

HB

43





# Alaska State Legislature

## House of Representatives

Committee on  
Community & Regional Affairs

Pouch V  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99811  
(907) 465-4833

HEARING DATE: JANUARY 21, 1985

NAME (Please Print)	ADDRESS	REPRESENTING	TESTIFY (Yes or No)	PHONE NUMBER
Ned Farquhar		DNR	If needed	465-2400
Scott Highleyman		AK. Environmental Lobby	Yes	586-2345
DICK LOCAN		FISH AND GAME	IF NEEDED	465 4180
Pat Williams	Juneau	Ride to Rep Wallis	NO	3732
Rose Somerville	Juneau	AK. Outdoor Council	Yes	789-3450
Jay Nelson	"	AK Env. Lobby	✓ No	6-2345
Dave Dowley	"	Rep Grueberg	No	4886
MARK HIGGINS	"	Rep Szymanski	NO	4878
Rep Ron Larson			X	

Introduced: 1/14/85  
Referred: Community & Regional Affairs  
and Finance

Funding Information  
General Fund \$1,100,000  
Other Funds -0-  
\$1,100,000

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY LARSON AND HURLEY

2

HOUSE BILL NO. 43

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act making a special appropriation for payment as  
7 a grant to the Matanuska-Susitna Borough for acquiring  
8 land to provide public recreational access to  
9 Montana Creek, Little Willow Creek, Willow Creek, and  
10 Kashwitna River; and providing for an effective  
11 date."

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

13 \* Section 1. The sum of \$1,100,000 is appropriated from the general  
14 fund for payment as a grant to the Matanuska-Susitna Borough for acquiring  
15 land to provide public recreational access to Montana Creek, Little Willow  
16 Creek, Willow Creek, and Kashwitna River.

17 \* Sec. 2. The appropriation made by this Act shall be disbursed in  
18 accordance with AS 37.05.315.

19 \* Sec. 3. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.-  
20 10.070(c).

House Bill 43 will provide funds to purchase land in the vicinity of Montana Creek, Little Willow Creek, Kashwitna, and Willow Creek. Approximately five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) of that amount is required to buy the land used to provide access to tributaries of the Susitna River from the mouth of the Kashwitna River. This site consists of 60 acres and is currently privately owned. Along with this will come a number of buildings, a boat ramp and the potential to develop additional park and recreation activities in the area. Currently, this access known as the Susitna Landing is the only boat access to the Yentna, Dshka, Alexander and other creeks west of the Susitna River. Some air boaters are able to use Willow Creek, however, that is not a safe and efficient means for boats larger than air boats.

Approximately three hundred Seventy-five thousand dollars (\$375,000) of this amount is to be used to purchase a campground immediately north of the Willow Creek bridge west of the Parks Highway. This is a 14 acre site that is used by both fishermen and hikers as access to Willow Creek. During the summer months, there are in excess of a thousand people per weekend using this area. Currently, this is in private hands, and the individuals wish to sell this to the Borough to be used in perpetuity for park and recreation uses. The current owners are getting on in age and are running out of ability to handle this. We believe that the asking price is substantially below fair market value.

The remaining two hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$225,000) is necessary to purchase the north side of Montana Creek at the junction of the Parks Highway bridge. Last year, the State Park Division established a camping facility and parking grounds south of the river. Montana Creek, as Willow Creek, receives well in excess of a thousand people per day on weekends during the summer, and the current facility is already over crowded. The two hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$225,000) that remains out of the 1.1 million will be used to negotiate the purchase of the north side, which is currently in private ownership.

This will then provide ample opportunity for both today's users and future users of Montana Creek. Approximately two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) is needed to purchase the 45 acres at Little Willow Creek immediately adjacent to the bridge. This is vital to our ability to keep this stream open to the public for fishing access without trespass. Currently, the Borough owns nearly all the land along Little Willow Creek except that at the bridge which is needed for parking and its a jump-off point for walk-in fishermen.

You will see that the sum of the above amounts is about two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) greater than the 1.1 million requested. We may encounter owners who do not want to sell or who want too much for their land or who want to sell just a portion of their land. Also, we may be able to get the price down for developed parcels by using a lease back to the seller for several years. Also, there may be some residue from the 2.6 million Willow Creek road project that could be used for this. That project totals 2.4 million.

All of the above projects will assist the Borough in handling the tourists we receive each year. Anchorage fishermen, as well as Borough fishermen, extensively use these streams from early May until late September. The king salmon run, the silver salmon run, and the pink salmon have increased recently; and as the fishing gets better, the more people partake. The increased access and public accessibility to these streams will also relieve some of the pressure on the Kenai River. Although the Kenai River is not a Borough problem, it is a State-wide problem that these funds will assist in addressing.

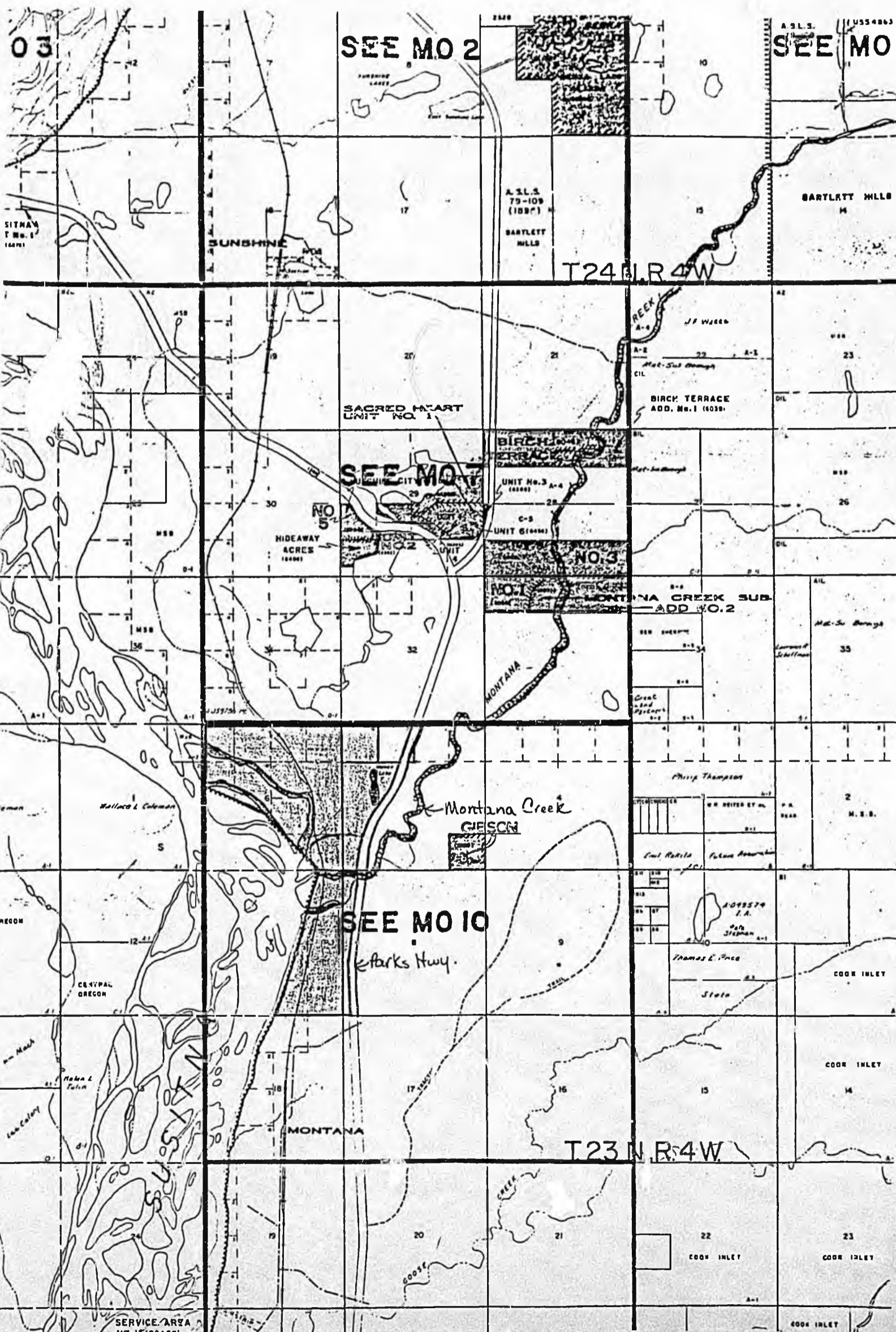
House Bill 29 authorizes six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000) to improve the road into the Little Su River in the vicinity of the Point MacKenzie area, provide for sanitary latrine facilities, a parking pad and camping spots. The Little Susitna River will be introduced as a State recreation river by the Administration sometime this year. This money is necessary to handle in excess of one thousand people who currently use the area during a weekend of king salmon fishing. Current access is basically a bulldozer trail that requires four-wheel drive to get to the river. Improving the access and managing the property will allow for more and better public utilization of the resource. This project also will go a long way in relieving the congestion on the Kenai River.

Together these projects, along with the Willow Creek project that will be discussed in the future, are needed to provide a tourism base for the Valley and to reduce sport fishing congestion on the Kenai River. The people here locally support tourism more than any other type of economic development. Local funds have been provided in a variety of ways to upgrade fishing access spots including the Little Su, Kashwitna and Willow Creek. We hope that the Anchorage legislators will support fishing access as improved fishing access and better facilities for boat launching onto the river system are of great advantage to all residents of Anchorage and to many visitors.

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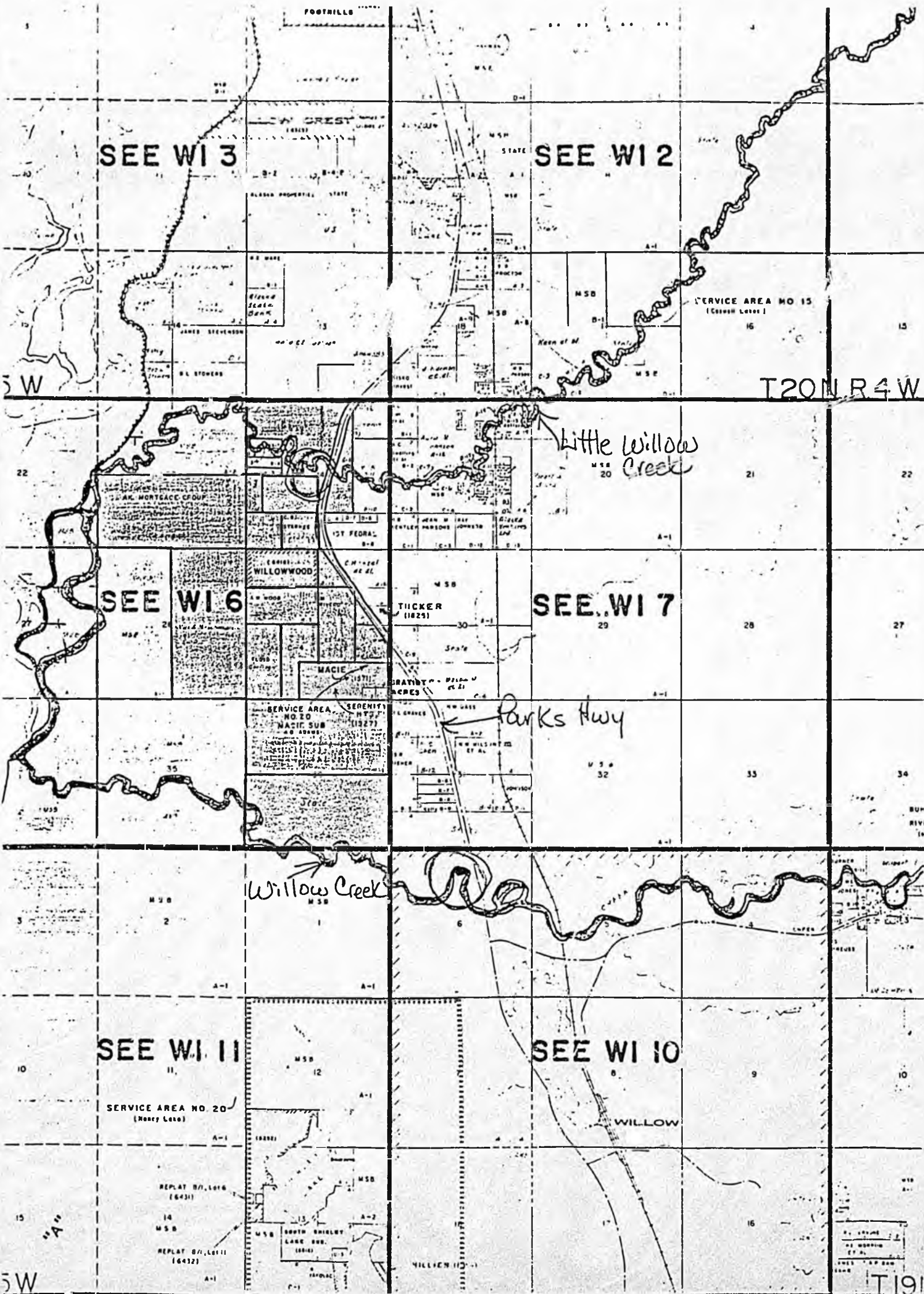
SEE MO 2

SEE MO 1



SERVICE AREA NO 15 (ROADS)

PRIVATE



SEE WI 3

SEE WI 2

SEE WI 6

SEE WI 7

SEE WI 11

SEE WI 10

*Little Willow Creek*

*Parks Hwy*

*Willow Creek*

SERVICE AREA NO 20  
(Honey Lake)

SERVICE AREA NO 15  
(Cotton Lake)

SERVICE AREA NO 20  
MACIE SUB  
NO 20000

SOUTH BRIMLEY  
LAKE SUB  
(1894)

REPLAT B/L 1016  
(6431)

REPLAT B/L 1011  
(6432)

MINES (1879)

□ PRIVATE

T19N

5 W

T20N R4W

5 W

R.5 W.

TR

T22N R4

TRACT

SERVICE AREA  
NO 15 (ROADS)

SEE CA 7

RIVER

TRACT

Kashwitha River

SEE CA 10

KASU  
ACRES

Park's Hwy  
40 Public Access

R.5 W.

SEE CA 14

SEE CA 15

RUSTIC WILDERNESS

-  PRIVATE
-  NATIVE
-  STATE
-  BOROUGH



State Recreation Rivers - Fiscal Analysis

HB 93 Page 2 of 2

FY 86

- 100 - Two permanent part-time Park Ranger 1/8 mos.
- 200 - Training and regional coordination
- 300 - Vehicle mileage, refuse collection, janitorial contract
- 400 - Hand tools, maintenance commodities
- 500 - Pickup trucks (2), radios, boat with trailer, zodiac raft,  
law enforcement equipment such as lights, siren, PA  
system, handguns

FY 87

Same costs except that equipment purchases would be  
unnecessary except for additional radio equipment.

Capital expenditures are for road/boat launch/parking at the Little Susitna  
River.

STATE OF ALASKA 1985 LEGISLATIVE SESSION  
FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**REQUEST**

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 43  
 Title: Recreation Land Acquisition  
Nat-Su Borough  
 Sponsor: Larson  
 Requestor: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Request: 1/22/85

**FISCAL DETAIL**

Agency Affected: Parks & Outdoor Recreation  
 Program Category Affected: \_\_\_\_\_  
Natural Resources Management  
 BRU, Program or Subprogram(s) Affected: \_\_\_\_\_  
Parks and Recreation Management

**EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)**

	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90
<b>OPERATING</b>						
100 PERSONAL SERVICES		19.2	20.6			
200 TRAVEL		4.0	4.0			
300 CONTRACTUAL		16.0	18.0			
400 SUPPLIES		5.0	5.0			
500 EQUIPMENT		15.0	4.0			
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS						
800 MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>		<b>59.2</b>	<b>51.6</b>			

<b>CAPITAL</b>						
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<b>REVENUE</b>						
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**FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)**

GENERAL FUND		59.2	51.6			
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>59.2</b>	<b>51.6</b>			

**POSITIONS:**

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME		1	1			
TEMPORARY						

**ANALYSIS:** Attach a separate page if necessary

See Attached

NOTE: First year represents start-up costs for equipment purchases. Continuing costs will be less.

Prepared By: Neil C. Johannsen, Director Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Division: of Parks & Outdoor Recreation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by Commissioner: Arthur P. Williams Date: 1/23/85

Agency: Natural Resources

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note):

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

7/1/84

HB 43/Larson

Recreation Land Acquisition, Mat-Su Borough Fiscal Note Analysis

The requested funds will provide the below listed maintenance and operations support for recreation land acquisition.

- FY 86
- 100 - funds will provide one seasonal part time Park Ranger I to manage the units.
  - 200 - funds will provide for travel within the region (106 miles round trip from Wasilla to Montana Creek).
  - 300 - the funds will provide for a private maintenance and janitorial contract (15K) to service the units, vehicle mileage and other contractual services, such as, refuse collection.
  - 400 - provides in the hand tools and maintenance commodities for the ranger's managing the unit.
  - 500 - provides the equipment necessary to manage the units; 1 pick-up truck (10K), radios, public safety and law enforcement implements.

FY 87 the same amount of funding would be necessary in each budget category (accounting for inflation) with the exception of equipment. These costs would drop to only 4K for the purchase of additional radio equipment.



# RECORDS CERTIFICATION



I, the undersigned, an employee of the State of Alaska, do hereby certify that the microfilm images on this microform are accurate reproductions of the original records of the State of Alaska as accumulated during the regular course of business, and that it is the established policy and practice of this State to microfilm its records and to dispose of the original records after microfilm reproductions have been made.

James O. Smith  
Signature of Camera Operator

7/25/89  
Date