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SENATOR ARLISS STURGULEWSKI

JUNEAU AK 99811

URGE SUPPORT OF HB 324-JIM LAKE/SWAN LAKE RECREATION AREA.

JACK AND MARY LENTFER

4350 GLACIER HWY

JUNEAU AK 99801

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STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

BILL SHEFFIELD GOVERNOR

APR 09 1985

POUCH M
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
PHONE: 907-485-2400

April 8, 1985

The Honorable Edna DeVries
Alaska State Senate
Pouch V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Senator DeVries:


Several questions have come to my attention with regard to HB 324 (Jim-Swan Lakes Recreation Area). Although the bill has not been scheduled for hearing, I am writing to provide you with some background that may aid you in considering the bill and responding to constituents.

The bill does not affect or designate privately owned lands. Thus, the homesteaders whose lands are located within the proposed area should not be affected as long as they have legitimate interests such as patent or a contract for sale. I am reviewing the concerns of the homesteaders to see if we need amendment of the bill to clarify the situation, but I believe that the bill as introduced clearly designates only state lands (see p. 2, lines 3-8 of the bill).

Another question relates to recreational vehicle use. The department will not restrict vehicle use where there is no damage to habitat - for instance, along existing trails and gravel bars. However in the wetland areas, wheeled vehicle use may be a threat to sensitive habitat. I hope that we can work together on language that protects sensitive areas, but allows recreation vehicle use where it does not pose a threat to sensitive habitat.

Please let me know if we should address any other concerns or comments on the bill. I look forward to discussing it with you.

Sincerely,


Esther C. Wunnicke
Commissioner

cc: Senator Arliss Sturgulewski
Commissioner Don Collinsworth, Department of
Fish and Game
Neil Johannsen, Director, Division of
Parks and Outdoor Recreation
Tom Hawkins, Director, Division of
Land and Water Management

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

BILL SHEFFIELD, GOVERNOR

POUCH M
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
PHONE: 907-485-2400

April 8, 1985

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

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