

HB

493

STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE

POUCH Y - STATE CAPITOL
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
907-465-3800

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE LIBRARY

May, 1988

Copies of minutes listed below were originally included in this file. The minutes are available on the STAIRS database CMPR. In order to save space copies of minutes have not been left in the files.

Mary Van Nimwegen

House C+RA

3-25-88 3:00 p.m.

2/17
D

R

F

P

N

BILL PREPARATION/ACTION*

Bill # HB 493

Date Referred: 2/15/88 Out:

Title: Marine Garbage Collection

Sponsor: Herrmann Sund Referrals: CRA Fin

CONTACTS:*****

Name _____

Herrmann 3/15 [3/25]

Herrmann 3/21 FN [3/25]; 3/24 FN;

REMARKS: _____

MEETINGS:*****

Date _____ Action _____

*3/25/8 1st time passed out CS HB 493 (CRA) 300

3-25-88/3:00pm

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS

BY

REPRESENTATIVE HERRMANN

GOOD AFTERNOON. FOR THE RECORD MY NAME IS ADELHEID HERRMANN, AND I REPRESENT DISTRICT 26 WHICH INCLUDES BRISTOL BAY, THE ALEUTIANS, SHUMAGINS, AND THE PRIBILOFS. (OVERVIEW OF GARB.BILLS)

INTRODUCTION:

...PLEASE BEAR WITH ME WHILE I PRESENT NUMBERS TO YOU, TO GIVE YOU AN IDEA OF THE VOLUME WE'RE TALKING HERE-

TOGIAK HERRING:

IN 1983, ON THE TOGIAK HERRING GROUNDS, (WHICH BY THE WAY IS AN ISOLATED AREA, BY THIS I MEAN THERE ARE NO PLACES PROVIDED TO DUMP GARBAGE). IT'S NOT DIFFICULT TO FIGURE OUT WHERE THE NON-COMBUSTIBLE GARBAGE WAS GOING!!

A CONSERVATIVE ESTIMATE, FOR HERRING FISHERMEN IN 1983 IS FIVE THOUSAND-SIX HUNDRED. ADD TO THAT 288 PROCESSORS IN TOGIAK.

MARCH 25, 1988

BRISTOL BAY SALMON SEASON:-

IN 1983 THERE WERE 36 MILLION RED SALMON PROCESSED. HERE ARE THE APPROXIMATE NUMBERS FOR PARTICIPANTS IN THE SALMON FISHERY.

-29 LAND PROCESSORS

-38 FLOATING PROCESSORS

-400 TO 500 SUPPORT VESSELS; BY THIS I MEAN TENDERS CARRYING FISH FROM THE BOATS TO THE PROCESSORS

-1,800 GILLNET VESSELS

-900 SUPPORT VESSELS FOR SET NET OPERATIONS

NEXT, I WANT TO EMPHASIZE THIS IS AN EXTRAORDINARY INFLUX OF PEOPLE AND OF COURSE AN ENORMOUS AMOUNT OF GARBAGE AND WASTE TO DEAL WITH.

WITH THE RECENT PASSAGE OF A FEDERAL BILL REQUIRING MARINE GARBAGE TO BE BROUGHT ON-SHORE. I CANNOT STRESS ENOUGH THE CONCERNS I HAVE FOR WHERE THE GARBAGE IS SUPPOSE TO GO.

IN THE BRISTOL BAY REGION, IT'S IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THERE ARE FIVE FISHING DISTRICTS. THESE ARE TOGIAK, NUSHAGAK, NAKNEK-KVICHAK, EGEKIK, AND UGASHIK. THREE OF THESE COMMUNITIES ARE EXTREMELY SMALL IN POPULATION BASE. THEY STRUGGLE TO ACCOMODATE THE INFLUX OF POPULATION DURING THE

MARCH 25, 1988

SUMMER, BUT I MUST STRESS THEY DO NOT HAVE ^{adequate} THE FACILITIES TO TAKE ON THE ENORMOUS VOLUMES OF GARBAGE!

PICTURE AN ISOLATED COMMUNITY LIKE PILOT POINT; WITH A RESIDENT POPULATION BASE OF 63 PEOPLE. 600-700 FISHING BOATS REGISTERED TO FISH IN THIS DISTRICT LAST YEAR. CAN YOU IMAGINE A COMMUNITY OF THAT SIZE HANDLING THE VOLUME OF REFUSE ^{garbage} FROM THOSE BOATS AND THE MANY ACCOMPANYING TENDERS AND PROCESSORS? *Comments here. public service announcement.*

\$ 15,000 fine DEC -
IN 1982 THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION RECOGNIZED IN A MEMO, AND I QUOTE, "FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS COMPLAINTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO THE DEPARTMENT REGARDING SOLID WASTE IN BRISTOL BAY."

MANY OF THESE COMPLAINTS CAME FROM SUBSISTENCE AND COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN. THEY GRIPED BECAUSE WHOLE DECOMPOSING FISH AND LARGE PARTS OF FISH WERE WASHING ON-SHORE, GETTING TANGLED IN SETNETS, AS WELL AS IN THE DRIFT NETS OF FISHING BOATS. CAN YOU VISUALIZE CLEANING 150 FATHOMS OR 900 FEET OF GILLNET TANGLED WITH ODORFUL, DECOMPOSING, FISH HEADS AND INTESTINES? WELL, THAT WAS NOT UNCOMMON IN BRISTOL BAY - ESPECIALLY IF YOU SET OUT YOUR NET BEHIND A FLOATING PROCESSOR, WHICH BY THE WAY WAS OFTEN CONSIDERED A "GOOD SET" OR PRIME AREA. AS YOU MIGHT

*#1 issue in my district.
✓
setnet 50 ft.*

MARCH 25, 1988

IMAGINE, THIS CLEAN UP PROCESS COULD TAKE HOURS; RESULTING IN ECONOMIC LOSSES IN PRIME FISHING TIME, AND THE POSSIBILITY OF FISH POISONING FROM HANDLING DECOMPOSING FISH WASTE. THESE ARE VIEWS OF THE FISHERMEN.

THERE ARE MANY OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

-CONSIDER THE AESTHETIC FACTORS; PICTURE A LARGE VOLUME OF TRASH BAGS AND OTHER GARBAGE WASHING ASHORE.

Omitted
-CONSIDER THE DAMAGE, FRUSTRATION, AND THE ECONOMIC COSTS TO REMOVE PLASTIC STRAPPING AND OLD DISCARDED FISHING GEAR FROM PROPELLORS OF BOTH FISHING BOATS AND TENDERS!

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS:

1982- IN 1982 DEC RECEIVED NUMEROUS COMPLAINTS FROM FISHERMEN, CONCERNED CITIZENS, AND FISHING ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVES. THEY COMPLAINED OF THE FISH PROCESSING WASTE DISPOSAL PROBLEM AND THE SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL PROBLEM.

A REPORTED QUESTION AROSE. WHERE DOES THE SOLID WASTE GO? IF COMBUSTIBLES ARE BEING BURNT ON THE FLOATERS' STERNS; WHERE IS THE NON-COMBUSTIBLE GARBAGE GOING?

1983- IN 1983 THE SITUATION WAS RECOGNIZED BY CONCERNED CITIZENS AS "GETTING OUT-OF-HAND!"

MARCH 25, 1988

WHAT DEC DID TO BATTLE THE PROBLEM:

IN 1983, DEC DID ATTEMPT TO ADDRESS AND ALLEVIATE THE PROBLEMS. IN REGARDS TO THE TOGIAK HERRING FISHERY, DEC;

-SENT INFORMATIONAL LETTERS TO PROCESSORS

-SPENT 10 DAYS IN JUNE INSPECTING LAND BASED PLANTS

-10 DAYS IN JULY BOARDING AND INSPECTING FLOATING PROCESSORS.

-THE BRISTOL BAY BOROUGH PROVIDED THEIR FIRE BOAT TO ALLOW DEC TO INSPECT 78 VESSEL STERNS FOR INCINERATORS.

-DEC HELD INFORMATIVE MEETINGS WITH MAGISTRATES IN DILLINGHAM AND NAKNEK TO DISCUSS REGULATIONS

RESULTS OF DEC'S EFFORTS:

I BELIEVE 9 OF 21 FLOATERS INSTALLED INCINERATORS TO REDUCE COMBUSTIBLE WASTE. IT WAS BELIEVED A REFUSE COLLECTOR CONTRACTOR FOR THE BRISTOL BAY BOROUGH STARTED REFUSE COLLECTION SERVICES BY BOAT FOR SALMON PROCESSORS, BUT ACTUALLY ONLY ONE TRIP FROM ONE PROCESSOR WAS TRANSPORTED.

1984- IN 1984 MY OFFICE RECEIVED MORE CORRESPONDENCE ON THIS ISSUE FROM DEC, FISH AND WILDLIFE, PUBLIC SAFETY, CITIES AND BOROUGHES, FISHING ASSOCIATIONS, AND CONCERNED CITIZENS. AFTER RECEIVING THIS CORRESPONDENCE, WE HELD MEETINGS AND THE FOLLOWING RESULTED.

MARCH 25, 1988

DEC WAS GIVEN SOME RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FISH AND SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL PROBLEM. THESE WERE TO;

- comment?*
1. STATION A PERMANENT DEC REPRESENTATIVE IN BRISTOL BAY.
 2. INCREASE THE DAYS FOR A DEC REPRESENTATIVE TO BE ON-SITE FOR REGULATION ENFORCEMENT
 3. SEND INFORMATION TO THE FISHERY PARTICIPANTS REGARDING REGULATIONS ON SEWAGE, FISH WASTE, REFUSE, AND BILGE DISPOSAL, TO BE ENFORCED DURING THE 1984 SEASON.

I BELIEVE MUCH WAS DONE IN 1984 BY THE STATE TO ATTEMPT TO HELP WITH THIS PROBLEM. BUT, IT WAS ONLY A BEGINNING. I KNOW THERE WAS SOME DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN DEC AND THE PUBLIC AS TO HOW MUCH OF THE PROBLEM WAS HELPED.

1985- IN 1985 THE BRISTOL BAY SOLID WASTE TASK FORCE WAS FORMED. FROM THIS RESOLVED THE IDEA THAT EVERY PROCESSOR SHOULD HAVE GRINDING MACHINERY AND INCINERATORS.

SUMMARY:

IN THE PAST, I HEARD MANY RECOMMENDATIONS THAT THE STATE SHOULD HAVE A REFUSE SCOW TO TRANSPORT GARBAGE TO SHORE. IN

REP. HERRMANN

PAGE SEVLN

MARCH 25, 1988

1985, THE ADMINISTRATION VETOED A BILL THAT I INTRODUCED WHICH WOULD HAVE ALLOWED A PILOT PROJECT FOR MARINE REFUSE COLLECTION.

note {
I AM WELL AWARE THIS PIECE OF LEGISLATION IS ONLY THE VERY BEGINNING ATTEMPT AT SOLVING A MAJOR PROBLEM IN MY DISTRICT, AND THE STATE AS A WHOLE. I URGE YOU TO CONSIDER OUR STATE'S FIRST LARGEST RENEWABLE RESOURCE, THE COMMUNITIES AFFECTED, AND THE FUTURE GENERATIONS OF OUR STATE. ALASKA IS FAMOUS FOR ITS BEAUTIFUL VAST COASTLINE AND COUNTRY. I BELIEVE WE NEED TO TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION TO PROTECT OUR STATE.

A:3-25-SP.TXT

Original sponsors: Herrmann and Sund

IN THE HOUSE

BY THE COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 493 (C&RA)
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

A BILL

For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to marine garbage collection; and providing for an effective date."

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

* Section 1. AS 44.47 is amended by adding a new section to read:

ARTICLE 12A. MARINE GARBAGE COLLECTION GRANTS.

Sec. 44.47.750. MARINE GARBAGE COLLECTION FUND. (a) There is established in the department the marine garbage collection fund as an account in the general fund. The fund consists of money appropriated to it. Money in the fund may be used to make grants to municipalities and unincorporated communities as provided for in AS 29.60.140, for the collection of marine garbage in state water.

(b) The department shall adopt regulations for the determination of entitlement to marine garbage collection grants, application and approval of grants, and administration of grants.

(c) In making grants under this section, the department shall consider

(1) the number of vessels engaged in commercial fishing or related activities, including processing, in water adjacent to or within the applicant's jurisdiction;

(2) the volume of garbage that is dumped by vessels in the area or that drifts into the area after being dumped by vessels operating outside state water;

(3) the effect of marine garbage on the environment in the area;

(4) other resources available to the applicant; and

(5) other factors that the department establishes by regulation that are relevant to a determination of the applicant's need for financial assistance to alleviate the locality's marine garbage problem.

* Sec. 2. This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(5)

Date referred: 2/15/88

FURTHER REFERRALS: Finance

DATE: MAR 25 1988

The Community and Regional Affairs Committee has considered HB 493

"An Act relating to marine garbage collection; and providing for an effective date."

RECOMMENDS:

- replace with CS HB 493 (CRA) the same title
- attached amendment(s) a new title
- do pass
- do not pass
- no recommendation
- individual recommendations
- additional referral to the _____ Committee

ADOPTS: _____ letter of intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

- fiscal impact same as previous fiscal note published _____
- zero fiscal note same as previous zero fiscal note published _____
- zero with analysis

SIGNING DO PASS:

Heinrich Springer Springer _____
Adelheid Herrmann Herrmann _____
Cyrus Collins Collins _____

SIGNING OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

Springer Heinrich Springer
 Chairman's signature

File Contents

HB 493 - Marine Garbage Collection

| <u>No.</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. | Bill - HB 493 |
| 1.1 | Fiscal Note - DCRA (coming) |
| 2. | Bill Analysis - Governor's Office |
| 3. | Bill Review - Harrison |
| 4. | <i>Sponsor Pkt</i> |

STATE OF ALASKA
1988 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL VERSION: HB 493
PUBLISH DATE: _____

1.1 HB 493

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____
Title: "An Act relating to marine garbage collection..effective date."
Sponsor: Herrmann & Sund
Requestor: _____

Agency Affected: Community & Regional Affairs
BRU: _____
Components: _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

| OPERATING | FY 88 | FY 89 | FY 90 | FY 91 | FY 92 | FY 93 |
|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| PERSONAL SERVICES | | 23.1 | 23.9 | 24.7 | 25.5 | 26.3 |
| TRAVEL | | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 |
| CONTRACTUAL | | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 |
| SUPPLIES | | | | | | |
| EQUIPMENT | | 1.0 | | | | |
| LAND & STRUCTURES | | | | | | |
| GRANTS, CLAIMS | | | | | | |
| MISCELLANEOUS | | | | | | |
| TOTAL OPERATING | | 29.1 | 28.9 | 29.7 | 30.5 | 31.3 |
| CAPITAL | | | | | | |
| REVENUE | | | | | | |

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

| | | | | | | |
|---------------|--|------|------|------|------|------|
| GENERAL FUND | | 29.1 | 28.9 | 29.7 | 30.5 | 31.3 |
| FEDERAL FUNDS | | | | | | |
| OTHER | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | | | | | | |

POSITIONS:

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| FULL-TIME | | | | | | |
| PART-TIME | | | | | | |
| TEMPORARY | | | | | | |

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: Jim Plasman, Deputy Director
Division: Municipal & Regional Assistance

Phone: 465-4750
Date: 3/25/88

Approved by Commissioner: [Signature]
Agency: Community & Regional Affairs

Date: 3/25/88

Distribution (by preparer):

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

| | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|-----------------------|--|-------------------|
| Position Title Grants Administrator | | No. of Positions 1 | Range/Step 17 A | Barg. Unit GGU |
| Time Status Part Time | Staff Months 6 months | | Location Juneau | Election District |
| Type of Expenditure | | | Justification | |
| | | Amount | <p>This position will administer the grants program. The amount of work associated with the program does not justify a full time position.</p> | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | | |
| Salary | 17.4 | | | |
| Benefits | 5.7 | | | |
| Premium Pay | | | | |
| Other | | | | |
| Total Personal Services | | 23.1 | | |
| Travel | | | | |
| Contractual | | | | |
| Commodities | | | | |
| Equipment | | | | |
| Other | | | | |
| Total Cost | | | | |
| Funding Source for Total Cost | | | | |
| Federal Receipts | 1002 | | | |
| G. F. Match | 1003 | | | |
| General Fund | 1004 | | | |
| GF Program Receipts | 1005 | | | |
| Other | | | | |

**Request For
New Position**

Agency Community & Regional Affairs
 BRU Local Government Assistance
 Component Local Government Support

Page 1 of 1
 Revised Date

FY 89

STATE OF ALASKA
1988 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL VERSION: CS
HB 493
PUBLISH DATE: _____

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____
Title: "An Act relating to marine garbage collection..effective date."
Sponsor: Herrmann & Sund
Requestor: _____

Agency Affected: Community & Regional Affairs
BRU: _____
Components: _____

Done CS

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

| OPERATING | FY 88 | FY 89 | FY 90 | FY 91 | FY 92 | FY 93 |
|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| PERSONAL SERVICES | | 23.1 | 23.9 | 24.7 | 25.5 | 26.3 |
| TRAVEL | | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 |
| CONTRACTUAL | | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 |
| SUPPLIES | | | | | | |
| EQUIPMENT | | 1.0 | | | | |
| LAND & STRUCTURES | | | | | | |
| GRANTS, CLAIMS | | | | | | |
| MISCELLANEOUS | | | | | | |
| TOTAL OPERATING | | 29.1 | 28.9 | 29.7 | 30.5 | 31.3 |
| CAPITAL | | | | | | |
| REVENUE | | | | | | |

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

| | | | | | | |
|---------------|--|------|------|------|------|------|
| GENERAL FUND | | 29.1 | 28.9 | 29.7 | 30.5 | 31.3 |
| FEDERAL FUNDS | | | | | | |
| OTHER | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | | | | | | |

POSITIONS:

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| FULL-TIME | | | | | | |
| PART-TIME | | | | | | |
| TEMPORARY | | | | | | |

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: Jim Plasman, Deputy Director
Division: Municipal & Regional Assistance

Phone: 465-4750
Date: 3/25/88

Approved by Commissioner: [Signature]
Agency: Community & Regional Affairs

Date: 3/25/88

- Distribution (by preparer):
- Legislative Finance
 - Legislative Sponsor
 - Requestor
 - Office of Management and Budget
 - Impacted Agency(ies)

*Dave
Dierdorff*

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY HERRMANN AND SUND

2

HOUSE BILL NO. 493

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to marine garbage collection; and
7 providing for an effective date."

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

9 * Section 1. AS 44.47 is amended by adding a new section to read:

10 ARTICLE 12A. MARINE GARBAGE COLLECTION GRANTS.

11 Sec. 44.47.750. MARINE GARBAGE COLLECTION FUND. (a) There is
12 established in the department the marine garbage collection fund as an
13 account in the general fund. The fund consists of money appropriated
14 to it. Money in the fund may be used to make grants to municipalities
15 and unincorporated communities ^{as provided for in AS 29.60.140} for the collection of marine garbage in
16 state water.

17 (b) The department shall adopt regulations for the determination
18 of entitlement to marine garbage collection grants, application and
19 approval of grants, and administration of grants.

20 (c) In making grants under this section, the department shall
21 consider

22 (1) the number of vessels engaged in commercial fishing or
23 related activities, including processing, in water adjacent to or
24 within the applicant's jurisdiction;

25 (2) the volume of garbage that is dumped by vessels in the
26 area or that drifts into the area after being dumped by vessels oper-
27 ating outside state water;

28 (3) the effect of marine garbage on the environment in the
29 area;

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPT. OF COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS

MUNICIPAL & REGIONAL ASSISTANCE DIVISION

①, 2 HB 493

STEVE COWPER, GOVERNOR

949 E. 36th AVENUE, SUITE 400
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99508-4302
PHONE: (907) 561-8586

P.O. BOX 348
BETHEL, ALASKA 99559-0348
PHONE: (907) 543-3475

P.O. BOX 10041
DILLINGHAM, ALASKA 99576-1041
PHONE: (907) 842-5135

1514 CUSHMAN STREET, ROOM 210
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701-6286
PHONE: (907) 452-7126

P.O. BOX BH
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811-2110
PHONE: (907) 465-4750

710 MILL BAY RD.
KODIAK, ALASKA 99615-6340
PHONE: (907) 486-5736

P.O. BOX 350
KOTZEBUE, ALASKA 99752-0350
PHONE: (907) 442-3696

P.O. BOX 41
NOME, ALASKA 99762-0041
PHONE: (907) 443-5457

March 25, 1988

Position Paper

RE: House Bill 493

SPONSOR: Representative Herrmann

Program Effects:

This bill would establish in this department a grants program for municipalities and unincorporated communities to be used for the collection of marine garbage in state water.

Comments:

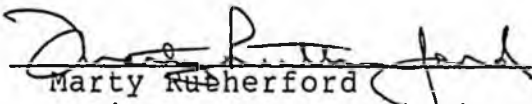
The problems this bill is designed to address are serious ones, particularly in the Bristol Bay region. The intent is apparently to provide easier access for fishing boats and processors to waste disposal systems in coastal communities to encourage lawful disposal of marine garbage, rather than unlawful dumping. The method adopted by this bill is to give grants to municipalities which may be expected to provide directly, or contract for, floating collection barges, which may then transport the garbage to an appropriate waste disposal site.

This department has less expertise in the areas of waste disposal and environmental quality that are essential to the solution of this problem than, for instance, the Department of Environmental Conservation. However, that department does not currently administer operating grants programs of this nature and is not prepared to go into the grants area. The nature of the proposed program will require a close coordination of effort with DEC, as this department does not have the resources to independently evaluate some of the criteria listed in the bill for consideration in making the grants.

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Page Two

The department has one technical concern that should be addressed. While the bill would make unincorporated communities eligible to receive grants, an unincorporated community by its nature is unable to receive a grant. The department would recommend specifying eligible entities within such a community to receive funds under the program and would propose the approach taken in the State Revenue Sharing Program at AS 29 ~~40.160~~ as a model.

^{60.140}
The impacts of marine garbage collection on communities will become even greater with the recent adoption of federal law dealing with the disposal of marine garbage. This bill provides a means to assist municipalities deal with those impacts. However, while the department is sympathetic to these goals, because of the current revenue situation, it is unable to support the bill.


Marty Rutherford
Acting Deputy Commissioner



STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
BILL ANALYSIS

② HB 493

MAR 22 1988

| | | | |
|---|-----------------|--|----------------------------|
| DEPARTMENT DEC | DIVISION | BILL NUMBER HB 493 | SPONSOR Herrmann & Sund |
| SHORT TITLE OF BILL Relating to marine garbage collection | | | |
| DEPARTMENT POSITION The Department supports the objective of the bill. | | | |
| PREPARED BY Amy D. Kyle <i>akyle</i> | DATE 2/29/88 | COMMISSIONER'S SIGNATURE <i>[Signature]</i> | DATE 3/1/88 |

SUMMARY

| | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED BY BILL DCRA | CONSTITUENT GROUP(S) AFFECTED BY BILL |
| ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORT FOR BILL | ORGANIZATIONAL OPPOSITION TO BILL |

FISCAL IMPACT: NONE FISCAL NOTE ATTACHED

BACKGROUND/LEGISLATIVE INTENT
The bill is intended to address long-standing problems with accumulation of garbage from fishing boats in Bristol Bay. At present, garbage collection facilities are not easily accessible to fishing boats.

ANALYSIS OF BILL/PROGRAM EFFECTS
The bill would create a program in the Department of Community and Regional Affairs to make grants to communities for garbage collection.

The criteria appear to be sound. The need for garbage collection services is real. The bill would address the absence of a private enterprise.

No fiscal impact on DEC.

AMENDMENTS PROPOSED

PLEASE ATTACH A SEPARATE SHEET FOR ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OR ANALYSIS.

Bristol Bay Solid Waste Task Force

April 10, 1985 - Attendance

| <u>NAME</u> | <u>ADDRESS</u> | <u>ORGANIZATION</u> |
|------------------|---|--|
| Marion Adams | Pouch A, Dillingham | Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation |
| John M. Pearson | Box 169, Dillingham | City of Dillingham |
| Roland D. Moody | Aleknagik | Moody's |
| Jeff Srakde | Box 199, Dillingham, AK | Alaska Department of Fish and Game |
| Daniel Nanalook | P.O.Box 109, Togiak, AK | Togiak Natilus, Ltd. |
| Henry Pavian | P.O.Box 56, Togiak, AK | Togiak Community Council |
| Jim Barr | 4019 21st Ave., W., Seattle, WA | Icicle Seafoods |
| Henry Shade | P.O. Box 2, Dillingham, AK | Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation |
| Arla Tracy | P.O.Box 433, Pilot Pt., AK | Pilot Point Village Council |
| Don Penner | Box 189, Naknek, AK | Bristol Bay Borough |
| Earl J. Gattodor | Box 179, Naknek, AK | Patterson's |
| John M. Schibel | P.O.Box 504, Dutch Harbor, AK | Dutch Harbor Seafoods |
| Doug Donegan | P.O. Box 0, Juneau, Alaska, 99811-1800 | Department of Environmental Conservation |
| Mark Lisac | Box 10201, DLG | United States Fish & Wildlife Service |
| Jeff Smith | DLG | Public Health Service |
| J.C. Hiles | | Fisherman |
| Harvey Samuelson | | |

③ HB 493



Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives

Committee on Community & Regional Affairs

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

March 22, 1988

TO: Rep. Henry Springer, Chairman HCRA

FROM: David C. Harrison, P. A., HCRA *DCH*

Subject: BILL REVIEW - HB 493 "An Act relating to marine
garbage collection; and providing for an effective
date."

*****_

Section 1. AS 44.47 is amended to add a new section .750 establishing a program within the DCRA to make grants to local communities for marine garbage collection.

DCRA is required to adopt regulations for determining marine garbage collection grants, applications, approvals of grants as well as administering grants for garbage collection to local communities so affected.

Criteria as related in this bill are most appropriate.

There is a need to provide marine garbage collections and to have marine garbage facilities in those commercial fishing areas that have short but intensive commercial activities.

Although some land based canneries have their own landfill and take care of their own garbage, many floater processors that do not have land based operations have a problem with disposing garbage and/or what to do with it.

Local garbage is not the only problem. high seas garbage also is noted, such things as floating nets foreign/local that are lost on the high seas, plastics of all kinds that remain afloat so that birds and seamamals are caught and die as a result of entanglement in this type of gear.

④ HB 493

HOUSE COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
MARCH 25, 1988

INDEX FOR HB 493-4 (GARBAGE) PACKETS

1. MEMO TO COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS FROM REP. HERRMANN
2. FISCAL NOTE FOR HB 493 FROM DEC
3. PACKET OF BACKGROUND; FISH AND SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL IN BRISTOL BAY
4. REP. HERRMANN'S LETTER TO WESTERN LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE, EXPLAINING MARINE GARBAGE PROBLEM IN HER DISTRICT AND WHITE PAPER ON MARINE DEBRIS/OCEAN DUMPING
5. WHITE PAPER ON MARINE DEBRIS/OCEAN DUMPING, PREPARED BY HOUSE RESEARCH IN MARCH OF 1987
6. LETTER OF COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM MARK SMITH, BARGE OPERATOR FROM BRISTOL BAY
7. LETTERS OF SUPPORT
8. FEDERAL BILL - S. 2596: STUDY OF ADVERSE EFFECTS OF POLLUTION CAUSED BY DISCARDING/DUMPING PLASTICS
9. ARTICLE EXPLAINING FEDERAL BILL
10. SENATOR STEVENS FLOOR SPEECH; COMMENTS ON MARINE GARBAGE
11. ARTICLE FROM SMITHSONIAN MAGAZINE; "PLASTIC REAPS A GRIM HARVEST IN THE OCEANS OF THE WORLD." (MARCH 1988, PAGES 59-67)

A:PKTHB493.TXT

Alaska State Legislature

REPRESENTATIVE
ADELHEID HERRMANN

P O BOX 83
NAKNEK ALASKA 99833
(907) 246-4495

CO CHAIRMAN
RESOURCES COMMITTEE

MEMBER
COMMUNITY & REGIONAL
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

While in Juneau
BOX V
JUNEAU ALASKA 99811
(907) 465 4942 465 4943

House of Representatives

MEMORANDUM

DISTRICT 28

ADAK
AKUTAN
ALEKNAGIK
ATKA
BELKOFSKI
CLARK S POINT
COLD BAY
DILLINGHAM
DUTCH HARBOR
EGEGIK
EKUK
EKVOK
FALSE PASS
IGIUGIG
ILIAMNA
KING COVE
KING SALMON
KOKHANOK
KOLIGANEK
LEVELOCK
MANOKOTAK
NAKNEK
NELSON LAGOON
NEWHALEN
NEW STUYAHOK
NIKOLSKI
NONDALTON
PEDRO BAY
PILOT POINT
PORT ALSWORTH
PORT HEIDEN
PORT MOLLER
PORTAGE CREEK
SAND POINT
SOUTH NAKNEK
SQUAW HARBOR
ST GEORGE
ST PAUL
TOGIK
TWIN HILLS
UGASHIK
UNALASKA

TO: Jim Plasman, Deputy Director
Division of Municipal and Regional Assistance
Community and Regional Affairs

FROM: Representative Adelheid Herrmann

DATE: March 22, 1988

SUBJECT: HB 493 and HB 494; establishing marine
garbage collection fund and an appropriation.

HISTORY:

Marine garbage collection and fish processing waste became a big issue in my district in 1981. Concerned citizens recognized a very dramatic increase in the dumping volume of unground viscera, heads, whole fish, and other processing waste. The problem grew to a wider magnitude when combustible and non-combustible solid waste surfaced in drift and setnets, and on beaches. In addition, a common complaint brought to my attention from many vessel operators, was the entangling problem of plastic strapping on vessel propellers. This segment of the overall garbage issue brought forth an organized effort to involve the State's regulatory agencies, primarily DEC.

The problem was first brought to the attention of the Department of Environmental Conservation back in 1982. Through the efforts of the Bristol Bay Borough, DEC, and other local communities, the Bristol Bay Solid Waste Task Force was formed. This task force organized fish and solid waste disposal recommendations. This information is included with the back-up material.

One proposed solution to the on-going problem for Bristol Bay was to permanently station a representative of the DEC office in Dillingham. The representative was later moved to Naknek because most of the processors were located in the Naknek area. I believe this was done in 1983.

Many suggestions to address this marine garbage issue were voiced through local and involved organizations, which is also provided in the packet. In 1984 two of the suggestions included; a fish waste disposal plan for Bristol Bay, and a garbage scow contracted or responsible to the State to haul garbage to shore for disposal at municipal dump sites. This brings forth the question of landfill capacity within the municipalities.

A garbage collection pilot project was one avenue we did pursue in 1985, but this proposal was vetoed by the Governor. Here we are again, trying to address this extreme and monumental problem both in my district as well as in other coastal areas of our state. I am aware these \$200,000 funds will only be a beginning in alleviating this issue. However, there is an extreme necessity to begin developing a garbage collection scheme now, as it is affecting our natural resources both on the state and national level. Recently Congress passed a bill which I monitored closely. "33 U.S.C. 1901-1911, as amended, requires that ports and terminals in the United States provide reception facilities for certain pollutants and garbage from ships"; and with the passage of this bill on the federal level requiring marine garbage to be brought on shore, I can see rural coastal communities needing assistance real soon with this issue.

I hope this information and the attached material will be of help in your positive position paper on the bill.

a:hb493.txt



STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
BILL ANALYSIS

| | | | |
|---|-----------------|--|---------------------------|
| DEPARTMENT DEC | DIVISION | BILL NUMBER HB 493 | SPONSOR Hermann & Sund |
| SHORT TITLE OF BILL Relating to marine garbage collection | | | |
| DEPARTMENT POSITION The Department supports the objective of the bill. | | | |
| PREPARED BY Amy D. Kyle <i>adkyle</i> | DATE 2/29/88 | COMMISSIONER'S SIGNATURE <i>[Signature]</i> | DATE 3/1/88 |

SUMMARY

| | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED BY BILL DCRA | CONSTITUENT GROUP(S) AFFECTED BY BILL |
| ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORT FOR BILL | ORGANIZATIONAL OPPOSITION TO BILL |

FISCAL IMPACT: NONE FISCAL NOTE ATTACHED

BACKGROUND/LEGISLATIVE INTENT
The bill is intended to address long-standing problems with accumulation of garbage from fishing boats in Bristol Bay. At present, garbage collection facilities are not easily accessible to fishing boats.

ANALYSIS OF BILL/PROGRAM EFFECTS
The bill would create a program in the Department of Community and Regional Affairs to make grants to communities for garbage collection.

The criteria appear to be sound. The need for garbage collection services is real. The bill would address the absence of a private enterprise.

No fiscal impact on DEC.

AMENDMENTS PROPOSED

PLEASE ATTACH A SEPARATE SHEET FOR ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OR ANALYSIS.

Bristol Bay Solid Waste Task Force

April 10, 1985 - Attendance

| <u>NAME</u> | <u>ADDRESS</u> | <u>ORGANIZATION</u> |
|------------------|---|--|
| Marion Adams | Pouch A, Dillingham | Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation |
| John M. Pearson | Box 169, Dillingham | City of Dillingham |
| Roland D. Moody | Aleknagik | Moody's |
| Jeff Srakde | Box 199, Dillingham, AK | Alaska Department of Fish and Game |
| Daniel Nanalook | P.O.Box 109, Togiak, AK | Togiak Natilus, Ltd. |
| Henry Pavian | P.O.Box 56, Togiak, AK | Togiak Community Council |
| Jim Barr | 4019 21st Ave., W., Seattle, WA | Icicle Seafoods |
| Henry Shade | P.O. Box 2, Dillingham, AK | Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation |
| Arla Tracy | P.O.Box 433, Pilot Pt., AK | Pilot Point Village Council |
| Don Penner | Box 189, Naknek, AK | Bristol Bay Borough |
| Earl J. Gattodor | Box 179, Naknek, AK | Patterson's |
| John M. Schibel | P.O.Box 504, Dutch Harbor, AK | Dutch Harbor Seafoods |
| Doug Donegan | P.O. Box 0, Juneau, Alaska, 99811-1800 | Department of Environmental Conservation |
| Mark Lisac | Box 10201, DLG | United States Fish & Wildlife Service |
| Jeff Smith | DLG | Public Health Service |
| J.C. Hiles | | Fisherman |
| Harvey Samuelson | | |

BACKGROUND ON FISH AND SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL IN BRISTOL BAY

Fish and Solid Waste Disposal in Bristol Bay during fishing seasons is a problem. 1983 was no exception. The amount of pollution caused by dumping untreated fish and solid waste into Bristol Bay is almost impossible to determine. 1983 found 29 land processors and 38 floating processors operating in Bristol Bay. Also included are the estimated 400 to 500 support vessels. Add to that approximately 1800 gill net vessels and support vessels for approximately 900 set net operations. 39.1 million salmon were harvested in Bristol Bay.

This information is presented to give you an idea of how much disposable waste can be generated by the fishing industry. Fish heads, viscera, solid waste dumped into the rivers of Bristol Bay can be a monumental problem if the State fails to prevent pollution.

FISH AND SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL RECOMMENDATIONS

1. A Fish and Solid Waste Disposal Program for the 1984 Fishing Season to be funded to accomplish the following goals:
 - a) Plan and implement a Bristol Bay Fish and Solid Waste Disposal Plan for the 1984 fishing season which would allow the Department of Environmental Conservation to station a permanent representative in Bristol Bay.
 - b) Send all processors, support vessels and fishermen information about bilge oil, sewage and fish waste regulations that will be in effect in 1984.
 - c) Increase the man days of actual on-site inspection and patrols of shore-based and floating processors. (ADEC presence is a must during the height of the season.)
 - d) Re-establish contact with enforcement and judicial officers regarding ADEC mission in Bristol Bay as it relates to fish and solid waste disposal.
 - e) Have ADEC establish a Fish and Solid Waste Disposal Task Force of concerned parties to address fish and solid waste disposal problems in Bristol Bay and make policy recommendations for legislative and administrative consideration.

MEMORANDUM

State of Alaska

TO: Bob Martin
Deputy Director, EQO

DATE: September 14, 1983

FILE NO:

TELEPHONE NO: 274-2533

CLM
FROM: Jim Allen
Anchorage/Western
District Supervisor

SUBJECT: Bristol Bay

Norman Stadem visited this office on September 12, 1983 regarding the pollution of Bristol Bay during the 1983 Salmon Season. Mr. Stadem is a economist by profession, a professor at APU and a member of the board of the Alaska Independent Fisherman's Marketing Association Cooperative (AIFMAC) and a fisherman. Mr. Stadem is representing AIFMAC during his visit. The AIFMAC has a membership of 500 plus fishermen.

We reviewed my report to Keith Kelton dated August 18, 1983 on the same subject.

Mr. Stadem is still concerned with the type and volume of pollution to the bay and cited several examples where fishing boats had become disabled and were required to be towed to shore to untangle plastic binding material from the propellers. This material is used to bind fibers used for packing processed fish.

We both agreed that in-addition to reducing pollution that a greater distance between boats would tend to reduce incidental pollution from the ships and boats.

It is my recommendation that we expand beyond our regulatory role and into one where we can obtain cooperation from all departments, organizations, and individuals involved in Bristol Bay.

DEC should form a committee to form a task force on the problem and make recommendations for implementation of a program to further reduce pollution. Formation of the committee and members of the task force should include but not limited to the following:

1. The Departments of Fish and Game and Public Safety, Fish and Wildlife Protection
2. DEC, Seafood and Animal health
3. Alaska Independent Fisherman's Marketing Association Cooperative

Bob Martin

Page 2

September 14, 1983

5. Local Native Associations
6. City of Dillingham
7. Western Alaska Commercial Fisherman's
Association
8. North Pacific Processors Association
9. Alaska Fisherman's Journal

Grants are needed to establish local landfills and collection points located where waste oil and refuse can be stored. The committee should start work on plans for a task force in January or February 1984.

JCA/BSM

cc: Keith Kelton
Norman Stauen
Jeff Skrade
Joe Campbell

BIO
ECONOMIC
RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS

NORMAN STADEN
ECONOMIST

1828 EAST 26TH AVENUE
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99504
(907) 272-0908

September 13, 1983

Mr. James C. Allen
Anchorage/Western District Supervisor
Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
437 E Street, Suite 200
Anchorage, AK. 99501

RECEIVED

SEP 15 1983

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
REGION II

Dear Mr. Allen:

This is to affirm my impression of the positive results of our meeting yesterday in your office regarding the solid fish waste disposal problem in the Naknek/Kvichak Rivers during the Sockeye salmon fishing season. There has been a dramatic increase in the volume of unground viscera, heads, and whole fish and other processing waste during the past two years. In my capacity as a representative of the Alaska Independent Fishermen's Marketing Association, Coop I heard from a large number of the fishermen in respect to this problem. The concern was unanimous--the problem has gotten out of hand, and A.I.F.M.A. Coop must bring the problem to the attention of regulatory agencies for resolution. Obviously, of primary concern is the economic cost transferred to the fishermen by those processors who dump without grinding these fish wastes. Fishing productivity is adversely impacted since productive time is wasted in disentangling this material, especially viscera, from the nets. There is a concern also for the possible health hazard of infection, such as blood poisoning or fish poisoning, from constantly handling the decomposing fish wastes. Of no small significance is the detrimental impact on morale.

We realize that waste disposal is a fundamental problem in a primary processing industry such as salmon fishery. However, ADEC has essentially solved this problem in the case of shore-based processors by requiring that all fish wastes be ground before dumping it into the water-ways. The problem, with respect to the fishermen, is more acute in the case of floating processors because they dump directly in the prime fishing areas. Thus, there is no chance of some of the material washing ashore, where it decomposes or is eaten by birds and animals, rather than being caught in gill nets.

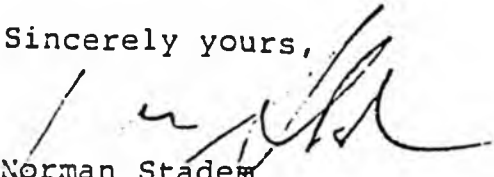
Your suggestion that ADEC take the initiative in organizing a meeting of concerned parties to discuss the general problem of waste disposal into the Bay, is taken as a positive step in seeking a solution to this increasing problem. We look forward to hearing more on this in the near future.

Mr. James C. Allen

-2-

September 13, 1983

Sincerely yours,



Norman Stadem
Assemblyman, AIFMA Coop

cc: State Rep. Adelheid Herrmann
Mr. Mitch Kink, Gen. Mgr., AIFMA Coop

MEMORANDUM

437 E. Street, Suite 200

State of Alaska

Anchorage, Alaska 99501

TO: Keith Kelton
Director, EQO

DATE: August 18, 1983

FILE NO:

TELEPHONE NO: 274-2533

FROM: James C. Allen
Anchorage/Western
District Supervisor

SUBJECT: Disposal of Salmon and
Solid Waste in Bristol
Bay 1983

Based on my 1982 observations, the following plan was initiated for the 1983 season:

1. Five-thousand, six-hundred fisherman and two-hundred and eighty-eight processors applied to fish and process herring in Bristol Bay for the 1983 season. Our main concern and that of Fish and Game was oil pollution from the fishing and processing vessels. Herring roe is very susceptible to the effects of petroleum products. Letters were sent to all processors and made available to processors when they reregistered locally with the Department of Fish and Game. Ten man days was spent on the Fish and Wildlife vessel Vigilant for enforcement purposes. No oil pollution was observed. I feel this was due to the fact that we sent out the letters, we were there and excellent weather conditions. Last year ten fishing boats were sunk or driven on shore by bad weather.

2. Bristol Bay Salmon Processors are located at:

| <u>Location</u> | <u>Land</u> | <u>Floating</u> | <u>Tenders</u> | <u>Freighters</u> |
|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Dillingham | 6 | - | - | - |
| Queen Slough | 1 | - | - | - |
| Clarks Point | - | 8 | - | - |
| Eruk | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| Naknek | 5 | 21 | 48 | 17 |
| South Naknek | 3 | - | - | - |
| Egegik | 1 | 2 | - | - |
| Pederson Point | 1 | - | - | - |
| Togiak | 1 | - | - | - |
| TOTAL | 19 | 32 | 48 | 17 |

This represents the majority of the plants and processors in the immediate area. Tenders and freighters were only counted in the area off of the Naknek River. It is difficult to estimate the amount of fish waste produced from the 36 million red salmon that were processed. Kings, silvers and other salmon are not included in this figure. It is also difficult to estimate the amount of solid waste generated from the processing and the crew.

5227

Again, letters were sent to all processors and copies were provided to Fish and Game offices in Dillingham and King Salmon for distribution.

Ten man days were spent during the last two weeks in June to primarily inspect land based plants for water, sewage and fish waste discharge systems. Ten man days were spent the first two weeks in July to board floating processors for sanitary, solid and fish waste discharge.

On two occasions, The Bristol Bay Borough made available their fire boat. Within three hours we were able to check the sterns of seventy-eight vessels. Fish and Wildlife Protection provided a boat ride to Queen Fisheries which eliminated an air charter cost.

Meetings were held with the Magistrates in Naknek and Dillingham and letters were sent to reconfirm our conversation and included regulations, waste discharge requirements for land and floating processors and types of misdemeanors. This information was also provided to Fish and Wildlife personnel in Dillingham and Naknek.

Observations:

1. Everyone contacted regarding our 1983 activities to reduce pollution in Bristol Bay were very favorable. Other than the improved esthetic effects to the water and beaches, there were other positive benefits, i.e, fish-heads no longer effected set nets; fish intestines no longer effected drift nets; plastic bands on fiber etc., no longer fouled propellers. *Question -*
2. Everyone contacted that had been in the Bay had noted a decrease in the amounts and types of solid and fish waste which was also our own observations.
3. Sixteen HOVs were issued in the four week period and essentially dealt with improper fish waste discharge.
4. Nine of the twenty-one floating salmon processors in the Naknek area had installed incinerators to reduce the volume of combustible waste.
5. As the results of our letter and activities, the refuse collector contractor for the Bristol Bay Borough instituted a refuse collection service by boat for salmon processors off of the Naknek River. *?
Sum 1/3
2/3*

Recommendation:

To continue the present program for the 1984 season however, this is in conflict with the Regional and District work plan and the approximately 40% decrease in travel budget for the Anchorage/Western District.

274-2533

SCR0
437 E Street
Suite 200
Anchorage, AK
99501

June 6, 1983

Dear Seafood Processors:

This is further to our April 18, 1983 letter of information regarding oil, sewage and solid waste pollution of Bristol Bay.

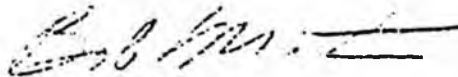
All processing plants have Seafood Processing Wastewater Permits. These permits require grinding Seafood wastes to a size that is capable of passing through a 0.5 inch mesh screen. The affluent seafood wastewater is to be discharged at a depth equal or greater than mean lower low water for shore based plants. Floating Seafood processors wastewater effluent shall be discharged at a depth equal to or greater than 42 feet below mean lower low water.

Acceptable methods of solid waste disposal are to incinerate combustibles and compact and store non-combustibles for transportation to an approved landfill site in Alaska or outside. The Department will have personnel in the Bristol Bay area for the Salmon processing season to assist operators in meeting these requirements and to enforce state regulations. Violations of provisions of the oil, wastewater and solid waste regulations will be subject to appropriate enforcement action.

Your cooperation will assist us to protect the environment of Bristol Bay.

If you have any questions regarding this letter please contact this office at 274-2533.

Sincerely,



Bob Martin
Regional Supervisor

BH/JCA/msm

STATE OF ALASKA
DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

SOUTHCENTRAL REGIONAL OFFICE

BILL SHEFFIELD, GOVERNOR

- 437 E. STREET
SECOND FLOOR
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501
(907) 274-2533
- P.O. BOX 615
KODIAK, ALASKA 99615
(907) 486-3350
- P.O. BOX 1207
SOLDOTNA, ALASKA 99669
(907) 252-5210
- P.O. BOX 1709
VALDEZ, ALASKA 99686
(907) 835-4698
- P.O. BOX 1054
WASILLA, ALASKA 99687
(907) 376-5038

April 18, 1983

Dear Fishermen and Seafood Processors:

Marine intertidal and nearshore areas require special attention as they are very productive and supply habitat essential to the life cycles of many important species. Herring and salmon are among the many species where the intertidal and nearshore regions play an important role in their productivity. This habitat is extremely sensitive and easily damaged by oil spills and improper waste disposal, particularly in areas where spawning takes place. The State of Alaska has implemented regulations to protect these resources from various forms of pollution.

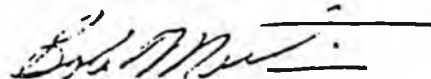
The most common pollution incidents in the fishing grounds have been the discharging of bilge oils and fuel spills, the dumping of solid waste overboard and on beaches, and the discharging of untreated sewage and processing wastes. These incidents can significantly impact the future fisheries of the area.

This fishing season, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation will be in the field working with other agencies in an effort to reduce the pollution incidents associated with the harvest of fishery resources. This work will entail routine patrols amongst the fishing fleet, boarding vessels to alert the vessel master to pollution prevention, and responding to pollution incidents as they are reported.

State law requires prompt reporting of oil spills and other serious pollution incidents. This reporting helps to facilitate quick cleanups thereby reducing environmental impacts and damage to fishing equipment. During the upcoming fishing seasons you should be able to contact this Department in the field through the Alaska Fish and Wildlife Protection Service or the Alaska State Troopers or in Anchorage dial 274-2533. If you cannot contact this Department, contact the U.S. Coast Guard, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, or the local police.

We enlist your support in our efforts to prevent pollution which may affect fishing resources.

Sincerely,



Bob Martin
Regional Supervisor

BM/SZ/nsm

MEMORANDUM

State of Alaska

TO: Peter Ashman, Charley Shawback
Magistrates

DATE: June 7, 1983

FILE NO:

TELEPHONE NO: 274-2533

FROM: *James C. Allen*
James C. Allen
Anchorage/Western
District Supervisor

SUBJECT: The Pollution of
Bristol Bay

This is to confirm our recent conversations regarding seafood and solid wastes that are discharged from land based and floating processors.

Attachments #1 and #2 are letters sent to all Bristol Bay Processors by mail and were forwarded to Fish and Game Offices in Dillingham, and King Salmon for distribution to processors who must also re-apply locally for processing.

Attachment #3 is my memo of January 24, 1983 to Joe Campbell regarding fish and solid waste regulations and policies.

The wastewater and solid waste regulations are attached as are formats #21 and #23 which are the examples of the permits for land and floating processors and are marked attachments #4, #5, #6 and #7 respectively.

Foreign processors must also comply with the Department's regulations.

There are three types of misdemeanors that could result from improper discharge of seafood or other solid waste. (AS 46.03.790):

(1) A violation of a statute or regulation which has been committed wilfully may be considered a Class A misdemeanor. Class A misdemeanors under AS 12.55.035(b)(3) carry a maximum fine of \$5,000. Under AS 12.55.135(a) such persons can also be sentenced for up to one year in jail.

(2) A violation which has been unintentionally committed may be considered a Class B misdemeanor, and under AS 12.55.035(b)(5) carries a maximum fine of \$300.

(3) Failure to provide or falsely state information with respect to unlawful discharge is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than \$25,000 as set out in AS 46.03.790(d).

Peter Ashman, Charley Shawback
Magistrates
Page 2
June 7, 1983

Furthermore, each day on which the violation occurs is considered a separate violation (AS 46.03.790(c)).

The penalties assessed depend on the severity of the violation. A description of the type and severity of the violation will be provided to the proper authority by a representative of this Department.

Please contact this office at 274-2533 if you have any questions regarding the above information.

JCA/JFH/msm
Attachments

MEMORANDUM

State of Alaska

TO: Joseph W. Campbell
Division of Fish & Wildlife
Protection
Department of Public Safety

DATE: January 24, 1983

FILE NO:

TELEPHONE NO: 274-2533

JCR
FROM: James C. Allen
Anchorage/Western
District Supervisor

SUBJECT: Nondomestic Wastewater
and Solid Waste Regulations

Joe, I waited until the attached revised regulations became law, December 30, 1982, to forward them to you with the following comments.

AS 46.03.020.(10)(A) allows for the Department to develop AAC to "control, prevent and abatement of air, water or land or subsurface land pollution." And (D) the "collection and disposal of sewage and industrial waste."

Title 18, Chapter 72, Articles 1 and 2 pertain to domestic and nondomestic wastewater. The definition for nondomestic wastewater, 18 AAC 72.990(29) includes food processing.

Section .210 requires a permit issued by the Department before a person can discharge nondomestic wastewater into or onto the water or land in Alaska.

The Department and EPA both issue nondomestic wastewater permits. EPA at one time issued all discharge permits which were co-signed by DEC so the Department could also enforce the provisions. Since Reaganomics, the EPA staff has been reduced so they placed priority on only the large discharges whereas we do all the rest.

Enclosed are examples of our permit requirements used in the Bristol Bay area. These types of permits would not be issued in Kodiak or Dutch Harbor. Format 21 would be used for a land based operation and 23 for a floating processor and the letter form is only for those floating processors which process less than five tons of raw product per day.

The permit requirements are more alike than different. Wastewater is separated from domestic sewage. Some methods (grinders) is required to reduce solids to a size small enough to pass through a 0.5 inch mesh screen. The requirements A,1,d says what can't be included in the wastewater or allowed to accumulate on the beach. A,1,c for land processors says that the waste discharge line has to be at least below mean low water.

Domestic wastewater (sewage) for floaters is more specific than land based processors as noted in 2, a, I, II, III and IV.

Mr. Joseph W. Campbell

Page 2

January 24, 1983

The rest of the requirements should not be of interest for enforcement purposes.

We may summarize as:

1. Wastewater is to be separated from sewage and oil.
2. All must grind fish waste.
3. Land based processors must discharge below low tide.
4. Depending on the location of the float various domestic wastewater discharge requirements apply.

Solid wastes are covered in Title 18, 60.130.(15), Chapter 60. The definition for solid waste includes everything. 18 AAC 60.101 prevents solid waste from pollution of the air, water, land and subsurface land of the state.

Solid waste disposal sites must have a permit except as excluded in 18 AAC 60.020(1), (2) and (3) which are single family or duplex where the solid waste are disposed of on the premises, a farm or an incinerator rated at less than 200 pounds per hour.

JCA/msm
Enclosures

MEMORANDUM

437 "E" Street, Suite 200

1000 File
~~State of Alaska~~
State of Alaska

Anchorage, Alaska 99501

TO: Bill Lamoreaux
District Office
Supervisor

DATE: August 2, 1982

FILE NO:

TELEPHONE NO: 274-2533

9012
FROM: James C. Allen
Anchorage/Western
District Supervisor

SUBJECT: Bristol Bay Solid
Waste Disposal Problems

For a number of years complaints have been made to the Department regarding solid waste in Bristol Bay. This can be divided into two different problems. These are fish heads and intestines from shore and floating salmon processors and solid waste generated by the floating processors. The fish heads and intestines are more of a problem along the beaches where they foul the set nets and prevent netting of salmon. A considerable amount of time and frustration is spent in removing the waste. Intestines are more of a problem from the floating processors as the heads, having weight, generally sink to the bottom. Floating processors near the shore are a greater problem than those in the center of the bay.

Many of the processors burn combustible solid waste on the stern and they will tell you that the non-combustibles are taken to a shore dump, but this is highly questioned as being accurate, which was confirmed by informal conversation with crew members. Ships that don't burn refuse and those with non-combustibles dump them over the side causing accumulation of waste on the bottom and the beach.

Fish and Game requires all operators to file an intent to operate for the next year. The form can be used to determine who is going to process what seafood and where. I have requested a copy of this report be mailed to me in December 1982.

Contact was made on my Dillingham trip of July 26-29, 1982 with John Campbell and Ron Kiniecik, Fish & Wildlife Protection. Both express their concern for the solid waste problems of the region both on land and at sea. They have requested a memo from our Department stating sections of the statutes and AAC to cite in issuing a citation.

Observation of waste discharge pipes in Kodiak and Dillingham revealed a discrepancy on our part on not requiring design and construction requirements on the outfalls. Processors use plastic that is too fragile for either an anchor or wave action. We should require Class 50 ductile iron, with joints which will take a 5° deflection without leaking. To protect this pipe, it should be required to be buried to a depth of 5 feet until it can be exposed at a depth 10 feet below minimum low low tide. A diffuser would be ideal, but not necessary.

Bill Lamoreaux
Page 2
August 2, 1982

The discharge pipe should be required to be anchored with 2 foot spacing were exposed on the bottom.

Recommendations:

1. We notify all land processors that:
 - a. Grind to less than 0.5 inch square and discharge as described above.
 - b. To discontinua processing when grinder or discharge pipe is broken. This should motivate back-up grinder in parallel. This should also apply to floating processors however, no discharge line would be required.
2. Combustible solid waste on floating processors should be required to be burned or compacted with non-combustibles and transported to local dumps. Boats from the processor are running back and forth all day. Any processor or boat observed to discharge solid wastes into the waters of the State will be cited.
3. A specification for the discharge outfall should be a part of the permit.

In summary, we should inform all processors of our 1983 season requirements and plan to have DEC personnel in Bristol Bay in 1983 for at least the first three weeks of July.

JCA/ccs

Box 234
Dillingham, AK
99576
November 30, 1983

Officer Ron Kmiecik
Box 223
Dillingham, Alaska 99576

Dear Officer Kmiecik:

Representative Adelheid Herrmann would like to get your views on several fishery related issues that affect our fishermen in Bristol Bay. The first issue is fish waste dumping by fish processors in Bristol Bay, particularly the Nushagak River. The second issue is gill net mesh size. Finally, the issue of fish processors anchoring in desirable drift areas seems to be a problem to drift gill netters.

Does your office have any information that would give Rep. Herrmann any facts which would help define the magnitude of the problems mentioned? Also does your office have any suggestions for solutions to the issues previously mentioned?

Would a joint meeting with processors, fishermen, fishermen's organizations, the Coast Guard and your office be helpful before the 1984 fishing season starts?

Thank you for your consideration.

Very sincerely,



Nels A. Anderson, Jr.
Special Assistant
House Special Committee on
Fisheries

BILL SHEFFIELD, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

DIVISION OF FISH & WILDLIFE PROTECTION
P.O. Box 1005
Kodiak, Alaska 99615

P.O. BOX 6188 ANNEX
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99502
PHONE:

December 21, 1983

Nels A. Anderson, Jr., Special Assistant
House Special Committee on Fisheries
P.O. Box 234
Dillingham, Alaska 99576

Dear Mr. Anderson,

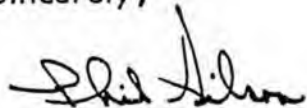
In response to your request to Trp. Kmiecik in Dillingham for his views on the three problems relating to the Nushagak Bay, I am enclosing his answers.

Additionally, a meeting was held in Naknek in November with the United States Coast Guard, processors and fishermen in attendance, to discuss the interruption of the drift gill net fleet by anchored vessels. There were a number of recommendations presented and I'm sure they could be applied to the Nushagak area as well. Lt. Matt Cronnin is stationed in Anchorage and is in the Marine Safety Office in the Federal Building. He would be able to provide a clear overview of that particular problem and the maritime laws that effect it.

The fish waste that is dumped before being properly ground is not restricted to the Nushagak area and from personal observations, I would say that is most likely to occur when there is a malfunction of equipment. Mr. Everett Stone, sanitarian for the Dept. of Environmental Conservation is usually present in Bristol Bay during peak periods. He would be more able to respond to the magnitude of the fish waste problem and measures taken to correct it.

Hopefully the information provided will be of assistance to your committee and if we can be of help further, please don't hesitate to ask.

Sincerely,



Lt. Phil Gilson
Commander, "E" Detachment
Fish & Wildlife Protection
Kodiak

Enclosure (1)

cc: Lt. Col. Tetzlaff
Sgt. Youngren

First Issue: Fish Dumping in the Nushagak River

During the 1982 season complaints were received from both subsistence and commercial fishermen about whole fish, heads and entrails not being ground up or ground enough. These complaints were received from subsistence fishermen fishing Kanakanak and City beaches, set netters from Clarks Slough, Combine Flats, Clarks Point and Coffee Point areas, and drifters who were fishing from Nushagak Point south. Complaints, when received, are usually from all users during the same time frame. The waste is coming from Dillingham docks, floating processors near Clarks Point and from the processor up Clarks Slough.

Complaints indicate that the problem caused by one or more of the processors occur approximately once per week.

I believe the solution to this on-going problem is to permanently station a representative of the Dept. of Environmental Conservation office in Dillingham. During the 1983 season we had D.E.C. personnel TDY here and it substantially reduced the complaints and visual observations compared to the 1982 season. I believe the D.E.C. representative presently in Dutch Harbor is being transferred to Dillingham in the near future.

Second Issue: Gill Net Mesh Size

Gill Net Mesh Size is a management issue. I agree with the Dillingham ADF&G managers that the current mesh size of 5-3/8 inches during the red salmon season is most advantageous. The current 5-3/8 inches mesh size is allowing favorable proportions of male and female (nearly 50%) in the spawning areas. A change in mesh size would affect this balance and would require a larger escapement to offset the imbalance. Further information can be obtained from the Dillingham office of the ADF&G.

Third Issue: Processors Anchoring in Desirable Drift Areas

On the final issue of processors anchoring in desirable drift areas, several complaints were received during the 1983 season. As our fishery continues to grow, it will have to handle the larger volume of processors/transport ships on the bay. The complaints received were reference to a few of the processor ships, not the majority. The problem was processor ships anchoring just off Ekuk. The majority of the processors anchor off Clarks Point and no complaints have been received reference their anchorage location.

I feel a meeting with all parties involved would be beneficial. I contacted Matt Cronnin from the U.S.C.G. Anchorage office today reference this meeting. Mr. Cronnin is in concurrence that a meeting with all interested parties would be helpful, since the meeting will be addressing problems discussed in Naknek this past October. Mr. Cronnin stated December or January in Dillingham would be possible and he would confirm and get back with Trooper Kmiecik.

MEMO

To: Representative Adelheid Herrmann

From: Co-Man Services, Special Assistant on Fisheries

Date: January 5, 1984

Subject: Tasks that need immediate attention on a Fish Waste Dumping Plan in Bristol Bay for 1984

1. Request a 1984 Fish Waste Disposal Plan for Bristol Bay which addresses budget commitment, man days on sites in Naknek and Dillingham, as soon as possible.
2. Request Representative Adams to allocate a specific amount of funds for a 1984 Fish Waste Disposal Program for Bristol Bay in the DEC Budget so that we are not short-changed or under budgeted. You will need to have Joyce R. find out how much was spent on the 1983 Fish Waste Disposal effort.

Box 234
Dillingham, AK
99576
November 30, 1983

Mr. Harvey Samuelsen
President
WACMA
Dillingham, AK 99576

Dear Harvey:

Representative Adelheid Herrmann has asked me to help resolve several issues that are of concern to fishermen throughout Bristol Bay. The issues are fish waste dumping in the Bay, salmon net mesh size, set net regulations and anchoring of processors in drift areas.

I would like to discuss these matters with you to give Rep. Herrmann direction on how the issues can be solved. Your assistance on these issues would be very helpful.

Please let me know when it would be convenient for us to get together. I plan on contacting fishermen on a one to one basis to get their views as well as yours in your capacity as president of WACMA.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very sincerely,

Nels A. Anderson Jr.

Nels A. Anderson, Jr.
Special Assistant
House Special Committee on
Fisheries

WESTERN ALASKA
COOPERATIVE MARKETING ASSOCIATION

1

BOX 213 . . . DILLINGHAM, ALASKA

January 12, 1984

Nels A. Anderson Jr.
Special Assistant
House Special Commission on Fisheries
Box 234
Dillingham, Alaska 99576

As pertaining to our conversation over the telephone.

No. 1 We definitely need the Coast Guard to come in and hold hearings here at Dillingham about the floating processors anchoring in our prime fishing areas. The way they anchor is a real hazard to all navigation, not only to the fisherman but to any boat or other craft. The Coast Guard will probably say they have no jurisdiction over this problem.

If we can't get cooperation from them, this matter should be turned over to the Congressional Delegation in Washington D.C.

From previous phone calls last summer with the Governor's Staff the state people told me they had no control over it, it was pointed out to me by them its all up to the Coast Guard.

No. 2 Fish Waste Dumping should not be allowed in any Fisheries in the State & Federal Waters off Alaska Coasts.

Every processor should have a grinding machine on board also at shore based plants.

A very strict law should be enacted during the session in Juneau this year.

Also no garbage should be thrown overboard, such as plastic strapping, ropes, palette boards, plastic bags, tires and other items.

The State of Alaska should have a garbage scow and charge for the service, or contract it out to someone to do it. I do believe its long overdue.

No. 3 I firmly believe that all salmon net mesh size and set net regulations should be left up to the Fish Board and not our legislative body.

Signed By: Harold H. Samuelson
Harold H. Samuelson

MEMO

To: Mike Nelson, Area Biologist Alaska Department of Fish and Game
From: Nels A. Anderson, Jr., Special Assistant, Special Committee on Fisheries
Date: *Nels A. Anderson, Jr.*
January 5, 1984
Subject: Location and Number of Land and Floating Processors Operating in
Bristol Bay in 1983.

Would your office please give us the location of and the total number of salmon processors operating on and offshore in the 1983 fishing season in Bristol Bay? One source placed the total of land processors at nineteen (19) and thirty-two (32) floating operations. We would appreciate your numbers on this matter.

Also, would your office be able to enumerate the number of tenders and freighters operating in Bristol Bay in 1983? This inquiry is not as important as the preceding one.

Thank you for your consideration.

cc: Representative Adelheid Herrmann

in all production modes or in just one, and in one or all districts:

FISHERY OPERATOR SUMMARY, 1983

| District | (Total) | Number of Operators ^{1/} | | | | | Number of Canning Lines ^{2/} | | |
|----------------|---------|-----------------------------------|--------|-------|--------|-------|---------------------------------------|-------|-------|
| | | Processing Method | | | Export | | 1-lb. | ½-lb. | ¼-lb. |
| | | Canned | Frozen | Cured | Fresh | Brine | | | |
| Naknek-Kvichak | (43) | 5 | 31 | 5 | 13 | 9 | 9 | 10 | 1 |
| Egegik | (35) | 1 | 24 | 3 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 2 | |
| Ugashik | (24) | 1 | 19 | 2 | 4 | 4 | | | 1 |
| East Side | (52) | (7) | (38) | (5) | (17) | (13) | 10 | 12 | 2 |
| Nushagak | (28) | 3 | 20 | 1 | 11 | 2 | 6 | 5 | 1 |
| Togiak | (12) | 1 | 10 | 1 | 2 | | 1 | 1 | |
| West Side | (31) | (4) | (22) | (1) | (12) | (2) | 7 | 6 | 1 |
| TOTAL BAY | 62 | 11 | 46 | 5 | 23 | 13 | 17 | 18 | 3 |

^{1/} Indicates operators with either a physical plant or processing facility in a district or those operators from other areas buying fish and/or providing tender and support service for fishermen in districts away from the facility.

^{2/} Number of canning lines available for operation.

Hope this information fulfills your needs.

Sincerely yours,

Mike

Michael L. Nelson
Senior Area Mgmt. Biologist
(907) 842-5227

MLN/hes



CO—MAN SERVICES

BOX 234
DILLINGHAM, ALASKA 99576

January 6, 1984

Patterson Sanitation & Refuse Service Inc.
King Salmon, Alaska 99613

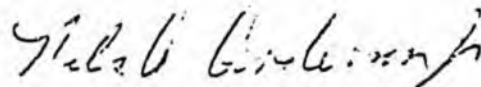
Dear Mr. Patterson,

Representative Adelheid Herrmann has asked me to contact you regarding solid waste disposal by floating and land processors in the Naknek/ King Salmon area. We have reports that floating processors burn their combustible waste and that they bring their non-combustible waste to shore for disposal at your waste disposal site in the Naknek/ King Salmon Dump Site.

Can you confirm this for us? Your help in this matter would be very helpful in planning a solid and fish waste disposal program to prevent dumping into the river systems of Bristol Bay.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very Sincerely,



Nels A. Anderson, Jr., Special Assistant
Special Committee on Fisheries

cc: Representative Adelheid Herrmann



CO—MAN SERVICES

BOX 234
DILLINGHAM, ALASKA 99576

January 6, 1984

Mr. Don Penner
Bristol Bay Borough
Naknek, Alaska 99633

Dear Mr. Penner,

Representative Herrmann has asked me to contact you regarding the solid and fish waste disposal program you have with the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation. Our office is interested in this program because other coastal communities could benefit by using what you have worked out as a model.

As you know, many people complained about fish processors dumping unground fish waste and solid waste into the Naknek/Kvichak and MUSHAGAK river systems. ADEC was present during the 1983 season, but many complaints of finding fish entrails in drift and set nets still persisted throughout the 1983 fishing season.

Any information you have would be helpful in preparing for the 1984 season. We are especially interested in whether or not all processors brought their waste for disposal on land. We want to avoid any problems that will cause unnecessary environmental damage to our waters that we depend on for a living.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very Sincerely,

Nels A. Anderson, Jr., Special Assistant
Special Committee on Fisheries

cc: Representative Adelheid Herrmann



CO—MAN SERVICES

BOX 234
DILLINGHAM, ALASKA 99576

January 6, 1984

Mr. James C. Allen
Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
437 E. Street, Suite 200
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Mr. Allen,

On behalf of Representative Herrmann, I would like to commend you on the amount of work that your office accomplished in helping to reduce fish waste and solid waste disposal in Bristol Bay in 1983. The effort to notify processors, the judiciary and others about what your mission was is outstanding and should be repeated in 1984.

There are some questions however, about your August 18, 1983 report to Mr. Keith Kelton regarding your observations on what the effect of your effort accomplished.

OBSERVATION # 1

I can find very few people who would state that the fish waste problem even left the bay. I am personally able to tell you that I recieved complaints about fish waste in nets and on beaches throughout the summer fishing season. It has come to my attention that this is true in Nushagak and Naknek/Kvichak River systems. Many fishermen also complained about plastic garbage bags being caught in props and that there were large numbers of garbage bags sighted on our beaches in both river systems.

OBSERVATION # 2

There is little evidence that can substantiate this observation. People who live on the river and fish all summer found that 1983 was worse in terms of fish waste and garbage disposal. This has to be the case when you see the large number of floating fish processors and commercial fishing boats operating in Bristol Bay. Garbage is being dumped somewhere and we are not sure how much combustible waste on board floating processors and how much non-combustible waste is being hauled to shore for disposal at municipal dump sites. Your help in determining the extent of disposal practices would be appreciated so that the final destination of waste generated by fishing activities can be accounted for.

You referred to issues I raised in Observation #2 in your memo to Mr. Bill Lamoreaux on August 2, 1982. You questioned the accuracy of fish processors who stated that they "burn combustible solid waste on the stern and they will tell you that the non-combustibles are taken to a shore dump, but this is highly questioned as being accurate." Have you determined that the fish processors now

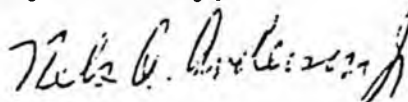
have this capacity and if so how many actually do it? If they do not then what accounts for such an improvement in waste disposal in 1983?

Furthermore your memo of August 2, 1982 in reference to a discrepancy on your part regarding discharge pipe design and construction. Has your recommendation been implemented by regulation and is it in effect at this time?

Finally, have your recommendations in the August 2, 1982 letter been translated into regulations? Can you tell us how much grinding equipment costs and how much of an investment is required to have a back-up grinder in parallel?

Recommendation #1 (b) seems to be rather harsh especially if the processor has fish on board that may spoil if held too long before processing. The economic interests of fishermen are at risk if they have no place to deliver their fish if a processor is shut down during grinder breakdown. In your view, is this a good suggestion?

Very Sincerely,



Nels A. Anderson, Jr., Special Assistant
Special Committee on Fisheries

cc: Representative Adelheid Herrmann

cc: Commissioner, Department of Environmental Conservation

P R E S S R E L E A S E

January 10, 1984

From: Representative Adelheid Herrmann

Fish Waste Disposal

Representative Adelheid Herrmann, D-District 26, is not satisfied with the fish waste situation in Bristol Bay. 1983 had twenty-nine (29) land processors and thirty-eight (38) floating processors in Bristol Bay. In addition, an estimated four hundred (400) to five hundred (500) support vessels of all types were operating in Bristol Bay.

The large number of processors and their support vessels presents a problem of fish waste and solid waste disposal. If fish waste is not ground up it will eventually get onto the beaches and get caught in gill nets. Solid waste dumped into the water will get fouled in propellers, anchors and set net tackle.

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation is charged with the responsibility of providing programs that prevent environmental degradation of the air, water and land resources of Alaska. In 1983, DEC developed a plan for the disposal of salmon and solid waste in Bristol Bay. The department sent letters to processors regarding discharge of bilge oil, fuel spills, dumping solid waste overboard and on beaches, and discharge of untreated sewage and processing wastes. They also notified processors that they would be making routine patrols to prevent pollution and respond to reported pollution incidents. DEC did spend time inspecting land based plants for water, sewage and fish waste discharge systems as well as boarding floating processors for sanitary, solid and fish waste discharge.

"Although, I recognize the effort made by DEC, I am still concerned that more needs to be done in 1984. I am asking fishermen and others to send me letters or public opinion messages via the Legislative Information Offices regarding their experience regarding fish and solid waste disposal problems in the Bay in 1983. I need this information to help me get funds to put more emphasis on a fish and solid waste disposal program for the 1984 fishing season.

Representative Herrmann received an unusually high number of complaints from her constituency in Bristol Bay regarding fish waste getting caught in nets. There were complaints of garbage bags floating to the beaches and plastic bags fouling props and set net tackle.

"It is my intent to work with DEC to increase the effort of preventing fish and solid waste pollution in 1984 and I will do all I can to see that there is enough money in the DEC budget to get the job done. I again ask for letters and public opinion messages to be sent to me on any fish waste or solid waste problems that you observed in 1983.", Herrmann concluded.

Alaska State Legislature

REPRESENTATIVE
ADELHEID HERRMANN

PO BOX 83
NAKNEK, ALASKA 99833
(907) 248-4495

While in Juneau
BOX V
JUNEAU ALASKA 99811
(907) 465-4942, 465-4943



CO CHAIRMAN
RESOURCES COMMITTEE

MEMBER
TRANSPORTATION
COMMITTEE

House of Representatives

DISTRICT 26

ADAK
AKUTAN
ALEKNAGIK
ATKA
BELKOFSKI
CLARK'S POINT
COLD BAY
DILLINGHAM
DUTCH HARBOR
EGEGIK
EKUK
EKWOK
FALSE PASS
IGIUGIG
ILIAMNA
KING COVE
KING SALMON
KOKHANOK
KOLIGANEK
LEVELOCK
MANOKOTAK
NAKNEK
NELSON LAGOON
NEWHALEN
NEW STUYAHOK
NIKOLSKI
NONDALTON
PEDRO BAY
PILOT POINT
PORT ALSWORTH
PORT HEIDEN
PORT MOLLER
PORTAGE CREEK
SAND POINT
SOUTH NAKNEK
SQUAW HARBOR
ST GEORGE
ST PAUL
TOGIAK
TWIN HILLS
UGASHIK
UNALASKA

March 12, 1987

Western Legislative Conference
720 Sacramento St.
San Francisco, CA 94108
ATTN: Dan Sprague, Office Director
Patty Spangler, Policy Analyst

Dear Dan and Patty:

Attached is a White Paper on Ocean Dumping and Marine Debris prepared at my request by the Alaska House Research Agency.

My interest in this subject has primarily stemmed from a reoccurring problem with marine debris and garbage dumping in my district. In addition to our local fleets, we have had an influx of international and out-of-state boats in the waters of District 26. These large fleets comprise of floating processors, tenders, and at the very least approximately 1700 gillnet fishing vessels in the Bristol Bay area.

The problem waste takes two forms; one being the disposed unground fish waste (intestines, etc.) attributed to the processors not using grinders, and the other consists of refuse thrown overboard from floating processors, tenders, and gillnet fishing vessels.

In addition to the general complaints of refuse dumping, fishermen complained of catching the unground fish waste in their nets. This generated additional concerns; resulting in extra work for crews to clear the nets, the offensive odor of the decomposing waste, concerns of possible health hazard associated with frequent handling of so much decomposing fish waste, and the mere nuisance of the fish waste.

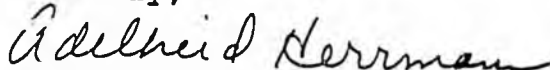
Although we have seen improvements, this is an ongoing concern within my district. For example, a proposal to contract barges for the purpose of transporting

refuse from the bays to the nearest onshore dump sites gained much support but, did not receive approval in the administrations budget.

On the other hand, there has been increased usage of waste grinders and incinerators on floating processors, which was basically a result of citizens voicing their concerns.

I hope the Western Legislative Conference will find this paper very helpful. I would like to emphasize my concern with regard to this issue. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Adelheid Herrmann
Alaska State Representative
District 26

AH/rs



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
RESEARCH AGENCY

P O. Box Y, State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811-3100
Mail Stop 3100
(907) 465-3991

March 10, 1987

MEMORANDUM

TO: Representative Adelheid Herrmann

ATTN: Rona Sorensen

FROM: Karen Oakley^{ko}
Legislative Analyst

RE: White Paper on Ocean Dumping and Marine Debris
Research Request 87.154

You requested that we prepare a draft white paper on ocean dumping for discussion by the Pacific States/Territories Ocean Resource Group (ORG) of the Western Legislative Conference (WLC) of the Council of State Governments. The ORG was formed in 1985 to study, share information, analyze, discuss, and act upon major policy issues affecting the ocean and coastal resources of the member states and territories.¹ A number of marine issues were selected for study, and lead states/territories were designated for preparing papers on each issue. Papers were to be 6 to 7 double-spaced pages in length and contain: 1) a succinct statement of the issue; 2) background information; 3) an analysis of major policy issues and events; 4) a description of alternatives for resolving the issue; and 5) recommendations. Guam was originally designated to prepare the paper on ocean dumping. When they were unable to complete the project, you volunteered. Draft papers are due to the WLC office in Sacramento in mid-March 1987.

The draft white paper attached addresses both ocean dumping and marine debris. "Ocean dumping" refers to the regulated disposal of materials, primarily dredged materials and sewage sludge, in the ocean. "Marine debris" generally refers to refuse discarded at sea from vessels. While the marine debris issue was not initially selected for discussion, this issue has received national attention during the last few months, and several pieces of legislation addressing marine debris are currently being considered by Congress. Therefore, I have addressed both issues in the paper.

¹Alaska, American Samoa, California, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington are participating in the Ocean Resources Group.

Representative Herrmann
March 10, 1987
Page 2

As you know, our agency does not make recommendations. The draft paper therefore includes a discussion of the various alternatives but makes no recommendations.

Attached are most of the documents I referred to in drafting this paper, including the documents you transmitted to us. These reference documents are organized by topic in several attachments.

I hope you find this draft paper useful. Please let me know if you need any further information.

Attachments

OCEAN DUMPING AND MARINE DEBRIS

Prepared by the State of Alaska for the Ocean Resources Group of the Western Legislative Conference of the Council of State Governments.

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE

The ocean serves many societal functions, including waste disposal. While the assimilative capacity of the ocean is great, it is not infinite, and other uses of the ocean may be adversely affected by the unregulated disposal of wastes in the ocean. Two marine waste disposal issues are of concern here: 1) ocean dumping; and 2) marine debris. "Ocean dumping," which has been regulated in the United States for 15 years, refers generally to the disposal of materials, primarily sewage sludges, dredged materials, and industrial wastes, which are transported to the ocean for the specific purpose of disposal. "Marine debris" refers generally to man-made objects that are intentionally or accidentally discarded at sea from vessels or that enter the sea from the land.

Regulation of the use of the ocean for waste disposal is in the realm of international and national law, and the role that coastal states may play in regulating the use of their offshore waters for waste disposal is circumscribed by federal rules. Both ocean dumping and marine debris are

issues of current high interest at the national level, and regulatory changes are imminent. Such changes could affect waste disposal and management practices, and, coastal states, which have interests in both waste disposal and protection of the coastal environment, will necessarily be affected. This white paper addresses the role that Pacific states and territories may play in preventing the degradation of the ocean and its living resources from ocean dumping and marine disposal.

BACKGROUND

Ocean dumping. Most industrialized nations, including the United States, have long used the oceans as a convenient dumping ground for all kinds of waste. While some wastes can be safely assimilated, other wastes, particularly heavy metals, pathogenic microorganisms, organohalogenes, chlorinated hydrocarbons, petroleum hydrocarbons and radioactive wastes, can adversely affect the marine environment and pose a threat to human health. The United States was one of the first countries to recognize that coastal waters could be degraded by the unregulated disposal of wastes in the ocean, and, in 1972, Congress enacted the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act (MPRSA), commonly called the Ocean Dumping Act (ODA). The act declared that it was the policy of the United States to:

regulate the dumping of all types of materials into ocean waters and to prevent or strictly limit the dumping into ocean waters of any material which would adversely affect human health, welfare, or amenities, or the marine environment, ecological systems, or economic potentialities.

While Congress recognized that the oceans had a role to play in waste disposal, they rejected the idea that the ocean's great capacity to assimilate waste made it the optimal disposal medium. The ODA expressly prohibited the ocean dumping of radiological, chemical and biological warfare agents and high-level radioactive waste and prohibited the disposal of all other materials except as authorized by permit. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (CE) were directed to establish and implement a regulatory program for ocean dumping. The EPA was to serve as the lead agency, and because the CE already had jurisdiction over dredging activities under the Clean Water Act, the CE was delegated the authority to review and issue permits for the disposal of dredged materials.

At the time that the ODA was enacted, the United States was working actively with other nations to conclude an international treaty to regulate ocean dumping. This treaty, titled the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter and known commonly as the London Dumping Convention (LDC), was initially signed by 27 nations in 1972 and went into force in 1975. The LDC requires each nation to adopt

domestic implementing legislation, and the ODA was modified in 1974 to make it fully consonant with the treaty.

Although the United States took the lead in enacting its own law to regulate ocean dumping and in pushing for an international treaty, implementation within the U. S. has been slow. Since enactment of the ODA over 15 years ago, the quantity of wastes dumped in the ocean has hardly abated, and in some cases, has increased. This situation is largely the result of EPA's use of "interim permits" to authorize continued dumping: In 1977, EPA designated 140 historically used ocean dump sites on an interim basis pending completion of baseline studies necessary for final site designation determinations. EPA's policy was to "dump now, study later." The use of interim permits made sense during the early years of ODA implementation as existing dumpers needed an opportunity to comply with the environmental criteria required for a special permit or to develop land-based alternatives. The EPA has been slow in completing the required studies of the interim sites, however, and only a few sites have received final approval.

The EPA and the CE have been taken to court several times over their implementation of the ODA. All of the disputes have involved disposal sites on the East Coast, where the lack of land for waste disposal has increased pressure on the use of ocean for waste disposal. Two cases are of particular importance because the rulings in these cases require that EPA change their regulations governing the evaluation of ocean dumping permit applications.

In National Wildlife Federation v. Costle, a case over the use of different criteria for evaluating dredged and non-dredged material disposal sites, the court ruled that the EPA may set different standards for review of dredged materials disposal sites. The courts also ruled, however, that the standards are invalid unless and until the EPA explains their rationale for the use of different criteria. Dredged materials are often innocuous, but in harbors that receive sediments from industrialized areas, the sea floor may contain heavy metals and other harmful compounds. The National Wildlife Federation had argued that the criteria for evaluating applications for the disposal of dredged material should be the same as for other industrial materials.

In City of New York v. EPA, a dispute over the banning of sewage sludge disposal in Long Island Sound, the court held that the EPA was required to evaluate the need for the ocean dumping of sludge, the effects of the dumping on the specific dump site and the costs of land-based alternatives in reviewing the City of New York's application to continue dumping sewage sludge. This decision requires EPA to balance the costs and impacts of land-based disposal against the marine environmental sensitivity criteria. Before the decision, EPA could reject an application if their analysis of the material to be dumped showed that the ocean would be "unreasonably degraded" by its disposal. The City of New York decision essentially requires EPA to perform a cost-benefit analysis; since the true costs of ocean disposal are unknown and largely unquantifiable, the ocean will often appear to be the most cost-effective location for disposal.

Although both cases were decided in the early 1980s, EPA is only now about to publish their proposed regulation changes in the Federal Register. While it is generally understood that the revisions will bring the EPA regulations into compliance with Costle and City of New York decisions, the specific content of the new regulations is not known at this time. Any changes in the regulations for reviewing ocean dumping permit applications will be important to the western states and territories because most of the sites in the Pacific Ocean have not yet received final approval, and because most of the sites in the Pacific are for the disposal of dredged materials. There are currently 35 ocean dumping sites with interim approval and eight sites with final approval within the waters of the western states and territories. All but one of the interim sites are for the disposal of materials dredged from harbors and ports; the other interim site, located in American Samoa, is for the disposal of fish cannery wastes. Of the approved sites, there are five in Hawaii and one in California for dredged material disposal, one in California for the disposal of drilling muds and cuttings, and one near the South Pacific island of Kwajalein for the disposal of wastes from a missile range.

In addition to these interim and approved ocean dumping sites, several proposals for new sites are apparently under consideration. The U. S. Navy has recently proposed to dump 100 decommissioned nuclear submarines and thousands of tons of radium and uranium contaminated soil from the WW II Manhattan Project at a site near American Samoa. While an Environmental

Impact Statement (EIS) has been prepared for this proposal, no decision has yet been made. Several major West Coast cities are also considering the ocean disposal of sewage sludge, a practice heretofore conducted in the United States only on the East Coast.

Thus, for the western states and territories, final designation of ocean dumping sites is pending, and states still have the opportunity to be involved in the decision-making process. While courts have held that EPA and the CE are not required to write an Environmental Impact Statement for each dumping site, it is the policy of both agencies to prepare them. Some of the interim sites for the disposal of dredged materials are in territorial waters within three miles of shore, and final designation of these sites will require a finding of consistency with the state's coastal management program. Through the EIS process and the coastal management consistency process, states are afforded an opportunity to comment on final site designation of interim sites and on proposed new sites. Changes in the way that the EPA makes decisions about site approval are imminent, however, and these changes are expected to generally weaken the criteria, making it more difficult to deny permits.

Marine Debris. Man-made objects that one way or another end up in the ocean are currently the focus of another ocean waste disposal issue termed "marine debris". For centuries, shipboard practice has been to discard refuse at sea; overboard disposal was convenient, and the need to maintain

hygienic conditions in confined quarters necessitated prompt waste disposal. Until the recent past, this practice did not appear to present any major problem as most materials were easily degraded. With the advent of modern plastics, however, wastes dumped overboard now contain quantities of material that do not readily degrade and that float. Now, much of the refuse that is discarded at sea does not disappear, but persists, accumulates and is transported far from the disposal site.

Great quantities of plastics are disposed at sea from merchant ships, navies, recreational fisherman and boaters, commercial fisherman and beach goers. Another major source of plastic in the ocean is from the land via rivers and municipal sewage outfalls. Fishing nets, lines and pots, now made almost exclusively of plastics and nylon, are another component of marine debris. Worn fishing gear may be intentionally discarded, but is more often simply lost.

Much of the debris that is disposed of at sea ends up back on shore. While beach litter is unsightly and degrades the recreational use of our nation's shores, the major problems created by marine debris occur at sea. Marine birds, mammals, and turtles become entangled in discarded nets, lines and strapping bands, and they are also known to ingest plastic beads, bags and other synthetic materials which they apparently mistake for food. From the number and distribution of species that have been documented to be affected by entanglement or ingestion of plastics, it can be concluded that plastics are pervasive in the marine environment and are a factor in the lives of most marine animals. While the impact on marine populations is

not yet well understood, plastic pollution has been implicated in declines of several species, including the northern fur seal on the Pribilof Islands in the Bering Sea and the endangered Hawaiian monk seal.

Derelict fishing gear is also a problem for marine animals, as the gear continues to fish, catching non-target birds and mammals and target fishes for long periods of time, even years, after the gear is lost. Derelict gear therefore contributes to the impact on marine bird and mammal populations from plastic pollution and results in loss of economically important target species as well.

In addition to the problems caused for marine animals, marine debris presents a safety hazard to vessels due to such occurrences as entanglement of propellers or blockage of intakes. The loss of living resources, the degradation of beaches, and the loss of vessel working time together comprise the costs of using the ocean as a depository for nondegradable wastes.

Currently, there are no laws prohibiting the disposal of plastics at sea. The Protocol of 1978--Relating to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships--1973, which is referred to as MARPOL, contains an addendum, Annex V, which would prohibit the disposal of plastics at sea. While the United States is a signatory of MARPOL, the United States has yet to sign Annex V. Recent awareness of the problems created by marine debris has renewed pressure on the United States to sign Annex V. In February 1987, the National Security Council recommended approval, and ratification by the Senate is expected.

As for the London Dumping Convention, each signatory will need to pass domestic legislation to implement Annex V. Several bills are already before Congress that would implement Annex V. One such bill, HR 940, introduced by Congressman Studts, is entitled the Plastic Pollution Research and Control Act and would instruct the Coast Guard, which currently enforces the provisions of MARPOL in the United States, to administer and enforce Annex V. This bill would also require the study of derelict nets and discarded plastics on marine life and inventories of port capabilities to handle wastes previously discarded at sea.

POLICY ISSUES AND EVENTS

The traditional legal principle governing human use of the ocean has been that no nation has sovereignty over the high seas, and the use of the oceans for waste disposal provides a classic example of the "tragedy of the commons." Heretofore, all nations have been able to enjoy the convenience of ocean disposal without responsibility for the costs. Only recently have the costs of unregulated disposal of wastes in the ocean been recognized.

Environmental laws are partitioned by the medium receiving the waste, and this medium-based approach to waste disposal regulation results in the shifting of wastes to the least regulated medium. Regulation of disposal

on land, in the air, and in surface waters preceded any regulation of disposal in the ocean, and use of the ocean as a disposal medium accelerated as regulation of disposal in the other mediums tightened. The LDC and MARPOL provide a legal force to encourage proper stewardship of the ocean and balance the political and economic forces that have heretofore made waste disposal in the ocean so financially appealing.

Enactment and implementation of these laws was a necessary first step. The crux of the ocean waste disposal problem, however, lies in what can be done with the mountains of waste that our society produces. Prohibiting ocean disposal of sewage sludge or of plastics does not solve the problem of what to do with sewage sludge or with shipboard garbage. As New York City Mayor Edward Koch rhetorically asked the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee when they were considering a ban on sewage sludge disposal in the New York bight: "What am I going to do with this sludge, take it home and keep it in my apartment? I can unequivocally state that no land sites are available in the New York area for storing these materials in the volumes in which they are produced." The recognition that the ocean cannot provide an "easy answer" to the question of what to do with our wastes has made the problem more complex.

Coastal states have a vital interest in protecting the productivity of their coastal waters which provide for the livelihoods, recreation, and, indeed, the identities of their peoples. States, as the operators, funders and regulators of landfills, also have a vital interest in waste disposal. The banning or regulation of waste disposal in the ocean shifts the burden for receiving wastes back to the land, and coastal states will be required to take some responsibility for the proper disposal of these wastes.

The time for greater coastal state involvement in Pacific Ocean waste disposal issues is at hand. Most of the ocean dumping sites in the western states and territories will be considered for final site designation in the next two to three years. Decisions about final site designation will be made using criteria that require the EPA to consider the costs of land-based disposal alternatives in determining whether the ocean will be unreasonably degraded by use of a particular dump site. States still have an opportunity to comment on these regulation changes and to be involved in decisions to approve both interim and new dumping sites. Regarding marine debris, international and national laws will soon end the common practice of dumping all wastes overboard. Ratification of Annex V is pending, and coastal states can speed its implementation in the United States by determining how wastes which were once disposed of at sea can best be handled onshore.

ACTION ALTERNATIVES

Ocean dumping. While international and federal laws are in place for regulation of ocean dumping, states still have a responsibility to determine whether approval of each proposed dump site is acceptable. There are several steps that states can take which will help determine the future of ocean dumping in their regions:

Review proposed changes in EPA regulations on ocean dumping. Proposed changes in EPA ocean dumping regulations to bring the regulations into conformance with court rulings will be published in the Federal Register in the spring or summer of 1987. States could individually or collectively review and comment on those regulations to assess their impact on the process of receiving final site designation for sites in their states. States could also consider the effect of the proposed changes on the decision-making process for approval of new sites for disposal of wastes which heretofore have not been disposed of on the west coast, such as sewage sludge and low-level radioactive wastes.

Be vigilant in review of all old and new proposed dump sites. States should not assume that because a dump site has been in use for many years that no environmental harm is occurring. Interim dumping sites were designated solely on the basis of their historical use, so states should review the Environmental Impact Statement for final designation of interim sites as carefully as they would review an EIS for a proposed new site. In Oregon, study of the long-used Tillamook Bay dumping site revealed that the area is one of the most productive on the entire Oregon coast.

Express support of continued funding of the ODA research provisions. In addition to providing for a regulatory program for ocean dumping, the Ocean Dumping Act instructed the EPA and the National

Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to conduct research into the effects of ocean dumping and on alternative methods of waste disposal. Under the current administration, funding of this part of the ODA has lagged. States need to actively support the funding of this type of research, especially in light of the changes expected in the EPA regulations due to the City of New York decision.

Marine Debris. International and national laws are not yet in place to regulate man-made debris in the ocean, but enactment is expected soon. States may speed implementation by anticipating the effects that enactment will have in their regions. States may take a variety of actions, individually or collectively, that would help end pollution of the oceans from marine debris:

Express support for ratification and implementation of Annex V. While the Senate is expected to ratify Annex V at any time, expressions of support could still be important. Also, once ratified, implementing legislation will have to be enacted, and even though several bills are currently under consideration that would implement Annex V, there is no certainty that implementing legislation will pass this session or that such legislation would be adequately funded. Strong support of Annex V implementation by coastal states could speed action by Congress. Congress is likely to be concerned about the burden on land-based disposal sites that

will be placed by Annex V, and states could show their willingness to accommodate these wastes onshore.

Sponsor beach cleanup projects. To solve the problem of marine debris will require changes in attitudes and behavior. People are not likely to change their habits of throwing refuse overboard until they understand the problems that are caused by this practice. Beach cleanups, where the public is given the opportunity to work together to pick up all litter on selected beaches, are a proven method of increasing public awareness of the fate of plastics and other man-made debris in the ocean. While the "clean up" provides only temporary relief of the litter on the beaches, the cleanups are a useful tool for educating the public. Beach cleanups have been used successfully on the East Coast, in Texas and in Oregon. When held simultaneously by several states, beach cleanups may magnify public awareness.

If all debris collected during cleanups is inventoried, beach cleanups can also provide data on the types and sources of debris most common in a particular region. States may then target their actions to abate the specific sources of debris that are a problem in their region.

Sponsor education of involved groups. In addition to beach cleanups as a method of reaching the public, states could sponsor the preparation and implementation of educational talks to groups that have an interest in protecting the coastal environment or that will otherwise be affected by implementation of Annex V. Education and resultant changes in public opinion are probably the key to implementation of Annex V because strict enforcement of Annex V is logistically impossible. People must decide to do something with their trash other than throw it overboard, and people must be provided with reasonable alternatives for disposal. Probably the only thing that will cause them to decide to change their habits is an understanding of the consequences of that action and the availability of a convenient alternative.

The NOAA has already embarked on some educational work of this type. A presentation on marine debris has been prepared and given to fishermen's groups all along the West Coast and was received with great interest. This kind of educational effort is a necessary predecessor to getting acceptance of any new rules about disposal of shipboard wastes.

Promote use of limited lifetime plastics and plastics recycling. The technology exists to create plastic containers with limited lifetimes. In California, Oregon and Alaska, nonbiodegradable six-pack holders have been banned, and holders made of short-lived

plastics are used. For these types of plastic products to come into wider use, consumers will have to demand them. Inventory of the types of plastic products showing up on beaches may provide clues of other types of products that do not need to be long lasting, and states may wish to consider also banning these products.

States may also play a role in the promotion of the recycling and reuse of plastic wastes. California and Oregon are considering legislation that would subsidize the development of plastics recycling industries. People have learned that paper, glass, tin, aluminum, and newspaper can be recycled, and states may be able to encourage people to also recycle plastics.

Help ports determine the best way to handle garbage from ships. Because the immediate result of Annex V is to ban at-sea disposal of wastes, ports must be prepared to handle the wastes that were previously dumped at sea. Most ports are probably totally unequipped to handle great increases in the quantities of refuse, and upgrading of refuse handling facilities will undoubtedly be required. States may bear or share in the costs of upgrading. States may need to determine the amounts, types and seasonality of wastes that will be generated in each port to see where nearby landfills can accommodate the additional wastes.

NOAA, through the National Marine Fisheries Service, has recently helped fund a one-year cooperative study with the Port of Newport, Oregon, to develop a system for the receipt and disposal of vessel-generated and nonbiodegradable refuse. Pilot projects such as this will provide information vital to implementation of Annex V.

Designate sanctuaries. In every coastal state, there are some areas that are deserving of a higher standard of environmental care. States may have the ability to designate such areas as sanctuaries wherein special rules apply. Some of the Annex V implementation bills would designate an area around the Aleutian Islands as a seabird conservation zone. Sanctuary designation by states may help call attention to locally important areas and help prevent waste disposal in them.

Sponsor research on net loss. Derelict fishing nets and pots represent lost fishing time, lost capital investments for fisherman, and they have the potential to harm both target and nontarget resources. While some fisherman do discard old nets at sea, fishermen generally do not try to lose their nets. A study of the conditions under which gear is lost would be important to determining if anything could be done to prevent such losses. This information would benefit fishermen and would help solve the problems of derelict nets.

Increase enforcement of existing state litter laws within the three-mile limit. Most states have litter laws that prevent the disposal of wastes in the state's land and waters, including its marine waters, except as provided by permit. The current practice of disposing of wastes overboard probably violates the litter laws of most states. As for Annex V, enforcement of litter laws in marine waters would be logistically difficult. States may be able to use existing enforcement personnel of related laws for this purpose to some extent. In Alaska, seafood inspectors have attempted to educate seafood processors and others in the seafood industry that wastes should not be disposed of overboard.

RECEIVED MAR 13 1988

March 15, 1988

Honorable Adelheid Herrmann
House of Representatives
Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Re: Marine Garbage Disposal

Dear Representative Herrmann,

Thank you for taking time to enlighten me on your efforts to control garbage dumping the bays. As you requested, here are a few ideas I have on the subject.

Actual Collection:

1) Ask processors to act as collection points for their fishermen. When there is sufficient buildup of trash, processor or tender takes trash to local dock for collection by local municipality or private collector.

2) In cases where there is not a dock, trash could be collected by a barge or landing craft. Which could then off-load on a designated beach site. If the municipality was not able to transport the refuse, a forklift could be assigned to the barge for taking trash directly to the landfill.

3) A dedicated tug and barge or a landing craft could make scheduled rounds of the bays and collect garbage from processors and fishermen.

4) One small barge could be anchored in each bay. A "garbage tender" could then off load these barges as necessary.

5) Equipment for these might include: a) 20 "dumpsters" approximately the size of a 8'X 8'X 20' container van, b) shallow draft landing craft with at least 1000 square feet of deck space, c) a barge or barges with at least 1200 square feet of deck space.

Compensation and Funding:

1) A direct fee could be assessed for each unit of garbage collected. A small fee for individual fisherman and larger fees for industrial amounts.

2) Processors might agree to pay one or two shallow draft tenders to collect garbage between open fishing periods.

3) The State of Alaska could offer a direct credit against

the "Fish Tax" for payments made to a garbage collector. With a reasonable maximum credit allowed.

4) The State of Alaska could contract with a firm through a bid process to collect garbage. Bidders would agree to provide certain services at certain times to certain areas.

5) Processors could be assessed by the State of Alaska. Perhaps a percentage of the fish tax could be allocated for garbage collection.

Cost

My guess is about \$2000.00 per day for a tug and barge or landing craft. The cost of processors taking care of fishermen's garbage is much more complicated. Perhaps a processor would be allowed a tax credit if they took care of their fishermen's refuse. With the value of the resource taken out of Bristol Bay in the hundreds of millions of dollars, \$60-80 thousand a year isn't a great amount.

The best solution is: for each fisherman and processor to voluntarily dispose of their garbage in a lawful and ecologically sound manner. Short of that, a system which makes garbage disposal convenient and easy on the pocket book will be the next best thing.

Sincerely Yours,

Mark L. Smith

Smith
Box 106
Dillingham Ak 99576



Honorable A. Herrmann
House of Representatives
Box V
Juneau, Ak 99811

Handwritten notes



JIM D. CLARK
BOROUGH MANAGER

TELEPHONE
(907) 246-4224

Bristol Bay Borough

BOX 189 • NAKNEK, ALASKA 99633

March 18, 1988

Representative Adelheid Herrmann
Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

RE: HB 493, HB 494 & HJR 61

Dear Adelheid:

There is a critical need to solve the marine garbage problems in Bristol Bay and in other areas of Alaska. Further, there is a critical need for financial support from the State of Alaska and the United States Congress to allow coastal communities to join in preventing marine pollution. We support HB 493 and 494 and request the State Legislature to enact both bills to help us solve a problem that is harmful to Bristol Bay and the entire State of Alaska.

Sincerely,

Jim D. Clark
Borough Manager

bjt



NATIONAL FISHERIES INSTITUTE, INC.

2000 M STREET, N.W., STE. 580 ■ WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036 ■ (202) 296-5090

December 5, 1986

The Honorable Adelheid Herrmann
P.O. Box 63
Naknek, Alaska 99633

Dear Representative Herrmann:

I vaguely recollect promising during one of the Task Force sessions in San Pedro to mail you copies of the federal fish package and Sen. Chaffee's plastic debris bill. Well, at long last, here they are. I bet you're excited.

I'm looking forward to seeing you in Olympia. Hope your holiday's are enjoyable.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alfred D. Chandler".

Alfred D. Chandler
Government Relations
Representative

Enclosures (2)

99TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2596

To require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to conduct a study of the adverse effects that the pollution of the environment caused by discarding or dumping of plastics on land and in the waters have on the environment, including the effects on fish and wildlife, to make recommendations for eliminating or lessening such adverse effects, and to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to control the pollution of the environment caused by the discarding of plastics on the land and in water.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 25 (legislative day, JUNE 23), 1986

Mr. CHAFEE (for himself, Mr. STAFFORD, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. PELL, Mr. SIMON, and Mr. LAUTENBERG) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

A BILL

To require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to conduct a study of the adverse effects that the pollution of the environment caused by discarding or dumping of plastics on land and in the waters have on the environment, including the effects on fish and wildlife, to make recommendations for eliminating or lessening such adverse effects, and to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to control the pollution of the environment caused by the discarding of plastics on the land and in water.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled.*

3 SECTION 1. (a) This Act may be cited as the "Plastic
4 Waste Reduction Act of 1986".

5 (b) The Congress finds and declares that—

6 (1) when plastic rings and devices, which are in-
7 creasingly being used to store, carry, and transport a
8 variety of containers, are disposed in the environment,
9 they persist for extended periods of time and have seri-
10 ous adverse impacts on fish and wildlife species and
11 the environment; and

12 (2) although certain States, which require such
13 rings and devices to break down upon exposure to nat-
14 ural elements, have been largely successful in reducing
15 those impacts, other States have not enacted or en-
16 forced such laws.

17 **TITLE I—STUDY OF PLASTIC POLLUTION**

18 **SEC. 101.** (a) The Administrator of the Environmental
19 Protection Agency (hereinafter referred to in this title as the
20 "Administrator") shall undertake a study for the purpose of
21 determining the adverse effects that the discarding and
22 dumping of millions of pounds of plastics each year have on
23 the environment, including fish and wildlife, within the
24 United States and the oceans, and to enable the Administra-
25 tor to make recommendations to the Congress as to what

1 actions might be taken to eliminate or lessen such adverse
2 effects.

3 (b) Such study shall be carried out with a view to deter-
4 mining the impact on the environment, including fish and
5 wildlife, as a result of the discarding or dumping of such plas-
6 tic, including—

7 (1) plastic debris discarded or dumped on land and
8 in all water bodies, including streams, rivers, lakes,
9 bays, estuaries, and oceans;

10 (2) the discarding or dumping of raw plastic pel-
11 lets on land and in all water bodies, including streams,
12 rivers, lakes, bays, estuaries, and oceans; and

13 (3) the discarding or dumping of plastic finished
14 products, including, but not limited to, plastic holders
15 for multi-package beverages, plastic packing bands,
16 fishing nets, or fishing gear, on land and in all water
17 bodies, including streams, rivers, lakes, bays, estuaries,
18 and oceans.

19 (c) In carrying out the study required by this title, the
20 Administrator shall—

21 (1) consult with the United States Fish and Wild-
22 life Service, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and
23 all other departments and agencies of the United
24 States engaged in research, investigation, or studies in-
25 volving, directly or indirectly, the impact of such plas-

1 tics debris on the environment, including fish and wild-
2 life, and such departments and agencies shall fully co-
3 operate with the Administrator; and

4 (2) solicit and consider views and recommenda-
5 tions from representative members of the fishing indus-
6 try, the beverage industry, the plastic industry, con-
7 sumer interest groups, and other interested and affect-
8 ed individuals and businesses.

9 (d)(1) In making such recommendations as to actions
10 which might be taken to eliminate or lessen the impact of the
11 discarding or dumping of such plastics on the environment,
12 including fish and wildlife (including recommendations to re-
13 quire the use of biodegradable or photodegradable plastics, or
14 recycling), the Administrator shall consider and include in the
15 report a statement as to the environmental, public health,
16 and economic impacts of each such action so recommended.

17 SEC. 102. On or before the expiration of the eighteen-
18 month period following the date of the enactment of this title,
19 the Administrator shall report to the Congress the results of
20 the study conducted pursuant to this title, together with rec-
21 ommendations in connection therewith. The Administrator
22 shall identify those recommendations as to which the Admin-
23 istrator believes there is existing authority to implement, and
24 those recommendations which will require legislative action
25 by the Congress if they are to be implemented.

1 ent with the physical integrity of the item for its intended
2 use.

3 SEC. 203. Nothing in this Act shall preclude or deny
4 any right of any State or political subdivision thereof to adopt
5 or enforce any regulation, requirement, or standard of per-
6 formance respecting a regulated item that is more stringent
7 than regulations promulgated pursuant to this Act.

8 SEC. 204. (a) Any regulation promulgated by the Ad-
9 ministrator pursuant to this title shall contain provisions suffi-
10 cient to assure that adequate recordkeeping and testing re-
11 quirements for implementing and enforcing such regulation
12 will be carried out.

13 (b) Any violation of a regulation promulgated by the Ad-
14 ministrator pursuant to this title shall be punishable by a fine
15 of not to exceed \$25,000, or imprisonment for not more than
16 12 months, or both.

○

Major Fisheries and Coast Guard Bills Move Through Congress

Driftnet, Plastics Pollution Restrictions Signed Into Law

Congress has approved and the President has signed into law an omnibus package of legislation that I sponsored which affects the fishing industry in Alaska. Included in the bill are provisions which authorize the Governing International Fisheries Agreement (GIFA) between the U.S. and Japan, implement the Convention on Prevention of Pollution at Sea, reauthorize the Sea Grant Program, and implement controls on the use of high seas driftnets.

The Governing International Fisheries Agreement with Japan will run for two years, and will extend a number of joint ventures in the Kodiak area between Alaska fishermen and Japanese companies.

The bill combats the growing problem of ocean dumping of plastics. It implements Annex V of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships. Annex V prohibits the disposal of plastic garbage from ships anywhere in the sea, and establishes the distance from shore where the disposal of other types of garbage, such as glass, paper, and organic garbage, is prohibited.

The Sea Grant Program is also reauthorized under the legislation. This program has been in effect since the 1970's and has been responsible for important marine research activities. The University of Alaska is a Sea Grant University and receives funds under the program for research and academic instruction. The Alaska Marine Advisory Program is also funded under the Sea Grants.

The driftnet provisions in the bill require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Secretary of State, to enter into negotiations with those nations that allow their vessels to engage in driftnet fishing on the high seas in order to establish monitoring of those fisheries. The Secretary is also required to negotiate enforcement agreements with these nations. If these agreements are not negotiated and imple-

mented, the U.S. can embargo imports of fish from that nation.

I agree with many Alaska fishermen that this bill does not go far enough. In order to get any agreement, and the negotiations process started, however, we need the approval of many diverse interests. It is my personal intent to continue to seek ways to more closely control driftnet fishing on the high seas. I do not consider this bill to be the final chapter, but rather one more step in my effort to stop this tremendous waste of our marine resources, and eliminate the high seas interception of salmon.

The House also approved and sent to the Senate separate legislation which authorizes \$2.6 billion for the Coast Guard to carry out its fisheries enforcement, search and rescue, and drug interdiction missions.

The legislation includes two provisions which were added at my request. The first would authorize relocation assistance, similar to that extended to Department of Defense personnel, to Coast Guard employees in Alaska, and in particular Juneau, who were affected by the reorganization of support and logistics functions to Alameda, California. The Authorization also includes an extension of local hire provisions on Coast Guard contracts.

This Authorization should provide the funding levels necessary for the Coast Guard to carry out its critical missions in Alaska. The local hire and relocation assistance programs are very important to Alaska, and I will continue to work with Senators Stevens and Murkowski to see that they are included in the Senate version of the authorization.

This entire package of bills are important to a maritime state like Alaska. The plastics provisions will protect our coastline and marine mammals. The Sea Grant Program funds important research in the state, and the GIFA provides continued employment to a number of Alaska fishermen.

REFLAGGING BAN SIGNED INTO LAW

The last bill approved by the first session of the 100th Congress was legislation which I sponsored along with three other members of Congress from the Pacific Northwest that will ban the further reflagging of fish processing vessels retroactive to July 28, 1987. This effort is in keeping with the original intent of the 200-mile fishing zone, which was to Americanize our fishery.

The legislation requires that vessels newly licensed after July 28, 1987 have a majority of voting stock owned by U.S. citizens. In addition, the bill requires vessel builds and rebuilds to be performed in U.S. shipyards, and it requires that fishing industry vessels and U.S. merchant vessels be manned by U.S. crewmen.

As I told you in my last newsletter, the reflagging issue has been extremely controversial in Alaska. It has been my intent all through this process to protect the interests of Alaska fishermen and Alaska communities, and I believe that this bill carries out that desire.

It is important to remember that the U.S. fishing industry is composed of a number of diverse interests. A Congressman from the Northeast may have a different perspective on an issue than one from the Gulf Coast or the Pacific Northwest and Alaska. This bill is a compromise between those interests. The important thing is that a reflagging ban has been passed, and we can move forward with building an Alaska-based bottom fish processing industry.

In conjunction with this bill, and in line with my efforts to promote Alaska shore based processing facilities, I have introduced legislation which would impose a fee on the activities of commercial and recreational fishermen and offshore processors outside of State waters in the 200-mile zone. It imposes no new fees on near-shore fishermen or shore-based processors. The revenues raised from these fees would be divided between the Regional Fishery Management Councils, coastal states through the Marine Fisheries Commissions, and the National Marine Fisheries Service,

REPRESENTATIVE ADELHEID HERRMANN'S

QUESTIONS TO

SENATOR TED STEVENS

March 8, 1988 - Joint Session

REPRESENTATIVE HERRMANN:

Thank you, Madam President.

Senator, two issues:

First, I appreciate your comments and point of view on Navy homeporting. I do have some concerns, though, and as you know I have Adak Naval Air Station in my district and I appreciate all the capital improvements projects you have put in there regarding education. But I want to just mention that we had a meeting in Anchorage and your office was involved - Marie Matsuno Nash - we had Bill Sherrill(?) from Murkowski's office and so on - and we had the Adak School Board there.

And - you know we wanted to find out who the one person in the Navy was responsible for education that the people on the island could talk to in the Navy. We never could find out who that one person was that's responsible. Like you say, the commander-in-chief of the Pacific is in Honolulu, and I think the hierarchy and the bureaucracy of the Navy is so great that we could not find one person that people in Adak could go talk to - to find out some of their education concerns.

I realize that homeporting is good for the economy of the state and we really need that, but I'd suggest that people look at Adak as the Navy station in the state and look at some of the problems that they're having - because it seems like with the school foundation funding problem that we're having, Adak is in limbo between the state and the federal government - nobody really wanting to take responsibility for that. And I think that when you're talking turkey, as you say, I think that people have to look at that and really say - What does the state of Alaska have to offer the Navy?

And the other concern is on marine debris. I've been doing quite a bit of work on that and I think that there's federal requirements now that the ship garbage, or the garbage coming off the ships - that has to be disposed of on shore - and a lot of our smaller communities don't have the facilities available there to take all this garbage on shore. And I know that the state is working with the federal government on that, I believe, but that is something that is a concern of mine.

Thank you.

SENATOR STEVENS:

Well, thank you.

That last issue is going to be very difficult. We'll have a transition, there's no question about that, but our country took the lead in the disposal of waste at sea and now it's taking the lead in the whole concept of dealing with plastic pollution. And I think we're going to have to face up to it in our communities, that really it's part of the trash collection. Every community has some kind of trash disposal and we've had our problems with EPA in Anchorage and a lot of other places in terms of how you bring that about.

But it makes no sense for these vessels to be dropping off garbage that includes all these plastic things, whether they're vessels that are not going to touch our shores or whether they're our vessels. I think some of the worst things I've seen is the pictures they've got of little fishes are trying to grow up with the plastic top of a six-pack around them, or when they open up some of these shellfish they find inside of them, anything from the metal part of the top of a can of beer or coke or something else - and those things are going to ruin our number 2 industry if we're not careful. And I think we've been very much involved with it - if there's anything we can do to try and help in the transition--I can't promise money anymore, anymore than you can, unfortunately--but we'll try to work out to see if we can't get some kind of a joint plan to assure that a state that's got half the coastline of the United States is going to be able to take that transition and not get a bunch of orders from some federal agency to put us all behind the eight-ball and back in court again as some of our communities were at the time of the sewage disposal legislation. But--and I hear you on that.

On the first one, I'd like for you to just think out loud with me on that one. Adak is not a normal base. As a matter of fact, Adak is one island, has no civilian community, has 3 major naval bases, 3 separate commanders, one of which is highly classified.

The primary school there is named after Ann. I've been out there many times - she loved the place and liked to go out there and visit the people out there - and they named that school after Ann, after she was killed. And we're trying to work out getting a school in there, as you know, now - but there's no place in the United States where the Navy keeps that kind of school. They do - they have a group overseas that handles education overseas - but I've insisted that they can't treat our people as being overseas. So those base commanders out there are the people they've got to talk to - and unfortunately, the communications sometimes between the civilians involved in the school operation--and they are civilian employees of the Navy and of the state--State employees, some of them--are unwilling

to go through the normal Navy procedure to deal with their problems.

I think they're very good people, I've worked with those education people, it's a great place to send kids to school - you really have got to see it to understand - they work hard with their children out there. But we can't expect the Navy to create a special position to deal with one school. Now that's our problem. Rather, I would hope that you'd realize they're Alaskan kids and you'd create a special position to deal with that school - because I insist they're our kids, not overseas - and yet the state won't put up the money to build a school. We're getting federal money to build that school - which--you know, they pay taxes, by the way--they pay taxes to the state - when you charge them, by the way--I'm not going to get into that one today - But believe me, they are Alaskan residents and they're not being treated as Alaskan residents with regard to the school system. You don't treat them the same as you do the children that are going to school on Elmendorf, or Richardson, or Eielson, or Wainwright.

That gives us in Washington a real tough time. Now, so far we've won. I think you'd agree. We're going to get the money to build that school - we've got federal money to build the Ann Stevens school - we've got federal money for the middle school coming - and I think that we'll be able to finance it. But I'm not going to be able to get the money to finance the administration of one school. You've got to help us solve that - and I think if you don't, we won't get money if they expand - and that base - from what you've been hearing, I hope you realize that Adak's going to continue to expand.

I'm taking a lot of time on it, but let me tell you - I saw the briefing yesterday on where the Soviets are in the North Pacific, and it was a classified one, but I urge you to - we can arrange for you to get a briefing of what's out there if you want to get it. There's more Soviet Navy now in the Pacific than we have worldwide. And if you want to look at it, the most modern vessels they have are in the Pacific - they're new ones - they're new submarines - they're new missile carriers - and some of you - and Max, I don't mean this personally - but you're coming up now with on this home porting the question of what about nuclear accidents and should this be a nuclear-free zone - Those are nuclear-carrying vessels out there the Soviets have got.

I can't get you a nuclear-free zone - if you can't understand this--these are not nuclear vessels that are coming in here right now, by the way - let me hasten to add that - but I can't say they won't be here, and if those guys start playing games with us, I hope to God we have some here - because deterrence is the only thing those people understand. And if you don't recognize the passage of history now that's got us this INF Agreement, I urge you to study it.

They walked away from us 3 times - it wasn't until we built up our strength - we'd indicated that we were going to the new SDI - that the Soviets came back to the table, have stayed at the table, got the first agreement - they're demanding we stay - do you know we're working around the clock now in Geneva on the second agreement? No one believes we can get it, but they're insisting on going ahead with another agreement. We have the capability of responding that they do not have in their system, and I believe that we have the capability of providing the defense that the country needs here.

But the nuclear issue ought not to be part of homeporting - and that the whole question of this Navy base out there ought to be recognized - Did you know that Adak today--let me just tell you this--is the fifth largest community in Alaska - the fifth largest community. There's no civilian community there, but if you had one, it would be the fifth largest city in Alaska - and I think that it oughta be treated--the Alaskans out there oughta be treated as though they were in our state.

* * * * *

(5) HB493

Rec'd 3/24/88



COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE
UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA, USDA & SEA GRANT COOPERATING

MARINE ADVISORY PROGRAM, PO BOX 10046, DILLINGHAM, ALASKA 99576

March 24, 1988

Representative Adelheid Herrmann
Alaska State Legislature
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99802

Dear Representative Herrmann,

I'm writing to you on behalf of the University of Alaska's Marine Advisory Program in support of House Bill 493, "An Act relating to Marine Garbage Collection."

As you are aware, the U. S. Congress recently passed a new marine pollution law that prohibits the dumping of any plastics in the oceans at any time and allows the dumping of other kinds of trash outside of 12 miles from shore. For the vast majority of fishermen in Alaska, this means that to abide by the law, they must bring all of their trash back to port beginning December 1, 1988 when the law goes into effect.

Another requirement of the law is that ports that are authorized and charge to moor vessels must have facilities to dispose of all this new trash coming ashore. Recently, I attended a National Sea Grant sponsored conference in Portland concerning the new law. Gary Daily, the harbormaster from Dutch Harbor was also in attendance. He and Doug Insley, president of the Alaska Association of Harbormasters spoke quite convincingly about how many Alaskan ports will be faced with a major problem of disposal of this newly generated trash from the fishing and tourism industries. Dutch Harbor, for example, has over 4,000 port calls a year. It also has a very limited landfill which is scheduled to overflow in two years, and no incineration or other facilities to dispose of waste.

It became clear throughout the conference that those who wrote the new law had not considered the solid waste disposal problem that municipalities are obligated to absorb.

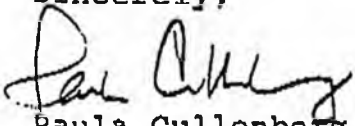
Several steps are being made toward beginning to address this problem. The National Marine Fisheries Service has given the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation \$25,000 to estimate the amount of trash anticipated to be produced by vessel size class. NMFS is also considering funding the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference toward a small study of possible solutions to Unalaska's particular disposal problems, such as increasing landfill sizes, incineration, recycling etc. It is intended that the information gathered would be specific enough to help Unalaska, yet general enough to be transferable to other communities in the State.

House Bill 493 is a timely and much needed next step in addressing this problem. It will allow a source of seed funds for communities to begin implomenting the most applicable means of collection and disposal of marine trash.

The Marine Advisory Program will be involved in educating marine users about the bill, promoting the return of marine trash to shore, as well as providing technical assistance to coastal communities in meeting waste disposal needs. We are not, however, a source of funds to municipalities.

I enthusiastically support HB 493 and hope to see it pass this session.

Sincerely,



Paula Cullenberg, Agent
Marine Advisory Program

PC/ejn

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(6) HB 493

CITY OF KING COVE

P.O. Box 37 • King Cove, Alaska 99612 • (907) 497-2340

March 21, 1988

The Honorable Adelheid Herrmann
Alaska State Representative
P.O. Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

RE: House Bill 493

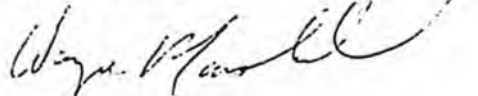
Dear Representative Herrmann:

The City of King Cove applauds your action to introduce HB 493, an act which begins to address the serious marine garbage problem which is confronting coastal communities. We believe the bill is a first step which the State must take to assist its coastal communities to handle the solid waste which inundates communities from processing and fishing activities.

The City would also like the intent of the bill expanded to include monites to plan, construct and implement solid waste collection systems that will be needed to respond to new federal requirements which prohibit ocean dumping. HJR 61, which you introduced, identifies the problems which coastal communities will face in providing the facilities needed to handle this garbage.

The City supports the intent of HB 493 and hopes the legislature can assist coastal communities in meeting solid waste disposal needs associated with the fishing industry.

Sincerely,



Wayne Marshall
City Manager
1007 W. 3rd, Suite 201
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
274-7555