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COMMITTEE REPORT
SENATE

FURTHER: FINANCE

2/7/84

Date 3-21-84

Mr. President

The Committee on RESOURCES considered SF 417

establishing the Kenai River Special Management Area; efd.

and (a majority of the committee) (the committee) reports it back with the following recommendations:

- do pass
- do pass with attached amendment(s)
- replace with/or adopt CS for SB 417 (Res)
- new title
- same title and recommends Do Pass
- and attached a "LETTER OF INTENT" - NEW FISCAL NOTE
- reports it back without recommendation
- recommends referral to _____ Committee

MEMBERS SIGNING
DO PASS

MEMBERS HAVING
OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Paul Gruber
W. Ziegen
W. Fischer
Don Gilman
Bob Mulcahy
Celia Youngblood
W. Johnson

How'd he get in here?

Little Schenkamp
 Chairman
Do Pass
 Chairman recommendation

STATE OF ALASKA 1984 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date: 3/21/84

REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No.: CS for SB417
Title: (Sen. Resources) Kenai River Park Management
Sponsor: Governor
Requestor:
Date of Request:

FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected: Natural Resources, Parks
Program Category Affected: Parks and Recreation
BRU, Program or Subprogram(s) Affected: Park Operations

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89
OPERATING						
100 PERSONAL SERVICES		208.9	208.9	208.9	208.9	208.9
200 TRAVEL		1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
300 CONTRACTUAL		31.8	31.8	31.8	31.8	31.8
400 SUPPLIES		23.0	23.0	23.0	23.0	23.0
500 EQUIPMENT		121.5				
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS						
800 MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING		386.7	265.2	265.2	265.2	265.2
CAPITAL						
REVENUE		-0-				

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND		386.7	265.2	265.2	265.2	265.2
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL						

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME		2	2	2	2	2
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY		7	7	7	7	7

SOURCE OF FUNDS TO OFFSET FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL:

ANALYSIS: Attach a separate page for analysis

Prepared By: Neil Johannsen Phone: 276-2653
Division: Parks and Outdoor Recreation Date: 3/21/84

MH Approved by Commissioner: Walter J. Arnold, Deputy Date: 3/21/84
Agency: Natural Resources

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note):

Legislative Finance
Legislative Sponsor
Requestor
Office of Management and Budget
Impacted Agency(ies)

12/1/83

Fiscal Note Section IV Analysis
Kenai River Management

		Salary	Benefits	FY 85 Total
100:	Natural Resource Officer II	12 mm 33.0	10.0	43.0
	Park Ranger II	12 mm 33.9	10.1	44.0
	Park Ranger I	8 mm 19.2	5.8	25.0
	Park Ranger I	8 mm 19.2	5.8	25.0
	Natural Resource Technician II	5 mm 10.5	3.2	13.7
	Radio Dispatcher I	6 mm 11.8	3.6	15.4
	Radio Dispatcher I	6 mm 11.8	3.6	15.4
	Natural Resource Technician II	5 mm 10.5	3.2	13.7
	Natural Resource Technician II	5 mm 10.5	3.2	13.7
				<u>13.7</u>
				208.9
200:	Travel and Per Diem for Natural Resource Officer to attend public meetings and Advisory Board meetings in Anchorage and Homer and meetings to coordinate with Federal and other State agencies.....			1.5
300:	River boat repair and maintenance.....			9.0
	Vehicle rental - mileage and fixed costs.....			<u>22.8</u>
				31.8
400:	Uniform allowance.....			2.0
	Fuel, oil and parts for river boats.....			20.7
	Office supplies.....			<u>3</u>
				23.0
TOTAL OPERATING:				<u>265.2</u>
500:	Listed equipment costs will be necessary for initial program start-up only, these will not be necessary on a yearly basis.			
	Three Jetboats: 17 ft. equipped with lights, siren, life preservers and trailers @ \$20. each.....			60.0
	Four MX 360 Radios and Convertzoms @ \$2.5 each.....			10.0
	Seven Parks Radio 100 Watt Mobile Radio @ \$2.5 each.....			17.5
	Two 4X4 Pickups @ \$9.0 each.....			18.0
	One 1/2 ton Pickup @ \$7.0			7.0
	One Station Wagon @ \$6.0.....			6.0
	One Defensive Equipment.....			1.0
	One Word Processor.....			<u>2.0</u>
				121.5
TOTAL FY 85 REQUEST:				<u>386.7</u>
CIP REQUEST:	Comprehensive Plan for river management, to be done over two fiscal years (1985 and 1986).....			160.0

1	POSITION TITLE			RANGE/STEP	BARG. UNIT.	LOCATION	GOV.	APPROV.	DISAP.
	Natural Resource Technician II			12 A	GGU	Soldotna			
2	TYPE OF POSITION	STAFF MONTHS	RP No.	PCN No.	PRIORITY	FORM 12	PAGE/LINE	LEG.	
	Seasonal	5		New					
3	TYPE OF EXPENDITURE			AMOUNT		JUSTIFICATION: This position is needed as part of a management package for the Kenai River column from Skilak Lake to Cook Inlet. The incumbent will provide a necessary safety function in boat operation by assisting one Park Ranger boat operator. The three boat operators must have technician assistance to set the example for safe boat operation. Without assistance in boarding other boats, inspecting shorelines, retrieving accident victims and law enforcement situations, the rangers will not be able to perform an adequate or safe job during the peak season (May-Sept.). Up to 1,200 boats operate on the lower 52 miles of the Kenai River at the same time. It is virtually impossible for an operator to land a jet boat or approach another boat in the swift current without an assistant.			
	1	2	3						
4	PERSONAL SERVICES: SALARY								
5	BENEFITS			10,500					
6	FICA			3,150					
7	HEALTH INS.								
8	TOTAL PERSONAL SERVICES			13,650					
9	TRAVEL								
10	CONTRACTUAL								
11	COMMODITIES			250					
12	EQUIPMENT								
13	OTHER								
14	TOTAL COST			13,900					
	CODE	FUNDING SOURCE							
15		FED RCPTS.							
16		GF MATCH.							
17		GEN. FUND		13,900					
18		I-A RCPTS.							
19		FGM RCPTS							
20		OTHER							
21	CONTINUATION		FOR B&M USE ONLY						
22	ADDITION								
4A KEY NUMBER				COLUMN NO.					

AGENCY Natural Resources PROGRAM AREA Division of Parks

BAU Operations

COMPONENT M & O

FY 85

13 REQUEST FOR NEW POSITION.

Page _____ of _____

REVISED DATE _____

1	POSITION TITLE Natural Resource Technician II			RANGE/STEP 12 A	BARG. UNIT. GGU	LOCATION Soldotna	GOV.	APPROV.	DISAPP.
2	TYPE OF POSITION Seasonal	STAFF MONTHS 5	RP No.	PCN No. New	PRIORITY	FORM 12 PAGE/LINE	LEG.		
3	TYPE OF EXPENDITURE			AMOUNT					
	1			2		3			
4	PERSONAL SERVICES: SALARY			10,500					
5	BENEFITS			3,150					
6	FICA								
7	HEALTH INS.								
8	TOTAL PERSONAL SERVICES			13,650					
9	TRAVEL								
10	CONTRACTUAL								
11	COMMODITIES			250					
12	EQUIPMENT								
13	OTHER								
14	TOTAL COST			13,900					
JUSTIFICATION: This position is needed as part of a management package for the Kenai River column from Skilak Lake to Cook Inlet. The incumbent will provide a necessary safety function in boat operation by assisting one Park Ranger boat operator. The three boat operators must have technician assistance to set the example for safe boat operation. Without assistance in boarding other boats, inspecting shorelines, retrieving accident victims and law enforcement situations, the rangers will not be able to perform an adequate or safe job during the peak season (May-Sept.). Up to 1,200 boats operate on the lower 52 miles of the Kenai River at the same time. It is virtually impossible for an operator to land a jet boat or approach another boat in the swift current without an assistant.									
	CODE	FUNDING SOURCE							
15		FED RCPTS.							
16		GF MATCH.							
17		GEN. FUND			13,900				
18		I-A RCPTS.							
19		FGM RCPTS							
20		OTHER							
21	CONTINUATION								
22	ADDITION		FOR B&M USE ONLY						
4A KEY NUMBER _____ COLUMN NO. _____									

AGENCY Natural Resources PROGRAM AREA Division of Parks

BRU Operations

FY 85

13 REQUEST FOR NEW POSITION.

COMPONENT M & O

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REVISED DATE _____

1	POSITION TITLE Natural Resource Technician II			RANGE/STEP 12 A	BARG. UNIT. GGU	LOCATION Soldotna	GOV	APPROV.	DISAPP.
2	TYPE OF POSITION Seasonal	STAFF MONTHS 5	RP No.	PCN No. New	PRIORITY	FORM 12	PAGE/LINE	LEG	
3	TYPE OF EXPENDITURE			AMOUNT		JUSTIFICATION: This position is needed as part of a management package for the Kenai River column from Skilak Lake to Cook Inlet. The incumbent will provide a necessary safety function in boat operation by assisting one Park Ranger boat operator. The three boat operators must have technician assistance to set the example for safe boat operation. Without assistance in boarding other boats, inspecting shorelines, retrieving accident victims and law enforcement situations, the rangers will not be able to perform an adequate or safe job during the peak season (May-Sept.). Up to 1,200 boats operate on the lower 52 miles of the Kenai River at the same time. It is virtually impossible for an operator to land a jet boat or approach another boat in the swift current without an assistant.			
	1	2	3						
4	PERSONAL SERVICES:								
	SALARY		10,500						
5	BENEFITS		2,150						
6	FICA								
7	HEALTH INS.								
8	TOTAL PERSONAL SERVICES		13,650						
9	TRAVEL								
10	CONTRACTUAL								
11	COMMODITIES		250						
12	EQUIPMENT								
13	OTHER								
14	TOTAL COST		13,900						
	CODE	FUNDING SOURCE							
15		FED RCPTS.							
16		GF MATCH.							
17		GEN FUND		13,900					
18		I-A RCPTS							
19		FGA RCPTS							
20		OTHER							
21	CONTINUATION								
22	ADDITION		FOR B&M USE ONLY						
AA KEY NUMBER				COLUMN NO.					

AGENCY Natural Resources PROGRAM AREA Division of Parks

nnu Operations

FY 85

13 REQUEST FOR NEW POSITION.

COMPONENT M & O

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REVISED DATE _____

1	POSITION TITLE Radio Dispatcher I			RANGE/STEP 11A	BARG. UNIT. GGU	LOCATION Soldotna	GOV	APPROV.	DISAPP.
2	TYPE OF POSITION Seasonal	STAFF MONTHS 6	RP No.	PCN No. New	PRIORITY	FORM 12	PAGE/LINE	LEG.	
3	TYPE OF EXPENDITURE			AMOUNT	JUSTIFICATION:				
	1	2	3						
1	PERSONAL SERVICES:								
	SALARY			11,838					
5	BENEFITS			3,551					
6	FICA								
7	HEALTH INS.								
8	TOTAL PERSONAL SERVICES			15,389					
9	TRAVEL								
10	CONTRACTUAL								
11	COMMODITIES			250					
12	EQUIPMENT								
13	OTHER								
14	TOTAL COST			15,639					
	CODE	FUNDING SOURCE							
15		FED RCPTS.							
16		GF MATCH.							
17		GEN. FUND		15,639					
18		I-A RCPTS.							
19		FGM RCPTS.							
20		OTHER							
21	CONTINUATION								
22	ADDITION								
FOR B&M USE ONLY									
4A KEY NUMBER		COLUMN NO.							

AGENCY Natural Resources PROGRAM AREA Division of Parks

BRU Operations

COMPONENT Maintenance & Operations

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REVISED DATE

FY 85

13 REQUEST FOR NEW
POSITION.

1	POSITION TITLE			RANGE/STEP	BARG. UNIT.	LOCATION	GOV.	APPROV.	DISAPP.
1	Radio Dispatcher I			11A	CCU	Soldona			
2	TYPE OF POSITION	STAFF MONTHS	RP No.	PCN No.	PRIORITY	FORM 12	PAGE/LINE	LEG.	
2									
3	TYPE OF EXPENDITURE			AMOUNT		JUSTIFICATION: This position is needed as part of a management package for the Kenai River column from Skilak Lake to Cook Inlet. Two radio dispatchers are needed to provide 7 days/week, 16 hours/day communications for three field rangers, one technician and one manager who will spend most of their time in the field. The rangers in boats will require radio dispatch to perform the public safety inspection and maintenance aspects of their job, which will be a major portion of their work. Without radio dispatch and adequate communication the rangers will not be able to respond to complaints and public assistance calls. The manager needs immediate communication with field staff to investigate permit compliance. Water related accidents require immediate response (within minutes). Central radio dispatch is needed for these tasks. The local department of Public Safety cannot monitor and dispatch any more frequencies since they already have nine emergency and law enforcement radio and telephone networks.			
	1	2	3						
4	PERSONAL SERVICES: SALARY			11,838					
5	BENEFITS			3,551					
6	FICA								
7	HEALTH INS.								
8	TOTAL PERSONAL SERVICES			15,389					
9	TRAVEL								
10	CONTRACTUAL								
11	COMMODITIES			250					
12	EQUIPMENT								
13	OTHER								
14	TOTAL COST			15,639					
	CODE	FUNDING SOURCE							
15		FED RCPTS.							
16		GF MATCH.							
17		GEN. FUND		15,639					
18		I-A RCPTS.							
19		FGM RCPTS							
20		OTHER							
21	CONTINUATION								
22	ADDITION			FOR B&M USE ONLY					
	4A KEY NUMBER			COLUMN NO.					

AGENCY Natural Resources PROGRAM AREA Division of Parks

BRU Operations

FY 85

13 REQUEST FOR NEW POSITION.

COMPONENT Maintenance & Operations

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REVISED DATE _____



1	POSITION TITLE Park Ranger I			RANGE/STEP 14A	BARG. UNIT. GGU	LOCATION Soldotna	GOV	APPROV.	DISAPP.
2	TYPE OF POSITION Seasonal	STAFF MONTHS 8	RP No.	PCN No. New	PRIORITY	FORM 12	PAGE/LINE	LEG.	
3	TYPE OF EXPENDITURE			AMOUNT		JUSTIFICATION:			
	1	2	3						
4	PERSONAL SERVICES:								
	SALARY			19,184					
5	BENEFITS			5,755					
6	FICA								
7	HEALTH INS.								
8	TOTAL PERSONAL SERVICES			24,939					
9	TRAVEL								
10	CONTRACTUAL			9,000					
11	COMMODITIES			7,250					
12	EQUIPMENT								
13	OTHER								
14	TOTAL COST			41,189					
	CODE	FUNDING SOURCE							
15		FED RCPTS.							
16		GF MATCH.							
17		GEN. FUND		41,189					
18		I-A RCPTS.							
19		FGM RCPTS							
20		OTHER							
21	CONTINUATION								
22	ADDITION		FOR B&M USE ONLY						
4A KEY NUMBER				COLUMN NO.					

AGENCY Natural Resources PROGRAM AREA Division of Parks

BRU Operations

FY 85

13 REQUEST FOR NEW POSITION.

COMPONENT Maintenance & Operations

Page _____ of _____

REVISED DATE _____



1	POSITION TITLE Natural Resource Officer II			RANGE/STEP 16 A	BARG. UNIT. GGU	LOCATION Soldotna	GOV	APPROV.	DISAPP.
2	TYPE OF POSITION PFT	STAFF MONTHS 12	RI' No.	PCN No. New	PRIORITY	FORM 12 PAGE/LINE	LEG		
3	TYPE OF EXPENDITURE			AMOUNT					
	1	2	3						
4	PERSONAL SERVICES:								
	SALARY			33,084					
5	BENEFITS			9,925					
6	FICA								
7	HEALTH INS.								
8	TOTAL PERSONAL SERVICES			43,009					
9	TRAVEL			1,500					
10	CONTRACTUAL			4,800					
11	COMMODITIES			250					
12	EQUIPMENT								
13	OTHER								
14	TOTAL COST			49,559					
	CODE	FUNDING SOURCE							
15		FED RCPTS.							
16		GF MATCH.							
17		GEN. FUND		49,559					
18		I-A RCPTS.							
19		FGM RCPTS							
20		OTHER							
21	CONTINUATION								
22	ADDITION			FOR B&M USE ONLY					
4A KEY NUMBER				COLUMN NO.					

JUSTIFICATION: This position is required as part of a management package for the Kenai River column from Skilak Lake to Cook Inlet. The incumbent shall accomplish the management objectives to be established by statute, generally stated as follows: provide a safe and healthy river environment for the recreating public and adjacent land owners; maintain a free-flowing river in its natural state; promote recreational enjoyment of the river by developing educational and interpretive programs while stimulating the local tourist economy. This position shall assist in implementing Legislative Resolve 26. Job tasks will include the following: Provide single-agency management of the Kenai River; permit oversight and management; establish a Citizen's Advisory Board to provide local public input and guidance; establish concessions permits and policies for commercial operations on the river; assure compliance with laws and provide recreation information; propose regulations under state park management authority; research legal and land ownership problems; enforce boating safety regulations and educate boaters on safe operations; stimulate the state tourism industry by developing educational and interpretive points of interest. This position will be a staff assistant to the District Superintendent.

AGENCY Natural Resources PROGRAM AREA Division of Parks

BRU Operations

COMPONENT M & O

FY 85

13 REQUEST FOR NEW POSITION.

Page _____ of _____

REVISED DATE _____



1	POSITION TITLE <u>Park Ranger II</u>			RANGE/STEP <u>16 A</u>	BARG. UNIT. <u>Supervisory</u>	LOCATION <u>Soldotna</u>	GOV. <u>GOV.</u>	APPROV.	DISAPP.
2	TYPE OF POSITION <u>PFT</u>	STAFF MONTHS <u>12</u>	RP No.	PCN No. <u>NEW</u>	PRIORITY	FORM 12 PAGE/LINE	LEG.		
3	TYPE OF EXPENDITURE			AMOUNT					
	1			2		3			
4	PERSONAL SERVICES: SALARY			33,888					
5	BENEFITS			10,166					
6	FICA								
7	HEALTH INS.								
8	TOTAL PERSONAL SERVICES			44,054					
9	TRAVEL								
10	CONTRACTUAL			9,000					
11	COMMODITIES			7,250					
12	EQUIPMENT								
13	OTHER								
14	TOTAL COST			60,304					
15	CODE	FUNDING SOURCE							
16		FED RCPTS.							
17		GF MATCH.							
18		GEN. FUND		60,304					
19		I-A RCPTS.							
20		FLA RCPTS							
21	CONTINUATION								
22	ADDITION			FOR B&M USE ONLY					
4A KEY NUMBER _____ COLUMN NO. _____									

JUSTIFICATION: This position is required as part of a management package for the Kenai River column from Shilak Lake to Cook Inlet. The field ranger positions will report directly to this position who will have line authority over the river operations. The management objectives for the Kenai River are to provide a safe and healthy river environment for the recreating public and adjacent land owners. From daily observations and contact with local users and a citizen advisory board the district staff would propose regulations under state park management authority, resolve conflicts, enforce laws, erect proper signing, coordinate public information and education, assist in rescues and emergency medical problems, and remove dangerous obstacles. Another objective is to maintain a free-flowing river in its natural state, control pollution and man-made erosion problems, and maximize recreational use with a minimum of habitat degradation. To promote recreational enjoyment and stimulate the local tourist economy the rangers will develop points of historic, scientific and cultural value so that the public will appreciate them through education and interpretation of the resources. They shall monitor permits and policies for commercial operation, private structures in the river, and cooperative agreements with other State and Federal agencies and private landholders; they shall also respond to all public complaints on the river column. Most of their working time will be spent on the river itself.

AGENCY Natural Resources PROGRAM AREA Division of Parks

BRU Operations

COMPONENT Maintenance and Operations

13 REQUEST FOR NEW POSITION.

FY 85

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REVISED DATE _____

1	POSITION TITLE Park Ranger I			RANGE/STEP 14A	BARG. UNIT. GGU	LOCATION Soldotna	GOV.	APPROV.	DISAPP.
2	TYPE OF POSITION Seasonal	STAFF MONTHS 8	RP No.	PCN No. New	PRIORITY	FORM 12 PAGE/LINE	LEG.		
3	TYPE OF EXPENDITURE			AMOUNT		JUSTIFICATION:			
	1	2	3						
4	PERSONAL SERVICES: SALARY		19,184						
5	BENEFITS		5,755						
6	FICA								
7	HEALTH INS.								
8	TOTAL PERSONAL SERVICES		24,939						
9	TRAVEL								
10	CONTRACTUAL		9,000						
11	COMMODITIES		7,250						
12	EQUIPMENT								
13	OTHER								
14	TOTAL COST		41,189						
	CODE	FUNDING SOURCE							
15		FED RCPTS.							
16		GF MATCH.							
17		GEN. FUND		41,189					
18		I-A RCPTS.							
19		FGM RCPTS							
20		OTHER							
21	CONTINUATION								
22	ADDITION		FOR B&M USE ONLY						
4A KEY NUMBER		COLUMN NO.							

AGENCY Natural Resources PROGRAM AREA Division of Parks

BRU Operations _____

FY 85

13 REQUEST FOR NEW POSITION.

COMPONENT Maintenance & Operations

Page _____ of _____

REVISED DATE _____

STATE OF ALASKA 1984 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE

#

Revision Date: _____

REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No.: 417
 Title: "An act relating to Kenai River Special Management Area."
 Sponsor: _____
 Requestor: _____
 Date of Request: _____

FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected: Public Safety
 Program Category Affected: Admin. of Justice/Natural Resources
 BRU, Program or Subprogram(s) Affected: Alaska State Troopers / Fish & Wildlife Protection

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89
OPERATING						
100 PERSONAL SERVICES						
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL						
400 SUPPLIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS						
800 MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CAPITAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
REVENUE						

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL						

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

SOURCE OF FUNDS TO OFFSET FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL:

ANALYSIS: Attach a separate page for analysis

Prepared By: Francis C. Allan/Captain W. Fleek Phone: 269-5691
 Division: AK State Troopers/Fish & Wildlife Prot. Date: 02/06/84

Approved by Commissioner: Robert J. Sundberg Date: 2/6/84
 Agency: Public Safety

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note):
 Legislative Finance
 Legislative Sponsor
 Requestor
 Office of Management and Budget
 Impacted Agency(ies)

STATE OF ALASKA 1984 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE

#9

Revision Date: 2/3/84

REQUEST
Bill/Resolution No.: SB 417
Title: Kenai River Park Management

FISCAL DETAIL
Agency Affected: Natural Resources, Parks
Program Category Affected: Parks & Recreation

Sponsor: Governor
Requestor: _____
Date of Request: _____

BRU, Program or Subprogram(s) Affected:
Park Operations

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89
OPERATING						
100 PERSONAL SERVICES		208.9	208.9	208.9	208.9	208.9
200 TRAVEL		1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
300 CONTRACTUAL		31.8	31.8	31.8	31.8	31.8
400 SUPPLIES		23.0	23.0	23.0	23.0	23.0
500 EQUIPMENT		121.5				
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS						
800 MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING		386.7	265.2	265.2	265.2	265.2
CAPITAL		0 **				
REVENUE		0				

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND		386.7	265.2	265.2	265.2	265.2
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL						

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME		2	2	2	2	2
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY		1	1	1	1	1

SOURCE OF FUNDS TO OFFSET FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL:

**Note: \$160.0 for the Kenai River Comprehensive Plan is in the Governor's
FY 85 Capital Budget

ANALYSIS: Attach a separate page for analysis

Prepared By: Neil C. Johannsen Phone: 264-2103
Division: Parks Date: 11/17/83

Approved by Commissioner: William D. Amund, Deputy Date: 2/3/84
Agency: Natural Resources

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note):
Legislative Finance
Legislative Sponsor
Requestor
Office of Management and Budget
Impacted Agency(ies)

STATE OF ALASKA 1984 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE

#3

Revision Date: 2/3/84

REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No.: SB417
Title: An Act establishing the Kenai River Special Management Area
Sponsor: _____
Requestor: Governor/Law
Date of Request: 2/3/84

FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected: Environmental Conservation
Program Category Affected: _____
BRU, Program or Subprogram(s) Affected: Environmental Quality Management

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89
OPERATING						
100 PERSONAL SERVICES	0	0	(The nature of this legislation allows budgeting only through FY 85 after which time the specific agency involvement identified in the completed Kenai River Plan will be clearly outlined.)			
200 TRAVEL	0	0				
300 CONTRACTUAL	0	0				
400 SUPPLIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS						
800 MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0	0				
CAPITAL						
REVENUE						

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	0	0				
FEDERAL FUNDS	0	0				
OTHER	0	0				
TOTAL	0	0				

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0				
PART-TIME	0	0				
TEMPORARY	0	0				

SOURCE OF FUNDS TO OFFSET FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL:

RSA with DNR

\$5,000 will be allocated to DEC for travel for each of FY84 and FY85.

ANALYSIS: Attach a separate page for analysis

Prepared By: Bob Martin Phone: 274-2533
Division: Environmental Quality Management Date: 1/31/84
Approved by Commissioner: Richard A. Neve Date: 2/3/84
Agency: Environmental Conservation

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note):

Legislative Finance
Legislative Sponsor
Requestor
Office of Management and Budget
Impacted Agency(ies)

12/1/83

STATE OF ALASKA 1984 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE

4

Revision Date: _____

REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No.: 417
 Title: Kenai River Special Management Area
 Sponsor: Governor Sheffield
 Requestor: Governor Sheffield
 Date of Request: _____

FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected: Fish and Game
 Program Category Affected: NRMEC
 BRU, Program or Subprogram(s) Affected: _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89
OPERATING						
100 PERSONAL SERVICES						
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL						
400 SUPPLIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS						
800 MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAPITAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
REVENUE	0	0	0	0	0	0

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL						

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

SOURCE OF FUNDS TO OFFSET FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL:

ANALYSIS: Attach a separate page for analysis

Prepared By: Beverly Reaume Phone: 465-4120
 Division: Administration Date: January 30, 1984
 Approved by Commissioner: [Signature] Date: 1-31-84
 Agency: Fish and Game

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note):

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor
- Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)

12/1/83

Alaska State Legislature

BETTYE FAHRENKAMP, Chairman
ROBERT H. ZIEGLER, SR., Vice Chairman
DICK ELIASON
PAUL FISCHER
VIC FISCHER
BOB MULCAHY
ARLISS STURGULEWSKI



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STATE CAPITAL
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Senate

Committee on Resources

Letter of Intent for CS SB 417(Pes)

It is the intent of the Legislature that the management plan described in AS 41.21.506 be developed jointly by the Commissioner of Natural Resources and the Kenai Peninsula Borough.



20417

STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
JUNEAU

February 7, 1984

The Honorable Jalmar Kerttula
Alaska State Senate
Pouch V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Senator Kerttula:

Under the authority of art. III, sec. 18, of the Alaska Constitution, I am transmitting a bill relating to the management of the Kenai River. The bill addresses the problems on the river as pointed out by (1) the Kenai River Task Force; (2) the interagency task force composed of the Office of Management and Budget, and the Departments of Natural Resources, Fish and Game, Public Safety, and Environmental Conservation; and (3) 1983 Legislative Resolve No. 26.

Section 1 of the bill restates the findings of 1983 Legislative Resolve No. 26, and adds the two task forces' finding that the highest priority resources of the Kenai River are its fishery and wildlife.

Section 2 contains the body of the bill. It first states the purposes of the bill. It then adds new provisions to AS 41.21 which are intended to do three things. First, new AS 41.21.502 creates the Kenai River Special Management Area, composed of state-owned land and water from the Kenai River's confluence with Cook Inlet upstream to and including the Kenai and Skilak Lakes. Included within the described area is state land already managed by the division of parks and outdoor recreation, of the Department of Natural Resources, and additional, adjacent state land either already owned or selected and soon to be in state ownership.

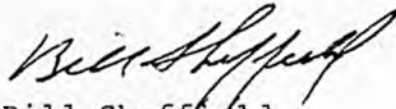
Second, new AS 41.21.504(a) assigns the Area's interim and long-term management and regulatory control to the Department of Natural Resources, with the intent that through cooperative management agreements with other local, state, and federal agencies that department will bring sensible, coordinated management to the Kenai River and its resources. It is anticipated that this function will be administered by the division of parks and outdoor recreation. New AS 41.21.504(b) ensures that the Department of Fish and Game, the Boards of Fisheries and Game, the Department of Environmental Conservation, and other state agencies, as well as municipalities, will retain their respective management, regulatory, and enforcement responsibilities. Cooperative agreements under new AS 41.21.512 will provide appropriate coordination.

Third, under new AS 41.21.506(a) and (b), the commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources is directed to develop and adopt within two years a long-range comprehensive management plan for the Kenai River Special Management Area, the shoreland of the Kenai River up to one-quarter mile on each side, and any additional public and private land that is crucial to the overall purposes of the bill. The commissioner is directed to use the department's regulatory authority to protect the river corridor and to implement the plan. New regulations must identify and control incompatible uses, and deal with the increasing difficulties associated with a proliferation of professional fishing guides on the Kenai River. Regulations adopted to implement the plan may, on private land, regulate activities that are inconsistent with the purposes of the bill or the plan. During the period of the development and implementation of the plan, it is hoped that the affected local governments will adequately exercise their planning, platting, and zoning powers granted in AS 29 so that the commissioner's regulatory power over private land-use activities need not be used. To that end, in developing and implementing the plan the commissioner is directed, in new AS 41.21.510, to appoint an advisory board and to continuously consult with relevant federal, state, and local government agencies, and with private interest groups and individuals. The commissioner is further authorized, under new AS 41.21.512, to enter into cooperative agreements not only with other government agencies but also with private landowners in order to simplify sound management of the Kenai River.

Section 3 of the bill explicitly provides the commissioner with authority to seek, through the attorney general's office, civil enforcement of regulations adopted under AS 41.21.500 -- 41.21.512, regarding the Kenai River Special Management Area, and other regulations applied to the Area.

Given the increasing problems and conflicts on the Kenai River, I urge your prompt action on this measure.

Sincerely,



Bill Sheffield
Governor

SENATE RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

MINUTES FOR HEARING IN ANCHORAGE
MARCH 3, 1984

LEGISLATORS PRESENT

Senator Mulcahy
Senator Gilman
Senator Eliason
Senator P. Fischer

CALENDAR

SB 416, An Act clarifying the authority of the Alaska Board of Fisheries over guided sport fishing activities.

SB 417, An Act establishing the Kenai River Special Management Area; and providing for an effective date.

Chris Goll, guide: SB 417; He is opposed to the Division of Parks as the lead agency for the Kenai River Special Management Area. SB 416; He supports SB 416 and thinks the committee should rely on the Kenai River Task Force findings as a basis for proceeding on regulations. The guides have a responsibility to provide services.

Dave Cline: Supports a bill for the Kenai River, but hasn't studied the proposed CS. He feels there should be protection of critical fish and wildlife areas and coordination of regional, state, and federal planning. The citizen's advisory group should consist of local and state agencies and the governor should make the appointments to the board, not the commissioner of Natural Resources.

Sam Best, Kenai Peninsula Borough Administration Assessor: The Administration of the Borough is generally in favor of the CS. The primary problem is power boat wakes. He wants the Borough to play a role in the coordination and appointment of the advisory board.

Neil Johannsen, Director of Division of Parks: Stated that the Governor and the commissioner of Natural Resources are flexible on this legislation. There are three reasons for the Division of Parks to be the lead agency:

- 1) Parks has been involved in planning for land use.
- 2) Parks has been involved in land managing functions.
- 3) Parks considers itself to be an expert in managing people.

Went through CS offering comments:

- 1) p. 2; should continue to reference scenic values in the purpose, also recreational values. What happens next to the river is important.

- 2) Possibly cut off the park just below the Warren Ames Bridge and the wetlands close to the mouth.
- 3) Recommends that on p. 6, insert that this act is subject to valid existing rights.
- 4) Comprehensive Management plan should have local government input.
- 5) Elimination of $\frac{1}{2}$ mile on each side of the river is no problem.
- 6) Veto power of the commissioner eliminated probably would be agreed to.
- 7) Administration feels that the advisory board could have local majority, but shouldn't be called a "local advisory board".

Dave Lowery: Supports a plan for the Kenai River totally and his questions have been clarified by previous testimony and by reading the CS.

Sharon Jean, Kenai Borough Assembly: Handed out a proposed amendment that will be reviewed the Assembly on Tuesday, March 6. This amendment specifically adds that in developing a comprehensive management plan for the Kenai River Special Management Area, representatives of the Kenai Peninsula Borough shall help develop and adopt the plan.

Louis Fields, property owner: He feels that the environmentalists are screwing things up and everything in each version of SB 417 reverts back to the commissioner of Natural Resources, so the original and CS are both no good.

Leo Oberts, property owner: Suggestions:

- 1) The CS should address research on salmon.
- 2) The CS should be much stronger in regards to getting the 21 agencies involved on the river to work together in cooperative agreements.
- 3) Have a patrolman on the river.

Dale Bondurant: Feels there needs to be a management plan that implies that the river comes first. There needs to be more public input and better control and the plan needs to be strong. He doesn't think that the local governments should have veto power. The conflicts between state and local governments won't be that big if both consider the river of first importance. If any mistakes are made, hopefully they will be of benefit to the river.

Paul Dale, Kenai Peninsula Borough: The Kenai River Special Committee supports an management plan. He feels that the cut off point for the park should be $\frac{1}{2}$ mile below the Kenai River Bridge and agrees with deletion of the reference to scenic values in the CS. Also, it is important to get the Borough involved on the management plan and a good case can be made for local involvement on the advisory board. Agrees with Parks as the lead agency.

David Wangaad: Encourages wider participation in developing the management plan, don't leave it up to DNR exclusively. Cited a documentation by "Paul Reimers" in that there are ways to develop wise management plans. Suggested development of a research corporation to research the river and Kenai River king salmon.

Adjourned at 4:12 p.m.

POSITION PAPER

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

SB 417

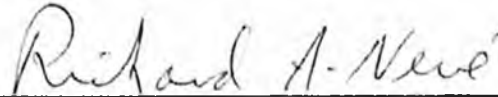
Kenai River Management Area

The Department of Environmental Conservation supports this bill. It will result in the preparation of a management plan for the river which, when completed, will guide the department in issuing permits and certifications of Corps of Engineer permits.

Development activities along the riverbank, which have the potential to conflict with fisheries habitat, have long needed the guidance of a plan such as that envisioned by SB 417.

We also support the coordination of various agency activities by the Division of Parks, together with the concept of strong local involvement in the development of plans and policies affecting the Kenai River.

DATED: March 19, 1984.



Richard A. Neve
Commissioner

SENATE RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

MINUTES FOR HEARING IN KENAI, ALASKA
MARCH 2, 1984

LEGISLATORS PRESENT

Senator Mulcahy
Senator Gilman
Senator Eliason
Senator P. Fischer
Representative Fritz

CALENDAR

SB 416, An Act clarifying the authority of the Alaska Board of Fisheries over guided sport fishing activities.

SB 417, An Act establishing the Kenai River Special Management Area; and providing for an effective date.

SB 357, An Act relating to management plans and regulations adopted by the Board of Fisheries.

Mayor Stan Thompson-Kenai Peninsula Borough: Original version of SB 417 is unacceptable to the Borough because all powers over the river go to the state Dept. of Natural Resources. The CS is basically acceptable because it recognizes local authorities. There still are a few problems with the CS such as, the implications in the Findings section that stream bank development contributed to erosion is questionable. The main problem is that there are too many people on the river, especially during King Salmon season. The second problem is erosion from boat wakes. Heavy salmon runs suggest that fish beds and smolt are not being hurt. Implications in the original that private land owners were causing erosion is just the opposite. Property owners need protection from increased use of the river. A lot of the general public uses the private land. The continued reference to "adjacent land" in the CS concerns Mayor Thompson. He suggests that the park should be cut off at the Kenai River Bridge. Also, the bill should say "all state owned lands abutting the Kenai River" rather than specifically describing the land because land ownership may change over time and wouldn't be included in the bill. He feels that there should be restrictions as to who should be on the advisory board (property owners, guides, commercial fishermen, sports fishermen, etc.). The decisions of the local governments should be absolute when they have a dispute with DNR.

Justin Maley, Mayor of Soldotna: The City of Soldotna concurs with CS for SB 417 because it takes care of the concerns the City of Soldotna had with the original bill. If the Municipalities and DNR do not agree in the formulation of the management plan or regulations he feels that the City of Soldotna can negotiate fairly and will be concerned about how much authority the local governments will have. The original version of SB 417 is unacceptable.

Senator Mulcahy brought up the point that there needs to be a mechanism for solving disputes between the local governments and DNR over disagreements in authority.

Neil Johansen, Director, Division of Parks: The Governor and the commissioner of Natural Resources are flexible on this bill, they anticipated a CS, and want to hear the people. Mr. Johansen has some comments about the CS:

- 1) The reference to scenic or recreational values to properties adjacent to the river should not be deleted from the original. There should be some interest in adjacent properties whether public or private.
- 2) Technical changes that were previously gone over with Sen. Gilman.
- 3) The reference that all occurs "subject to valid existing rights" should not be deleted to protect people who already have claims to oil rights, etc.
- 4) No problem with deletion of closure to mineral entry in CS.
- 5) No problem with striking "closed to multiple purpose use" in CS.
- 6) The comprehensive management plan should be generated as a partnership between the state, Kenai Peninsula Borough, and the Cities of Kenai and Soldotna as this is beneficial to the people.
- 7) No serious problem with reducing the $\frac{1}{4}$ mile on each side of the river.
- 8) Strongly urge reference to advisory board which would allow some membership of individuals who are not local residents and seek a mix on the local advisory board with a majority being local residents.
- 9) As far as resolving disagreements between local governments and DNR, the language, if proposed, should not be so specific so as to restrict traditional uses and should pursue the requirements of the Administrative Procedures Act.

The CS is basically good in that it reflects concerns of the local residents.

John Wise, Kenai City Council: He has problems with both versions of SB 417 and suggests using guidelines from the Federal Flood Plain Insurance Program. Studies on the Kenai River provide for control and development standards to the 50 year flood contour. Zoning authority must establish developmental standards, then all properties will be insured from floods. By using this you would 1) define the area to be controlled 2) adopt standards required by the program 3) this could be enacted in 90 days. If this is adopted then the state should move out of the picture.

Les Palmer, realtor: Supports CS and recommends some additions:

- 1) Line 24, p. 8, CS; should specify specific representation with provision to add members as the commissioner deems necessary. Specific representation should be specified and should be 3 year staggered terms.
- 2) Division of Parks should get a blanket permit from the Corps of Engineers.
- 3) There should be various interests represented on the advisory board and the Division of Parks should have a representative at local planning meetings.

Waldo Coyle, 35 year resident: Original version of SB 417 is too restrictive. The main problem is too many people, but this can be handled through regulations and enforcement. The CS is acceptable.

Leo Oberts, property owner: Opposed to original SB 417. It would set bad precedent for rivers all over the state. He showed aerial photo from 1976 with no erosion showing and then some recent photos showing a lot of erosion. If river banks are open to public use they get abused and become a "human cesspool" because of no toilet facilities. Enforcement is what is really needed. He suggests that the Division of Parks be given the opportunity to police the water corridor for 1 year to see what will happen. Also public facilities (toilets, parking, garbage disposals) are needed.

Charles Dickson, professional sport fishing consultant: More enforcement is needed on the river. The original version on SB 417 puts too much power in the hands of the commissioner. In SB 416, line 10 delete "restrictions" and insert "regulations". He sees no need for ADF&G to regulate guides separately from sport fishermen. Sport fishermen who want of fish with a guide can not be discriminated against. There needs to be more places for sport fishermen to go and suggests putting a harbor in Ninilchik. Having criteria for guides is o.k., but he is opposed to limited entry for guides. He feels that fear of guide limited entry is the cause of so many guides on the river.

M.R. Posey, property owner: CSSB 417 is acceptable with minor changes:

- 1) page 7, line 17, CS; delete "or privately owned"
- 2) page 8, line 11, CS; delete "any other lawful means"
- 3) page 8, line 15, CS; delete "eminent domain" to be consistent with deletion of "any other lawful means".

He is comfortable with Borough control and veto power over state regulations. Also there should be speed laws, and regulations for high powered boats and floaters even though he thinks most of the erosion is done by ice, not boats.

Louis Fields, property owner: High powered boats are the biggest problem and both the original version and the CS for SB 417 will just add another layer of bureaucracy that is not needed.

Tom Baker, guide and property owner: SB 416; Guides were the first ones to recommend something be done and maybe things are more out of control now more than ever. People are obtaining guide licenses now out of fear of limited entry. Fishing on the Kenai River generates economic benefit for the whole state. It is not fair to regulate the guides when it is their clients who catch all the fish. SB 417; In favor of a plan, but speed laws for boats will never work.

Gayle Phillips, Homer resident: Supports CSSB417. She is concerned that the same kind of problems will occur on the Anchor River and Deep Creek, so a precedent needs to be set.

Tom Mears, Cook Inlet Aquaculture Assn.: Development along the river banks degrades fish populations and protective regulations are needed now. The major habitat problem is human caused erosion. The area of jurisdiction should be expanded along the lower river and wider along the banks. Neither version of SB 417 will control human caused erosion. The CS doesn't the local governments the responsibility to regulate the river.

Paul Dale, Kenai Pen. Borough Assembly, chrm. Special Committee on the Kenai River: Supports concept of SB 417 and the CS takes care of most of his concerns, but may need one small change:

Page 7, CS; the first paragraph on the comprehensive management plan should be changed for a more cooperative plan with the local government included.

Changes on river use may be causing erosion. The Kenai River Committee passed a one year moratorium on small lot recreational subdivision developments along the river so the Assembly could have the time to draft an ordinance that would address high density recreational subdivision development and they are also working on a local zoning ordinance.

E. Bauman, property owner: Agrees with Borough Mayor Stan Thompson's comments and adds that there needs to be more research done on the river.

Jeff Sauer, Kenai Audubon Society: Supports original SB 417. Opposes CS for SB 417 because he feels municipal power in the CS is no change from now. The Borough is not responsible enough to manage the river. He suggests a moratorium on development prior to adoption of legislation.

THE HEARING NOW SWITCHED TO TAKE TESTIMONY ON SB357

Loretta Breeden: Asked question as to if subsistence fishing gets preference over all other fisheries. Sen. Mulcahy replied that it did.

Robert Wiseman: Confused as to intent of SB 357.

Sen. Fischer: Clarified that the intent of SB 357 is to give the Board of Fisheries some criteria to base its decisions on. They were suspected of making political decisions in the past.

Joe Melatesta, Clam Gulch; Fishermen's Defense Fund Committee: Recommends passage of SB 357 without amendment.

Doug Blossom, commercial fisherman: Supports SB 357 and feels that it will help in times when there is an inefficient Board of Fisheries.

R.L. Schmidt, commercial fisherman/processor: Supports SB 357 100%.

D.F. Edelman, President of Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Cooperative Assn. Supports SB 357 without amendment.

Karen McGahan, Kenai Pen. Borough Assembly: Delete the word "exclude" on page 2, line 11, as she feels this will only apply to commercial fishermen.

Paul Dale, Borough Assembly: Recommends passage of SB 357.

Lattie Edelman: Supports SB 357, but there needs to be more scientific information to base decisions on. Also on page 2, line 12, add "on a maximum sustained yield basis".

Waldo Coyle: Supports SB 357.

Tommy Corr: Supports SB 357.

HEARING GOES BACK TO TESTIMONY ON SB 416 AND SB 417

Tom Wagoner, Mayor of the City of Kenai: Sees 2 big problems on the river:

- 1) The number of people that want to sport fish the river and the increase in number of guides and the number of fish they catch.
- 2) Boat size and erosion. There are no facts about the erosion and should be in the bill if available.

Opposed to original SB 417, and offered solutions:

- 1) Manage the Kenai River on a biological basis.
- 2) Reduce the $\frac{1}{4}$ mile to 100 feet on each side of the river.
- 3) Give the advisory board more power than just advising.

Feelings of Mayor Wagoner:

- 1) The people want to control their own destiny on the river.

- 2) He is not sure if erosion is really a problem.
- 3) Guides are also a commercial user of the fishery resource and are just as entitled to the fish as commercial fishermen.
- 4) Property owners should be listened to.
- 5) Supports CSSB 417.

Doug Blossom, commercial fisherman: Has two points:

- 1) CS takes power away from sport fish biologists to manage the river. Make sure that there is one person in charge of the fishing, not 3 or 4.
- 2) Write the bill so that it will fit other rivers in the state (state-wide river management bill).

Robert Wiseman: SB 416; 30% of sport fishermen that were guided were state residents, for more information he suggests a log book study by Mike Mills of ADF&G in Anchorage. SB 417; He feels that there are too many people in the river and they need a place to go.

Elmer Bird, property owner: Original SB 417 is bad, CS is better, but needs work concerning boats on the river and erosion by tide action.

Chuck Simpson, property owner: Original SB 417 is unacceptable, CS is more acceptable with some changes:

- 1) page 7, line 15, change "must" to "may" (this is already taken care of in the CS.)
- 2) page 7, line 17, delete "or privately owned".
- 3) page 8, line 11, delete "or any other lawful means".
- 4) page 8, lines 24-26, should include that the local advisory board should be represented by private property owners, guides, sport fishermen, and commercial fishermen.
- 5) Add on an enforcement clause in the bill.

Karen McGahan, Borough Assembly: Feels that a management plan shouldn't be adopted until there are public hearings. Sen. Gilman clarified that this is included in the CS.

Ted Carson: Opposed to CSSB 417. He feels there are conflicts in what is in the CS and what is already in use concerning regulations or authority. There should be some repealer language for duplication of agency regulations or authority. Also as far as guide regulation in 417, some regulation is already being enforced.

Kathy Renney, Great Alaska Fish Camp: Supports CSSB 417.

Sam McLain: Supports CSSB 417, but is apprehensive because he is disappointed with the Division of Parks regulation of Morgan's Landing.

Tim Hiner, Guide: SB 416 Does not recommend passage of SB 416.

- 1) He feels there should be more stringent time and days-of-the-week regulations for boat and guide fishing on the river.
- 2) There should be more enforcement on the river.
- 3) Put boat ramps to salt water in Ninilchik and Anchor Rivers to relieve activity on the Kenai River.
- 4) Also to relieve activity on the Kenai River, allow limited trawl fishery on Deep Creek and Anchor River.

Sharon Jean, Borough Assembly: Wants stronger language regarding local input in CSSB 417.

Tommy Corr, Borough Assembly: Neither version of SB 417 addresses the fact that local soil and water conservation boards could help erosion. Maybe there should be a property tax credit for property owners who do not develop their land. If a bill is not passed to manage the river, then the Borough will probably do something like passing a zoning ordinance.

Cherry Carson: Opposed to any state control over the river. Leave the matter alone. The local government should be more active.

Pat Bird: Would like a provision for people who lost land to erosion to be able to get it back and also wants funding for the Funny River Bridge to be in 417.

Alaska State Legislature

BETTYE FAHRENKAMP, Chairman
ROBERT H. ZIEGLER, SR., Vice Chairman
DICK ELIASON
PAUL FISCHER
VIC FISCHER
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Senate

Committee on Resources

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senate Resources Committee Members
FROM: Senate Resources Committee Staff
RE: Committee Meeting, March 21, 1984
DATE: March 19, 1984

On Wednesday, March 21st, at 3:00 pm in the Beltz Room, the Senate Resources Committee will hear the following bills:

SB 356, An Act establishing a preference right to land.

SB 356 amends the state's preference right statute to require the grant of a preference right under certain conditions. The bill defines those "past errors or omissions" of federal agencies to which this requirement would apply.

Current statute (AS 38.05.035(b)(2)) addresses errors and omissions of state and federal agencies, but leaves the granting of preference rights to the discretion of the Commissioner.

SB 417, An Act establishing the Kenai River Special Management Area; and providing for an effective date.

As recommended by the Kenai River Task Force in their March 1983 Statement of Findings, legislation (HCR 31) was passed last year that designated representatives of the Office of Management and Budget, the Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Fish and Game, the Department of Public Safety, and the Department of Environmental Conservation as an interagency task force to address the problems on the Kenai River. SB 417 is the result of the latter group's recommendation that a portion of the Kenai River (from Cook Inlet to Skilak Lake) be legislatively designated as a "special use area".

As a result of public hearings held in Kenai and Anchorage by the Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries on March 2nd and 3rd, a Committee Substitute has been prepared.

FACT SHEET
KENAI RIVER SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA

2/6/84

WHO WILL GAIN FROM THE CREATION OF A KENAI RIVER SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA?

The hundreds of thousands of recreationists who visit the river annually to fish, camp, hike, go boating or just enjoy the scenery, and those who hope to do so in the future.

WHY IS A SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA NEEDED?

The area proposed for special management is an exceptionally important natural resource that is being threatened by heavy use of the river itself and uncoordinated development along the river bank.

- It contains the most productive King Salmon stream in Alaska and is an important habitat for other salmon and freshwater fish and numerous species of wildlife.
- It is an increasingly popular recreational area for sportfishing and other activities. There are 198 guides registered to operate on the river.
- Power boat wakes and stream bank development have contributed to the erosion of the river's banks and the degradation of Salmon beds and other fish and wildlife habitat.
- Competition among the people who use the river for recreation and transportation creates over-crowded, hazardous, and unpleasant conditions. Conflicts among recreationists are common.
- The present system of management, which gives a number of State and federal agencies jurisdiction over various aspects of the river and adjacent public and private land, has failed to effectively prevent the deterioration of the river.
- In the past several years, State action to protect the river has been urged by private citizens, two task forces, and a legislative initiative.

WHAT DOES THE LEGISLATION PROPOSE AS SOLUTIONS TO THESE PROBLEMS?

It calls for the establishment of a special management unit that extends about 100 miles from the southeast end of Kenai Lake to the mouth of the Kenai River at the City of Kenai. The management area will incorporate the Kenai and Skilak lakes, the upper and lower Kenai River, 11 existing State Park units, and about 1,000 additional acres of State-owned land abutting the river. The Commissioner of Natural Resources is authorized to add other State-owned or acquired acreage to the management area if needed to protect and preserve the river's resources.

It institutes coordinated regulation, management and maintenance of the management area under the jurisdiction of the State Department of Natural Resources.

It designates as highest priority for the management area the production and use of the Kenai River fishery and wildlife resources. Fisheries management and research will continue to be the responsibility of the Board of Fish and the State Department of Fish and Game.

It requires the development of a comprehensive management plan for the river and the adjacent land within one-quarter mile of the river, whether public or private land, within two years, and allows the Commissioner of Natural Resources to review and disapprove local planning, platting, and zoning measures within the planning area. The plan, which will be coordinated by the Department of Natural Resources in cooperation with local, State and federal authorities, will (among other things):

- designate incompatible uses and prohibit or restrict them, and
- establish a registration, licensing or comparable procedure for professional fishing guides and other additional fishing guide controls as necessary.

It also requires that the Department of Natural Resources adopt regulations to implement the comprehensive plan, and gives the Commissioner of Natural Resources the authority to apply other relevant State regulations to the area until the comprehensive plan is completed.

It authorizes the Commissioner of Natural Resources to enter into cooperative agreements with federal agencies, municipalities, or private landowners to carry out the purposes of the act.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, call Dave Stephens at 265-4508 in Anchorage or Barbara Butts at 465-2400 in Juneau.

NOT IN C.S.

acquired by the State, and not used or intended exclusively for governmental purposes, constitute the state public domain. The legislature shall provide for the selection of lands granted to the State by the United States, and for the administration of the state public domain.

Special Purpose Sites

SECTION 7. The legislature may provide for the acquisition of sites, objects, and areas of natural beauty or of historic, cultural, recreational, or scientific value. It may reserve them from the public domain and provide for their administration and preservation for the use, enjoyment, and welfare of the people.

Leases

SECTION 8. The legislature may provide for the leasing of, and the issuance of permits for exploration of, any part of the public domain or interest therein, subject to reasonable concurrent uses. Leases and permits shall provide, among other conditions, for payment by the party at fault for damage or injury arising from noncompliance with terms governing concurrent use, and for forfeiture in the event of breach of conditions.

Sales and Grants

SECTION 9. Subject to the provisions of this section, the legislature may provide for the sale or grant of state lands, or interests therein, and establish sales procedures. All sales or grants shall contain such reservations to the State of all resources as may be required by Congress or the State and shall provide for access to these resources. Reservation of access shall not unnecessarily impair the owners' use, prevent the control of trespass, or preclude compensation for damages.

Public Notice

SECTION 10. No disposals or leases of state lands, or interests therein, shall be made without prior public notice and other safeguards of the public interest as may be prescribed by law.

Mineral Rights

SECTION 11. Discovery and appropriation shall be the basis for establishing a right in those miner-

Mineral
and Perm

Water Ri

City of Soldotna

BOX 409

PHONE 262-9107

SOLDOTNA, ALASKA 99669

FEB 24 1984



CITY OF OPPORTUNITY

February 21, 1984

The Honorable John Ringstad
Co-Chairman, House Resources Committee
State of Alaska
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Representative Ringstad:

The City Council of the City of Soldotna reviewed Senate Bill No. 417, "An Act establishing the Kenai River Special Management Area; and providing for an effective date" at its last council meeting, February 17, 1984.

The City agrees that a single state agency, a coordinated management, as proposed by the bill, is a most reasonable and sensible step to take, due to the multitude of regulatory agencies and the diversity of problems. The City can readily agree with the premise that the fishery, wildlife and scenic values of the Kenai River must be protected for the maximum benefit of all Alaskans. But, we do not agree that the bill should be enacted in its present form. Modifications need to be made.

We do not concur with lines 21 to 27, page 7. Section 41.21.506 Comprehensive Management Plan; Regulations of SB 417. A distance of one-quarter mile upland for privately owned property is excessive. We feel that 100 feet along the Kenai River would provide all the protection necessary for the purposes of the act. Any development that may be considered within the 100 foot distance should require the approval of the Commissioner to assure that no degradation of the Kenai River would occur.

Were one to measure a one-quarter mile distance upland along the Kenai River the distance would encompass the Sterling Highway and parts of Kalifornsky Beach Road and Funny River Road. It would also embrace hotels, restaurants, gas stations and many small businesses on both sides of the Sterling Highway that are the heart of the Soldotna business district.

Section 41.21.508, Additional Land, should have assurance that no private property will be obtained through eminent domain for the purpose of this Act.

Sincerely,

Justin G. Maile

Justin G. Maile
Mayor

City Council Members:

Carol P. Bailey

Carol P. Bailey

Dolly M. Farnsworth

Dolly M. Farnsworth

Vernon W. Gehrke

Vernon W. Gehrke

Out of State

Floyd E. Heimbuch

Peter E. Larson

Peter E. Larson

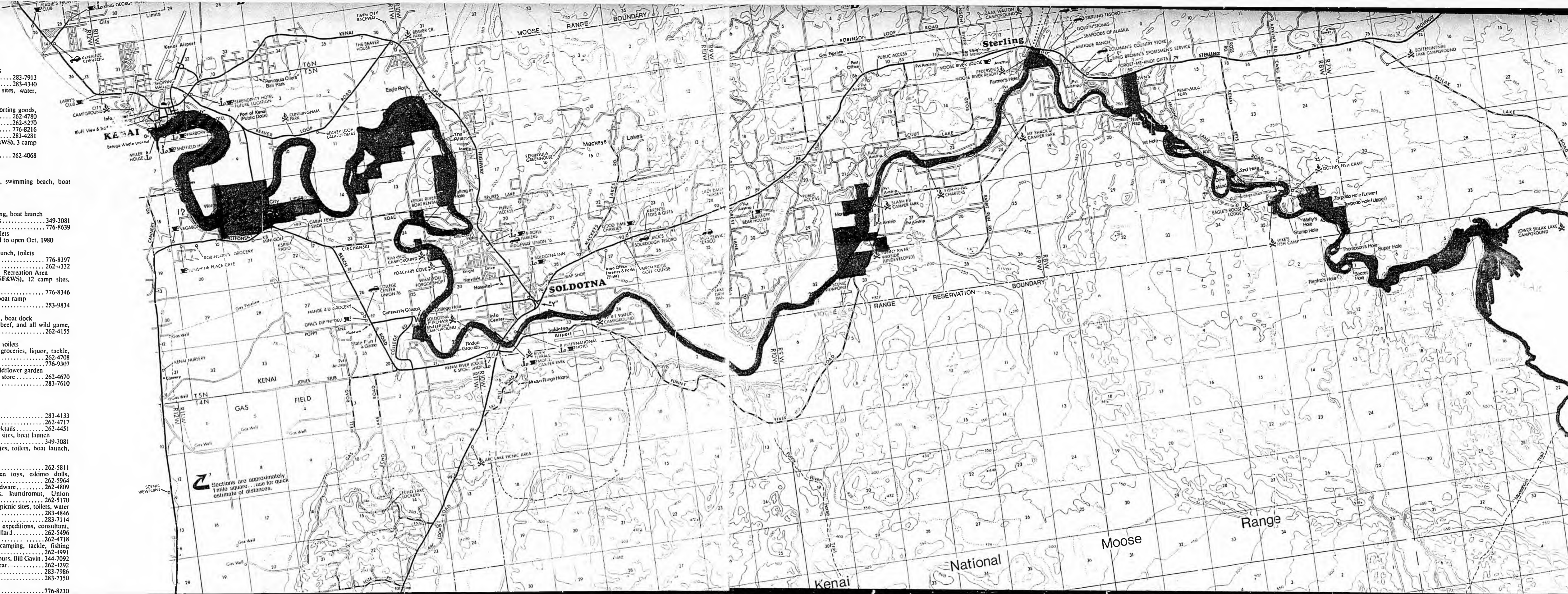
M. Scott McLane

M. Scott McLane

FACILITIES INDEX

- ALASKA BEE SUPPLY, honey, gifts, bee supplies, pollinator services 262-4904
- ANTIQUE RANCH, gifts, antiques, reproductions 262-5383
- ARC LAKE PICNIC AREA, boat launch, swimming, camping
- BEAVER CREEK PARK (city), picnic area, toilets
- THE BEAVER HOUSE, gifts, museum 283-7913
- BEAVER LOOP LAUNDROMAT 283-4340
- BERNICE LAKE WAYSIDE (state), 11 camp sites, water, toilets, boat launch, swimming
- BING BROWN'S LANDING, boat launch
- BING BROWN'S SPORTSMEN'S SERVICE, sporting goods, motel, showers, dump station, laundry 262-4780
- BIRCH RIDGE GOLF COURSE 262-5270
- BISHOP CREEK BAR, liquor store 776-8216
- BLUE GROUSE DRIVE INN, lunch, dinners 283-4281
- BOTTENHINTNIN LAKE CAMPGROUND (USF&WS), 3 camp sites, toilets, boat launch
- CABIN FEVER SHOP, art and craft supplies 262-4068
- CAPTAIN COOK RECREATION AREA (state)
- DISCOVERY CAMPGROUND, 57 sites
- PICNIC AREA, 28 sites
- STORMY LAKE, 10 camp sites, 40 picnic sites, swimming beach, boat launch, shelter
- BISHOP CREEK, 15 tent sites
- All facilities have toilets and drinking water.
- CEK IN ARK LODGE, restaurant, bar
- CENTENNIAL LAKE PICNIC WAYSIDE, parking, boat launch
- CHINOOK CHARTERS, Kenai River fishing guides 349-3081
- CHUUK WAGEN, cafe 776-8639
- CITY CAMPGROUND (Kenai), 30 camp sites, toilets
- COHOE BEACH WAYSIDE (proposed) scheduled to open Oct. 1980
- COLLEGE CENTER UNION 76
- CUNNINGHAM PARK (city), picnic sites, boat launch, toilets
- D J'S LUNCHROOM 776-8397
- DE CANTER INN, cafe, bar, liquor store 262-4332
- DISCOVERY CAMPGROUND, see Captain Cook Recreation Area
- DOLLY VARDEN LAKE CAMPGROUND (USF&WS), 12 camp sites, water, toilets, boat ramp
- DON'S LAMPLIGHT CHEVRON 776-8346
- DOTTIE'S FISH CAMP, campers, cabins, meals, boat ramp
- EAGLES FRONTIER CLUB, bar, liquor store 283-9834
- EAGLE ROCK, boat launching, camping
- EAGLE'S ROOST LODGE, by reservation, cabins, boat dock
- ECHO LAKE LOCKERS, processing fish, pork, beef, and all wild game, sausage 262-4155
- EGUMEN LAKE WAYSIDE, large parking area
- FISH LAKE CAMPSITE (USF&WS), 3 campsites, toilets
- FISH-N-PAL CHARTERS, camper sites, cabins, groceries, liquor, tackle, Jack L. Stafford 262-4708
- 4 LANDS BAR, liquor store, motel 776-9307
- FORGET-ME-KNOT GIFTS, jewelry, carvings, wildflower garden
- 4-ROYLE PARKERS, motel, restaurant, bar, liquor store 262-4670
- FRONTIER UNION, and car wash 283-7610
- FUNNY RIVER WAYSIDE (state), Undeveloped
- GOLD'N-STONES JADE and ROCK SHOP
- GOOD TIME CHARLIES, bar
- HANDE 4 U GROCERY, convenience groceries
- HARBOR VIEW HOTEL, restaurant, bar 283-4133
- ICY SEA, seafood - wholesale, retail 262-4717
- INTERNATIONAL HOTEL, restaurant, motel, cocktails 262-4451
- IZAAK WALTON CAMPGROUND (state), camp sites, boat launch
- J & B CHARTERS, Kenai River fishing guides 349-3081
- JOHNSON LAKE WAYSIDE (state), 20 camp sites, toilets, boat launch, swimming
- K B MINI GOLF
- KSRM RADIO STATION, 920khz 262-5811
- KAREN'S TOYS & GIFTS, stuffed & wooden toys, eskimo dolls, paintings 262-5964
- KASILOF GENERAL STORE, P.O., groceries, hardware 262-4809
- KASILOF RIVERVIEW, restaurant, showers, laundromat, Union 76 262-5170
- KASILOF RIVER WAYSIDE (state), 10 camp & 3 picnic sites, toilets, water
- KATMAI MOTEL, restaurant, bar 283-4846
- KENAI DRUG STORE 283-7114
- KENAI GUIDE SERVICE, hunting, backpacking expeditions, consultant, trip planning, best routes, transportation, George Pollar J. 262-5496
- KENAI NURSERY, plants, shrubs, garden supplies 262-4718
- KENAI RIVER BOAT RENTAL, boat launch, camping, tackle, fishing guides 262-4991
- KENAI RIVER CHARTERS, sport fishing & river tours, Bill Gavin 344-7092
- KENAI RIVER LODGE, motel, fishing & hunting gear 262-4292
- KENAITZ CHEVRON, diesel, propane 283-7986
- KING GEORGE HOTEL, restaurant, bar 283-7350
- LAKESIDE DRIVING RANGE
- LAMPLIGHT BAR, liquor store 776-8230

Sections are approximately 1 mile square... use for quick estimate of distances.



Suggested by: Mayor Tom Wagoner

CITY OF KENAI

RESOLUTION NO. 84-31

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENAI, ALASKA, URGING THE 13TH ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE TO ADOPT CSSB 417 WHICH IS DESIGNED TO REMEDY MANY OF THE PROBLEMS THAT PRESENTLY EXIST IN CONNECTION WITH THE KENAI RIVER.

WHEREAS, one of the Governor's top priorities is to find a solution to the many problems that have evolved because of the increased pressure on the Kenai River system by sports and commercial fishing, and

WHEREAS, the Governor wishes to solve these problems in a manner which will be beneficial both to the State of Alaska, it's citizens, and our major renewable resource, the fishing industry, and

WHEREAS, CSSB 417 has eliminated most of the objectionable sections of Senate Bill 417 by not usurping local government's powers and by eliminating the section that would have permitted the State Department of Natural Resources confiscatory powers over local citizens' property rights, and

WHEREAS, CSSB 417 seems to be a logical approach to the preservation of one of Alaska's natural beauties, sources of income, and natural resources, and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Kenai is anxious to cooperate and address an existing problem in cooperation with other governmental agencies that will ultimately be beneficial both to Alaska and her citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENAI, ALASKA, does hereby respectfully request the 13th Alaska State Legislature to adopt CSSB 417 as a means by which all Alaskans, Alaska's beauty, and Alaska's natural resources may be preserved for future generations.

STATE OF ALASKA 1984 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date: _____

REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No.: SB 417
 Title: "An act relating to Kenai River Special Management Area."
 Sponsor: Sen. Rules/Request by
 Requestor: Sen. Res. Governor
 Date of Request: 2-9-84

FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected: Public Safety
 Program Category Affected: Admin. of Justice/Natural Resources
 BRU, Program or Subprogram(s) Affected: Alaska State Troopers / Fish & Wildlife Protection

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89
OPERATING						
100 PERSONAL SERVICES						
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL						
400 SUPPLIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS						
800 MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CAPITAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
REVENUE						

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL						

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

SOURCE OF FUNDS TO OFFSET FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL:

ANALYSIS: Attach a separate page for analysis

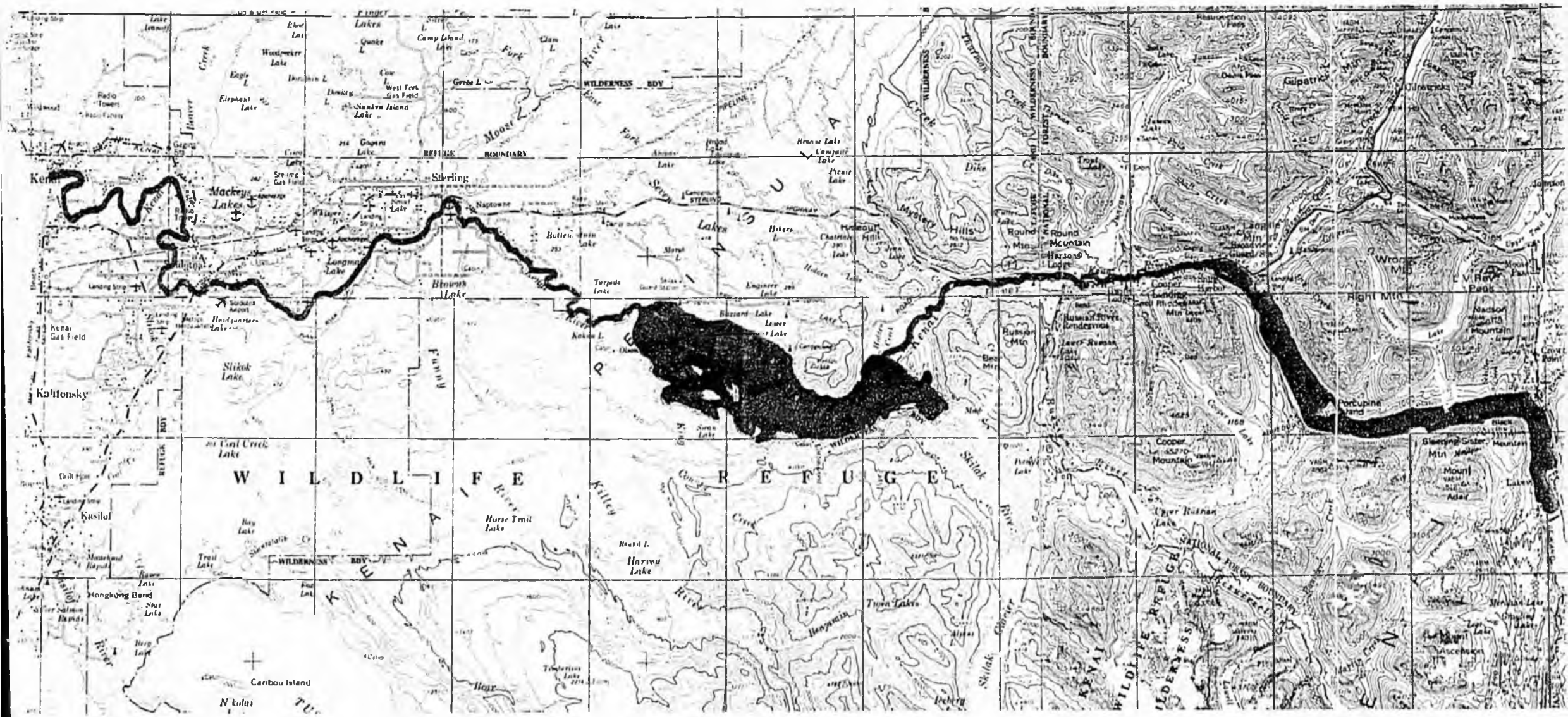
Prepared By: Francis C. Allan/Captain W. Fleek Phone: 269-5691
 Division: AK State Troopers/Fish & Wildlife Prot. Date: 02/06/84

Approved by Commissioner: Robert J. Sundberg Date: 2/6/84
 Agency: Public Safety

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note):

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor
- Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)

FEB 13 1984 12/1/83





Official Business

Alaska State Legislature

Senate

RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

Pouch V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811

March 15, 1984

TO: Senator Bettye Fahrenkamp, Chairman
Senate Resources Committee

FROM: Senate Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries

SUBJ: SB 417 and proposed CS for SB 417

The subcommittee has taken testimony and reports SB 417 back to the committee as a whole with the following recommendations.

Members	Recommendation
Senator Mulcahy	No Pass
Senator Eliason	u a
Senator Gilman	No Pass

Letter of Intent
for CS SB 417(Resources)

It is the intent of the Legislature that the management plan described in AS 41.21.506 be developed jointly by the Commissioner of Natural Resources and the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

Alaska State Legislature

BETTYE FAHRENKAMP, Chairman
ROBERT H. ZIEGLER, SR., Vice Chairman
DICK ELIASON
PAUL FISCHER
VIC FISCHER
BOB MULCAHY
ARLISS STURGULEWSKI



POUCH V
STATE CAPITAL
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
(907) 465-3834
(907) 465-3835

Senate

Committee on Resources

MINUTES

March 21, 1984
3:16 pm

Senate Finance
Fifth floor, Capitol

MEMBERS PRESENT

Senator Fahrenkamp, Chairman
Senator Ziegler, Vice Chairman
Senator Paul Fischer
Senator Vic Fischer
Senator Mulcahy
Senator Sturgulewski
Senator Gilman (Subcommittee on Fisheries)

CALENDAR

SB 297, An Act establishing the land clearing account in the agricultural revolving loan fund; and providing for an effective date.

SB 298, An Act making a continuing appropriation of repayments of the principal and interest on loans made by the Alaska Agricultural Action Council for land clearing to the land clearing account in the agricultural revolving loan fund; and providing for an effective date.

SB 417, An Act establishing the Kenai River Special Management Area.

SB 417

Esther Wunnicke, Commissioner, Department of Natural Resources, explained that this bill is the result of recommendations made by the Kenai River Task Force and Legislative Resolve #26, and is supported by the Department as an important step in solving the problems on the Kenai River.

Neil Johannsen, Director, Division of Parks, Department of Natural Resources, explained that the Committee Substitute is the result of meetings with interest groups, property owners, the Kenai Peninsula Borough, and the Kenai legislative delegation. It attempts to solve the problems of conflicting user groups and consolidates management of the area under the Division of Parks.

Senator Mulcahy moved to adopt CS SB 417. There was no objection.

Senator Gilman reviewed the testimony given at the Subcommittee on Fisheries hearings held in Kenai on March 2nd and in Anchorage on March 3rd. He introduced a proposed letter of intent clarifying how the management plan would be developed.

Thomas Boedeker, Attorney for the Kenai Peninsula Borough, spoke in support of the bill as it allows for significant local input.

Bob Sizemore, Alaska Environmental Lobby, Kenai, spoke in support of the bill, but urged more efforts be made to control bank erosion and pesticide use, and to provide for more public involvement.

Senator Mulcahy moved to adopt the letter of intent for CS SB 417 and to move CS SB 417 from committee with individual recommendations. There was no objection.

SB 297
SB 298

Senator Moss introduced members of the Delta II Agricultural Project delegation and explained that legislation is being drafted that would support successful farmers by granting a delay in land payments to those with crops in production.

Charles Trowbridge, Delta II farmer, testified that the farmers are just asking for some "breathing room" on their land payments, and feel they will be successful without further state financing. He discussed their progress in marketing grain in-state.

Dick Jensen, Delta II farmer, felt that many loans had been made to inexperienced farmers.

Sharon Barton, Special Assistant to the Commissioner of Natural Resources, spoke in support of SB 297 and SB 298.

Senator Paul Fischer moved SB 297 and SB 298 from committee with individual recommendations. There was no objection.

The meeting adjourned at 4:14 pm.



20417

STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
JUNEAU

February 7, 1984

The Honorable Jalmar Kerttula
Alaska State Senate
Pouch V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Senator Kerttula:

Under the authority of art. III, sec. 18, of the Alaska Constitution, I am transmitting a bill relating to the management of the Kenai River. The bill addresses the problems on the river as pointed out by (1) the Kenai River Task Force; (2) the interagency task force composed of the Office of Management and Budget, and the Departments of Natural Resources, Fish and Game, Public Safety, and Environmental Conservation; and (3) 1983 Legislative Resolve No. 26.

Section 1 of the bill restates the findings of 1983 Legislative Resolve No. 26, and adds the two task forces' finding that the highest priority resources of the Kenai River are its fishery and wildlife.

Section 2 contains the body of the bill. It first states the purposes of the bill. It then adds new provisions to AS 41.21 which are intended to do three things. First, new AS 41.21.502 creates the Kenai River Special Management Area, composed of state-owned land and water from the Kenai River's confluence with Cook Inlet upstream to and including the Kenai and Skilak Lakes. Included within the described area is state land already managed by the division of parks and outdoor recreation, of the Department of Natural Resources, and additional, adjacent state land either already owned or selected and soon to be in state ownership.

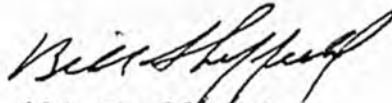
Second, new AS 41.21.504(a) assigns the Area's interim and long-term management and regulatory control to the Department of Natural Resources, with the intent that through cooperative management agreements with other local, state, and federal agencies that department will bring sensible, coordinated management to the Kenai River and its resources. It is anticipated that this function will be administered by the division of parks and outdoor recreation. New AS 41.21.504(b) ensures that the Department of Fish and Game, the Boards of Fisheries and Game, the Department of Environmental Conservation, and other state agencies, as well as municipalities, will retain their respective management, regulatory, and enforcement responsibilities. Cooperative agreements under new AS 41.21.512 will provide appropriate coordination.

Third, under new AS 41.21.506(a) and (b), the commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources is directed to develop and adopt within two years a long-range comprehensive management plan for the Kenai River Special Management Area, the shoreland of the Kenai River up to one-quarter mile on each side, and any additional public and private land that is crucial to the overall purposes of the bill. The commissioner is directed to use the department's regulatory authority to protect the river corridor and to implement the plan. New regulations must identify and control incompatible uses, and deal with the increasing difficulties associated with a proliferation of professional fishing guides on the Kenai River. Regulations adopted to implement the plan may, on private land, regulate activities that are inconsistent with the purposes of the bill or the plan. During the period of the development and implementation of the plan, it is hoped that the affected local governments will adequately exercise their planning, platting, and zoning powers granted in AS 29 so that the commissioner's regulatory power over private land-use activities need not be used. To that end, in developing and implementing the plan the commissioner is directed, in new AS 41.21.510, to appoint an advisory board and to continuously consult with relevant federal, state, and local government agencies, and with private interest groups and individuals. The commissioner is further authorized, under new AS 41.21.512, to enter into cooperative agreements not only with other government agencies but also with private landowners in order to simplify sound management of the Kenai River.

Section 3 of the bill explicitly provides the commissioner with authority to seek, through the attorney general's office, civil enforcement of regulations adopted under AS 41.21.500 -- 41.21.512, regarding the Kenai River Special Management Area, and other regulations applied to the Area.

Given the increasing problems and conflicts on the Kenai River, I urge your prompt action on this measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bill Sheffield".

Bill Sheffield
Governor

SB 417

SB 417 - AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE KENAI RIVER SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA:
AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 31, PASSED IN 1983, ESTABLISHED AN
INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEMS ON THE KENAI RIVER.

SENATE BILL 417 IS THE RESULT OF THE GROUP'S RECOMMENDATION THAT A
PORTION OF THE KENAI RIVER (FROM COOK INLET TO KENAI LAKE) BE
LEGISLATIVELY DESIGNATED AS A "SPECIAL USE AREA".

THE RESOURCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE WAS PREPARED AS A RESULT OF EXTENSIVE
HEARINGS HELD IN KENAI AND ANCHORAGE BY THE RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE ON
FISHERIES.

*THE SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA IS COMPOSED OF STATE-OWNED LAND AND WATER.

*THEY'VE ESTABLISHED THAT THE TWO HIGHEST PRIORITIES ARE FISHERY AND
WILDLIFE.

*THE LAND IS CLOSED TO MINERAL LEASING EXCEPT FOR OIL AND GAS.

*DNR HAS PRIMARY MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY. HOWEVER, IT IS IMPORTANT TO
NOTE THAT THIS WILL NOT AFFECT THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME AND THE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION'S REGULATORY AUTHORITY.

*THE PLAN WILL BE DEVELOPED IN CONSULTATION WITH THE KENAI BOROUGH

*DNR MUST ADOPT REGULATION TO DESIGNATE INCOMPATIBLE USES AND TO
ESTABLISH A REGISTRATION PROCEDURE FOR PROFESSIONAL FISHING GUIDES.

*THERE IS A LETTER OF INTENT TO BE MOVED WITH THE BILL.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

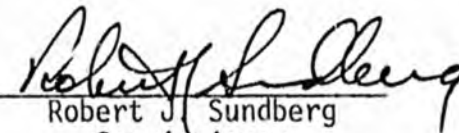
POSITION PAPER - SB 417

Support

February 6, 1984

SB 417 - "An Act establishing the Kenai River Special Management Area; and providing for an effective date."

The creation of the Kenai River Special Management Area will require law enforcement efforts implementing the regulations developed by Department of Fish and Game and Department of Natural Resources to protect the resources within the area. Regulations have not yet been drafted, thus the impact on Alaska State Troopers and Fish and Wildlife Protection is not yet known but it is expected to be minimal.


Robert J. Sundberg
Commissioner

Alaska State Legislature

BETTYE FAHRENKAMP, Chairman,
ROBERT H. ZIEGLER, SR., Vice Chairman
DICK ELIASON
PAUL FISCHER
VIC FISCHER
BOB MULCAHY
ARLISS STURGULEWSKI



POUCH V
STATE CAPITAL
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
(907) 465-3834
(907) 465-3835

Senate

Committee on Resources

MAJOR PROVISIONS OF SB 417

SB 417

States the finding of the two task forces that the highest priority resources of the Kenai River are its fishery and wildlife.

Closes lands in the Special Use Area to multiple purpose use.

Closes lands to mineral entry.

Gives DNR primary management responsibility.

Management plan must be developed and adopted within two years.

Includes lands to a distance of 1/4 mile upland on each side of the river.

DNR must adopt regulations to designate incompatible uses and to establish a registration procedure for professional fishing guides.

Gives DNR "veto power" over local planning and zoning activities to assure consistency with the Special Use Area.

Additional land may be acquired through any lawful means.

In developing the management plan, DNR will consult with an advisory board and hold public hearings.

Committee Substitute

Same as original bill.

Lands remain open to multiple purpose use.

Closes except for oil and gas leasing.

Same as original bill.

Specifies that plan must be developed in consultation with Kenai Peninsula Borough.

Adjacent land may be included.

Same as original bill.

This provision is removed. Clarifies that regulations adopted apply only to state-owned land.

Additional land may not be acquired through eminent domain.

A majority of the members of the advisory group must be residents of the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

(HCR 31)

Legislative Resolve 26 Kenai River Study Group
October 11, 1983 Meeting Summary

State agency representatives that have been designated to address the issues identified in Legislative Resolve 26 (e.g., see distribution) met in Anchorage on October 11, 1983. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the various problems that exist on the Kenai River, review the previous recommendations of the Kenai River Task Force, assign tasks among the study group and develop a strategy for implementing Legislative Resolve 26 (LR 26).

In reviewing each of the issues identified in LR 26, the "LR 26 study group" discussed the importance of each issue and the amount of effort that would be necessary to adequately address each one. With regard to each of the seven issues identified in LR 26, the following is a summary of the discussion and recommendations that were made:

LR 26 Issue (1). Solicit and consider information from Federal agencies, local governments, industries, landowners, persons engaged in fishing, and others who have an interest in the Kenai River.

The Kenai River Task Force, during its' six months of existence, sufficiently addressed the need to solicit and consider information from government agencies or the public sector. The Task Force received written comments from nearly 400 individuals or agencies and had a total of 392 persons sign in for at least one of several public meetings that were conducted in the Kenai area. Furthermore, over 200 petition signatures, favoring various positions or recommendations of the Task Force, were also submitted. As stated in the Executive Summary of the Final Kenai River Task Force Report, "the work of the Task Force was in every sense of the word a truly public process from beginning to end."

In addition to the extensive involvement of the public by the Kenai River Task Force, the State also conducted several public opinion surveys and a series of public meetings to gather comments and information for consideration during preparation of the Kenai River State Park Units Master Plan.

Conclusion: Sufficient public involvement regarding identification of issues, information, and recommendations from the public section has already occurred. Therefore, the "study group" did not feel that it was necessary to spend additional time addressing this issue. It will likely be necessary to consult with the public section once specific recommendations have been developed.

LR 26 Issue (2). Make a comprehensive study of State and Federal laws affecting the Kenai River, users of the river, land adjacent to the river, and fish and wildlife resources dependent on the river.

The Kenai River State Park Units Master Plan summarizes the various State and Federal agencies having responsibility for the Kenai River. The Master Plan also discusses the public's overriding concern for the lack of any comprehensive management of the river. As described in both the Master Plan and the Kenai River Task Force Report, ~~approximately twenty agencies~~ ~~are involved in managing the Kenai River and its resources.~~ Each of these agencies, their responsibilities or area of expertise and areas of overlapping or conflicting jurisdiction, are described in the Master Plan.

In an effort to inform the public of the primary State and Federal agencies having authority or jurisdiction on the Kenai River, and their respective responsibilities and mandates, a public information program should be developed and implemented. The comprehensive plan, mentioned under item (1) of LR 26 Issue (6), should address this issue.

Conclusion: A general review of State, Federal and local laws affecting the Kenai River and its users has already been completed as part of the Kenai River State Park Units Master Plan. However, a public information program should be implemented to inform local residents and users of the various State, Federal and local jurisdictions and policies for the Kenai River.

LR 26 Issue (3). Identify areas of overlapping or conflicting jurisdiction among State and Federal agencies that have jurisdiction over the Kenai River.

Refer to Issue (2) above.

LR 26 Issue (4). Identify Kenai River problems over which no agency has jurisdiction.

~~Another major public concern is the lack of comprehensive management of the Kenai River.~~ While various public agencies have specific responsibilities for protection of the Kenai River and its resources, none of these agencies exercise the necessary pre-planning, overall management, or coordination function. Thus, various land and water-use proposals and developments are evaluated as they occur and managed only from a very narrow perspective. Because many of these developments and activities have secondary or cumulative effects, the Kenai River has suffered from a lack of comprehensive management.

Conclusion: A major problem over which no agency has jurisdiction is the overall management of the Kenai River. Furthermore, State agencies have not been provided with established policies or criteria for management decisions relating to development and use of the River. A single State agency should assume the overall coordinating function and management of the river. This approach could eliminate or substantially reduce much of the habitat degradation and user-conflicts now being experienced due to separate site-specific or use-specific management.

LR 26 (5). Publish a list of priorities for the uses of the Kenai River.

Refer to Issue (6) below.

LR 26 Issue (6). Recommend, in a coordinated and comprehensive manner, regulations to be adopted or actions to be taken by State and Federal agencies to address the problems of the Kenai River.

As a final product of their efforts, the Kenai River Task Force produced a Final Statement of Findings and a Summary of Recommendations. Having reviewed the recommendations contained in the final Task Force report, the "LR 26 study group" felt that they provided a good basis from which to consider and recommend possible solutions to the major problems facing the Kenai River. Therefore, the following recommendations and priorities were made only after careful consideration and examination of each of the issues and recommendations contained in the final Kenai River Task Force report.

- (1) ~~The State of Alaska should adopt legislation designating that portion of the Kenai River, from the mouth of Skilak Lake to Coe Inlet, as a "Special Use Area."~~
The legislation would require preparation and adoption of a comprehensive plan, describing management of the Kenai River Special Use area. The plan, developed cooperatively by State and local governments, would identify and address the following concerns or issues:
 - (a) ~~designation of a local agency or entity, such as the Division of Parks, to be responsible for managing and regulating the Kenai River Special Use area;~~
 - (b) ~~declare that the highest priority use of the Kenai River as being the production and use of its fishery and wildlife resources, with all other uses to be balanced against that declaration;~~

- (c) the extent and type of development that each segment of the Kenai River Special Use area could support;
- (d) procedures and policies for sound management, restoration, rehabilitation and regulation of the Kenai River and its adjacent critical habitats;
- (e) additional research or studies that may be necessary to support rational management decisions;
- (f) potential impacts of upstream development activities on the designated "Special Use Area;"
- (g) the lack of sufficient enforcement capabilities and the need for additional legal assistance in matters regarding permit violation and the enforcement of regulations designed to protect habitat and/or fish stocks;
- (h) the need for additional access to the Kenai River and other areas in an effort to distribute existing pressure and reduce conflicts between anglers and landowners;
- (i) the need for a public information and boating safety program in addition to increased public safety measures;
- (j) development of necessary cooperative agreements with State and Federal agencies and private landowners.

Conclusion: The State of Alaska should adopt legislation designating a portion of the Kenai River as a "Special Use Area." The legislation should require the preparation and adoption of a comprehensive management plan. The plan should be developed by the State, in cooperation with local governments, and should address issues (a) through (h) identified above.

The authority to establish fisheries regulations and make recommendations affecting the allocation of the Cook Inlet Salmon resource should continue to remain with the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

LR 26 Issue (7). Report the findings and recommendations to the Second Session of the Thirteenth Alaska State Legislature.

To be completed.



BING'S LANDING

PUBLIC SITE (NOW STATE PARK) FOR 25 YEARS +

APPROX. MILE 40 KENAI RIVER



PRIVATE PROPERTY - POSTED NO TRESPASSING

NOV 14, 1983

RIVER IS NORMALLY FROZEN

HONEYMOON COVE

MILE 13 KENAI RIVER



POSTED NO TRESSPASSING
PRIVATE PROPERTY

NOV 14, 1983

RIVER IS NORMALLY FROZEN

HONEYMOON COVE

MILE 13 KENAI RIVER



PRIVATE PROPERTY
POSTED NO TRESPASSING

NOV 14, 1983

RIVER IS NORMALLY FROZEN

HONEYMOON COVE

MILE 13 KENAI RIVER

Kenai River bill seen on way to quick approval

By RONNIE CHAPPELL
Daily News correspondent

KENAI — A bill designed to control rampant development and heavy boat traffic on the Kenai River has cleared the Senate Resources Committee on a unanimous vote and is now poised for quick legislative approval, State Parks Director Neil Johannsen said Thursday.

The approval came after state and local officials hammered out a compromise Wednesday that gives the Kenai Peninsula Borough an important role in drafting a comprehensive management plan for the river. Borough residents will comprise a majority of the advisory board appointed to help write the plan.

Regulations drafted for the management area would apply to the river and state owned land along its banks. Private property could be regulated if the borough incorporated the regulations in a local zoning ordinance.

An industrial (fish processing) area downstream of the Warren Ames Memorial Bridge in Kenai will be excluded from the proposed management area, and management area boundaries elsewhere on the river will be jointly determined by the borough and the state.

Finally, the compromise eliminates language that gave the Commissioner of Natural Resources the authority to control development within a quarter-mile of the river through veto of local planning and zoning decisions.

According to Johannsen, all four members of the Peninsula's legislative delegation now support the bill.

Wednesday night, the Kenai City Council, which opposed the original bill, passed a resolution saying the substitute measure "seems to be a logical approach to the preservation of one of Alaska's natural beauties, sources of income and natural resources."

The measure has also been endorsed by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Marine Fisheries Service, the Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Forest Service.

In a joint letter sent to Gov. Bill Sheffield, the federal agencies underscored their

comprehensive plan.

Senate Bill 417 must now go to the Senate Finance Committee and clear the Senate Rules Committee before being sent to the Senate floor.

Johannsen was scheduled to meet with Finance Chairman Don Bennett of Fairbanks late Thursday. Rules Committee Chairman Jen Faiks has promised a "fast turnaround on the bill," he said.

"It's in as good a repair as any piece of legislation I've seen," Johannsen added.

A bill appropriating \$160,

000 for preparation of the comprehensive plan has already cleared the legislature, Johannsen said, and is now on the governor's desk.

"There's no question that he's going to sign it."

A \$386,700 operating budget for the management of the Kenai River by the Division of Parks has been reported out of the House and is now being worked on by the Senate.

The bill provides for the purchase of high speed patrol boats and the hiring of two full-time park rangers. The

rangers will assist in development of the management plan, set up a one-stop permitting clearing house for landowners and supervise the activities seven summer season rangers who will be assigned to Kenai.

Johannsen believes creation of the Kenai River Special Management Area will benefit the one local landowners.

"I'm convinced this will increase property values along the river," Johannsen said. "But it will also protect the river."

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Administrative
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Sec. 41.21.025. Zoning of private land within state parks. (a) The department may adopt, under the Administrative Procedure Act (AS 44.62), zoning regulations governing private property within the boundaries of state parks established under this chapter.

(b) Land patented to or under interim conveyance to a regional or village native corporation under 43 U.S.C. 1601-1628 (P.L. 92-203, Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act) which falls within a state park boundary is subject to the zoning regulations provided for under (a) of this section only if the affected regional or village native corporation consents to or fails to reject the zoning regulations within 60 days from the date they are submitted to the effected corporation.

59

(c) Uses existing on June 25, 1976 are not affected by zoning regulations adopted after June 25, 1976. (§ 1 ch 250 SLA 1976)

Revisor's notes. — Formerly AS
41.20.025. Renumbered in 1983.

Sec. 41.21.030. Disposition of funds. All money received from the operation of parks and recreational facilities, including money from concessions, rentals, or donations, shall be deposited in the general fund of the state. (§ 3 ch 158 SLA 1959)

Revisor's notes. — Formerly AS
41.20.030. Renumbered in 1983.

Sec. 41.21.040. Division within department. The commissioner may establish within the department a separate division to perform the functions relative to parks and recreational facilities specified in AS 41.21.010 — 41.21.040 and related or additional functions as are otherwise assigned to the department by law. (§ 4 ch 158 SLA 1959)

Revisor's notes. — Formerly AS 41.20.040. Renumbered in 1983. was established in 1970 under the authority given in this section.
Editor's notes. — A division of parks

City of Soldotna

BOX 409

PHONE 262-9107

SOLDOTNA, ALASKA 99669



CITY OF OPPORTUNITY

April 9, 1984

The Honorable Bettye Fahrenkamp
Chairman, Resources Committee
Alaska State Senate
Pouch V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Senator Fahrenkamp:

The City of Soldotna may have been a little remiss in informing everyone that we do in fact support the Substitute Bill for Senate Bill No. 417, An Act establishing the Kenai River Special Management Area.

At the Senate Committee hearing in Kenai, I personally testified for the City of Soldotna in support of the substitute bill.

The very problems that were our previous concerns, the one quarter mile management width and the use of eminent domain have been removed from the substitute bill.

Other concerns were voiced that have been accommodated.

So we join with others voicing our support of the substitute bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Justin G. Maile".

Justin G. Maile
Mayor

JGM:mg

APR 12 1984

FINAL
STATEMENT OF FINDINGS
OF THE
KENAI RIVER TASK FORCE

Submitted:
MARCH, 1983

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

The Kenai River Task Force believes in the value of the Kenai River as a significant natural, recreational and economic resource. The Task Force is unequivocally convinced of the need for immediate and sustained efforts to assure the resource will survive the pressures it is experiencing and will experience in increasing amounts in the future.

The final recommendations which have preceeded this section of the report fall into four broad categories; establishment of some comprehensive and long-range programs intended to prevent the River from reaching a point where its future is in question, increased funding to make possible the full implementation of programs for which the structure presently exists, enactment of specific new steps directed at remedying some of the more damaging activities currently taking place and an immediate and ongoing public awareness program.

It was clear to the Task Force that many of the recommendations outlined earlier, if they were all implemented, would only serve as a "holding action" against the use pressures being placed on the Kenai River. The ultimate victory which would assure the future of the Kenai River in a healthy and productive condition will depend on organized and sustained stewardship. To achieve that stewardship will require the formation of long-range programs that are not now in place. To address this perspective the Task Force makes the following recommendations.

* Create a Kenai River Commission or Authority outside of any existing agency. The Commission could coordinate programs and attempt to resolve disputes between various governmental units; serve as a clearinghouse for permit applications; perform appropriate planning functions and make recommendations with respect to how proposed activities along the River conform to the declared primary function of the River. The creation of a River Commission could eliminate much of the existing and potential conflict through the creation of a Master Plan for Kenai River development and associated land use practices.

The plan would detail the amount and kinds of development that each segment of the watershed could support and establish a procedure to restore, rehabilitate and regulate particular land areas affecting Kenai River habitat. This plan would have the maintenance of wild-life and wildlife habitat as an important component and would protect habitat by removing structures known to be accelerating erosion and by repairing and stabilizing banks which have unusually high rates of erosion. As guidance for the Commission in the preparation of this plan, the task force recommends as a minimum the documents cited in the preliminary recommendations on this issue. [ISSUE A: Page 7]

* Make a legislative declaration that the highest and best use of the Kenai River is the production and use of its fishery and wildlife resources; all other uses to be tested against that declaration. Such a declaration could eliminate conflict between competing water demands at an early stage, before such conflict diminishes either the River or its highest and best use. [ISSUE B: Page 10]

* Establish a Guide Board for the Kenai River to set and enforce qualifications; limit the continued growth in the number of guides; establish an optimal number of guides and establish a mechanism to adjust the number of guides to that optimal number. [ISSUE D: Page 14]

* Establish the non-transferability of guide licenses and a procedure whereby they are returned to the State when not used for a specified period of time and/or not used to guide a specified minimal number of clients annually. [ISSUE D: Page 14]

* Establish a special Task Force to study and make recommendations concerning the allocation of the Cook Inlet salmon resource with particular reference to its affect on the Kenai River fishery resource. [ISSUE E: Page 16]

Throughout this process it has been clear that prior consideration of the problems of the Kenai River had led to the establishment of programs within existing agencies to control or correct undesirable influences on the River. As is often the case, many of these programs have either not been in operation or have been operating at less than full capacity due to limited funding. The Task Force believes that the resources of the Kenai River need and deserve the full funding support that will allow existing manpower and programs to exert their maximum beneficial effects. Thus, the following specific recommendations are made.

FOR: the Alaska Department of Fish and Game - Habitat Division and the Alaska Department of Public Safety -

Division of Fish and Wildlife Protection

* Increase funding and manpower for all aspects of enforcement of current and future Kenai River regulations designed to protect habitat and/or fish stocks. [ISSUE C: Page 12]

FOR: the Alaska Department of Public Safety

* Increase public safety patrols. Specifically, three new patrol officer positions should be created and funded; and they should be assigned to the River full time during June and July. Increased enforcement patrols could substantially reduce the conflicts. [ISSUE I: Page 23]

FOR: the Alaska Department of Fish and Game - Commercial Fish Division, Sport Fish Division and F.R.E.D. Division

* Substantially increase research funding and manpower for the Department of Fish and Game for collection of Kenai River fisheries data. There should be no diminution of the "emergency" procedures. However, increased research capabilities, resulting in increased data, could make the implementation of those procedures less frequent and reduce the conflict between user planning and emergency closures. [ISSUE F: Page 17]

FOR: the Alaska Department of Natural Resources - Division of Parks

* Increase funding and manpower to the level necessary to properly maintain existing Division of Parks units along the Kenai River that provide public access, boat launching, sanitation and camping facilities along the river. [ISSUE H: Page 21]

After considerable analysis and discussion of the issues and the degree to which deterioration of the Kenai River habitat and use conditions are now taking place, the Task Force could come to no other conclusion than that certain new and specific actions were required to slow that deterioration until the longer range programs can be implemented. It is in this sense of necessity that the following recommendations are made.

* Take over responsibility for the Boating Safety Program currently under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Coast Guard as has been done in forty-eight other states. [ISSUE I: Page 23]

* Develop an adequate data base on all native salmonid species in the Kenai River system and the potential impact of the introduction of hatchery stocks on any of these species. [ISSUE G: Page 19]

* If found to be enforceable by the Commission, establish maximum wake regulations on those areas of the river where banks are particularly prone to erosion. [ISSUE J: Page 26]

* Develop a set of guidelines or regulations which would indicate appropriate designs for both structures to be placed in the river and modifications of the bank. [ISSUE J: Page 26]

* Conduct a legal review of all current state and federal regulations and statutes affecting the Kenai River, and codify those regulations pertaining to the Kenai River with particular reference to legal restrictions on boat operation. With almost twenty agencies having some degree of control over the River, the present need for a central reference document of river regulations is overwhelming. The codification of diverse river regulations could do much to reduce perceived conflict between "intent" and the "wording" of existing regulations. The results should be published in a form suitable for public distribution and comprehension. [ISSUE C: Page 12]

* Increase access points on the Kenai River in an effort to distribute existing pressure. On the main stem, increased launch facilities on the upper (Skilak Lake to the Naptown Rapids) and middle (Naptown Rapids to Soldotna Bridge) sections of the river and boat-accessible sanitation stations on the upper, middle and lower (Soldotna Bridge to Warren Ames Bridge) sections of the river should be provided. [ISSUE H: Page 21]

* Expand access to alternative stocks at Deep Creek, Whiskey Gulch, Kasilof River and throughout the entire Susitna drainage, particularly near Willow Creek. The increase of access, both on and off the Kenai River, is essential to resolve existing conflicts between anglers and landowners. [ISSUE H: Page 21]

* Guides should be assigned a specific individual identification number which would be prominently displayed on their boat. [ISSUE D: Page 14]

Throughout the discussions and deliberations leading to this report, the Task Force and many members of the public who commented at the meetings repeatedly expressed their belief in the ability and willingness of the public at-large to modify their behavior in the interest of preserving the resources of the Kenai River. Underlying these statements was the assumption that the public clearly understood the consequences of their present actions and what types of changes would be helpful. To this end a public awareness program that includes, at least, the following elements is recommended.

* River reaches which are particularly sensitive to bank erosion should be marked with cautionary signs. Additionally information on the contribution of powerboat operation to induced erosion and the serious consequences of induced erosion could be presented to users through publication in the sport fishing regulations, signs at access points, posters, newspapers, television, etc. [ISSUE J: Page 26]

* Increase public education about the existing "rules of the road." Throughout the public testimony, it was clear that the rules are rarely known; even more rarely followed; almost never enforced. Examples of the rules are:

An anchored vessel has the right of way over all other vessels.

A vessel traveling downstream has the right of way over vessels traveling upstream.

A vessel traveling upstream must make way for all other vessels. [ISSUE I: Page 23]

* Note in publications the fisheries that have most frequently been subject to emergency order closures in the past. [ISSUE F: Page 17]

The Task Force submits these final recommendations with the strong conviction that they need to be adopted, if the Kenai River as it has been known and enjoyed is to be available in the future. The work of the Task Force has revealed concern and support for the River among individuals and agencies, professional biologists and laymen, river residents and visitors and fishermen of all descriptions. Although it is obvious that much of what is proposed will be difficult, it is equally obvious that the value of the resource at stake demands the effort.

CHCR 31)
Legislative Resolve 26 Kenai River Study Group
October 11, 1983 Meeting Summary

State agency representatives that have been designated to address the issues identified in Legislative Resolve 26 (e.g., see distribution) met in Anchorage on October 11, 1983. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the various problems that exist on the Kenai River, review the previous recommendations of the Kenai River Task Force, assign tasks among the study group and develop a strategy for implementing Legislative Resolve 26 (LR 26).

In reviewing each of the issues identified in LR 26, the "LR 26 study group" discussed the importance of each issue and the amount of effort that would be necessary to adequately address each one. With regard to each of the seven issues identified in LR 26, the following is a summary of the discussion and recommendations that were made:

LR 26 Issue (1). Solicit and consider information from Federal agencies, local governments, industries, landowners, persons engaged in fishing, and others who have an interest in the Kenai River.

The Kenai River Task Force, during its' six months of existence, sufficiently addressed the need to solicit and consider information from government agencies or the public sector. The Task Force received written comments from nearly 400 individuals or agencies and had a total of 392 persons sign in for at least one of several public meetings that were conducted in the Kenai area. Furthermore, over 200 petition signatures, favoring various positions or recommendations of the Task Force, were also submitted. As stated in the Executive Summary of the Final Kenai River Task Force Report, "the work of the Task Force was in every sense of the word a truly public process from beginning to end."

In addition to the extensive involvement of the public by the Kenai River Task Force, the State also conducted several public opinion surveys and a series of public meetings to gather comments and information for consideration during preparation of the Kenai River State Park Units Master Plan.

Conclusion: Sufficient public involvement regarding identification of issues, information, and recommendations from the public section has already occurred. Therefore, the "study group" did not feel that it was necessary to spend additional time addressing this issue. It will likely be necessary to consult with the public section once specific recommendations have been developed.

LR 26 Issue (2). Make a comprehensive study of State and Federal laws affecting the Kenai River, users of the river, land adjacent to the river, and fish and wildlife resources dependent on the river.

The Kenai River State Park Units Master Plan summarizes the various State and Federal agencies having responsibility for the Kenai River. The Master Plan also discusses the public's overriding concern for the lack of any comprehensive management of the river. As described in both the Master Plan and the Kenai River Task Force Report, approximately twenty agencies share responsibility in managing the Kenai River and its resources. Each of these agencies, their responsibilities or area of expertise and areas of overlapping or conflicting jurisdiction, are described in the Master Plan.

In an effort to inform the public of the primary State and Federal agencies having authority or jurisdiction on the Kenai River, and their respective responsibilities and mandates, a public information program should be developed and implemented. The comprehensive plan, mentioned under item (1) of LR 26 Issue (6), should address this issue.

Conclusion: A general review of State, Federal and local laws affecting the Kenai River and its users has already been completed as part of the Kenai River State Park Units Master Plan. However, a public information program should be implemented to inform local residents and users of the various State, Federal and local jurisdictions and policies for the Kenai River.

LR 26 Issue (3). Identify areas of overlapping or conflicting jurisdiction among State and Federal agencies that have jurisdiction over the Kenai River.

Refer to Issue (2) above.

LR 26 Issue (4). Identify Kenai River problems over which no agency has jurisdiction.

An overriding public concern is the lack of comprehensive management of the Kenai River. While various public agencies have specific responsibilities for protection of the Kenai River and its resources, none of these agencies exercise the necessary pre-planning, overall management, or coordination function. Thus, various land and water-use proposals and developments are evaluated as they occur and managed only from a very narrow perspective. Because many of these developments and activities have secondary or cumulative effects, the Kenai River has suffered from a lack of comprehensive management.

Conclusion: A major problem over which no agency has jurisdiction is the overall management of the Kenai River. Furthermore, State agencies have not been provided with established policies or criteria for management decisions relating to development and use of the River. A single State agency should assume the overall coordinating function and management of the river. This approach could eliminate or substantially reduce much of the habitat degradation and user-conflicts now being experienced due to separate site-specific or use-specific management.

LR 26 (5). Publish a list of priorities for the uses of the Kenai River.

Refer to Issue (6) below.

LR 26 Issue (6). Recommend, in a coordinated and comprehensive manner, regulations to be adopted or actions to be taken by State and Federal agencies to address the problems of the Kenai River.

As a final product of their efforts, the Kenai River Task Force produced a Final Statement of Findings and a Summary of Recommendations. Having reviewed the recommendations contained in the final Task Force report, the "LR 26 study group" felt that they provided a good basis from which to consider and recommend possible solutions to the major problems facing the Kenai River. Therefore, the following recommendations and priorities were made only after careful consideration and examination of each of the issues and recommendations contained in the final Kenai River Task Force report.

- (1) The State of Alaska should adopt legislation designating that portion of the Kenai River, from the mouth of Skilak Lake to Cook Inlet, as a "Special Use Area." The legislation would require preparation and adoption of a comprehensive plan, describing management of the Kenai River Special Use area. The plan, developed cooperatively by State and local governments, would identify and address the following concerns or issues:
 - (a) designation of a local agency or entity, such as the Division of Parks, to be responsible for managing and regulating the Kenai River Special Use area;
 - (b) declare that the highest priority use of the Kenai River as being the production and use of its fishery and wildlife resources, with all other uses to be balanced against that declaration;

- (c) the extent and type of development that each segment of the Kenai River Special Use area could support;
- (d) procedures and policies for sound management, restoration, rehabilitation and regulation of the Kenai River and its adjacent critical habitats;
- (e) additional research or studies that may be necessary to support rational management decisions;
- (f) potential impacts of upstream development activities on the designated "Special Use Area;"
- (g) the lack of sufficient enforcement capabilities and the need for additional legal assistance in matters regarding permit violation and the enforcement of regulations designed to protect habitat and/or fish stocks;
- (h) the need for additional access to the Kenai River and other areas in an effort to distribute existing pressure and reduce conflicts between anglers and landowners;
- (i) the need for a public information and boating safety program in addition to increased public safety measures;
- (j) development of necessary cooperative agreements with State and Federal agencies and private landowners.

Conclusion: The State of Alaska should adopt legislation designating a portion of the Kenai River as a "Special Use Area." The legislation should require the preparation and adoption of a comprehensive management plan. The plan should be developed by the State, in cooperation with local governments, and should address issues (a) through (h) identified above.

{ The authority to establish fisheries regulations and make recommendations affecting the allocation of the Cook Inlet Salmon resource should continue to remain with the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

LR 26 Issue (7). Report the findings and recommendations to the Second Session of the Thirteenth Alaska State Legislature.

To be completed.

FINAL
STATEMENT OF FINDINGS
OF THE
KENAI RIVER TASK FORCE

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During the approximately six months of its existence the Kenai River Task Force has confronted both the real and the perceived problems facing the Kenai River today. Both public and professional voices have pointed out broadly deteriorating conditions on the Kenai River and urged increased attention to a resource that has great local significance but is also clearly a state resource of international significance.

The work of the Task Force was in every sense of the word a truly public process from beginning to end. Over seventy people attended the organizational meeting and selected from among their members the individuals to serve on two sub-committees, a biological/habitat committee and a social/enforcement committee. It was these two sub-committees working separately on issues within their categories and then together as the Joint Working Committee that led the deliberations and framed this report.

The Task Force received over 200 petition signatures favoring one position or another, written comments from nearly 400 people and agencies and had a total of 392 individuals sign in for at least one of the several public meetings.

It is very important that the impressive volume of public concern about this resource and its future be recognized by those who have the power to implement the Task Force's final recommendations.

Although there are twenty specific recommendations, the Task Force wishes to particularly highlight three ideas.

There is a need and outstanding public support for the creation of a Kenai River Commission or Authority. Effective protection and maintenance of this resource demands a unified perspective that is now missing, and such a Commission would fill that void.

To give direction to such a Commission and to resolve the conflict of priorities that does now and will continue to confront the River, the Task Force is recommending a special legislative

designation for the River. That legislative declaration would state that the highest and best use of the Kenai River is the production and harvest of its fishery resources. The acceptability of all other present or future uses of the River would then have to be measured against that primary function.

Finally, there is a widespread belief that full enforcement of the existing regulations applicable to the use of the river and its resources would do much to eliminate current use conflicts. There is overwhelming public support for increased enforcement on the Kenai River, and the Task Force strongly recommends the immediate support of this concept.

The full understanding of the Task Force's conclusions and recommendations is better achieved with a review of the Summary of Recommendations.

There is public and private concurrence that the Kenai River is at a critical point in its history and that the decisions and actions which are taken now (or not taken) may well determine the future of this exceptionally productive and valuable resource.

OVERVIEW

The Kenai River

The Kenai River which originates in the drainage of Kenai Lake in the eastern Kenai Peninsula and enters Cook Inlet at the City of Kenai on the western Peninsula (see map on page 2) is a resource of substantial local, regional, statewide, national and international significance. Because of its accessibility, its proximity to Anchorage and its exceptional biological productivity, it is the single most popular sport fishing river in the State, accounting for approximately 179,000 man-days of angling effort in 1981, a 47 percent increase in effort over the 1977 figures. The Upper Cook Inlet commercial salmon harvest annually has a value of approximately 20 million dollars, and approximately 40 percent of that value is attributable to Kenai River fish. It should be noted that in years when the salmon fishery experiences record high harvests, it is the Kenai River sockeye salmon that provide the bulk of that additional increment. When all of the related recreational and economic interests and activities are taken into consideration, it is clear why concern over this resource is both widespread and justified.

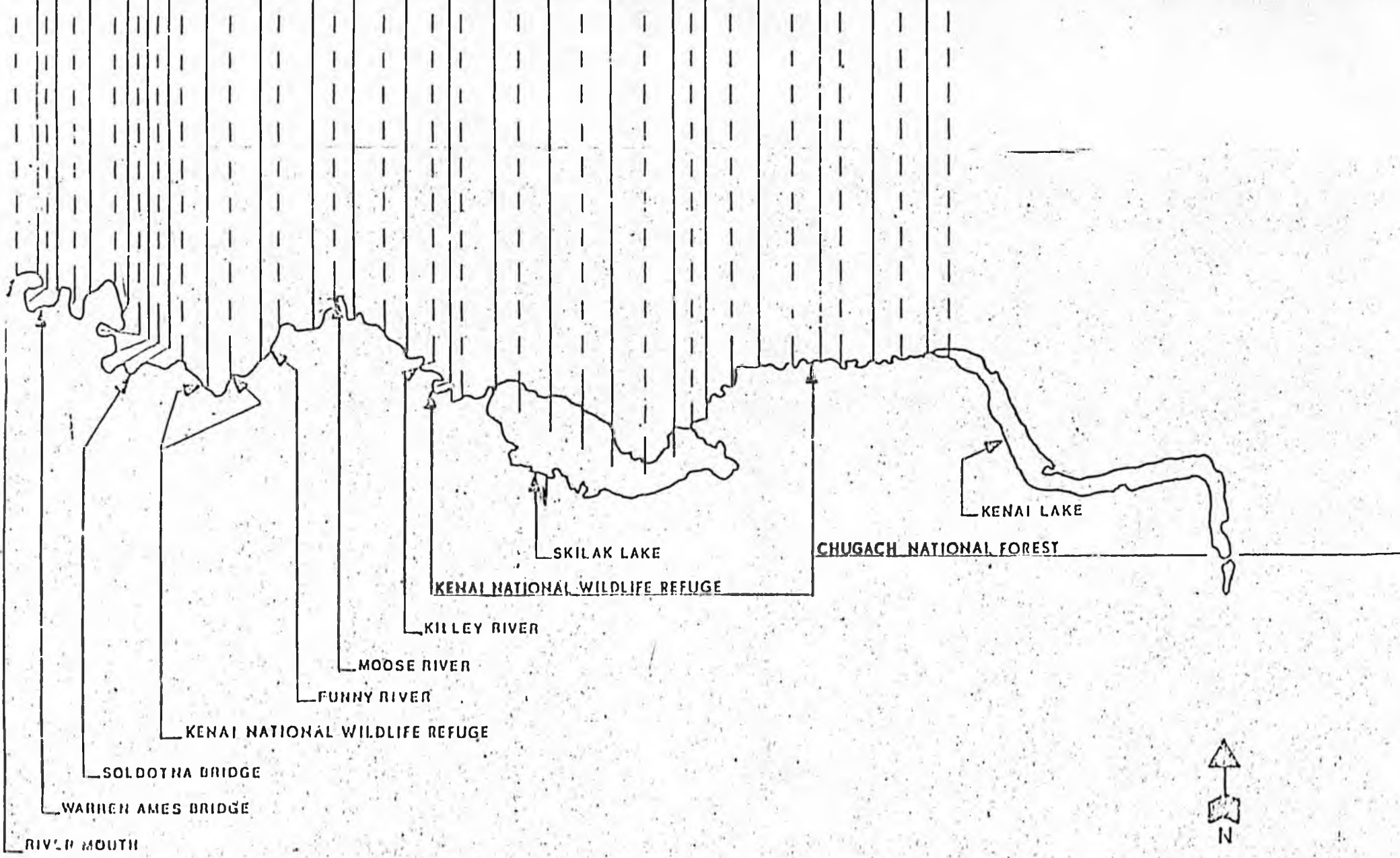
Origin of the Kenai River Task Force

A generally recognized and frequently discussed change in the conditions on the Kenai River and the parallel change in the user experience on the River were crystalized in a January 26, 1982 letter from a Sterling resident to Governor Jay Hammond. The letter expressed a widely held concern for the future of the River and cited problems as diverse as the safety of the users and the long-term biological viability of the fisheries resource in the River. The letter concluded with a request for official help in addressing the issues and the offer of individual help in whatever fashion the Governor deemed productive.

In a letter dated May 19, 1982 the Governor responded acknowledging awareness of the problems and expressing his own concerns for the future of this resource. In addition to recognizing various disjunct attempts to address specific aspects of the overall

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KENAI RIVER TASK FORCE

KENAI RIVER

problem, he spoke strongly about the need for a unified approach to the stewardship of the River. He stated his belief that "the first step toward finding a solution is for the various agencies to join together with interested private groups and associations to sort out responsibilities and to address future management needs on the river." He concluded by noting that he was requesting the Departments of Natural Resources, Fish and Game and Public Safety to initiate such an effort.

Procedure Used By the Kenai River Task Force

An initial letter of invitation went out to twenty-seven different agencies and individuals advising them of the effort that was ahead and soliciting their participation. Over sixty people responded by attending the organizational meeting which was held in Soldotna thus forming the core of the Task Force.

Following a general discussion by all participants and the selection of a permanent chairman, two seven-man subcommittees were named to address biology/habitat problems and social/enforcement problems. The group as a whole identified an initial list of problems to be considered.

Interspersed with their separate working sessions the combined subcommittees functioning as the Joint Working Committee (Appendix A) held public hearings (Appendix B and Appendix C) in Soldotna and Anchorage and met with concerned agencies. This work allowed each subcommittee to draft comprehensive problem statements and the suggested solutions which had been identified.

The Joint Working Committee reviewed the two reports, made modifications where they were desired and merged them into a single preliminary draft report. That report was presented to the full Task Force for its review.

Following the review by the full Task Force, the Review Draft was widely circulated for public review and comment. Comment was received at two well-attended meetings in Anchorage and Soldotna. In addition a comment form was attached to each copy of the draft report to facilitate written comments.

When the meetings had been conducted and the period for receiving written comments had concluded, the Joint Working Committee again met to review the comments and make the necessary final revisions to the report. This report represents the results of that final meeting and, in a larger sense, the final results of the entire process.

Overall Assumptions Made By the Kenai River Task Force

There are several broad concepts that recurred throughout the Joint Working Committee and Task Force deliberations and are important to the understanding of the choices and recommendations which the group ultimately made. They are equally important to

the understanding of the critical point at which the Kenai River now is in the eyes of the professionals and laymen most familiar with it.

Conditions for both river inhabitants (fish and wild-life) and river users (people) have deteriorated during the past two decades, and the rate of deterioration seems to be increasing.

Unless some meaningful remedial action is taken soon, conditions will continue to worsen - perhaps to the point of irretrievable loss.

The biological productivity of the River is the central concern for most users of the River and to a public well beyond the immediate confines of the River.

The additional passage of time before remedial action is taken can only increase the severity of the measures that will, ultimately, have to be imposed.

It is this context that the Joint Working Committee undertook the consideration of the specific issues and alternatives and decided on its final recommendations.

ISSUE DEVELOPMENT AND RESOLUTION

Introduction

The life of the Kenai River Task Force is very short, and the support resources available to it have been very limited. In contrast the human resources that have been volunteered, particularly by those on the Joint Working Committee, have been most generous. The constraints under which the Task Force has worked have resulted in some of the recommendations being more general than might have been wished. The Task Force recognizes this situation and supports additional efforts to refine and enhance any of the recommended actions which may be too general for immediate adoption.

The format of this section uses six steps for the development and resolution of each issue which the Task Force addressed.

1. ISSUE

This is a simple statement of a central problem that was brought to the attention of the Task Force, and it is generally phrased in terms of a conflict.

2. PROBLEM STATEMENT

This is an expansion of the major issue by means of supplying additional information and the presentation of examples of situations in which the issue surfaces. It is not meant to be a complete and definitive listing of every example of this type of conflict.

3. SOLUTIONS WHICH WERE CONSIDERED BUT NOT RECOMMENDED

In most cases several possible solutions were considered before one or more was selected for recommendation by the Task Force. This section records those possibilities which were not chosen. They were not necessarily rejected as unsuitable; they simply were not chosen as the most effective or primary recommendations.

4. PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS SUBMITTED FOR PUBLIC REVIEW

When the Task Force had completed its first round of work on all of the issues and tentatively decided on what actions it would recommend, it took those recommendations to the public for review. These are the pre-public review recommendations.

5. PUBLIC RESPONSE TO PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS

This is a brief statement about the public's reaction to the preliminary recommendations as that reaction was evidenced in public meetings and in written comments received by the Task Force.

6. FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TASK FORCE

After receiving public comment, the Task Force re-evaluated each of its preliminary recommendations to see if it would be retained as a final recommendation. In some cases the preliminary recommendations were accepted as they had been stated. In other cases the public process suggested changes in the scope or wording of the recommendations.

There are two important points that should be understood about this structure. When more than one action is recommended, it is the intent of the Task Force that both actions occur, not that a choice be made between them. Additionally, the order in which issues or recommendations are listed does not reflect either importance or priority.

ISSUE A:

THERE IS A CONFLICT THAT ARISES FROM THE DIFFERING MANAGEMENT PHILOSOPHIES WHICH GOVERN VARIOUS ASPECTS AND SECTIONS OF THE RIVER.

PROBLEM STATEMENT:

With almost twenty public bodies having both direct and indirect impact on the River, the potential for conflict is enormous. Moreover, small policy decisions by an upstream agency (e.g., Bureau of Mines) can exert large pressures in downstream policies. At present, there is no public body to either monitor or adjust conflicting agency philosophies.

The river and the habitats which it supports are frequently not well protected with this fragmentation of authority. Diverse and increasing human use and development along the Kenai River has resulted in displacement of some wildlife species from traditional use areas. The Kenai River at the outlet of Skilak Lake was a primary spring and fall staging area for trumpeter and whistling swans until increasing human use caused these birds to abandon the area.

Numerous bald eagles, over 100 during some winters, utilize the Kenai River as a feeding and resting area; and several bald eagles nest along the river. Increased development could disrupt this use. High levels of motorboat traffic and human activity have caused abandonment of traditional nests.

Waterfowl and shorebirds have been displaced from nesting along the most developed and heavily used river segments. Moose, river otter and beaver have been disturbed particularly during the time they are raising young.

As backwater and adjacent river water areas have been altered, salmon and trout rearing areas have most likely been diminished in value.

Some losses of wildlife habitat and some wildlife displacement are inevitable with increasing human use and development. However, wildlife use should be given a priority on dedicated conservation lands; and habitat loss and wildlife displacement should be minimized on private and other lands, if the Kenai River is to remain a biologically productive river.

An organized approach to the entire river could eliminate many of the detrimental activities now being

experienced because of separate and site-specific or use-specific management.

SOLUTIONS WHICH WERE CONSIDERED BUT NOT RECOMMENDED:

(1.) Adopt the Division of Parks proposal for a citizen's policy board that could provide greater centralization and unification of river policies than exists at present as outlined in the "Kenai River State Park Units Master Plan".

PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS SUBMITTED FOR PUBLIC REVIEW:

Create a Kenai River Commission or Authority within the Office of the Governor. The Commission could coordinate programs and attempt to resolve disputes between various governmental units; serve as a clearinghouse for permit applications; perform appropriate planning functions and make recommendations with respect to how proposed activities along the River conform to the declared primary function of the River. The creation of a River Commission could eliminate much of the existing and potential conflict.

Develop a Master Plan for Kenai River development and associated land use practices. The plan would detail the amount and kinds of development that each segment of the watershed could support and establish a procedure to restore, rehabilitate and regulate particular land areas affecting Kenai River habitat. This plan would have the maintenance of wildlife and wildlife habitat as an important component, and the program would protect habitat by removing structures known to be accelerating erosion and by repairing and stabilizing banks which have unusually high rates of erosion.

In the context of a comprehensive plan the Task Force draws particular attention to several documents which deal with particular aspects of the River. While the list is not exhaustive, these documents should certainly be basic to the more comprehensive effort.

"Kenai River Review - Final", U.S. Department of the Army, Alaska District, Corps of Engineers, April 1978.

"Kenai River State Park Units Master Plan", State Of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks, February 1983.

"Erosion and Sedimentation in the Kenai River, Alaska", Geological Survey Professional Paper 1235.

"Salmon Investigations in the Kenai River, Alaska 1979 - 1981", U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Fishery Research Center.

"Chugach Forest Plan Draft Environmental Impact Statement", U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, June 1982.

"Kenai National Wildlife Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan", U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Kenai National Wildlife Refuge, 1983.

PUBLIC RESPONSE TO PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS:

Comments at the public meetings favored the recommendations; and written comments supported the Commission recommendation 2:1, the Master Plan 6:1 and the giving of special emphasis to the maintenance of wildlife and wildlife habitats 11:1.

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FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TASK FORCE ON ISSUE A:

THE TASK FORCE RECOMMENDS THE CREATION OF A KENAI RIVER COMMISSION OR AUTHORITY OUTSIDE OF ANY EXISTING AGENCY. THE COMMISSION SHOULD COORDINATE PROGRAMS AND ATTEMPT TO RESOLVE DISPUTES BETWEEN VARIOUS GOVERNMENTAL UNITS; SERVE AS A CLEARINGHOUSE FOR PERMIT APPLICATIONS; PERFORM APPROPRIATE PLANNING FUNCTIONS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS WITH RESPECT TO HOW PROPOSED ACTIVITIES ALONG THE RIVER CONFORM TO THE DECLARED PRIMARY FUNCTION OF THE RIVER. THE CREATION OF A RIVER COMMISSION COULD ELIMINATE MUCH OF THE EXISTING AND POTENTIAL CONFLICT THROUGH CREATION OF A MASTER PLAN FOR KENAI RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND ASSOCIATED LAND USE PRACTICES. THE PLAN WOULD DETAIL THE AMOUNT AND KINDS OF DEVELOPMENT THAT EACH SEGMENT OF THE WATERSHED COULD SUPPORT AND ESTABLISH A PROCEDURE TO RESTORE, REHABILITATE AND REGULATE PARTICULAR LAND AREAS AFFECTING KENAI RIVER HABITAT. THIS PLAN WOULD HAVE THE MAINTENANCE OF WILDLIFE AND WILDLIFE HABITAT AS AN IMPORTANT COMPONENT, AND THE PROGRAM WOULD PROTECT HABITAT BY REMOVING STRUCTURES KNOWN TO BE ACCELERATING EROSION AND BY REPAIRING AND STABILIZING BANKS WHICH HAVE UNUSUALLY HIGH RATES OF EROSION. AS GUIDANCE FOR THE COMMISSION IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS PLAN, THE TASK FORCE RECOMMENDS AS A MINIMUM THE DOCUMENTS CITED IN THE PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION ABOVE.

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ISSUE B:

THERE IS A POTENTIAL CONFLICT BETWEEN COMPETING WATER DEMANDS THAT SEEK USE OF THE WATER IN THE KENAI RIVER AND ITS DRAINAGE.

PROBLEM STATEMENT:

American rivers have a long history of uses: first as highways, then as boundaries, then as sewers. Later, as we came to value rivers more, we gave them use designations: transportation, power, irrigation. To the knowledge of the Joint Working Committee, no major American river has received designation as a fishing river prior to other more "pragmatic" use designations.

While there is no immediate threat to the quality and quantity of water in the Kenai River, the potential for extraction, diversion and/or degradation of the water exists. Water supplies capable of supporting new or expanded industrial or agricultural developments are rare on the Kenai Peninsula. In one recently proposed petrochemical plant development the Kenai River was noted as being the only water supply large enough to support the plant's operation. Certainly similar proposals will be offered in the future.

Any withdrawal of water from the Kenai River or degradation of water quality within the River can reduce the fish producing capability of the Kenai River.

SOLUTIONS WHICH WERE CONSIDERED BUT NOT RECOMMENDED:

(1.) Provide for minimum instream flows of sufficient quality and quantity to insure protection of Kenai River fish stocks through the application of State laws relative to water rights.

(2.) Designate the Kenai River as a "recreational" river.

(3.) Designate the Kenai River watershed as "protected habitat".

PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS SUBMITTED FOR PUBLIC REVIEW:

Make a legislative declaration that the highest and best use of the Kenai River is the production and use of its fishery and wildlife resources: all other uses to be tested against that declaration. Such a declaration could eliminate conflict between competing water demands at an early stage, before such conflict diminishes either the River or its highest and best use.

PUBLIC RESPONSE TO PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS:

The public meetings produced support for the concept of a protective designation for the Kenai River, and the written comments favored the recommendation by a ratio of 7:1.

FINAL RECOMMENDATION OF THE TASK FORCE ON ISSUE B:

THE TASK FORCE RECOMMENDS IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION AS STATED ABOVE.

ISSUE C:

LACK OF REGULATORY ENFORCEMENT RESOURCES MAY BE PREVENTING THE ENFORCEMENT OF EXISTING REGULATORY MEASURES DESIGNED TO PROTECT THE KENAI RIVER AND ITS FISHERY RESOURCES.

PROBLEM STATEMENT:

Some current regulations designed to protect the habitat or fish stocks of the Kenai River are ineffective for one of two primary reasons; it is incomprehensible to the public or a lack of enforcement resources has prevented prosecution of those violating the regulations.

Lack of resources by the various agencies charged with enforcing existing regulations, either manpower or equipment or both, have severely restricted the investigation and prosecution of the offenses. Inability to assign qualified men to the Kenai River during the busier times and a certain reluctance or public apathy regarding these violations have resulted in offenders going unreported or unidentified.

Certain public agencies have expressed their frustration about trying to conceive and enforce a consistent river policy. Singularly or in combination, the illegal alteration of habitat or illegal harvest of fish stocks may result in decreased productivity of the Kenai River.

SOLUTIONS WHICH WERE CONSIDERED BUT NOT RECOMMENDED:

- (1.) Create enforceable regulations.
- (2.) Standardize sentences or create mandatory sentences for various violations.

PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS SUBMITTED FOR PUBLIC REVIEW:

Conduct a legal review of all current regulations affecting the Kenai River.

Codify all regulations pertaining to the Kenai River. With almost twenty agencies having some degree of control over the River, the present need for a central reference document of river regulations is overwhelming. The codification of diverse river regulations could do much to reduce perceived conflict between "intent" and the "wording" of existing regulations.

Increase funding and manpower for all aspects of enforcement of current and future Kenai River regulations designed to protect habitat and/or fish stocks.

PUBLIC RESPONSE TO PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS:

The public meetings did not evoke a great deal of discussion on these recommendations, but the written comments favored the first and second recommendations by as much as 16:1 and the third by a ratio of 10:1.

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FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TASK FORCE ON ISSUE C:

THE TASK FORCE RECOMMENDS CONDUCTING A LEGAL REVIEW OF ALL CURRENT STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATIONS AND STATUTES AFFECTING THE KENAI RIVER AND THE CODIFICATION OF THOSE REGULATIONS WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO LEGAL RESTRICTIONS ON BOAT OPERATION. WITH ALMOST TWENTY AGENCIES HAVING SOME DEGREE OF CONTROL OVER THE RIVER, THE PRESENT NEED FOR A CENTRAL REFERENCE DOCUMENT OF RIVER REGULATIONS IS OVERWHELMING. THE CODIFICATION OF DIVERSE RIVER REGULATIONS COULD DO MUCH TO REDUCE PERCEIVED CONFLICT BETWEEN "INTENT" AND THE "WORDING" OF EXISTING REGULATIONS. THE RESULTS SHOULD BE PUBLISHED IN A FORM SUITABLE FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND COMPREHENSION.

IN ADDITION THE TASK FORCE RECOMMENDS AN INCREASE IN FUNDING AND MANPOWER FOR ALL ASPECTS OF ENFORCEMENT OF CURRENT AND FUTURE KENAI RIVER REGULATIONS DESIGNED TO PROTECT HABITAT AND/OR FISH STOCKS.

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ISSUE D:

THERE IS A CONFLICT BETWEEN PROFESSIONAL SPORT FISHING GUIDES AND INDIVIDUAL RECREATIONAL USERS OF THE KENAI RIVER.

PROBLEM STATEMENT:

Professional sport fishing guides on the Kenai River have enjoyed extraordinary success and growth in numbers recently. In 1981 guided parties accounted for about 14,100 man-days of effort in king salmon fishing; but in 1982 that number grew to approximately 24,900 man-days of effort, a one-year increase of 76.5 percent. Some fraction of this increase is attributable to observations of registered guides' boats which may have been in personal, not occupational, use.

In 1982 there were 207 registered guides for the Kenai River. Guides are on the River with greater frequency than individual fishermen thereby increasing their exposure to potential conflict with individual fishermen. Because they are more often successful than individual fishermen, they have often been perceived to be the cause of problems being experienced by individual fishermen.

Fewer than one hundred (100) active professional sport fishing guides and their clients take fifty percent (50%) of the sport caught king salmon in the Kenai River. The Joint Working Committee makes no judgement as to whether this is fair, what it can judge is that the situation is perceived as unfair by a number of those giving public testimony.

Both guides and non-guides recognize that this "new" group of users is having and will continue to have a significant influence on all other river users. For both public safety and resource management reasons it will be advisable to introduce some structure to the participation of this group. Inexperienced guides and an uncontrolled increase in the number of guides will not serve either the existing guides or the general public well.

Although guides have a special marking on their boats, it may not be discernible; and if it can be seen, it does not readily identify the individual. In some cases undesirable behavior is attributed to guides when that is not the case. It is also the case that a few guides may be casting an unfavorable light on all others. A means of specifically identifying a particular guide would help considerably in clearing up some of these misperceptions.

SOLUTIONS WHICH WERE CONSIDERED BUT NOT RECOMMENDED:

(1.) Prohibit professional sport fishing guiding on the Kenai River.

(2.) Limit professional sport fishing guides to two clients per trip.

PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS SUBMITTED FOR PUBLIC REVIEW:

Establish a Guide Board for the Kenai River to set and enforce qualifications; limit the continued growth in the number of guides; establish an optimal number of guides and establish a mechanism to adjust the number of guides to that optimal number.

Establish the non-transferability of guide licenses and a procedure whereby they are returned to the State when they have not been used for a specified period of time and/or have not been used to guide a specified minimal number of clients annually.

Assign guides a specific individual number which would be prominently displayed on their boat.

PUBLIC RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS:

Non-guides expressed concern over the growth of guiding business on the Kenai River, and in the public meetings they expressed support for the preliminary recommendations. The written comments favored the first two recommendations by a ratio of 3:1 and the last one by 9:1.

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TASK FORCE ON ISSUE D:

THE TASK FORCE RECOMMENDS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF EACH OF THE PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS AS STATED ABOVE.

ISSUE E:

THERE IS A CONFLICT BETWEEN COMMERCIAL FISHERIES OUTSIDE THE KENAI RIVER AND RECREATIONAL FISHERIES WITHIN THE RIVER.

PROBLEM STATEMENT:

The conflict between the commercial fishing industry and the Kenai River sport fishery is of long duration and continuing complexity. The Joint Working Committee does not attempt to resolve it, recognizing that it is the purview of the Alaska Board of Fisheries. It does, however, point out that the conflict will demand further resolution before an adequate river regime can be finally established.

SOLUTIONS WHICH WERE CONSIDERED BUT NOT RECOMMENDED:

Only one solution was considered.

PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS SUBMITTED FOR PUBLIC REVIEW:

If conceptually supported by the Alaska Board of Fisheries establish a special Task Force to assist the Board in addressing the question of allocation of the Kenai River fishery resource.

PUBLIC RESPONSE TO PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS:

This issue is a major concern to the public. The written comments favored the recommendation by a ratio of 7:1.

FINAL RECOMMENDATION OF THE TASK FORCE ON ISSUE E:

THE TASK FORCE RECOMMENDS THE CREATION AND SUPPORT OF A SPECIAL TASK FORCE TO STUDY AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE ALLOCATION OF THE COOK INLET SALMON RESOURCE WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO ITS AFFECT ON THE KENAI RIVER FISHERY RESOURCE.

ISSUE F:

THERE IS DISSATISFACTION WITH THE CURRENT SITUATION IN WHICH AN INDIVIDUAL'S PLANS FOR FISHING IN THE KENAI RIVER MAY BE DISRUPTED BY A CLOSURE OF THE SPORT FISHERY THROUGH EMERGENCY ORDER. SOME OF THE FISH HARVEST PROBLEMS AND HABITAT PROTECTION CONCERNS MAY BE DUE TO AN INADEQUATE DATA BASE FOR THE PRINCIPAL RECREATIONAL SPECIES OF FISH.

PROBLEM STATEMENT:

Management by emergency order is necessary to protect fish stocks in the Kenai River fishery. Since return and escapement are directly related to so many biological and natural processes that are uncontrollable by man, it is virtually impossible to manage both above average and below average returns without emergency orders.

Emergency orders are essential for the sound biological management of Alaska's fishery resource. They provide the necessary in-season flexibility to allow for maximum harvests of surplus stocks while insuring that the proper escapement levels are maintained.

The "emergency power" procedure of the Department of Fish and Game is one of its most important and widely known management tools. When that procedure is invoked, especially for closures, user planning is often disrupted. Especially sensitive to closures are the guiding and tourist support industries.

Lack of critical information concerning various aspects of the life histories or behavior patterns of those fish species affecting recreational anglers does not allow optimal management. The problem is most acute with chinook salmon; however, rainbow trout stocks have also suffered from data gaps. Annual escapement of chinook salmon, annual outmigration of chinook salmon smolt, detailed information on spawning and rearing areas, total population estimates of rainbow trout, data on annual migrations of rainbow trout and data on the effects of commonly proposed projects are examples of the type of information necessary for more efficient utilization of the resource.

The affect of the missing data is generalized management of the fishery which can subject the stocks to potential over harvest situations or the anglers to annoying restrictive regulations or emergency closures. Current salmon management is conservative in nature, and the filling of these data voids could result in the safe and long-term harvest of a greater percentage of any particular stock or run.

Any inconvenience caused by emergency orders is strictly a social problem; however, the following solutions are offered with no anticipated biological impact on the Kenai River system.

SOLUTIONS WHICH WERE CONSIDERED BUT NOT RECOMMENDED:

(1.) Require a minimum "prior notice" time to publicize emergency closures, so that the public disruption is held to a minimum.

(2.) Provide for alternate methods of fishing, so that a fishery is not entirely closed. This would possibly provide an opportunity for tourists and others to bank fish when the Kenai River is closed to boat fishing.

(3.) Provide a better exchange system for data gathered by various agencies and/or individuals.

(4.) Assign priorities to data needs, and coordinate the implementation of the research programs.

PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS SUBMITTED FOR PUBLIC REVIEW:

Substantially increase research funding and manpower for the Department of Fish and Game for the collection of Kenai River fisheries data. There should be no diminution of the "emergency" procedures. However, increased research resulting in increased data and management capability could make the implementation of those procedures less frequent thereby reducing the conflict between user planning and emergency closures.

Initiate a public awareness program, and note in publications the fisheries that have most frequently been subject to emergency order closure in the past.

PUBLIC RESPONSE TO PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS:

In all of the public meetings there was pronounced support for increased data gathering; and in the written comments the first preliminary recommendation of the Task Force received favorable response in a ratio of 5:1 while the second was supported 10:1.

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FINAL RECCMMENDATIONS OF THE TASK FORCE ON ISSUE F:

THE KENAI RIVER TASK FORCE SUPPORTS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF EACH OF THE PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS AS STATED ABOVE.

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ISSUE G:

THERE IS A POTENTIAL THREAT TO WILD FISH STOCKS WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF HATCHERY STOCKS PRIOR TO AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE INTERACTION BETWEEN THE TWO.

PROBLEM STATEMENT:

It is possible that the hasty or unstudied introduction of hatchery stocks into the Kenai River system could have adverse affects on native races and species. It is possible to displace wild fish through the inappropriate selection of stocking sites. Similarly, the incorrect selection of stocking site and life-stage of the fish being stocked could lead to a sequential competition for rearing area, early outmigration of immature smolt and subsequent lower potential for ocean survival. Insufficient preliminary pathology work could lead to the introduction of disease to healthy native stocks.

SOLUTIONS WHICH WERE CONSIDERED BUT NOT RECOMMENDED:

(1.) Complete the study of the affects of smolt numbers in relation to the available rearing areas initiated by the Alaska Field Station of the National Fisheries Research Center (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service). The work began with king salmon smolts and their possible early outmigration. It should be completed for at least one full life-cycle.

(2.) Establish management goals that will assure native stock escapement of sufficient magnitude to make full use of the river's rearing potential.

PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION SUBMITTED FOR PUBLIC REVIEW:

Develop an adequate data base on all native salmonid species in the Kenai River system and the potential impact of the introduction of hatchery stocks on any of these species.

PUBLIC RESPONSE TO PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION:

In the public meetings there was support for an increased information base for Kenai River fish stocks and the use of great caution with the introduction of hatchery stocks to the Kenai system. The written comments favored the recommendation in a ratio of 4:1.

FINAL RECOMMENDATION OF THE TASK FORCE ON ISSUE G:

THE TASK FORCE RECOMMENDS FULL SUPPORT OF THE PRELIMINARY RECOM-
MENDATION AS STATED ABOVE.

ISSUE H:

THE INCREASING USE OF THE RIVER HAS CREATED A CONFLICT BETWEEN USERS AND LAND OWNERS WITH RIVERFRONT PROPERTY.

PROBLEM STATEMENT:

As public usage of the river increases, public access facilities are stressed to capacity and beyond. Trespass violations escalate; litter, both as detritous and as human waste, burden river banks. The conflict between public usage and private rights weighs heavily on riparian landholders.

SOLUTIONS WHICH WERE CONSIDERED BUT NOT RECOMMENDED:

(1.) Restrict public access to the river, e.g., allow fishing only on alternate days.

(2.) Restrict private ownership on the river, e.g., condemn a 20 foot access strip along the river banks.

PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS SUBMITTED FOR PUBLIC REVIEW:

Increase access points on the Kenai River. On the main stem, increased launch facilities on the upper and middle sections of the river and boat-accessible sanitation stations on the upper, middle and lower sections of the River should be provided.

Expand access to alternative salmon stocks at Deep Creek, Whiskey Gulch and in the Susitna drainage. The increase of access, both on and off the Kenai River, is essential to reduce existing conflicts between anglers and landowners.

PUBLIC RESPONSE TO PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS:

There was a reasonable amount of discussion of these recommendations in the public meetings, and it centered on whether additional access will redistribute existing pressure or simply become an attraction for additional pressure. The written comments favored the first recommendation in a ratio of 2:1 and the second in a ratio of 7:1.

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FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TASK FORCE ON ISSUE H:

THE TASK FORCE MAKES THREE FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS ON THIS ISSUE.

INCREASE ACCESS POINTS ON THE KENAI RIVER IN AN EFFORT TO DIS-
TRIBUTE EXISTING PRESSURE. ON THE MAIN STEM, INCREASED LAUNCH
FACILITIES ON THE UPPER (Skilak Lake to the Naptown Rapids) AND
MIDDLE (Naptown Rapids to the Soldotna Bridge) SECTIONS OF THE
RIVER AND BOAT ACCESSIBLE SANITATION STATIONS ON THE UPPER,
MIDDLE AND LOWER (Soldotna Bridge to the Warren Ames Bridge)
SECTIONS OF THE RIVER SHOULD BE PROVIDED.

EXPAND ACCESS TO ALTERNATIVE SALMON STOCKS AT DEEP CREEK, WHISKEY
GULCH, KASILOF RIVER AND IN THE SUSITNA DRAINAGE, PARTICULARLY
NEAR WILLOW CREEK. THE INCREASE OF ACCESS, BOTH ON AND OFF THE
KENAI RIVER, IS ESSENTIAL TO REDUCE EXISTING CONFLICTS BETWEEN
ANGLERS AND LANDOWNERS.

INCREASE FUNDING AND MANPOWER TO THE LEVEL NECESSARY TO PROPERLY
MAINTAIN EXISTING DIVISION OF PARKS UNITS ALONG THE KENAI RIVER
THAT PROVIDE PUBLIC ACCESS, BOAT LAUNCHING, SANITATION AND
CAMPING FACILITIES ALONG THE RIVER.

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ISSUE I:

THERE ARE CONFLICTS WHICH ARISE FROM VARIOUS RIVER USE PRACTICES. THERE IS CONFLICT BETWEEN LARGE BOAT USERS AND SMALL BOAT USERS. AS A VARIETY OF FISHING TECHNIQUES HAVE DEVELOPED ON THE KENAI RIVER, CONFLICT HAS ARISEN BETWEEN ANGLERS USING DIFFERENT GEAR TYPES. THERE IS ALSO CONFLICT CAUSED BY THE NEGLIGENT OPERATION OF BOATS BY SOME RIVER USERS.

PROBLEM STATEMENT:

Different size boats have differing space requirements, differing wave tolerances and differing handling characteristics. As river uses expand and different types of craft come in ever closer contact, conflict results. Much of the public testimony and much of the subcommittee and working committee discussions dealt with the advisability or non-advisability of power limitations on the Kenai River.

Additionally there was an expression of need to begin now making provisions for various types of river use on at least some portion of the River.

The negligent operation of boat can bring it into conflict with other craft operating on the river at the same time. There is apparent public concern particularly for stationary or slow moving boats being dangerously rocked or even swamped by high speed and negligent operations of some boats. As river use intensifies, the problem potential seems likely to expand.

In addition to bank fishing there are three major types of boat-based recreational fishing are now in use on the river. Some fishermen prefer to anchor over favorite holes; others prefer to drift through the holes; still others prefer to troll deep-diving lures in the holes. Since the target fishes prefer to hold in relatively confined areas, the increasing concentration of fishermen using variant harvest methods has produced cut lines, impassioned letters to the editor, angry exchanges of both syllable and gesture, and more. For a great many of those giving public testimony, the quality of the fishing experience has been substantially reduced.

Public education about boat-operating rules could significantly reduce the present conflict among gear types while still maintaining the regulatory flexibility necessary to adjust to potentially new and further changing harvest techniques.

SOLUTIONS WHICH WERE CONSIDERED BUT NOT RECOMMENDED:

- (1.) Impose no additional restrictions on use of the River.
- (2.) Segment the fishery into distinct sections of the river for specific craft types.
- (3.) Prohibit the use of motors on the Kenai River.
- (4.) Prohibit the use of jet-powered craft on the River.
- (5.) Prohibit the use of non-powered craft on the River.
- (6.) Zone the river to allow only certain fishing techniques on specified river sections.
- (7.) Allocate time to allow only certain fishing techniques on the river on specified days.

PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS SUBMITTED FOR PUBLIC REVIEW:

Prohibit the use of motorized boats on the segment of the Kenai River between the outlet of Kenai Lake and the inlet of Skilak Lake thereby providing an area for non-motorized river use.

Limit the maximum total allowable power per boat to 55 horsepower in the section of river between Centennial Campground and the Warren Ames Bridge between May 1 and August 31 beginning immediately.

or alternatively

Limit the total allowable power per boat to 55 horsepower in the section of river between Centennial Campground and the Warren Ames Bridge between May 1 and August 31 beginning three years after enactment.

or alternatively

Limit the total allowable power per boat to 55 horsepower in the section of river between the outlet of Skilak Lake and the Warren Ames Bridge between May 1 and August 31 beginning three years after enactment.

Increase public education about the existing "rules of the road." Throughout the public testimony, it was clear that the rules are rarely known, even more rarely followed, almost never enforced. Examples of the rules are:

An anchored vessel has the right of way over all other vessels.

A vessel traveling downstream has the right of way over vessels traveling upstream.

A vessel traveling upstream must make way for all other vessels.

Increase public safety patrols. Specifically, three new patrol officer positions should be created and funded; and they should be assigned to the River full time during June and July. Increased enforcement patrols could substantially reduce the conflicts.

PUBLIC RESPONSE TO PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS:

These recommendations, particularly those relating to the limitation of horsepower, drew extensive public comment; and the majority of that comment was unfavorable. In addition to numerous comments at the public meetings, written comments opposed the horsepower limitation by a ratio of 2:1 or more. Written comments also opposed the prohibition of motor-powered craft from the River between Kenai Lake and Skilak Lake by a ratio of 2:1. Petitions were received on this latter recommendation, and they opposed the recommendation by about 10:1. Increased public education about the "rules of the road" was favored by a ratio of 24:1; and increased public safety patrols was supported by 13:1 margin.

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TASK FORCE:

THE TASK FORCE MAKES NO RECOMMENDATIONS ON HORSEPOWER LIMITATION OR THE RESTRICTION OF MOTOR-POWERED CRAFT IN THE RIVER BETWEEN KENAI LAKE AND SKILAK LAKE. WITH RECOGNITION THAT MEASURES SUCH AS THOSE OUTLINED IN THE PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS MAY EVENTUALLY BECOME NECESSARY, THE TASK FORCE DECIDED TO RECOMMEND INCREASED ENFORCEMENT TO ACHIEVE IMPROVEMENTS BEFORE RECOMMENDING MORE RESTRICTIVE MEASURES.

THE TASK FORCE DOES RECOMMEND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS ON A PUBLIC AWARENESS PROGRAM AND INCREASED PUBLIC SAFETY PATROLS AS STATED ABOVE.

THE TASK FORCE ALSO RECOMMENDS THAT THE STATE OF ALASKA TAKE OVER RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE BOATING SAFETY PROGRAM CURRENTLY UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE U.S. COAST GUARD.

ISSUE J:

RIVERFRONT PROPERTY AND FISH HABITAT ARE CURRENTLY THREATENED BY EROSION INDUCED BY INSTREAM STRUCTURES AND BOAT WAKES.

PROBLEM STATEMENT:

Due to streambank development and boat wakes, in recent years there has been an increase over natural levels of bank erosion along several reaches of the Kenai River below Skilak Lake ("Erosion and Sedimentation in the Kenai River, Alaska", Geological Survey Professional Paper 1235). The erosion rate in miles 39 to 46 has increased primarily due to the instream placement of numerous groins. The erosion in miles 9 to 18 has increased primarily due to the effects of boat wake run-up on naturally unstable banks. In addition a man-made canal system at mile 16 increases the potential of cutting off a river meander. Such a cutoff would stimulate large scale erosion downstream as the river attempted to redefine its channel.

Materials which have been eroded from streambanks cause little degradation of salmon habitat while they are being transported by the river. Degradation of salmon habitat may occur at the point where the erosion takes place or where the materials are deposited in the pores of streambed gravel, thereby reducing the streambed's fitness to incubate salmon eggs or produce food organisms. The Kenai River, unlike most rivers, will not experience flows adequate to remove sediment from the streambed.

"Juvenile chinook salmon have been shown to occupy a narrow range of river habitat which is typically associated with pools along the margins of riffles or current eddies. The close association of juvenile chinook and low water velocities necessitates the availability of irregular bank habitat which forms small pools and current eddies during high discharge periods. In the summer months, water velocity appeared to be the greatest limiting factor for juvenile chinook in their utilization of Kenai River habitat." (Burger, C.V., D.B. Wangaard, R.L. Wilmot and A.N. Palmisano. 1982. Salmon investigations in the Kenai River, Alaska 1979-1981. U.S.F.W.S., National Fishery Research Center, Anchorage, Alaska. p. 115.)

The significance of river bank alterations, such as bank stabilization projects, on juvenile chinook rearing is difficult to assess because of the lack of site specific, quantifiable data. It is known that alterations which eliminate river bank irregularities

increase velocities beyond the usable limit or rearing chinook. Bank stabilization projects can be expected to increase velocities and result in a net loss of chinook rearing habitat. When considered on a cumulative basis these could be highly significant to the loss of river productivity.

Landowners along the river are apparently frustrated by the current permitting process because they are continuously told that their projects are unsuitable, but they cannot get the agencies to suggest suitable design.

SOLUTIONS WHICH WERE CONSIDERED BUT NOT RECOMMENDED:

The following suggestions were offered as alternative solutions to bank erosion problems caused by powerboat operation.

(1.) Restrict motor horsepower and boat size. One theory holds that, over time, a regulation specifying maximum horsepower would tend to limit boat size.

(2.) Establish an operating speed limit.

(3.) Prohibit powerboats from using areas of the river where banks are particularly prone to erosion.

(4.) Find or develop a boat hull design which would minimize the production of wake.

(5.) Reduce the number of powerboats operating daily on the river by instituting a system using boat registration, fishing license or motor vehicle license plate numbers to divide participants into two groups, "even and odd". Those persons possessing an "even" number could participate in one set of alternate days; those with an "odd" number could participate in the other set of alternate days.

(6.) Eliminate the use of motor-powered vessels. Several successful sport fisheries are operated on a "drift only" principle. Parties fish from rowboats which are launched at an upstream location and removed from the water at some downstream location. Drifting boats do not create a wake; and, therefore, do not cause acceleration of bank erosion. Launching sites, if improperly designed, could be sources of erosion.

The following suggestion was offered as an alternative solution to bank erosion caused by shoreline developments.

(1.) Strictly enforce existing and future regulations designed to protect Kenai River habitat. Too often the

responsible agencies are lacking the money, personnel or the will to enforce existing laws.

PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS SUBMITTED FOR PUBLIC REVIEW:

If found to be enforceable by the Commission, establish maximum wake regulations on those areas of the river where banks are particularly prone to erosion.

Develop a public awareness program. Some persons have expressed the belief that the amount of bank erosion could be substantially reduced, if river users were aware of the serious consequences of bank erosion; and that, at least, in certain reaches of the river powerboat operation contributes significantly to the erosion process. Particularly sensitive river reaches would be marked with signs. Information could be presented to users through publication in the sport fishing regulations, signs at access points, posters, newspapers, television, etc.

Develop a set of guidelines or regulations which would indicate appropriate designs for both structures to be placed in the river and modifications of the bank.

PUBLIC RESPONSE TO PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS:

In the public hearings and input sessions there was broad support for the preliminary recommendations, and in written comments the recommendations received favorable responses. Maximum wake regulations were favored 3:1; the public awareness program was supported 8:1 and the guidelines for instream structures and riverbank development were favored 9:1.

* * * * *

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TASK FORCE ON ISSUE J:

THE KENAI RIVER TASK FORCE SUPPORTS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF EACH OF THE PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS AS STATED ABOVE. THE TASK FORCE RECOGNIZES THAT SUCH ITEMS AS THE GUIDELINES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE HANDLED ON AN INTERIM BASIS THROUGH EXISTING AGENCIES AND MECHANISMS SUCH AS THE PROGRAM OF THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS. HOWEVER, IT IS HOPE OF THE TASK FORCE THAT THOSE GUIDELINES, THE WAKE REGULATIONS AND SIMILAR PROGRAMS WILL EVENTUALLY BE ADMINISTERED UNDER THE GENERAL SUPERVISION OF THE KENAI RIVER COMMISSION.

* * * * *

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

The Kenai River Task Force believes in the value of the Kenai River as a significant natural, recreational and economic resource. The Task Force is unequivocally convinced of the need for immediate and sustained efforts to assure the resource will survive the pressures it is experiencing and will experience in increasing amounts in the future.

The final recommendations which have preceeded this section of the report fall into four broad categories; establishment of some comprehensive and long-range programs intended to prevent the River from reaching a point where its future is in question, increased funding to make possible the full implementation of programs for which the structure presently exists, enactment of specific new steps directed at remedying some of the more damaging activities currently taking place and an immediate and ongoing public awareness program.

It was clear to the Task Force that many of the recommendations outlined earlier, if they were all implemented, would only serve as a "holding action" against the use pressures being placed on the Kenai River. The ultimate victory which would assure the future of the Kenai River in a healthy and productive condition will depend on organized and sustained stewardship. To achieve that stewardship will require the formation of long-range programs that are not now in place. To address this perspective the Task Force makes the following recommendations.

* Create a Kenai River Commission or Authority outside of any existing agency. The Commission could coordinate programs and attempt to resolve disputes between various governmental units; serve as a clearinghouse for permit applications; perform appropriate planning functions and make recommendations with respect to how proposed activities along the River conform to the declared primary function of the River. The creation of a River Commission could eliminate much of the existing and potential conflict through the creation of a Master Plan for Kenai River development and associated land use practices.

The plan would detail the amount and kinds of development that each segment of the watershed could support and establish a procedure to restore, rehabilitate and regulate particular land areas affecting Kenai River habitat. This plan would have the maintenance of wildlife and wildlife habitat as an important component and would protect habitat by removing structures known to be accelerating erosion and by repairing and stabilizing banks which have unusually high rates of erosion. As guidance for the Commission in the preparation of this plan, the task force recommends as a minimum the documents cited in the preliminary recommendations on this issue. [ISSUE A: Page 7]

* Make a legislative declaration that the highest and best use of the Kenai River is the production and use of its fishery and wildlife resources; all other uses to be tested against that declaration. Such a declaration could eliminate conflict between competing water demands at an early stage, before such conflict diminishes either the River or its highest and best use. [ISSUE B: Page 10]

* Establish a Guide Board for the Kenai River to set and enforce qualifications; limit the continued growth in the number of guides; establish an optimal number of guides and establish a mechanism to adjust the number of guides to that optimal number. [ISSUE D: Page 14]

* Establish the non-transferability of guide licenses and a procedure whereby they are returned to the State when not used for a specified period of time and/or not used to guide a specified minimal number of clients annually. [ISSUE D: Page 14]

* Establish a special Task Force to study and make recommendations concerning the allocation of the Cook Inlet salmon resource with particular reference to its affect on the Kenai River fishery resource. [ISSUE E: Page 16]

Throughout this process it has been clear that prior consideration of the problems of the Kenai River had led to the establishment of programs within existing agencies to control or correct undesirable influences on the River. As is often the case, many of these programs have either not been in operation or have been operating at less than full capacity due to limited funding. The Task Force believes that the resources of the Kenai River need and deserve the full funding support that will allow existing manpower and programs to exert their maximum beneficial effects. Thus, the following specific recommendations are made.

FOR: the Alaska Department of Fish and Game - Habitat Division and the Alaska Department of Public Safety -

Division of Fish and Wildlife Protection

* Increase funding and manpower for all aspects of enforcement of current and future Kenai River regulations designed to protect habitat and/or fish stocks. [ISSUE C: Page 12]

FOR: the Alaska Department of Public Safety

* Increase public safety patrols. Specifically, three new patrol officer positions should be created and funded; and they should be assigned to the River full time during June and July. Increased enforcement patrols could substantially reduce the conflicts. [ISSUE I: Page 23]

FOR: the Alaska Department of Fish and Game - Commercial Fish Division, Sport Fish Division and F.R.E.D. Division

* Substantially increase research funding and manpower for the Department of Fish and Game for collection of Kenai River fisheries data. There should be no diminution of the "emergency" procedures. However, increased research capabilities, resulting in increased data, could make the implementation of those procedures less frequent and reduce the conflict between user planning and emergency closures. [ISSUE F: Page 17]

FOR: the Alaska Department of Natural Resources - Division of Parks

* Increase funding and manpower to the level necessary to properly maintain existing Division of Parks units along the Kenai River that provide public access, boat launching, sanitation and camping facilities along the river. [ISSUE H: Page 21]

After considerable analysis and discussion of the issues and the degree to which deterioration of the Kenai River habitat and use conditions are now taking place, the Task Force could come to no other conclusion than that certain new and specific actions were required to slow that deterioration until the longer range programs can be implemented. It is in this sense of necessity that the following recommendations are made.

* Take over responsibility for the Boating Safety Program currently under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Coast Guard as has been done in forty-eight other states. [ISSUE I: Page 23]

* Develop an adequate data base on all native salmonid species in the Kenai River system and the potential impact of the introduction of hatchery stocks on any of these species. [ISSUE G: Page 19]

* If found to be enforceable by the Commission, establish maximum wake regulations on those areas of the river where banks are particularly prone to erosion. [ISSUE J: Page 26]

* Develop a set of guidelines or regulations which would indicate appropriate designs for both structures to be placed in the river and modifications of the bank. [ISSUE J: Page 26]

* Conduct a legal review of all current state and federal regulations and statutes affecting the Kenai River, and codify those regulations pertaining to the Kenai River with particular reference to legal restrictions on boat operation. With almost twenty agencies having some degree of control over the River, the present need for a central reference document of river regulations is overwhelming. The codification of diverse river regulations could do much to reduce perceived conflict between "intent" and the "wording" of existing regulations. The results should be published in a form suitable for public distribution and comprehension. [ISSUE C: Page 12]

* Increase access points on the Kenai River in an effort to distribute existing pressure. On the main stem, increased launch facilities on the upper (Skilak Lake to the Naptown Rapids) and middle (Naptown Rapids to Soldotna Bridge) sections of the river and boat-accessible sanitation stations on the upper, middle and lower (Soldotna Bridge to Warren Ames Bridge) sections of the river should be provided. [ISSUE H: Page 21]

* Expand access to alternative stocks at Deep Creek, Whiskey Gulch, Kasilof River and throughout the entire Susitna drainage, particularly near Willow Creek. The increase of access, both on and off the Kenai River, is essential to resolve existing conflicts between anglers and landowners. [ISSUE H: Page 21]

* Guides should be assigned a specific individual identification number which would be prominently displayed on their boat. [ISSUE D: Page 14]

Throughout the discussions and deliberations leading to this report, the Task Force and many members of the public who commented at the meetings repeatedly expressed their belief in the ability and willingness of the public at-large to modify their behavior in the interest of preserving the resources of the Kenai River. Underlying these statements was the assumption that the public clearly understood the consequences of their present actions and what types of changes would be helpful. To this end a public awareness program that includes, at least, the following elements is recommended.

* River reaches which are particularly sensitive to bank erosion should be marked with cautionary signs. Additionally information on the contribution of powerboat operation to induced erosion and the serious consequences of induced erosion could be presented to users through publication in the sport fishing regulations, signs at access points, posters, newspapers, television, etc. [ISSUE J: Page 26]

* Increase public education about the existing "rules of the road." Throughout the public testimony, it was clear that the rules are rarely known; even more rarely followed; almost never enforced. Examples of the rules are:

An anchored vessel has the right of way over all other vessels.

A vessel traveling downstream has the right of way over vessels traveling upstream.

A vessel traveling upstream must make way for all other vessels. [ISSUE I: Page 23]

* Note in publications the fisheries that have most frequently been subject to emergency order closures in the past. [ISSUE F: Page 17]

The Task Force submits these final recommendations with the strong conviction that they need to be adopted, if the Kenai River as it has been known and enjoyed is to be available in the future. The work of the Task Force has revealed concern and support for the River among individuals and agencies, professional biologists and laymen, river residents and visitors and fishermen of all descriptions. Although it is obvious that much of what is proposed will be difficult, it is equally obvious that the value of the resource at stake demands the effort.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

Kenai River Task Force - Joint Working Committee

LeRoy Barton	Biology/Habitat Subcommittee
Dale Bondurant	Biology/Habitat Subcommittee
Bix Bonney (Anchorage)	Social/Enforcement Subcommittee
Irv Carlisle (Soldotna)	Biology/Habitat Subcommittee
Robert Delaney (Soldotna)	Biology/Habitat Subcommittee
Willard Dunham (Seward)	Social/Enforcement Subcommittee
Ken Florey (Anchorage)	KRTF Alternate Chairman
Harry Gaines (Kenai)	Social/Enforcement Subcommittee
Keith Goltz (Anchorage)	Social/Enforcement Subcommittee
Floyd Heimbuch (Soldotna)	Social/Enforcement Subcommittee
Sid Logan (Soldotna)	Biology/Habitat Subcommittee
William Lyle (Wasilla)	Social/Enforcement Subcommittee
Thomas Mears (Soldotna)	Biology/Habitat Subcommittee
Ralph Pott (Sterling)	Biology/Habitat Subcommittee
R. Russell Redick (Anchorage)	KRTF Chairman
Steve Reynolds (Soldotna)	Social/Enforcement Subcommittee

APPENDIX B

Public Meetings

(Does not include subcommittee working sessions)

October 6, 1982	Soldotna	KRTF Organizational Meeting
October 15, 1982	Soldotna	Joint Working Committee - Public Input
October 20, 1982	Anchorage	Joint Working Committee - Public Input
November 5, 1982	Anchorage	Joint Working Committee - Agency Input
January 8, 1983	Soldotna	Joint Working Committee - Working Session
January 15, 1983	Anchorage	Joint Working Committee - Working Session
February 17, 1983	Soldotna	KRTF Working Session
March 2, 1983	Anchorage	Joint Working Committee - Public Meeting
March 4, 1983	Soldotna	Joint Working Committee - Public Meeting
March 12, 1983	Anchorage	Joint Working Committee - Final Working Session

APPENDIX C

Participants

(Signed in at at least one of the public meetings)

Larry Abbott	Anchorage	Loretta Breeden	Kenai
Ruth Abbott	Anchorage	Ray L. Brickey	Soldotna
Donald L. Akers	Anchorage	Myron Briscoe	Soldotna
Jack Alexander	Anchorage	Mick Brogan	Anchorage
C. Allison	Anchorage	Don Brown	Soldotna
Bill Allman	Anchorage	E.L. Brown	Anchorage
Richard Ames	Anchorage	Randall L. Brown	Anchorage
Pamela E. Anderson	Anchorage	James Browning	Soldotna
Tom Anderson	Soldotna	Ken Buettner	Anchorage
John W. Andrews	Anchorage	Joe Burkevich	Anchorage
Fred Angleton	Soldotna	Judy Burkevich	Anchorage
Jack Armstrong	Anchorage	Carl Butcher	Soldotna
Harry Arnes	Anchorage	Michael Butler	Anchorage
Walt Arthur	Anchorage	Richard Buzby	Anchorage
Gene Augustine	Anchorage	Glen Byrns	Soldotna
John D.L. Bailey, Jr.	Anchorage	H. Callohan	Soldotna
William Bancroft	Anchorage	Tom Cannon	Anchorage
Thomas W. Barber	Anchorage	Carla Carlisle	Soldotna
Larry Barnes	Anchorage	Ted Carson	Soldotna
Shirlee A. Baughman	Soldotna	James K. Cash	Anchorage
Randy J. Berg	Soldotna	Albert C. Cedros	Anchorage
Timothy R. Berg	Soldotna	James Chadwick	Anchorage
Marv Bish	Anchorage	Chiseko Chapin	Anchorage
Conrad Bitter	Anchorage	Wally Chapin	Anchorage
Daisy Lee Bitler	Anchorage	Ron Chappell	Kenai
Mike Blair	Anchorage	Jim Cikanek	Anchorage
Floyd Blossom	Ninilchik	Dayne L. Clark	Soldotna
Greg Boe (sp.)	Anchorage	Carl T. Cline	Anchorage
Charles Booker	Anchorage	Alfred Cofmeyer	Anchorage
John Booker	Anchorage	Laura Cofmeyer	Anchorage
Jean Booth	Soldotna	Dave Coker	Soldotna
Steve Booth, Jr.	Soldotna	Lt. J.G. Bryan Collver	Kenai
W.R. Bowman	Anchorage	Don R. Colwell	Anchorage
Paul A. Boyden	Anchorage	Charles C. Conides	Anchorage
Harold Braspenninckx	Anchorage	Joseph F. Connors	Anchorage
Geff Breakfield	Anchorage	Tom Corr	Soldotna
Thomas Breaux	Anchorage		

Frank Cortez	Anchorage	J.V. Graham	Anchorage
Jay L. Cowdery	Anchorage	M.O. Graham	Anchorage
Gunars Cukurs	Anchorage	Mike Grant	Sutton
Mick Cukurs	Anchorage	Jerry E. Gray	Soldotna
Roland L. Cusson	Soldotna	Jerry Greenland	Anchorage
Spike Dale	Soldotna	Q.L. Grickey	Soldotna
William W. Dawson	Anchorage	E.J. Haemer	Anchorage
John Dayton	Anchorage	Erioc Halverson	Anchorage
William E. Deal	Anchorage	James Hamilton	Soldotna
Jim Delaney	Anchorage	Max Hamilton	Cooper
Allen Dettmer	Soldotna		Landing
Michael Devine	Anchorage	M.G. Hampton	Kenai
Robert Dewitt	Anchorage	Ron Hanson	Anchorage
Robert C. Dickfoss	Anchorage	Steve Hanson	Anchorage
Dickson family	Soldotna	Dave Haplin (sp.)	Soldotna
Robert L. Ditton	Homer	Larry W. Harris	Anchorage
John Drozdowski	Anchorage	Loren W. Harris	Anchorage
R.L. Dubois	Soldotna	Bill Hauser	Anchorage
Mark Duga	Anchorage	Kelly Hepler	Anchorage
Gerald C. Eddy	Eagle River	John J. Herd	Anchorage
Duane F. Edelman	Soldotna	Ronald E. Herdon	Anchorage
George W. Edsell	Anchorage	Roy A. Herdon	Anchorage
Gerald Edwards	Eagle River	Mary Kaye Hession	Anchorage
Merle Eiben	Sterling	Virginia D. Hilliker	Anchorage
Brent Elkins	Anchorage	Tim Hiner	Soldotna
Bob Engelheart	Soldotna	T.J. Hinkle	Kenai
Robert Estus	Anchorage	Ted Hoeger	Soldotna
Ivan E. Every	Kenai	Linda Hoeger	Soldotna
Damon R. Farmer	Anchorage	Elizabeth J. Hoflich	Anchorage
Jane Fellman	Soldotna	Jacquelyn B. Hoflich	Anchorage
Jim Fellman	Soldotna	Warren C. Hoflich	Anchorage
Lew Fields	Sterling	Warren C. Hoflich, Jr.	Anchorage
James Finn	Kenai	Don Holmes	Anchorage
E. Glynn Fish	Anchorage	Norm Howse	Anchorage
Hunter Fisher	Anchorage	David Hubbard	Anchorage
Loren Flagg	Soldotna	Gerald Humphrey	Anchorage
Steve Flascher	Anchorage	Bob Hunter	Anchorage
Harry Franzen	Anchorage	Dotty Hurd	Anchorage
Wayne Fredon	Eagle River	Elmer Hurd	Anchorage
Leo T. Frelin	Anchorage	Marvin Huske	Anchorage
Gary Galbraith	Cooper	Mike Huske	Anchorage
	Landing	Gerald M. Ide	Anchorage
Bill Garry	Soldotna	George A. Ioanin	Anchorage
Bill Gavin	Soldotna	John Iverson	Anchorage
B.O. Geller	Kenai	Robert Jackson	Anchorage
Bob Gerdon	Anchorage	Robert James	Anchorage
Mary L. Gerdon	Anchorage	Rod James	Soldotna
R.L. Gerdon	Anchorage	M.T. Jennings	Chugiak
Shirley Gerdon	Anchorage	R. Andy Johnson	Kenai
Frank Getty	Kenai	Rick Johnston	Soldotna
Allan L. Gillis	Anchorage	Benny Joy	Anchorage
Linda K. Gintoli	Kenai	Miles Kennedy	Kenai
Chris Goll	Anchorage	Virginia Kennedy	Kenai
Harold P. Goodnight	Anchorage	John L. Kent (sp.)	Anchorage

Jack C. King	Anchorage	Dr. Tom Munger	Anchorage
Jeff King	Soldotna	Joseph Z. Napp (sp.)	Anchorage
Roger W. Klepinger	Anchorage	Keith Nichols	Soldotna
Bruce Koffler	Anchorage	Jon R. Nickles	Anchorage
Tom Kolasinski	Anchorage	Dennis Yogi Nielsen	Anchorage
Richard H. Kosonen	Anchorage	Paul Nixon	Anchorage
Otis Kuri (sp.)	Anchorage	Jim Nutgrass	Anchorage
Dean Kvasnikof	Ninilchik	Leo T. Oberts	Kenai
William Kyttle	Anchorage	Cherri C. Odens	Anchorage
Edna G. Lee	Anchorage	Gary L. Odens	Anchorage
Wilbur L. Lee	Anchorage	Robert E. Olson	Anchorage
Dennis Lennill	Anchorage	Beverly Orr	Anchorage
Babi Jean Lentz	Soldotna	David J. Orr	Eagle River
Frank Lentz	Soldotna	Gary Orr	Anchorage
John H. Lewis	Anchorage	Gene Orr	Anchorage
Thomas Lindow	Anchorage	Helen Orr	Anchorage
Bill Lindsey	Anchorage	Ken Orr	Anchorage
Violet M. Loescher	Chugiak	John Osgood	Anchorage
Janet A. Loper	Kenai	Gordy Paddock	Anchorage
Frank Loperena	Soldotna	Les Palmer	Sterling
Betty Lowery	Anchorage	Wilson Pang	Soldotna
Dave Lowery	Anchorage	James Parker	Anchorage
David J. Marquis	Anchorage	Katherine Parker	Soldotna
Joyce Marquis	Anchorage	R.L. Parker, Jr.	Soldotna
Dennis McConnell	Soldotna	Jim Patka	Anchorage
Trin McConnell	Soldotna	Ellen Patson	Anchorage
Roy D. McFadden	Anchorage	Elmer Patson	Anchorage
Levi T. McFarland	Anchorage	James H. Patterson	Anchorage
David McGillivary	Anchorage	Kyle M. Payne	Anchorage
Frank McIlhargey	Soldotna	Max Pease	Anchorage
Don McKay	Anchorage	Richard D. Pennington	Anchorage
Charles C. McKelvey	Anchorage	Andrew P. Penyak	Eagle River
Virginia R. McKelvey	Anchorage	E.M. Pepin	Anchorage
Lawrence B. McLain	Anchorage	L.A. Pepin	Anchorage
Marilyn McLain	Anchorage	Tod Peterson	Soldotna
Paul Z. Mead	Anchorage	Donn H. Petty	Anchorage
Steve Meyer	Kenai	Diana L. Pfeiffer	Anchorage
Don Miessner	Sterling	Paul Pfeiffer	Anchorage
Chuck Milewski	Anchorage	Grant Phillips	Kenai
Burton A. Miller	Anchorage	Mitchell H. Pike	Anchorage
Suzanne E. Millington	Soldotna	Dennis Pittina	Eagle River
Allen Moma	Anchorage	Marvin R. Posey	Anchorage
Larry G. Monson	Anchorage	Jane Potter	Anchorage
Michael M. Moore	Anchorage	Leroy Potter	Anchorage
Charles S. Morgan	Anchorage	Vern L. Powell	Anchorage
Rose A. Morgan	Anchorage	Jim Preston	Anchorage
Robert I. Morrell	Sterling	Kelly Preston	Anchorage
C.R. Morrison	Soldotna	Sherry D. Price	Anchorage
Viola Morrison	Soldotna	Bing Prichard	Soldotna
Bill Moulton	Anchorage	James Pruett	Anchorage
Howard Mulanax	Anchorage	Dan Raber	Anchorage
Frank Mullen	Soldotna	George Rakos	Anchorage
Earl Mundell	Soldotna	Linda Rexwinkel	Anchorage
Joanne Munger	Anchorage	Joel A. Rice	Kenai

Jim Richardson	Anchorage	Brian Stuart	Anchorage
Tom Rickard	Soldotna	Larry Suiter	Sterling
Jerry Rigler	Anchorage	Sheary Suiter	Sterling
Arthur R. Rindahl	Sterling	Bob Swain	Anchorage
David G. Rippee	Anchorage	Elizabeth A. Swartz	Anchorage
David S. Ritz	Palmer	Ron Swingle	Anchorage
Lester Robinson	Anchorage	Jim Tallerico	Anchorage
Terry R. Robinson	Anchorage	Dave Tanner	Anchorage
John B. Rodgers	Kenai	Kenneth Tarbox	Soldotna
Ray Rodgers	Anchorage	Evelyn Taulman	Anchorage
Harold Rohrscheib	Anchorage	John Taulman	Anchorage
Mike Rose	Anchorage	Elsye Taylor	Cooper
John Rudd	Anchorage		Landing
Paul Ruesch	Soldotna	Russ Taylor	Cooper
Randall J. Russ	Anchorage		Landing
Bonnie M. Ryan	Anchorage	Larry Teague	Eagle River
Robert R. Ryan	Anchorage	Joan M. Thayer	Anchorage
Karen B. Saunders	Anchorage	Willis J. Thayer	Anchorage
George W. Savin (sp.)	Soldotna	Dean Thompson	Anchorage
Bob Saxton	Soldotna	Gerald Thompson	Anchorage
A.T. Schmidt	Anchorage	Gloria J. Thompson	Anchorage
Rodger E. Schmidt	Kenai	M.W. (Tommy) Thompson	Kenai
John Schommer	Anchorage	Robert J. Thompson	Anchorage
Ruth Schommer	Anchorage	Carlton W. Thorpe, Jr.	Anchorage
Al Scouler	Soldotna	Bobby L. Thrasher	Anchorage
Steve Shaffer	Anchorage	Charlotte A. Thrasher	Anchorage
Ben Sherbahn	Anchorage	Emma Toler	Anchorage
Didi Sigurdsson	Anchorage	Kent Tribelhorn	Anchorage
Jonas Sigurdsson	Anchorage	Allyn G. Urlso (sp.)	Anchorage
Dan Sisson	Anchorage	G.R. VanLuchene	Anchorage
Donald I. Smith	Soldotna	Larry VanRay	Kenai
Fred Smith	Anchorage	Fred VanTress	Anchorage
M.M. Smith	Anchorage	Peggy VanTress	Anchorage
Mary Smith	Anchorage	Steven Vroman	Sterling
Ron Smith	Anchorage	Ohmer W. Waer	Anchorage
Leroy Sowl	Anchorage	G. Lee Waldroup	Anchorage
Drew Sparlin	Kenai	Thomas Walker	Kenai
Roger D. Spencer	Anchorage	W.J. Wellenstein	Anchorage
Capt. Ray Spoltman	Anchorage	Tom Wellman	Anchorage
Freelon F. Stanberry	Anchorage	Fred West	Soldotna
Charles Steckman	Anchorage	Patrick W. Westphall	Anchorage
Martie Steckman	Anchorage	David Whetzel	Anchorage
David Stephens	Anchorage	Harry Whetzel	Anchorage
Floyd Stephenson	Anchorage	Judy Whetzel	Anchorage
Susan C. Stephenson	Anchorage	Alfred M. White	Sterling
George C. Sterbenz	Anchorage	Bruce Whited	Anchorage
George P. Sterbenz	Anchorage	Jack Wiles	Anchorage
Thomas G. Stevens	Anchorage	Karen Wiley	Juneau
Meryl Stewart	Anchorage	Allen G. Wilson	Anchorage
Bob Stickles	Anchorage	Walt Wilson	Soldotna
Carol Stolpe	Anchorage	Cheryl G. Wuker (sp.)	Anchorage
John Stolpe	Anchorage	David L. Wynkoop	Soldotna
Willis M. Stowers	Anchorage	John Yeager	Kenai
David Stringer	Anchorage	Dan Zivanich	Anchorage

NOTE:

In addition to the 392 names listed above, the Task Force received over 200 petition signatures predominantly from people in Cooper Landing who did not attend any of the meetings. There were a significant number of attendees at the public meetings who did not sign the attendance sheets. Finally nearly 400 individuals filled out and returned comment forms, and a portion of those were non-repetitive participants.