1st priority
- + Dept. proposal
- Possible future dept. objectives -

Development Options	Unit I	Unit II	Unit III	Unit IV	Unit V
Purchase private property	-	*	*	*	*
Construct new parking areas	+	+	-	-	-
Improve existing parking areas	+	+			
Construct viewing trail systems	-				
Construct elevated nesting platforms	+	+	+	+	+
Improve stream fish production	-			-	
Construct refuge information center	-	-			
Construct waterfowl viewing towers	-	-	-		
Pond and pothole blasting	-	-	-	-	-
Mound or island construction	-				
Construct permanent water control structures		-	-		
Construct Creek boat launch facilities	-			-	
Improve rifle range facilities		+			
Construct floating blinds		-	-	-	-
Construct buried blinds	-	-	-		
Plant cereal crops		-	-		
Improve access to marsh ponds	-		-	-	
Construct Bar-B-Ques and picnic areas		-			
Reclaim a portion of the inlet mud flats					

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Improve rifle range facilities		+			
Construct floating blinds		-	-	-	-
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Plant cereal crops		-	-		
Improve access to marsh ponds	-		-	-	
Construct Bar-B-Ques and picnic areas		-			
Reclaim a portion of the inlet mud flats					

Introduced: 1/23/75
Referred: Resources and
Finance

BY RADER, BRADLEY
CROFT AND RODEY

1 IN THE SENATE

2 SENATE BILL NO. 88

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act making a special appropriation to the Depart-
7 ment of Fish and Game to purchase real property within
8 Potter Point State Game Refuge; and providing for an
9 effective date."

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

11 * Section 1. The sum of \$75,000 is appropriated from the general fund
12 to the Department of Fish and Game for purchasing real property within the
13 area known as the Potter Point State Game Refuge.

14 * Sec. 2. This Act takes effect July 1, 1975.
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