

HB

93

(FILE 1)

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* DELIVER TO: LIOCFMF
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* ORIGINAL
* SENT: 02/12/87 TIME: 09:55
* SUBJECT: HRES, 2-12-87, HB-18
* PRINT DATE: 02/12/87 TIME: 09:56
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2-12-87
HOUSE RESOURCES
HB-18, WILLOW CREEK RECREATION AREAS
FRANKIE

FINAL STATS

NAME/REPRESENTING	ADDRESS	PHONE #	T	O
DENNIS DAIGGER	DNR, 3601 C ST. ANCH.	762-4344		X
CAROL WILSON	DNR, 400 WILLOUGHBY, JUNEAU	2400		X
BARBARA HUNT	REP. LARSON'S STAFF	3727	X	
RON SOMMERVILLE	AK. OUTDOOR COUNCIL	789-2399	X	
PAT FOURCHOT	REPRESENTATIVE		X	
BOB HERRON	CAPITOL 112	4453		X
MARK PARMELEE	AK. ENV. LOBBY, 204 N.FRANKLIN	6-2345		X
CLAIRE HOLLAND	AK. ENV. LOBBY		X	
GAIL GATTON	AK. ENV. LOBBY			X
GEO KRUSZ		586-2323		X
PHIL HOLDSWORTH	AK. MINERS ASSOC.	586-1383	X	
OSTROSKI	SPEC. ASST., DNR			X
HELEN FISCHER	REP. DAVIDSON'S STAFF			X
REP. MENARD	CAPITOL		X	
REP. COTTEN	CHAIR		X	
REP. DAVIDSON	COMMITTEE MEMBER		X	
REP. HERRMANN	COMMITTEE MEMBER		X	
REP. HOFFMAN	COMMITTEE MEMBER		X	
REP. PEARCE	COMMITTEE MEMBER		X	
REP. NAVARRE	COMMITTEE MEMBER		X	
REP. SCHULTZ	COMMITTEE MEMBER		X	
SHARON MCCAULEY	REP. COTTEN'S STAFF			X
NED FARQUHAR	REP. COTTEN'S STAFF			X
REP. SPRINGER	COMMITTEE MEMBER		X	
SCHOCKY GREENBERG	REP. HERRMANN'S STAFF			X
ROLAND SHANKS	SPEC. ASST. FISH AND GAME		X	
NEIL JOHANSON	OFFNET ANCH., DIV.OF PARKS		X	

17 TESTIFIED
0 UNABLE
10 OBSERVED
27 TOTAL

08:30-09:12 START/END TIME

DRAFT LETTER OF INTENT - HB 93

The Legislature intends that the Department of Natural Resources reserve instream flows for the recreation rivers as soon as practicable within budgetary limits. Instream flow reservations can in most cases be accomplished for the recreation rivers at relatively low cost using available stream data. In the future, after instream flows have been reserved and when water use conflicts seem imminent, it may be necessary to spend more money to improve the data base and refine the instream flow reservations, but at this time an intensive, expensive instream flow reservation process is not necessary.

The Legislature also intends to reserve these river corridors before major land use pressures and conflicts arise, in recognition of the difficulties and controversies in reacting to recreation growth on the Kenai River. The Department of Natural Resources will have to conduct special planning efforts for the recreation rivers whether or not they are designated as special use areas by the Legislature, much as the Department has had to plan for the Hatcher Pass and Willow Subbasin areas in the past. The Department should schedule planning for those recreation rivers where public need is evident within the Department's existing planning budget. No deadlines for the plans are established in the recreation rivers legislation because the need for these management plans -- especially weighed against other prospective planning needs statewide -- is unpredictable.

REPRESENTATIVE
SAM COTTEN
DISTRICT 15



P.O. BOX 296, EAGLE RIVER, AK 99577
P.O. BOX V, JUNEAU, AK 99811

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: House of Representatives
FROM: Rep. Sam Cotten *SC*
SUBJECT: CSHB 93 (Fin)
DATE: April 8, 1987

The recreation rivers bill, CSHB 93 (Fin), will be before you for floor discussion this week. The bill has undergone several years of work and will provide for balanced management of these important recreational corridors. Here is some basic information on the bill.

Affected acreage

The bill designates six recreation rivers in southcentral Alaska:

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Lake Creek | 64,000 acres |
| 2. Talkeetna River | 32,000 acres |
| 3. Little Susitna River | 13,000 acres |
| 4. Kroto/Moose Creeks | 80,500 acres |
| 5. Talachulitna River | 54,000 acres |
| 6. Alexander Creek | 23,000 acres |

TOTAL ACREAGE 66,500 acres

Need for the bill

In 1985 the State of Alaska and the Mat-Su Borough jointly adopted the Susitna Area Plan, affecting about 16 million acres of southcentral Alaska. Recognizing the growing public use of selected river corridors which are valuable for hunting, fishing, and boating, the Plan called for legislative designation of a new "recreation river" system on about 250,000 acres of state and borough land. CSHB 93 (Fin) includes exactly the same lands as proposed for designation in the Susitna Area Plan. (The Little Susitna River was included in the Willow Subbasin Plan, adopted in 1982.)

The bill is quite strongly supported by diverse user groups, including the National Rifle Association, the Alaska Outdoor

Council, and the Alaska Sportfishing Association. The Departments of Natural Resources and Fish and Game support the bill. The Resource Development Council has been opposed to the bill because it believes that legislation is unnecessary at this time.

Public use of the rivers is high. The Department of Fish and Game estimated that about 53,000 anglers used the rivers for about 101,000 sportfishing days in 1985. Most of the fishing use was concentrated in the Little Susitna and Kroto-Moose drainages. Hunting use of these corridors is very high also, as the riparian habitat is ideal for moose.

Management

The bill sets out continued public use (including hunting, fishing, and boating) and habitat protection as the major purposes of designation. Other uses are allowed if compatible with these guiding purposes. Some uses, such as power boating and timber harvest, must be allowed as long as they are compatible with the primary purposes of the bill.

Under the bill, the Department of Natural Resources will conduct a thorough management planning process, involving the public, interest groups, and local governments, for the river corridors. Any regulation of boating or other recreation activities, which are included among the primary purposes of the bill, would have to occur in this public and accessible planning process.

The recreation rivers are not designated as units of the state park system, although the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation may conduct recreation management within them.

Summary

The Legislature has the authority, under Article VIII, Sec. 7 of the Constitution, to designate public lands for special uses. No other lands in southcentral Alaska so commend themselves for special designation as the high-use, high-value recreation river corridors. Now that the bill has been honed to a state that few land designations ever achieve, I urge your support for CSHB 93 (Fin). Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

SECTIONAL ANALYSIS
CSHB 93 (Fin)
Recreation Rivers

Title

The title of the bill establishes six recreation rivers, preventing the addition of rivers to this bill. Other rivers could be added by the Legislature in the future by amending the land descriptions at the end of the bill.

Findings

The findings section characterizes the Legislature's intent to designate rivers and lands with special values without allowing the designation to become an undue impediment to the use and enjoyment of adjacent lands or to the development of access.

Purposes (AS 41.23.200)

The purposes of the bill reflect construction for other state reserved lands categories (note AS 41.17.200, State Forests). The purposes include habitat protection, continuation of public uses such as hunting, fishing, and boating, water quality protection, and accommodation of compatible recreation-oriented economic uses. Through the bill, the purposes section is guiding language for land management. It has been crafted to provide some flexibility in management but primarily to recognize the special values that lead to designation of the recreation river corridors.

Compatible activities (AS 41.23.210)

This section brings together language regarding compatible uses, including existing prior uses, and provides for their occurrence consistent with the purposes of the act and under a management plan to be adopted by the commissioner. (The management plan must itself be consistent with the purposes of the act.)

Under (a), the commissioner must allow compatible activities, including motorized access, sand and gravel extraction for public facilities, the construction of recreational facilities, and timber harvest.

Under (b), the commissioner may allow other compatible activities.

Under (c), the commissioner must allow the continuation of commercial or private activities occurring under valid permits on state lands at the time of the recreation river designation, as long as the activities are compatible with the

purposes of the act. Before making a determination that an activity may not continue, the commissioner must provide for public comment.

General management (AS 41.23.220)

Under (a), the designated lands are assigned to the Department of Natural Resources for management consistent with the act.

Under (b), the commissioner is required to reserve instream flow on the designated rivers, but the three-year deadline has been eliminated.

Under (c), the existing authorities of other departments of state government are preserved, including the Coastal Zone Management Program and plans adopted under it.

Under (d), the use of firearms and hunting, fishing, and trapping rights are protected.

Under (e), the guidelines and authorities for recreation river management do not extend to major rivers (such as the Yentna, Susitna, and Skwentna) into which designated recreation rivers flow.

Management plan (AS 41.23.230)

The management plan will define, with a large amount of public participation, how land managers are to implement the intent of the Legislature as presented in the purposes of the act. There is flexibility for the management plan to allow a wide variety of uses in different parts of the river corridors.

Under (a), the commissioner must protect the river and water quality, manage recreation, designate lands and guidelines for compatible development, manage commercial services, provide for public services, allow access into and through the river corridors, establish a process for reviewing future proposed uses for compatibility, and establish setbacks and guidelines for compatible activities including mining leasing and oil and gas leasing.

Under (b), the commissioner shall adopt regulations to implement the plan.

Under (c), the plan must be submitted to the Legislature for review.

Municipal lands (AS 41.23.240)

The commissioner must obtain the concurrence of an affected municipality in any management plan affecting municipal lands, and must cooperate in planning for adjacent municipal lands if requested.

Land acquisition (AS 41.23.250)

Under (a), the commissioner is allowed to acquire and add lands to the recreation river corridor.

Under (b), the use of eminent domain is prohibited in acquiring lands.

Application of public land laws (AS 41.23.260)

Under (a), the application of sections of Title 38 is allowed where compatible. This will allow rights-of-way, utility corridors, and pipelines, in particular. (Land disposals are disallowed, within a half-mile of the river, later in the bill.)

Under (b), the recreation rivers (except for the upper reaches of the Talkeetna River, in accordance with the Susitna Area Plan) are closed to mining claims and leasable mineral disposal, including coal.

Under (c), the recreation river corridors, except the riverbeds, may be opened to hardrock mining leasing if leasing is allowed in the management plan. The commissioner is directed to establish appropriate conditions for managing mineral development, including conditioning the mining lease with environmental and recreational protections.

Under (d), oil and gas leasing is permitted.

Under (e), land leasing is permitted for purposes that enhance public use and enjoyment of the recreation river. (Lodges, campgrounds, and boat launches would be likely developments under this section.)

Under (f), revenues from the section could be used as program receipts for recreation river management.

Cooperative management agreements (AS 41.23.270)

Under (a), the commissioner is authorized to enter into cooperative management agreements with other agencies and governments.

Under (b), the commissioner may transfer discrete sites to other agencies for management.

Under (c), the recreation rivers may not be managed as units of the state park system, although the division of parks may manage recreation sites and the commissioner may adopt regulations transferring recreation management to the division of parks.

Recreation river establishment (AS 41.23.280)

Only the Legislature may establish recreation rivers.

Designated rivers (AS 41.23.290)

Under (a), the rivers are designated special use areas under the constitution. Lands within a half-mile of the river are reserved from land disposal.

Under (b), the land descriptions include all lands proposed in the Susitna Area Plan. Mental health lands have been excluded but would be included if redesignated as general grant lands in the future. As elsewhere in the bill, only state-owned lands are affected.

Planning schedule

In Section 3, the commissioner is required to finish the plans by July 1, 1992.

Effective date

The act is effective immediately.

STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE

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


LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY

MEMORANDUM

February 17, 1988

SUBJECT: Recreation Rivers
(SCS CSHB 93(C&RA))

TO: Senator Arliss Sturgulewski
Chair, Senate Resources Committee

FROM: Richard A. Bradley 
Legislative Counsel

McKie Campbell has asked that I comment on the construction of Sec. 3 of the bill as reported by the Community and Regional Affairs Committee.

The section states, in part, that the "commissioner may not dispose of timber or other resources within a recreational river before the adoption of the management plan for the recreational river except under AS 38.05.115."

The goal of the committee, as McKie has advised me, was to limit the commissioner's pre-management plan authority to "small sales."

I agree that the authority for "small sales" is found in AS 38.05.115(a); the difficulty is that the same subsection is also the authority for all other sales held by the commissioner of timber and other materials. I think that the first three sentences of Sec. 115(a) make this point clearly and do not themselves relate to the issues addressed by the limitations following, "However, . . ."

Given the committee's goals, I suggest that the subject sentence might better say:

Except for sales of not more than 500 mbf or equivalent other measure of timber or more than 25,000 cubic yards of materials under AS 38.05.115(a), the commissioner may not dispose of timber or other resources within a

Senator Arliss Sturgulewski
Page 2
February 17, 1988

recreational river before the adoption of the
management plan for the recreational river.

If I may be of further assistance, please advise.

RAB:bb
wkb2/112



ALASKA OUTDOOR COUNCIL, INC.

3780 MCGINNIS DR. JUNEAU, AK 99801
(907) 789-3450

April 21, 1987

Senator Arliss Sturgulewski, Chairman
Senate Community & Regional Affairs Committee
P.O. Box V
Juneau, AK. 99811

Regarding: HB 93

Dear Senator Sturgulewski:

I have just become aware of the fact that HB 93 (Recreation Rivers) will be up in the Senate Community and Regional Affairs Committee this week. Unfortunately, I will be out of town the remainder of the week and, thus, would like to submit this as our testimony.

As we have previously, the Alaska Outdoor Council would like to go on record as strongly supporting HB 93. We are convinced that the identification and management of these six rivers primarily for their recreational values is in the best interest of the State and its residents.

This legislation has changed considerably from the proposal that was almost adopted last session. Additional compromise language has been included to protect many of the development interests which could have been eliminated. The legislation is also designed to protect the many recreational and other activities on the river systems by including them as primary purposes in the organic legislation.

I believe the advocates of this type of legislation have worked hard to construct legislation which is a reasonable compromise between the wishes of the protectionists and the rabid no compromise developers.

There are many reasons why this legislation should be passed. Some of the most important reasons include:

1. Lack of attention to the rivers will eventually lead, in the near future, to the creation of a situation similar to that on the Kenai River. No one wants that type of conflict to expand throughout the State.
2. Severe and drastic regulatory actions will eventually be necessary if the escalating conflicts and user demands continue on these rivers.

- 3. Existing uses have a better chance of being included as protected uses if a management plan is implemented before use conflicts reach the crises level.
- 4. The predominant values of these rivers are recreation oriented.
- 5. The economic values of these rivers are directly related to the maintenance of their recreational qualities.
- 6. Since this portion of the State holds almost 50% of the State's population, it is critical that efforts be made to distribute user pressures throughout the region. Protection of the major river systems will help alleviate some of these problems.

We are aware that some organizations and groups oppose this because they contend it isn't needed or they feel it will adversely affect their present uses. However, we are convinced that if we do nothing, we will more seriously impact the resources and the present uses by severe over-utilization and growing user conflicts.

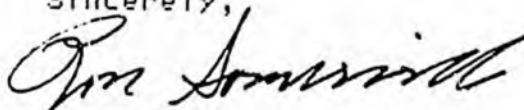
If these concerns cannot be accomodated in the management planning process, we would encourage fine tuning the legislation--as long as any proposed use is compatible with the basic intent of the designation. We certainly would work to improve the legislation rather than scuttling it altogether.

We are also aware that some efforts may be made to reduce the corridor to a quarter mile rather than the existing half mile from each side of the river. We are opposed to this reduction as we do not feel the quarter mile corridor on each side of the river will provide the necessary protection for not only the basic river qualities but the habitat requirements of the wildlife populations--particularly moose.

We consider the Recreation River bill as important fishing, hunting and trapping legislation.

We stand ready to work with the Senate it its deliberations on this important legislation.

Sincerely,



Ron Somerville
Executive Director



NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
INCORPORATED 1871

1600 RHODE ISLAND AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036

RUPE ANDREWS
FIELD REPRESENTATIVE
ALASKA

9416 LONGRUN DRIVE
JUNEAU, AK 99801
907/789-7422

March 7, 1987

Honorable Sam Cotten
Co-Chairman, House Resources Committee
Alaska State Legislature
P.O. Box V, Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Representative Cotten:

Please accept the following comments as testimony regarding HB 93, an act that would establish recreational rivers in South-central Alaska. Prior obligations will take me out of town next week and prevent comments in person.

The collective membership of NRA (22,000) in Alaska comprised predominantly of hunters support this bill. We view this bill as one of the most important pieces of legislation to come before the Alaska Legislature during the 15th Legislative session to impact urban hunters. As all hunters well know, every river system in Alaska is a rural highway for hunters. In light of the increasingly intensive recreational use throughout the state on flowing waters, and their importance both to the recreational needs of Alaskans and to the tourist industry it is paramount that the State develop legislation that will prevent the disposal of lands adjacent to important recreational rivers.

HB 93 is a true multiple-use land bill with widespread support from a wide variety of user groups. HB 93 protects by far the largest segment of the public wishing to utilize these state owned lands including hunters. Guaranteeing public access and use in these public river systems will ensure future hunting opportunities for Alaskans as well as tending to reduce pressures from urban hunters in rural areas with subsistence users.

The membership of NRA asks for the support of the House Resources Committee in approving passage of HB 93. This bill, if adopted, will provide long lasting benefits that are immeasurable.

Sincerely,

Rupe Andrews, Field Representative

Opinion

Rivers bill makes sense for Valley

It's hard to fathom why property owners out in the Susitna Valley are so supportive of the Recreational Rivers Bill, while property owners in the Palmer-Wasilla region—far from any of the rivers covered in the bill—fear it as a villainous land “lock-up.”

The bill, HB 93, would establish a system of recreation rivers and set management guidelines for those rivers, while permitting each to be individually managed under a multiple-use management plan.

Supported by sportsman's groups, the intent of the legislation is to protect the fish and wildlife populations and habitat



on a sustained-yield basis, protect the scenic and natural qualities of the rivers, while maintaining all traditional recreational uses. It would apply to most of the Talachulitna, Little

Su and Talkeetna rivers, and Alexander, Kroto and Lake creeks, in a mile-wide corridor along each.

It covers only state-owned lands and waters in the 250,000 acres it covers, and would not infringe on the property rights of any current land owners, including the borough.

Contrast the comments on the bill given at a session in Wasilla with a later public meeting in Skwentna, both attended by Rep. Curt Menard. At the

Wasilla meeting, crowded with members of the Mat-Su Property Owners Association, speakers lashed out against the bill because it would prevent disposal of state land along these rivers.

A provision for allowing the commissioner of Fish and Game to lease property for commercial use was too weak, said one speaker: it should say the commissioner *shall* lease land for development, he said, suggesting that it is the proper business of a state commissioner to drum up lessees for land under his or her authority.

“What's wrong with private ownership in Alaska?” asked another speaker, as if the bill foreclosed all disposals on the other 10 million acres of state land in the Susitna Valley.

Out in Skwentna, where the people who would be most affected by the legislation live, the attitude seems to be that the river management is overdue.

“You're talking about the best fishing creeks we have,” said one. “It's too late, it's gone already,” said another.

If the state is going to avoid another rats' nest of conflicting useage like it created on the Kenai River, it needs to take this step to limit future land-user conflict here.

With the bill's provision for leasing to developers in some circumstances, the door is not closed, the land is not “locked up.”

This bill would be the beginning of a system of recreational rivers in the state, and is based on the principle that our scenic and natural resources can be of lasting value to the state if we act sensibly to preserve them. A healthy tourism economy will depend on such preservation, which makes the bill an important measure for economic development here.



Resource Development Council for Alaska, Inc.

807 "G" Street, Suite 200, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3440
Box 109516, Anchorage, Alaska 99510-0516 - 907/276-0700

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Paula P. Casley

March 24, 1987

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Mayor Dorothy Jones and
Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly
Matanuska-Susitna Borough
Box B
Palmer, AK 99645

re: Recreational River legislation

Dear Mayor Jones and Assemblymen:

The Resource Development Council appreciates the Matanuska-Susitna Borough's interest in RDC's work on the issue of legislative designation of recreational rivers in Southcentral Alaska.

RDC supports a management regime for these river areas that emphasizes recreational use and development, but we do not support legislative designation as a means of achieving that goal. We are very concerned that legislative land designations across the state, for recreation or any other purpose, will unduly limit the authority of the Department of Natural Resources to effectively and efficiently manage state lands.

We will oppose the effort to legislatively designate these six river areas, but we will gladly support efforts to minimize use conflicts, plan for better resource management, and enhance the recreational values of these important areas. We feel that most, if not all, of the management directions found in current versions of this bill can be executed without legislative action.

Despite our opposition to the concept of a legislative designation, RDC has been working to insure that the bill is improved to the greatest extent possible. Toward that end we are working to see that five additional changes be made to draft legislation. Some of our suggestions have already been incorporated into recent proposals.

1) Provide clear language establishing legislative intent that reasonable, commercially-viable access to and across river corridors is not to be restricted.

done

2) Designate only interim boundaries until more detailed analysis justifies the inclusion of so much land in the corridors.

DIRECTORS
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George P. Wuerch

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS
Senator Ted Stevens
Senator Frank Murkowski
Congressman Don Young

Mayor Dorothy Jones
March 23, 1987
page 2

- 3) Eliminate the use of "sceric and natural" conservation as a standard for judging the acceptability of projects within corridors. We suggest the use of "recreational".
- 4) Insure that the designation will not impact non-state lands within the corridor without the approval of the public or private landowner. *done*
- 5) Insure that the corridor designation will not negatively impact adjacent resource development efforts. *done*

RDC recognizes that the present versions of this legislation are vast improvements over previous efforts and we appreciate the efforts of the House Resources Committee to meet our concerns. However, despite the improvements, we are convinced that this legislation is unnecessary and undesirable.

The Resource Development Council will continue to work on this issue until we feel it has been properly resolved. We would be glad to participate in any process developed by the Borough to insure that your own interests are fully protected.

Sincerely,

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
for Alaska, Inc.



Michael K. Abbott
Projects Coordinator

cc: Commissioner Judy Brady, DNR
Senator Jan Faiks, Alaska Legislature
Representative Sam Cotten, Alaska Legislature
Ric Davidge, RDC Lands Division
Phil Holdsworth



ALASKAN MARINE DEALERS ASSOCIATION



April 21, 1987

Senator Mike Szymanski
c/o Paula Terrel
PO Box V (MS 3100)
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Szymanski:

HB 93 is a worrisome piece of legislation to the Marine Dealers Association as well as the Alaska Boaters Association. It puts entirely too much discretionary power into the hands of the Commissioner of Natural Resources.

In speaking with Paula Terrel of your office today, I learned that you will be presenting an amendment which will add language to the Bill which will mandate that user groups be heard from prior to any management plan being effected.

That is needed. You have our total support on that amendment. Without it, the groups I represent feel their opinions will be totally overlooked.

I would also propose that another amendment be added. The second sentence of Section 41.23.210 (d) needs to have the word "boating" added.

As it currently reads, the Commissioner has the power to restrict every activity in a Corridor except Fishing, Hunting, and Trapping.

If the Bill passes with that language, then how will a fisherman, hunter, or trapper be able to use a boat? And, if only fishermen, hunters, or trappers are allowed to use boats, isn't that a very discriminatory situation? We think so.

Our groups understand that regulations will have to be worked out if the Bill passes. We want to have our input taken. It is valuable and necessary. Each of the five rivers is unique and will require careful study.

In the meantime, however, we want to know that we will have an adequate and fair chance to be heard and to use these great natural resources.

There will be a meeting of the Alaska Boaters Association in Anchorage at 7:00PM on Friday, April 24th, at the National Guard Amory. We hope you can attend. Also, the Anchorage Municipal Assembly will be taking testimony about HB 93 on Tuesday, April 28.

Thanks for your interest in our concerns.

Best regards,

Steve Morghaim
Executive Coordinator

PS. A large newsletter will be sent to you via LIO Pouch today. It contains vital information about the amendment I am proposing in para. 4 above.



cc HB 93
HB 18
SB 62

Alaska Sportfishing Association

3605 Arctic Blvd., Suite 800 • Anchorage, Alaska 99503

February 9, 1987

Governor Steve Cowper
Pouch A
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Governor Cowper:

RE: LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

The Alaska Sportfishing Association is a statewide organization headquartered in Anchorage. We currently have approximately 2,000 individual members and 135 business members. This organization stands ready to work cooperatively with you for good resource legislation.

Since we publish a monthly newsletter, we regularly pass along information to our members about resource and sportfishing issues. We feel we can assist your administration in disseminating information to sportfishing interests. We have worked with ADF&G in the past to this end.

We appreciate your support for the sportfishing industry as evidenced by your answers to our questionnaire last July. We understand the difficult job that you and the legislature face this session determining the course this great state must take for continued progress under a greatly restricted budget. This restriction may have a major impact on our short and long-term future. Thus our legislative priorities for 1987 address legislation that is important to the economic future of this state, but legislation without cost to the General Fund of the state.

All three of the Alaska Sportfishing Associations' legislative priorities address an important step forward in the necessary expansion of recreational fishing for Alaskans, and of Alaska's fledgling tourism industry of which recreation fishing is the major drawing card. As you have identified, development and expansion of this one industry will lead to increased trade with Pacific Rim and other countries. There are many actions that need to be taken to improve our ability to attract and provide suitable facilities for Alaskans, as well as U.S. and foreign tourists. The following are important steps forward and are our top priorities:

Governor Steve Cowper
Page 2
February 9, 1987

1. Passage of HB 93 to create an effective Recreational Rivers system that will protect both the fishery and environmental resource of six rivers in the Susitna drainage. Members of our organization will be in contact with legislators to work out details and work for passage. This legislation is of top priority to just about every outdoor and environmental organization in the state.
2. Passage of legislation which creates an effective public access acquisition and/or development program. Passage of SB 62 (and SB 26) will go a long way toward making possible the acquisition of critically needed public access sites and/or development of those sites. This legislation will not result in any General Fund expenditures. These bills raise the percentage of Federal Aid Breaux-Wollop funds which must be committed to access from 10 percent to 20 percent. The Breaux-Wollop funds are generated at the federal level by a tax on certain fishing items, and the funds must be used for sport fish projects. Since those funds are generated by sportfishermen, the sport fishing community should have a strong hand in deciding how they should be spent. Sport fishermen strongly support SB 62 and SB 26.
3. Passage of legislation to establish the Willow Creek State Recreational Area. HB 18 is enabling legislation which jointly involves Mat-Su Borough and state lands. It is not a duplication of the Recreation Rivers Bill mentioned above and will go a long way toward long-term protection of the Willow Creek area and access to a series of Susitna Drainage salmon and trout fisheries.

We wish you, your administration, and the 1987 legislature the best in your endeavors.

Sincerely,

Alaska Sportfishing Association
Legislative Committee

Bob Hunter

Robert L. Hunter, Chairman

Russ Redick

Russ Redick

Jeff Parker

Jeff Parker

Virginia Hilliker

Virginia Hilliker

Jim Richardson

Jim Richardson

cc: Each Legislator
Commissioner, ADF&G
Commissioner, DNR
Alaska Outdoor Council

Kenai River Sportfishing Association
Mat-Su Valley Sportsmens Association
Alaska Professional Guide Association
Resource Development Council

Alaska State Legislature

ARLISS STURGULEWSKI, Chairman
TIM KELLY, Vice Chairman
RICK HALFORD
MIKE SZYMANSKI
FRED ZHAROFF



P. O. BOX V
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
(907) 465-4989

Senate Community and Regional Affairs Committee

February 2, 1988

TO: Senate Community and Regional Affairs Committee Members

FROM: Senate C&RA Staff *NEA*

RE: SCSHB 93 "An Act establishing six recreation rivers; and providing for an effective date."

This bill designates six rivers in southcentral Alaska as recreational rivers. The rivers are: Lake Creek, the Talkeetna River, the Little Susitna River, Kroto/Moose Creeks, the Talachulitna River, and Alexander Creek.

The proposed C&RA committee substitute which is included in this packet contains five amendments. The amendments are underlined for easy identification. The amendments are listed below.

Page 1, lines 17 - 19 A sentence is added to the findings and intent section to specify that owners of private property be assured customary and reasonable access to inholdings.

Page 1, lines 19 - 21 A sentence is added to the findings and intent specifying that any regulation of boating under the commissioner of DNR's existing authority should occur under the management plan, with full involvement of interested users and in an accessible public process.

Page 4, lines 14 - 29, Page 5, line 1 An eleven member Recreation Rivers Advisory Board, appointed by the governor is created. Eight of the members shall represent the following groups: commercial fishing; sport fishing; sports hunting; conservation; resource development; powerboat users; recreationally-oriented commercial users; and other recreation users.

Page 5, lines 2,3,5,6,&7 Requires the commissioner to develop the

management plan in consultation with the Mat-Su borough.

Page 31, lines 3-6, The commissioner is barred from disposal of timber or other resources within a recreational river corridor under AS 38.05.115 before the adoption of the management plan for the recreation river corridor. This amendment does not effect the commissioner's ability to grant access across a rec river corridor for disposal of timber or other resources outside the rec river corridor.

Included in this packet is a memo of explanation from the sponsor, a letter from DNR and maps from each rivers, a position paper from Fish & Game, and letters from the Alaska Outdoor Council, the National Rifle Association, the Resource Development Council, the Alaskan Marine Dealers Association and the Alaska Sport Fishing Association. Last year's DNR fiscal note is included in the packet. An updated fiscal note will be available at the meeting from DNR which will be \$8.1 thousand higher.

REPRESENTATIVE
SAM COTTEN
DISTRICT 15



P.O. BOX 296, EAGLE RIVER, AK 99577
P.O. BOX V, JUNEAU, AK 99811

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: House of Representatives
FROM: Rep. Sam Cotten *SC*
SUBJECT: CSHB 93 (Fin)
DATE: April 8, 1987

The recreation rivers bill, CSHB 93 (Fin), will be before you for floor discussion this week. The bill has undergone several years of work and will provide for balanced management of these important recreational corridors. Here is some basic information on the bill.

Affected acreage

The bill designates six recreation rivers in southcentral Alaska:

1. Lake Creek	64,000 acres
2. Talkeetna River	32,000 acres
3. Little Susitna River	13,000 acres
4. Kroto/Moose Creeks	80,500 acres
5. Talachulitna River	54,000 acres
6. Alexander Creek	23,000 acres

TOTAL ACREAGE 266,500 acres

Need for the bill

In 1985 the State of Alaska and the Mat-Su Borough jointly adopted the Susitna Area Plan, affecting about 16 million acres of southcentral Alaska. Recognizing the growing public use of selected river corridors which are valuable for hunting, fishing, and boating, the Plan called for legislative designation of a new "recreation river" system on about 250,000 acres of state and borough land. CSHB 93 (Fin) includes exactly the same lands as proposed for designation in the Susitna Area Plan. (The Little Susitna River was included in the Willow Subbasin Plan, adopted in 1982.)

The bill is quite strongly supported by diverse user groups, including the National Rifle Association, the Alaska Outdoor

Council, and the Alaska Sportfishing Association. The Departments of Natural Resources and Fish and Game support the bill. The Resource Development Council has been opposed to the bill because it believes that legislation is unnecessary at this time.

Public use of the rivers is high. The Department of Fish and Game estimated that about 53,000 anglers used the rivers for about 101,000 sportfishing days in 1985. Most of the fishing use was concentrated in the Little Susitna and Kroto-Moose drainages. Hunting use of these corridors is very high also, as the riparian habitat is ideal for moose.

Management

The bill sets out continued public use (including hunting, fishing, and boating) and habitat protection as the major purposes of designation. Other uses are allowed if compatible with these guiding purposes. Some uses, such as power boating and timber harvest, must be allowed as long as they are compatible with the primary purposes of the bill.

Under the bill, the Department of Natural Resources will conduct a thorough management planning process, involving the public, interest groups, and local governments, for the river corridors. Any regulation of boating or other recreation activities, which are included among the primary purposes of the bill, would have to occur in this public and accessible planning process.

The recreation rivers are not designated as units of the state park system, although the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation may conduct recreation management within them.

Summary

The Legislature has the authority, under Article VIII, Sec. 7 of the Constitution, to designate public lands for special uses. No other lands in southcentral Alaska so commend themselves for special designation as the high-use, high-value recreation river corridors. Now that the bill has been honed to a state that few land designations ever achieve, I urge your support for CSHB 93 (Fin). Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

SECTIONAL ANALYSIS
CSHB 93 (Fin)
Recreation Rivers

Title

The title of the bill establishes six recreation rivers, preventing the addition of rivers to this bill. Other rivers could be added by the Legislature in the future by amending the land descriptions at the end of the bill.

Findings

The findings section characterizes the Legislature's intent to designate rivers and lands with special values without allowing the designation to become an undue impediment to the use and enjoyment of adjacent lands or to the development of access.

Purposes (AS 41.23.200)

The purposes of the bill reflect construction for other state reserved lands categories (note AS 41.17.200, State Forests). The purposes include habitat protection, continuation of public uses such as hunting, fishing, and boating, water quality protection, and accommodation of compatible recreation-oriented economic uses. Through the bill, the purposes section is guiding language for land management. It has been crafted to provide some flexibility in management but primarily to recognize the special values that lead to designation of the recreation river corridors.

Compatible activities (AS 41.23.210)

This section brings together language regarding compatible uses, including existing prior uses, and provides for their occurrence consistent with the purposes of the act and under a management plan to be adopted by the commissioner. (The management plan must itself be consistent with the purposes of the act.)

Under (a), the commissioner must allow compatible activities, including motorized access, sand and gravel extraction for public facilities, the construction of recreational facilities, and timber harvest.

Under (b), the commissioner may allow other compatible activities.

Under (c), the commissioner must allow the continuation of commercial or private activities occurring under valid permits on state lands at the time of the recreation river designation, as long as the activities are compatible with the

purposes of the act. Before making a determination that an activity may not continue, the commissioner must provide for public comment.

General management (AS 41.23.220)

Under (a), the designated lands are assigned to the Department of Natural Resources for management consistent with the act.

Under (b), the commissioner is required to reserve instream flow on the designated rivers, but the three-year deadline has been eliminated.

Under (c), the existing authorities of other departments of state government are preserved, including the Coastal Zone Management Program and plans adopted under it.

Under (d), the use of firearms and hunting, fishing, and trapping rights are protected.

Under (e), the guidelines and authorities for recreation river management do not extend to major rivers (such as the Yentna, Susitna, and Skwentna) into which designated recreation rivers flow.

Management plan (AS 41.23.230)

The management plan will define, with a large amount of public participation, how land managers are to implement the intent of the Legislature as presented in the purposes of the act. There is flexibility for the management plan to allow a wide variety of uses in different parts of the river corridors.

Under (a), the commissioner must protect the river and water quality, manage recreation, designate lands and guidelines for compatible development, manage commercial services, provide for public services, allow access into and through the river corridors, establish a process for reviewing future proposed uses for compatibility, and establish setbacks and guidelines for compatible activities including mining leasing and oil and gas leasing.

Under (b), the commissioner shall adopt regulations to implement the plan.

Under (c), the plan must be submitted to the Legislature for review.

Municipal lands (AS 41.23.240)

The commissioner must obtain the concurrence of an affected municipality in any management plan affecting municipal lands, and must cooperate in planning for adjacent municipal lands if requested.

Land acquisition (AS 41.23.250)

Under (a), the commissioner is allowed to acquire and add lands to the recreation river corridor.

Under (b), the use of eminent domain is prohibited in acquiring lands.

Application of public land laws (AS 41.23.260)

Under (a), the application of sections of Title 38 is allowed where compatible. This will allow rights-of-way, utility corridors, and pipelines, in particular. (Land disposals are disallowed, within a half-mile of the river, later in the bill.)

Under (b), the recreation rivers (except for the upper reaches of the Talkeetna River, in accordance with the Susitna Area Plan) are closed to mining claims and leasable mineral disposal, including coal.

Under (c), the recreation river corridors, except the riverbeds, may be opened to hardrock mining leasing if leasing is allowed in the management plan. The commissioner is directed to establish appropriate conditions for managing mineral development, including conditioning the mining lease with environmental and recreational protections.

Under (d), oil and gas leasing is permitted.

Under (e), land leasing is permitted for purposes that enhance public use and enjoyment of the recreation river. (Lodges, campgrounds, and boat launches would be likely developments under this section.)

Under (f), revenues from the section could be used as program receipts for recreation river management.

Cooperative management agreements (AS 41.23.270)

Under (a), the commissioner is authorized to enter into cooperative management agreements with other agencies and governments.

Under (b), the commissioner may transfer discrete sites to other agencies for management.

Under (c), the recreation rivers may not be managed as units of the state park system, although the division of parks may manage recreation sites and the commissioner may adopt regulations transferring recreation management to the division of parks.

Recreation river establishment (AS 41.23.280)

Only the Legislature may establish recreation rivers.

Designated rivers (AS 41.23.290)

Under (a), the rivers are designated special use areas under the constitution. Lands within a half-mile of the river are reserved from land disposal.

Under (b), the land descriptions include all lands proposed in the Susitna Area Plan. Mental health lands have been excluded but would be included if redesignated as general grant lands in the future. As elsewhere in the bill, only state-owned lands are affected.

Planning schedule

In Section 3, the commissioner is required to finish the plans by July 1, 1992.

Effective date

The act is effective immediately.

February 11, 1987

The Honorable Adelheid Herrmann, Co-Chair
The Honorable Sam Cotten, Co-Chair
House Resources Committee
Alaska State Legislature
P.O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Representatives Herrmann and Cotten:

Subject: House Bill 93, which would establish a system of recreation rivers.

Position: The Department of Natural Resources supports the designation of the six rivers described in this bill as state recreation rivers: the Talachulitna River; Alexander Creek; Lake Creek; Kroto Creek and Moose Creek; the Talkeetna River; and the Little Susitna River.

Background: The Susitna Area Plan and the Willow Sub-basin Plan identified these rivers as important recreational areas. They are currently managed primarily for recreation and habitat values, but are also available for other resource uses, including forestry and gravel extraction for public purposes.

Recommendation: [We recommend that section 41.23.210(b) be changed to allow the department five years, rather than three, for completing instream flow reservations. We also note that some technical changes may be needed in the legal description under section 41.23.280(c).]

*This has been
done in the
house version
MCH*

Please let me know if we may provide additional information.

Sincerely,

Judith M. Brady
Commissioner

Enclosure: Maps

cc: Committee Members
Governor's Legislative Liaison

SIX RECREATION RIVER WORKSHOP III

Sponsored by

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH



November 21, 1987

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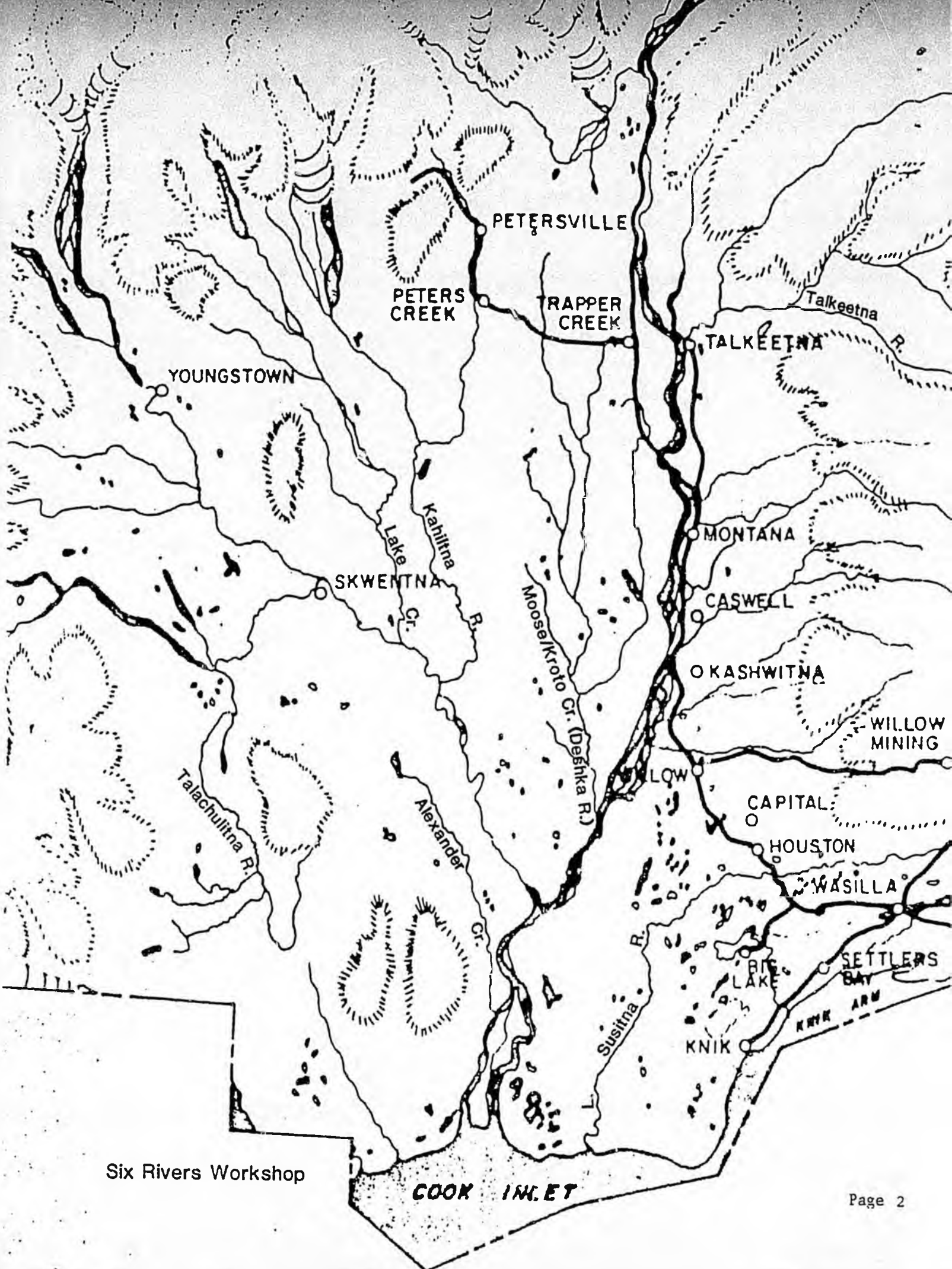
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SIX RECREATION RIVER WORKSHOP

NOVEMBER 21, 1987

AGENDA

1. Introductions
(Ric Davidge)
2. Purpose/Contents of House Bill 93
(Representative Cotten)
3. Alternatives to House Bill 93
(Ric Davidge)
4. Discussion of Management/Legislative Options
(Representative Cotten & Ric Davidge)
5. Concluding Remarks
(Ric Davidge)

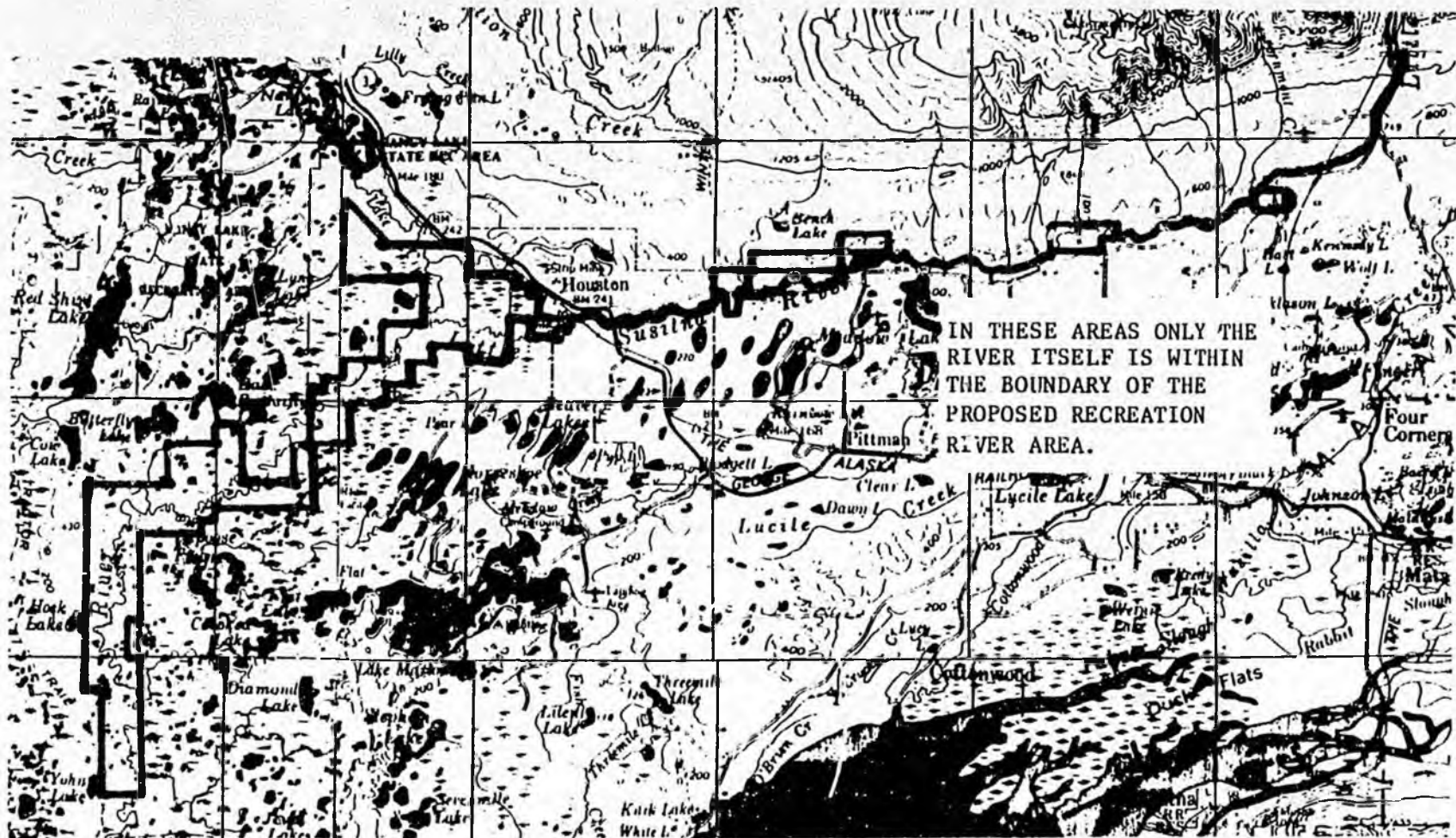


Six Rivers Workshop

COOK INLET

LITTLE SUSITNA RIVER

Proposed Recreational River Corridor



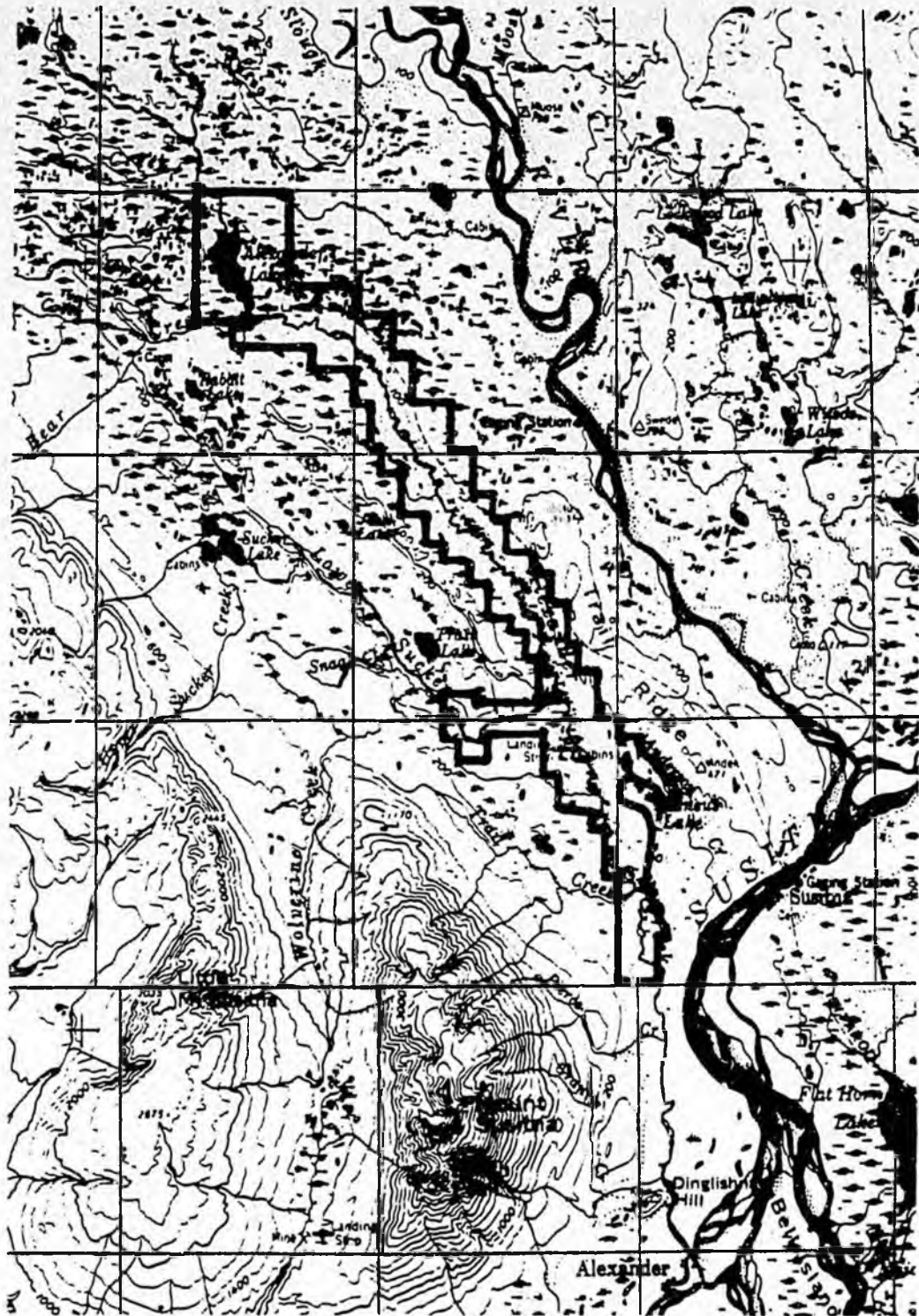
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0 1 2 3 4 5 6 MILES

ALEXANDER CREEK

Proposed Recreational River Corridor



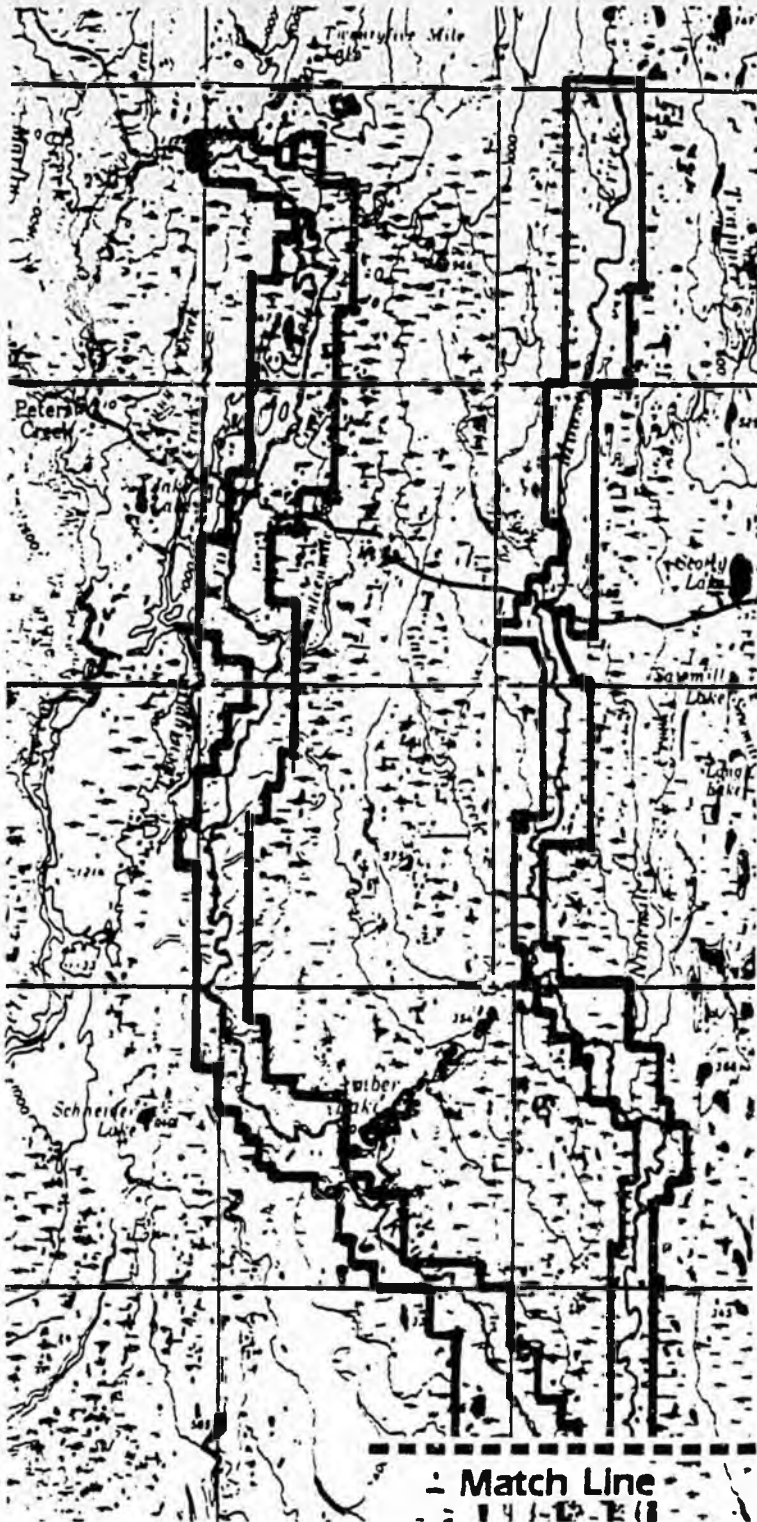
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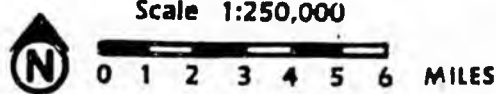
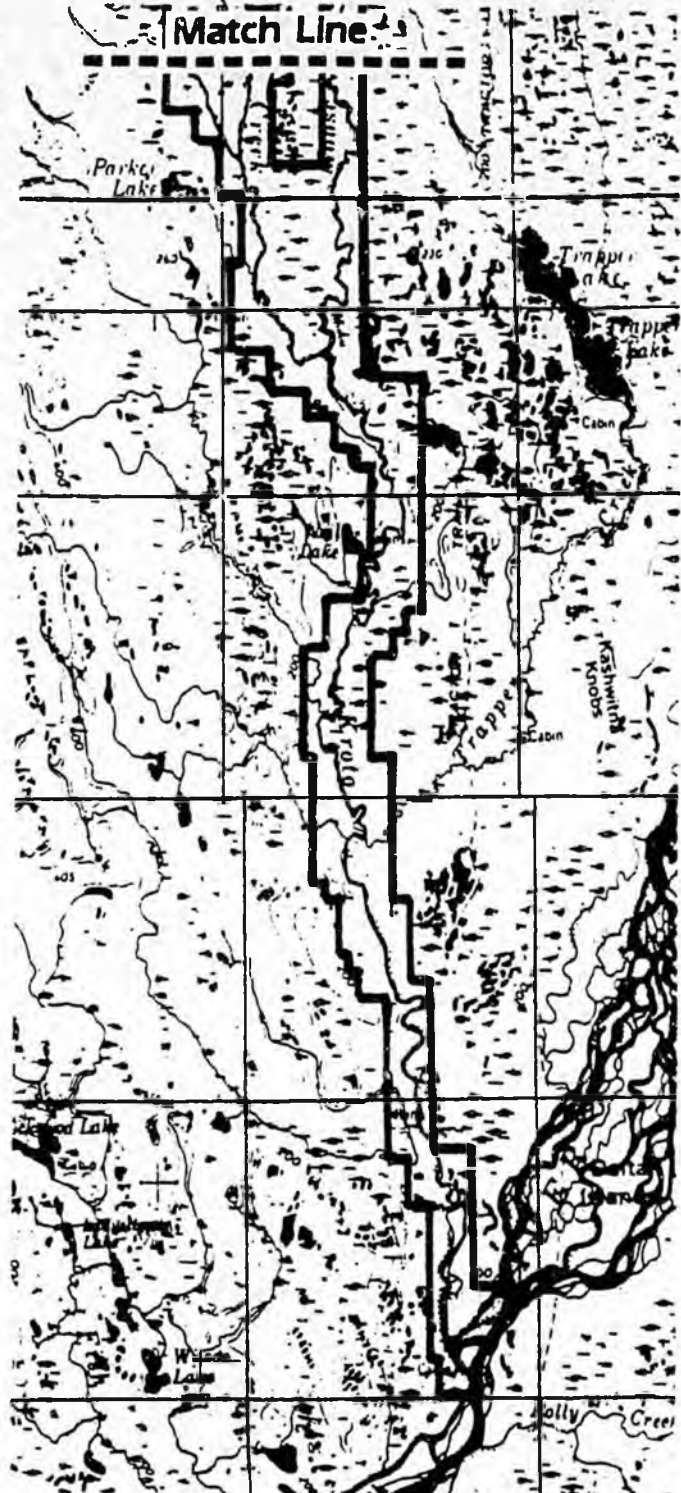
KROTO CREEK — MOOSE CREEK

Proposed Recreational River Corridor

North Half



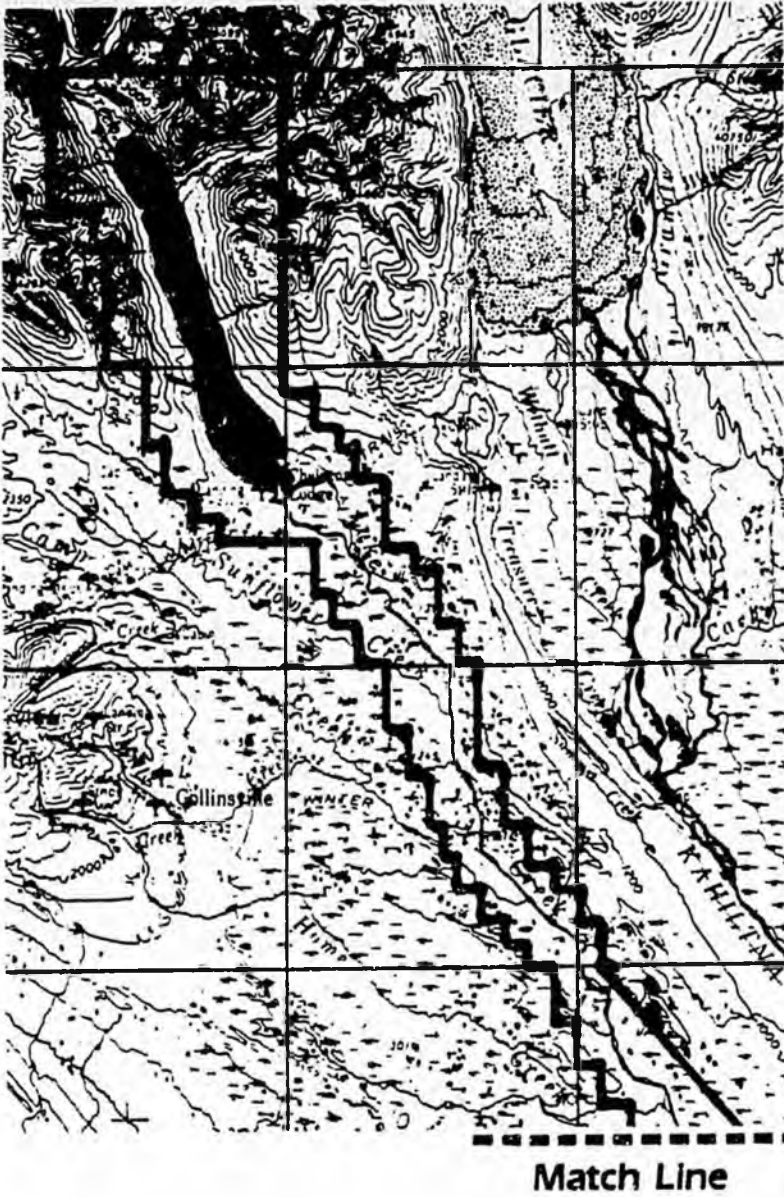
South Half



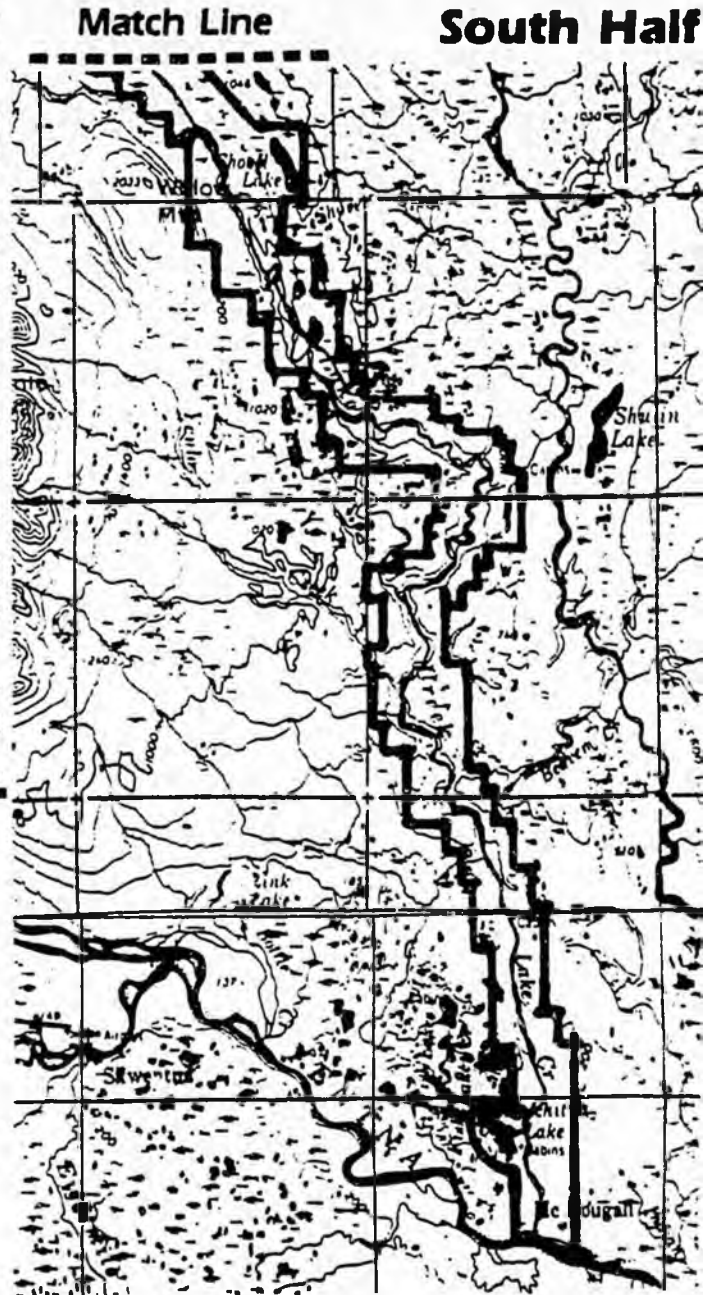
LAKE CREEK

Proposed Recreational River Corridor

North Half



South Half

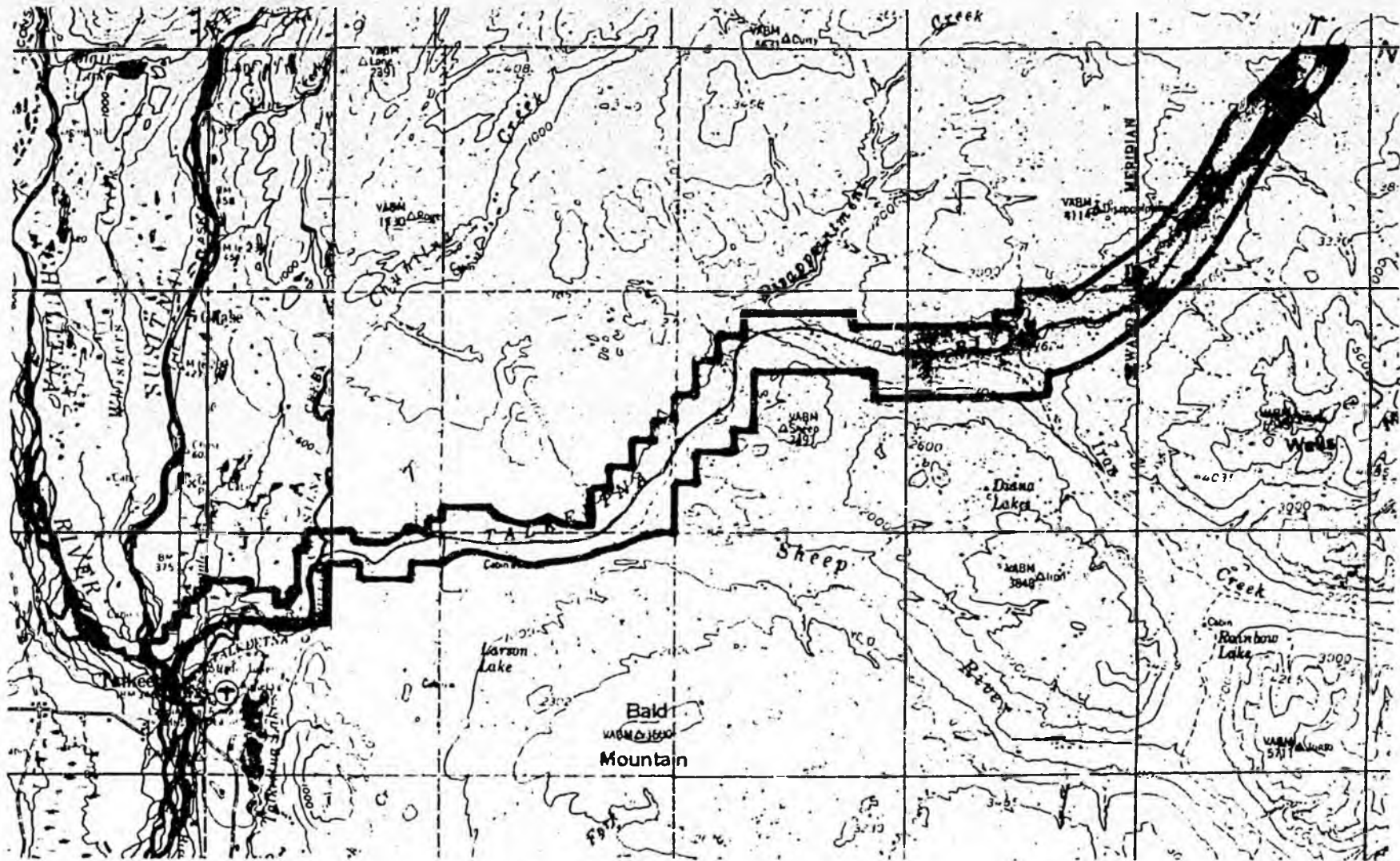


Scale 1:250,000



TALKEETNA RIVER

Proposed Recreational River Corridor



Scale 1:250,000

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 MILES

BILL: HB 93 03:05 PM 06/01/87
NAME: CSHB 93(FIN) AM
TITLE: "AN ACT ESTABLISHING SIX RECREATION RIVERS; AND PRO-
VIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

DELIM ;

PRIME SPONSOR: COTTEN
CO-SPONSOR: FOURCHOT, RIEGER, GRUENBERG, DAVIDSON

FISCAL NOTE: \$123,500 GENERAL(FNOTE) \$000 OTHER(FNOTE)

CURRENT STATUS: (S) CRA STATUS DATE: 04/14/87

01/30/87	(H)	113	READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRAL(S)
01/30/87	(H)	113	RESOURCES, FINANCE
02/16/87	(H)	252	CO-SPONSOR ADDED: DAVIDSON
04/01/87	(H)	696	RES RPT CS(RES) NEW TITLE 7DP 2NR
04/01/87	(H)	696	FISCAL NOTE PUBLISHED 4/1/87
04/08/87	(H)	761	FIN RPT CS(FIN) NEW TITLE 6DP 5NR
04/08/87	(H)	761	FISCAL NOTE PUBLISHED 4/8/87
04/10/87	(H)		RULES TO CALENDAR 4/10/87
04/10/87	(H)	811	READ THE SECOND TIME
04/10/87	(H)	811	FIN CS ADOPTED UNAN CONSENT
04/10/87	(H)	812	AM NO 1 FAILED Y10 N26 X4
04/10/87	(H)	813	AM TO AM 2 ADOPTED UNAN CONSENT
04/10/87	(H)	813	AM NO 2AM ADOPTED UNAN CONSENT
04/10/87	(H)	813	AM NO 3 FAILED Y12 N23 X4 A1
04/10/87	(H)	814	AM TO AM 4 ADOPTED UNAN CONSENT
04/10/87	(H)	814	AM NO 4AM ADOPTED UNAN CONSENT
04/10/87	(H)	815	AM NO 5 FAILED Y14 N21 X4 A1
04/10/87	(H)	816	AM TO AM 6 ADOPTED Y18 N17 X4 A1
04/10/87	(H)	816	AM NO 6AM ADOPTED Y27 N8 X4 A1
04/10/87	(H)	816	ADVANCED TO THIRD READING UNAN CONSENT
04/10/87	(H)	817	READ THE THIRD TIME CSHB 93(FIN) AM
04/10/87	(H)	817	PASSED Y26 N10 X4
04/10/87	(H)	818	EFFECTIVE DATE PASSED Y34 N2X4
04/10/87	(H)	818	PHILLIPS NOTICE OF RECONSIDERATION
04/13/87	(H)	839	RECON TAKEN UP - IN THIRD READING
04/13/87	(H)	839	RET TO 2ND RESCIND AM 6AM UNAN CONSENT
04/13/87	(H)	840	RESCIND ADOPTION AM 6AM UNAN CONSENT
04/13/87	(H)	840	AM NO 6AM WITHDRAWN
04/13/87	(H)	840	PASSED ON RECONSIDERATION Y30 N9 X1
04/13/87	(H)	841	EFFECTIVE DATE SAME AS PASSAGE
04/13/87	(H)	841	TRANSMITTED TO (S) CSHB 93(FIN) AM
04/14/87	(S)	934	READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRAL(S)
04/14/87	(S)	934	C&RA, RESOURCES & FINANCE

Original sponsors: Cotten, Pourchot,
Rieger, et al.

1 IN THE HOUSE BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE
2 CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 93 (Finance) am
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION
5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act establishing six recreation rivers; and pro-
7 viding for an effective date."

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

9 * Section 1. FINDINGS. The legislature finds that the special values
10 and uses of certain river corridors in Southcentral Alaska justify their
11 retention for public use. The river corridors can support many public
12 uses, including some that will enhance the local economy as well as improve
13 access to retained public land. The designation of these corridors as
14 recreation rivers recognizes the value of the described land and is not
15 intended to become an undue impediment to the use and enjoyment of adjacent
16 land or to the development of access within, across, and around the rivers.

17 * Sec. 2. AS 41.23 is amended by adding new sections to read:

18 ARTICLE 3. RECREATION RIVERS.

19 Sec. 41.23.200. PURPOSES. The purpose of AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.-
20 290 is to establish as recreation rivers the land and water now owned
21 by the state and the land and water acquired in the future by the
22 state that lies within the boundaries described in AS 41.23.290(b).
23 The primary purposes for the establishment of the recreation rivers
24 are

25 (1) the management, protection, and maintenance of the fish
26 and wildlife populations and habitat on a sustained-yield basis;

27 (2) conservation of the scenic and natural integrity of the
28 recreation river corridor and continued recreational and economic use
29 and enjoyment by the public including hunting, fishing, trapping,

*Some letters
commented
- issue by voice*

*Recreation:
Priority, need
of river access.*

1 boating, hiking, snowmachining, skiing, dog mushing, and wildlife
2 viewing;

3 (3) management of upland activities within the recreation
4 river corridor for the protection and maintenance of water quality and
5 stream flow; and

6 (4) accommodation of access for recreation, tourism, and
7 other compatible recreation-oriented economic uses of the river corri-
8 dor.

9 ✓ Sec. 41.23.210. COMPATIBLE ACTIVITIES. (a) The commissioner
10 shall allow the following activities within a recreation river corri-
11 dor when they are compatible with AS 41.23.200 and consistent with a
12 management plan adopted under AS 41.23.230:

13 (1) the use of aircraft, powerboats, snowmachines, all-
14 terrain vehicles, and other motorized transportation;

15 (2) the harvest of wood products;

16 (3) sand and gravel extraction for public use; and

17 (4) the construction and operation of recreational facil-
18 ities.

19 (b) In addition to the activities identified in (a) of this
20 section, the commissioner may allow other activities within a recre-
21 ation river corridor when they are compatible with AS 41.23.200 and
22 consistent with a management plan adopted under AS 41.23.230.

23 (c) The commissioner shall allow the continuation of commercial
24 or private activities occurring on the effective date of this Act
25 under a valid permit for use of state-owned land within the boundaries
26 of a recreation river corridor so long as the commissioner determines
27 that the activity is compatible with AS 41.23.200. When considering
28 the revocation or nonrenewal of an existing permit, the commissioner
29 shall make available for public comment, on request, a preliminary

1 finding and, if appropriate, may hold a public hearing in the commu-
2 nities near the recreation river corridor before determining whether
3 the activity is compatible with AS 41.23.200.

4 Sec. 41.23.220. GENERAL MANAGEMENT OF RECREATION RIVER CORRI-
5 DORS. (a) The state-owned land and water within the area established
6 as a recreation river corridor under AS 41.23.290(b) is assigned to
7 the commissioner for management consistent with the purposes of
8 AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.290.

9 (b) The commissioner shall reserve to the state under AS 46.15.-
10 145 an instream flow or level for the water in the rivers described in
11 AS 41.23.290(b) that is adequate to achieve the purposes of AS 41.23.-
12 200.

13 (c) The provisions of AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.290 do not affect the
14 authority of

15 (1) the Department of Fish and Game, the Board of Fisher-
16 ies, the Board of Game, or the Guide Licensing and Control Board under
17 AS 08.54, AS 16, or AS 41.99.010;

18 (2) the Department of Environmental Conservation under
19 AS 46.03; or

20 (3) state agencies and municipalities under AS 44.19.145-
21 (a)(11) and AS 46.40.100.

22 (d) The commissioner may not restrict the use of weapons, in-
23 cluding firearms, within a recreation river corridor except in sites
24 of high public use such as picnic areas, boat ramps, camping grounds,
25 and parking areas when the commissioner determines that the use of
26 weapons constitutes a threat to public safety. Except as provided in
27 this subsection, the commissioner may not restrict fishing, hunting,
28 or trapping within a recreation river corridor.

29 (e) The commissioner may not regulate under AS 41.23.200 -

1 41.23.290 an activity that occurs on a river that has not been desig-
2 nated as a recreational river under AS 41.23.290(b). Where the water
3 of a river that has been designated under AS 41.23.290(b) flows into
4 the water of a larger river that has not been designated under AS 41.-
5 23.290(b), the authority of the commissioner under AS 41.23.200 -
6 41.23.290 ceases where the water joins the larger river and the com-
7 missioner may not regulate activities on the larger undesignated river
8 under AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.290.

9 Sec. 41.23.230. MANAGEMENT PLAN. (a) After consultation with
10 local authorities, representatives of groups who will use the recre-
11 ation rivers, and state agencies, including the commissioner of fish
12 and game, the commissioner shall adopt a management plan for a recre-
13 ation river corridor. During the planning process the commissioner
14 shall comply with the notice requirements of AS 38.05.945 and provide
15 written notice by first-class mail to private property owners in the
16 recreation river corridors and shall hold at least two public hearings
17 in municipalities and communities near the recreation river corridor.
18 The management plan shall establish long-range guidelines and manage-
19 ment practices consistent with AS 41.23.200 to

20 (1) protect, maintain, or enhance the fish and wildlife
21 habitat and the free-flowing nature of the river;

22 (2) identify special recreational values and manage the
23 level of intensity and types of recreational uses;

24 (3) designate compatible land uses and management guide-
25 lines for associated development;

26 (4) manage commercial activities or development, including
27 recreational services such as guiding;

28 (5) provide for necessary public services, such as trans-
29 portation and utility corridors, public safety, and law enforcement;

1 (6) allow reasonable and necessary access to public land
2 and private inholdings, including municipal land that is offered for
3 sale or lease, and to land beyond the recreation river corridor;

4 (7) establish criteria and timelines to review future
5 proposed uses for compatibility with AS 41.23.200;

6 (8) establish guidelines and setback restrictions for an
7 activity occurring under AS 41.23.210, including mining leasing and
8 oil and gas leasing under AS 41.23.260(b) - (d).

9 (b) The commissioner shall adopt regulations necessary to imple-
10 ment the management plan. The commissioner may not adopt regulations
11 before a management plan is adopted.

12 (c) A management plan adopted by the commissioner under (a) of
13 this section shall be submitted to the legislature for review within
14 the first 10 days of the first regular session of the legislature to
15 convene after its adoption by the commissioner.

16 Sec. 41.23.240. MANAGEMENT OF MUNICIPAL LAND. If a municipality
17 commits land for inclusion in a recreation river corridor established
18 under AS 41.23.290(b), the commissioner shall obtain the concurrence
19 of the municipality to the management plan proposed under AS 41.23.230
20 as it applies to municipal land. The commissioner shall cooperate, at
21 the request of a municipality, in planning for municipal land adjacent
22 to a recreation river corridor.

23 Sec. 41.23.250. ACQUISITION OF ADDITIONAL LAND. (a) The com-
24 missioner may acquire in the name of the state land that is adjacent
25 to or located within the land described in AS 41.23.290(b) by pur-
26 chase, lease, gift, or exchange for inclusion within a recreation
27 river corridor.

28 (b) The commissioner may not acquire land for inclusion in a
29 recreation river corridor by eminent domain.

1 Sec. 41.23.260. APPLICATION OF PUBLIC LAND LAWS. (a) Except to
2 the extent that a provision is inconsistent with a provision of
3 AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.290, the provisions of AS 38.04, AS 38.05,
4 AS 38.35, and AS 38.95 apply to land described in AS 41.23.290(b).

5 (b) Except for land within the Talkeetna State Recreation River
6 north and east of Iron Creek, the state-owned land and water within a
7 recreation river corridor described in AS 41.23.290(b) is closed to
8 mineral entry by location under AS 38.05.195 and to disposal of leas-
9 able minerals under AS 38.05.150 - 38.05.175.

10 (c) Except on state-owned land below ordinary high-water or mean
11 high tide, the commissioner may, upon a mineral discovery validated by
12 the commissioner, permit mining leasing under AS 38.05.205 in an area
13 within a recreation river corridor if leasing is allowed under a
14 management plan that has been adopted by the commissioner. The com-
15 missioner shall establish appropriate conditions for permits, operat-
16 ing plans, and leases to protect the environment and prevent degrada-
17 tion of the recreational uses of the river.

18 (d) The state-owned land and water within a recreation river
19 corridor is available for oil and gas leasing subject to conditions in
20 an adopted management plan.

21 (e) To enhance public use and enjoyment of a recreation river
22 corridor under a management plan adopted under AS 41.23.230, the
23 commissioner may provide for the construction and operation of commer-
24 cial facilities such as lodges, campgrounds, and boat launches by

25 (1) leasing land including competitive leasing to a pre-
26 qualified bidder under AS 38.05.070; and

27 (2) contracting for the construction and operation of a
28 facility under AS 36.30.

29 (f) The commissioner of administration shall separately account

*Will
Review to
assure
lease cant
change for
access to
land for
hunt-
down etc.*

1 for funds collected under this section and deposited in the general
2 fund. The annual estimated balance in the account may be appropriated
3 by the legislature to the department to carry out the purposes of this
4 chapter.

5 Sec. 41.23.270. COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT AGREEMENTS. (a) The
6 commissioner may enter into a cooperative management agreement for the
7 management of land and water described in AS 41.23.290(b) or of other
8 adjacent land and water with a federal agency, a municipality of the
9 state, another agency of the state, or a private landowner.

10 (b) The commissioner may transfer the management of a specific
11 site within a recreation river corridor described in AS 41.23.290(b)
12 to a state agency to assist in the development of a facility or to
13 carry out a program authorized by law.

14 (c) The commissioner may not manage a recreation river corridor
15 described in AS 41.23.290(b) as a unit of the state park system. The
16 commissioner may assign management of a recreation facility or site
17 such as a campground or a boat launch to the division of parks and may
18 adopt regulations allowing the division of parks to manage recreation
19 activities in a recreation river corridor.

20 Sec. 41.23.280. ESTABLISHMENT OF RECREATION RIVER CORRIDORS.
21 State-owned land and water may be established as a recreation river
22 corridor only by the legislature.

23 Sec. 41.23.290. DESIGNATED RIVERS. (a) Subject to valid exist-
24 ing rights, the state-owned land and water within one-half mile of
25 either ordinary high water or mean high tide on a recreation river
26 designated in (b) of this section that is established as a recreation
27 river corridor under (b) of this section is reserved as a special
28 purpose area under art. VIII, sec. 7, Constitution of the State of
29 Alaska and shall be retained by the state.

*not all right
parts*

*Only state
owned lands
affected.*

1 (b) The general grant land, acquired land, and the water pres-
2 ently owned by the state and all land and water acquired by the state
3 in the future, including shore and submerged land and land redesign-
4 ated after the effective date of this Act as general grant land, that
5 lie within the following described parcels are established as recrea-
6 tion rivers and shall be managed under AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.290:

7 (1) Alexander Creek State Recreation River

8 (A) Township 16 North, Range 7 West, Seward Meridian
9 Sections 6 - 7
10 Sections 18 - 19

11 (B) Township 17 North, Range 7 West, Seward Meridian
12 Section 6: Otter Lake, Weenie Lake, and that
13 portion of the SW1/4 in Tract B, ASLS 81-77
14 Section 7: Otter Lake and Tracts F-2 and F-3 of
15 ASLS 79-147
16 Section 18: S1/2, W1/2NW1/4
17 Section 19
18 Sections 30 - 31
19 Section 32: W1/2

20 (C) Township 17 North, Range 8 West, Seward Meridian
21 Section 1
22 Section 2: E1/2, N1/2NW1/4
23 Section 3: N1/2N1/2
24 Section 4: N1/2, N1/2SE1/4
25 Section 11: NE1/4, E1/2SE1/4
26 Section 12
27 Section 13: E1/2, E1/2NW1/4
28 Section 24: NE1/4, E1/2SE1/4

29 (D) Township 18 North, Range 8 West, Seward Meridian

1	Section 4: W1/2
2	Section 5
3	Section 6: NE1/4
4	Section 8: N1/2, SE1/4
5	Section 9
6	Section 10: SW1/4
7	Section 14: W1/2SW1/4, SE1/4SW1/4
8	Section 15: W1/2, SE1/4, S1/2NE1/4
9	Section 16: N1/2, SE1/4
10	Section 22: N1/2, N1/2S1/2, S1/2SE1/4
11	Section 23: W1/2, W1/2SE1/4
12	Section 26: W1/2, W1/2E1/2, E1/2SE1/4
13	Section 27: E1/2NE1/4
14	Section 33: SW1/4, S1/2SE1/4
15	Section 34: S1/2S1/2
16	Section 35
17	Section 36: W1/2
18	(E) Township 19 North, Range 8 West, Seward Meridian
19	Section 19: W1/2, W1/2E1/2
20	Section 29: W1/2W1/2
21	Section 30
22	Section 31: E1/2, E1/2W1/2
23	Section 32
24	(F) Township 19 North, Range 9 West, Seward Meridian
25	Sections 3 - 4
26	Sections 9 - 10
27	Section 13: S1/2
28	Section 14: S1/2
29	Sections 15 - 16

1	Section 22: N1/2
2	Section 23: N1/2
3	Section 24
4	(2) Kroto Creek and Moose Creek State Recreation River
5	(A) Township 19 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian
6	Section 2: SW1/4
7	Section 3
8	Section 10: E1/2
9	Section 11
10	Section 14
11	Section 15: E1/2E1/2 .
12	Section 22: E1/2E1/2
13	Section 23
14	Section 25: that portion west of the eastern-
15	most bank of the Susitna River
16	Section 26
17	Section 27: E1/2E1/2
18	Section 34: NE1/4NE1/4
19	Section 35
20	Section 36: that portion west of the eastern-
21	most bank of the Susitna River
22	(B) Township 20 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian
23	Section 4
24	Section 5: E1/2
25	Section 8: NE1/4, E1/2SE1/4
26	Section 9
27	Section 15: W1/2
28	Section 16
29	Section 21: E1/2, N1/2NW1/4, SE1/4NW1/4

1	Section 22: NW1/4, S1/2
2	Section 27
3	Section 34
4	(C) Township 21 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian
5	Section 3
6	Section 9: E1/2SE1/4, SE1/4NE1/4
7	Section 10
8	Section 15: W1/2, W1/2NE1/4
9	Section 16
10	Section 20: E1/2
11	Section 21
12	Section 28
13	Section 29: E1/2
14	Section 32: E1/2E1/2, NW1/4NE1/4
15	Section 33
16	Section 34: SW1/4
17	(D) Township 22 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian
18	Sections 4 - 5
19	Section 6: F1/2, E1/2W1/2
20	Sections 7 - 9
21	Sections 16 - 18
22	Sections 20 - 21
23	Section 27
24	Section 28: N1/2, SE1/4, E1/2SW1/4
25	Section 29: E1/2NE1/4
26	Section 33: N1/2NE1/4, SE1/4NE1/4
27	Section 34
28	(E) Township 23 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian
29	Section 4

1	Section 7: W1/2
2	Section 9
3	Section 16
4	Section 17: SW1/4SW1/4
5	Sections 18 - 19
6	Section 20: W1/2NW1/4
7	Section 21
8	Section 28
9	Sections 30 - 31
10	Section 32: S1/2
11	Section 33
12	(F) Township 23 North, Range 7 West, Seward Meridian
13	Section 1
14	Section 2: E1/2
15	Sections 12 - 13
16	Section 24
17	Section 25: N1/2, SE1/4
18	Section 36: N1/2NE1/4
19	(G) Township 24 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian
20	Section 4: W1/2
21	Section 5
22	Section 6: NE1/4, E1/2SE1/4
23	Section 8: N1/2, SE1/4, E1/2SW1/4
24	Section 9
25	Section 15: SW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4
26	Section 16
27	Section 17: NE1/4, N1/2SE1/4
28	Section 21: E1/2, SE1/4SW1/4
29	Section 22: NW1/4, N1/2SW1/4, SW1/4SW1/4

1 Section 28: E1/2W1/2, E1/2
 2 Section 33
 3 (H) Township 24 North, Range 7 West, Seward Meridian
 4 Section 6: S1/2, NW1/4
 5 Section 7
 6 Section 8: S1/2SW1/4
 7 Section 16: W1/2, W1/2E1/2
 8 Section 17
 9 Section 18: N1/2N1/2, SE1/4NW1/4, S1/2NE1/4,
 10 N1/2SE1/4, SE1/4SE1/4
 11 Section 19: NE1/4NE1/4
 12 Section 20: N1/2
 13 Section 21: W1/2, SE1/4, W1/2NE1/4
 14 Section 27
 15 Section 28: E1/2
 16 Section 33: NE1/4NE1/4
 17 Section 34: E1/2, E1/2W1/2, NW1/4NW1/4
 18 Section 35: W1/2, SE1/4, S1/2NE1/4
 19 Section 36: SW1/4
 20 (I) Township 24 North, Range 8 West, Seward Meridian
 21 Section 1: E1/2
 22 Section 12: NE1/4, E1/2SE1/4
 23 Section 13: NE1/4NE1/4
 24 (J) Township 25 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian
 25 Section 5
 26 Section 8
 27 Section 17
 28 Section 18: SE1/4
 29 Section 19: E1/2, E1/2W1/2

1 Section 20: W1/2W1/2
 2 Section 29: W1/2W1/2
 3 Section 30: E1/2, E1/2W1/2
 4 Section 31: E1/2
 5 Section 32: W1/2W1/2, SE1/4SW1/4
 6 (K) Township 25 North, Range 7 West, Seward Meridian
 7 Section 5
 8 Section 6: SE1/4, S1/2NE1/4
 9 Section 7: E1/2, SW1/4, E1/2NW1/4
 10 Section 8: NW1/4, W1/2SW1/4
 11 Sections 18 - 19
 12 Sections 30 - 31
 13 (L) Township 25 North, Range 8 West, Seward Meridian
 14 Section 13: E1/2SE1/4
 15 Section 24: E1/2NE1/4
 16 (M) Township 26 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian
 17 Section 5
 18 Section 8
 19 Section 17: N1/2, SE1/4, N1/2SW1/4, SE1/4SW1/4
 20 Section 19: SE1/4
 21 Section 20: E1/2, SW1/4, S1/2NW1/4, NE1/4NW1/4
 22 Section 29: E1/2, NW1/4
 23 Section 30: S1/2, NE1/4, SE1/4NW1/4
 24 Section 31: E1/2NE1/4, that portion of NW1/4-
 25 NE1/4 within retained easement (50' each side
 26 of MHWM)
 27 Section 32: land within 150' of MHWM
 28 (N) Township 26 North, Range 7 West, Seward Meridian
 29 Section 4: W1/2

1	Section 5: E1/2, S1/2SW1/4
2	Section 7: SE1/4
3	Section 8
4	Section 9: NW1/4, N1/2SW1/4
5	Section 17
6	Section 18: E1/2
7	Section 19
8	Section 20: W1/2
9	Section 29: S1/2, NW1/4
10	Section 30
11	Section 31: NE1/4
12	Section 32
13	(O) Township 27 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian
14	Section 4
15	Section 5: E1/2
16	Section 8: E1/2
17	Section 9
18	Section 16
19	Section 17: E1/2
20	Section 20: E1/2
21	Section 21
22	Section 28: W1/2
23	Section 29: E1/2
24	Section 32: E1/2
25	Section 33: W1/2
26	(P) Township 27 North, Range 7 West, Seward Meridian
27	Section 7
28	Section 8: S1/2, NW1/4
29	Section 9: W1/2

1 Section 27: W1/2, W1/2SE1/4
 2 Section 28: E1/2
 3 Section 34
 4 (C) Township 23 North, Range 9 West, Seward Meridian
 5 Section 3: W1/2W1/2
 6 Section 4
 7 Section 5: E1/2, E1/2SW1/4
 8 Section 7: SE1/4, SE1/4NE1/4, E1/2SW1/4
 9 Section 8: S1/2, NE1/4, S1/2NW1/4, NE1/4NW1/4
 10 Section 9: N1/2NW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4, NW1/4SW1/4
 11 Section 17: W1/2, W1/2E1/2
 12 Section 18: E1/2
 13 Section 19: N1/2, SE1/4, E1/2SW1/4
 14 Section 20: W1/2, SE1/4, S1/2NE1/4, NW1/4NE1/4
 15 Section 29
 16 Section 30: NE1/4, E1/2NW1/4, NE1/4SW1/4, SE1/4
 17 Section 32
 18 Section 33: S1/2SW1/4, NW1/4SW1/4
 19 (D) Township 24 North, Range 9 West, Seward Meridian
 20 Section 28: S1/2SW1/4, SW1/4SE1/4
 21 Section 29: NW1/4, S1/2
 22 Section 30
 23 Section 31: N1/2
 24 Section 32: NW1/4, E1/2
 25 Section 33
 26 Section 34: SW1/4SW1/4
 27 (E) Township 24 North, Range 10 West, Seward Meridian
 28 Section 3
 29 Section 4: E1/2

1 Section 10
 2 Section 11: W1/2, W1/2SE1/4, SW1/4NE1/4
 3 Section 13: W1/2W1/2
 4 Section 14
 5 Section 15: NE1/4
 6 Section 23: N1/2, SE1/4
 7 Section 24: W1/2, S1/2SE1/4, NW1/4SE1/4
 8 Section 25
 9 Section 36: NE1/4, E1/2NW1/4
 10 (F) Township 25 North, Range 10 West, Seward Meridian
 11 Sections 6 - 7
 12 Section 8: S1/2, NW1/4
 13 Section 16: W1/2
 14 Section 17
 15 Section 18: E1/2
 16 Section 20: SE1/4, N1/2
 17 Section 21
 18 Section 22: W1/2
 19 Section 25: SW1/4
 20 Section 26: S1/2
 21 Section 27
 22 Section 28: E1/2, NW1/4
 23 Sections 34 - 35
 24 Section 36: W1/2
 25 (G) Township 25 North, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian
 26 Section 1: E1/2
 27 (H) Township 26 North, Range 10 West, Seward Meridian
 28 Section 31
 29 (I) Township 26 North, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian

1	Sections 3 - 4
2	Section 9: E1/2
3	Section 10
4	Section 14: W1/2
5	Section 15
6	Section 22: E1/2, E1/2NW1/4
7	Section 23
8	Section 25: S1/2, NW1/4
9	Section 26
10	Section 27: NE1/4
11	Section 35: NE1/4
12	Section 36
13	(J) Township 27 North, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian
14	Section 6: SW1/4
15	Section 7
16	Section 8: SW1/4
17	Sections 17 - 18
18	Section 19: N1/2, SE1/4
19	Section 20
20	Section 21: SW1/4
21	Sections 28 - 29
22	Section 30: NE1/4
23	Section 32: E1/2
24	Section 33
25	Section 34: W1/2
26	(K) Township 27 North, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian
27	Sections 1 - 3
28	Section 10: N1/2, SE1/4
29	Sections 11 - 14

1 Section 15: NE1/4
2 Section 23: NE1/4
3 Section 24: N1/2
4 (L) Township 28 North, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian
5 Sections 1 - 5
6 Sections 8 - 12
7 Sections 13 - 17
8 Sections 21 - 24
9 Sections 25 - 28
10 Sections 33 - 36
11 (4) Little Susitna State Recreation River: the water column
12 of the main stream of the Little Susitna River from mean high water
13 mark to mean high water mark, from the point at which the river cross-
14 es the section line dividing Sections 23 and 26 in Township 19 North,
15 Range 1 East, Seward Meridian downstream to the point at which the
16 river crosses the section line between Sections 15 and 22 in Township
17 16 North, Range 5 West, Seward Meridian; the water column of Lake
18 Creek from mean high water mark to mean high water mark, from the
19 point at which the creek crosses the section line dividing Sections 10
20 and 11, Township 18 North, Range 4 West, Seward Meridian downstream to
21 the confluence with the Little Susitna River; and
22 (A) Township 16 North, Range 5 West, Seward Meridian
23 Section 3
24 Section 4: E1/2NE1/4
25 Section 10: E1/2, E1/2W1/2
26 Section 15: E1/2, E1/2W1/2
27 (B) Township 17 North, Range 4 West, Seward Meridian
28 Section 4
29 Section 6: SW1/4

1 Section 7: W1/2, S1/2SE1/4
2 Section 8: E1/2, S1/2SW1/4
3 Section 17: NW1/4
4 Section 18: N1/2, N1/2SW1/4
5 (C) Township 17 North, Range 5 West, Seward Meridian
6 Sections 12 - 15
7 Section 22
8 Section 23: N1/2N1/2, SW1/4NW1/4, W1/2SW1/4
9 Section 26: W1/2W1/2
10 Section 27
11 Section 34
12 (D) Township 18 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian
13 Section 8: NW1/4, SW1/4NE1/4, S1/2NW1/4NE1/4
14 (E) Township 18 North, Range 1 West, Seward Meridian
15 Section 15: N1/2NW1/4
16 Section 16: NW1/4, N1/2NE1/4, SE1/4NE1/4
17 (F) Township 18 North, Range 2 West, Seward Meridian
18 Section 15: NW1/4, N1/2NE1/4, NW1/4SW1/4
19 Section 16: S1/2
20 Section 17: S1/2
21 Section 19: NW1/4, W1/2NE1/4, E1/2SW1/4.
22 (G) Township 18 North, Range 3 West, Seward Meridian
23 Section 19
24 Section 20: SW1/4, W1/2SE1/4, SE1/4NW1/4,
25 W1/2NW1/4
26 Section 28: N1/2NW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4
27 Section 29: NE1/4
28 Section 30
29 (H) Township 18 North, Range 4 West, Seward Meridian

1 Section 11: SW1/4, SW1/4SE1/4, SW1/4NW1/4
2 Section 13: S1/2, SW1/4NW1/4
3 Section 14
4 Section 24
5 Section 25: N1/2
6 Section 26
7 Section 27: S1/2
8 Section 33: S1/2, S1/2NE1/4
9 Section 34
10 Section 35: NW1/4, W1/2NE1/4
11 (5) Talachulitna State Recreation River
12 (A) Township 16 North, Range 10 West, Seward Meridian
13 Section 6: W1/2
14 Section 7: NW1/4, N1/2SW1/4
15 (B) Township 16 North, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian
16 Section 1: E1/2, SW1/4
17 Section 2: S1/2, NW1/4
18 Section 3
19 Section 11: N1/2, N1/2S1/2
20 Section 12: N1/2, N1/2S1/2
21 (C) Township 17 North, Range 10 West, Seward Meridian
22 Section 6: W1/2, W1/2SE1/4
23 Section 7
24 Sections 18 - 19
25 Sections 30 - 31
26 (D) Township 17 North, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian
27 Section 1: E1/2E1/2
28 Section 3: W1/2
29 Sections 4 - 5

1	Section 6: S1/2
2	Sections 7 - 8
3	Section 9: N1/2, SE1/4
4	Section 10
5	Section 14: W1/2
6	Section 15
7	Section 17: NW1/4
8	Section 18: N1/2, SW1/4
9	Section 19: NW1/4NW1/4
10	Section 22
11	Section 23: W1/2
12	Section 25: E1/2E1/2
13	Section 26: W1/2
14	Section 27
15	Section 34
16	Section 35: W1/2
17	(E) Township 17 North, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian
18	Section 7: S1/2
19	Section 12: S1/2
20	Section 13
21	Section 14: S1/2
22	Section 15: S1/2
23	Section 16: S1/2
24	Sections 17 - 18
25	Section 20: E1/2
26	Sections 21 - 23
27	Section 24: N1/2, N1/2S1/2
28	(F) Township 17 North, Range 13 West, Seward Meridian
29	Section 9: S1/2

1 Section 10: S1/2
 2 Section 11: S1/2
 3 Section 12: S1/2
 4 Sections 13 - 16
 5 Section 24: N1/2
 6 (G) Township 18 North, Range 10 West, Seward Meridian
 7 Section 18: SW1/4SW1/4
 8 Section 19: NW1/4, S1/2NE1/4, E1/2SW1/4, SE1/4
 9 Section 20: S1/2, NE1/4
 10 Section 21
 11 Section 22: W1/2W1/2
 12 Section 26: W1/2SW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4
 13 Section 27: S1/2, S1/2N1/2
 14 Sections 28 - 29
 15 Section 30: E1/2, E1/2W1/2
 16 Section 31: NE1/4, S1/2NW1/4, NE1/4NW1/4,
 17 SW1/4, W1/2SE1/4
 18 Section 33: NE1/4NE1/4
 19 Section 34: N1/2NW1/4
 20 (H) Township 18 North, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian
 21 Section 6: W1/2, W1/2E1/2, E1/2SE1/4
 22 Section 7
 23 Section 11: E1/2SE1/4
 24 Section 12: SW1/4SW1/4
 25 Section 13: NW1/4, E1/2SW1/4, SE1/4
 26 Section 16: SW1/4
 27 Sections 17 - 18
 Section 19: NE1/4
 Section 20: N1/2, SE1/4

1 Section 21: W1/2
 2 Section 24: E1/2NE1/4
 3 Section 28
 4 Section 29: E1/2
 5 Section 32: E1/2
 6 Section 33
 7 Section 36: E1/2SE1/4SE1/4SE1/4
 8 (I) Township 18 North, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian
 9 Sections 1 - 2
 10 Section 12: N1/2, SE1/4
 11 (J) Township 19 North, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian
 12 Section 3: N1/2, SW1/4
 13 Section 4: E1/2E1/2, W1/2SE1/4, SE1/4SW1/4
 14 Section 9: E1/2, SW1/4, E1/2NW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4
 15 Section 10: NW1/4
 16 Section 15: W1/2SW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4
 17 Section 16
 18 Section 21
 19 Section 22: W1/2W1/2, E1/2SW1/4, SW1/4SE1/4
 20 Sections 27 - 28
 21 Section 34
 22 Section 35: S1/2, NW1/4
 23 (K) Township 20 North, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian
 24 Section 18: W1/2
 25 Section 19: W1/2
 26 (L) Township 20 North, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian
 27 Section 1
 28 Section 2: N1/2
 29 Section 11: E1/2

1 Sections 12 - 13

2 Section 14: E1/2

3 Sections 23 - 24

4 Section 25: N1/2

5 Section 26

6 Section 27: E1/2

7 Section 34: S1/2, NE1/4, SE1/4NW1/4

8 Section 35: NW1/4

9 (M) Township 21 North, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian

10 Section 31: W1/2

11 (N) Township 21 North, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian

12 Section 25: SW1/4, SW1/4SE1/4

13 Section 26: E1/2SE1/4, SW1/4SE1/4

14 Section 35: E1/2, SW1/4

15 Section 36

16 (6) Talkeetna State Recreation River: the water column of

17 the Talkeetna River from mean high water mark to mean high water mark

18 from the point at which it crosses the line dividing Townships 28 and

19 29 North, Seward Meridian, downstream to its confluence with the

20 Susitna River; the water column of Chunilna Creek from mean high water

21 mark to mean high water mark from the point at which it crosses the

22 line dividing Townships 27 and 28 North, Seward Meridian, downstream

23 to its confluence with the Talkeetna River; and

24 (A) Township 26 North, Range 3 West, Seward Meridian

25 Sections 1 - 2: north of the left bank of the

26 Sheep River

27 Section 3: all land north of the left bank of

28 the Talkeetna River and Tract B of ASLS 81 -

29 196

1 Section 4: all land north of the left bank of
2 the Talkeetna River and Tract A of ASLS 81 -
3 196
4 Section 5: all land north of the left bank of
5 the Talkeetna River and Tract C of ASLS 80 -
6 94
7 Section 6: all land north of the left bank of
8 the Talkeetna River and Tract A of ASLS
9 80 - 84
10 (B) Township 26 North, Range 4 West, Seward Meridian
11 Sections 1 - 3: exclusive of ASLS 79 - 149
12 Section 4: E1/2, SW1/4 exclusive of ASLS 79 -
13 149
14 Section 7: S1/2
15 Section 8: S1/2 exclusive of ASLS 79 - 149
16 Section 9: E1/2, E1/2W1/2
17 Section 17: that portion north of the left bank
18 of the Talkeetna River
19 Section 18: exclusive of DOT 200642
20 (C) Township 26 North, Range 5 West, Seward Meridian
21 Section 12: E1/2SE1/4
22 Section 13: E1/2, E1/2SW1/4, SW1/4SW1/4
23 Section 23: that portion northeast of the left
24 bank of the Susitna River
25 Section 24: that portion east of the left bank
26 of the Susitna River and west of the right
27 bank of the main channel of the Talkeetna
28 River (that channel of the river that runs
29 diagonally through the NE 1/4 and SW1/4 of

1 Section 25

2 Section 26: SE1/4

3 Section 31: S1/2

4 Section 32: S1/2 exclusive of ASLS 79 - 149

5 Section 33: S1/2S1/2 exclusive of ASLS 79 - 149

6 Section 34: S1/2S1/2 exclusive of ASLS 79 - 149

7 and ASLS 76 - 138

8 Sections 35 - 36

9 (G) Township 27 North, Range 4 West, Seward Meridian

10 Section 36: S1/2SE1/4 exclusive of ASLS 74 - 77

11 and ASLS 74 - 78

12 (H) Township 27 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian

13 Section 5: NW1/4

14 Section 6

15 (I) Township 28 North, Range 1 West, Seward Meridian

16 Section 36: SE1/4SE1/4

17 (J) Township 28 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian

18 Section 2

19 Section 3: SE1/4

20 Section 9: SE1/4

21 Section 10

22 Section 11: NW1/4, W1/2NE1/4, W1/2SW1/4

23 Section 15: N1/2, SW1/4

24 Section 16: E1/2SW1/4

25 Section 20: SE1/4

26 Section 21

27 Section 22: NW1/4

28 Section 28: N1/2, SW1/4

29 Section 29: E1/2, SW1/4, SE1/4NW1/4

1 Section 31: SW1/4, E1/2

2 Section 32

3 Section 33: NW1/4

4 ARTICLE 4. GENERAL PROVISIONS.

5 Sec. 41.23.900. DEFINITION. In this chapter, "commissioner"
6 means the commissioner of natural resources.

7 * Sec. 3. Until a management plan has been adopted for a recreation
8 river corridor under AS 41.23.230(a) as enacted in sec. 2 of this Act,
9 interim management shall be consistent with AS 41.23.200. The commissioner
10 of natural resources shall adopt a management plan for each river by
11 July 1, 1992.

12 * Sec. 4. This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

SIX RECREATION RIVER WORKSHOP II

PROCEEDINGS

Introduction

The focus of the second workshop is management of land owned by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. The Borough owns a large amount of land within the proposed rec river corridor; some at strategic locations such as the mouth of the Deshka River. The Borough recognizes that there is a relationship between how the Borough manages its land and how the State manages its land. By making sound management decisions the Borough could act as a model for the State.

Historical Use

The workshop began with a brief discussion of historical use on the rivers. The Department of Fish and Game conducted a survey of boaters exiting at the Susitna Landing, Talkeetna Boat Launch and Airstrip and Willow Creek during 1984 (A Survey of Boaters Exiting at the Susitna Landing; Talkeetna Boat Launch and Airstrip; and, Willow Creek During 1984 by Allen L Howe, Department of Fish and Game). This survey, as well as other data, indicates that the six recreation rivers are very popular destinations.

Between 1977 and 1985 use of the rec rivers has steadily increased and the predominant use is sports fishing. Two rivers have shown tremendous growth in the number of days fished: the Deshka River (Kroto Creek) and the Little Susitna River. The rate of growth for these two rivers as measured by number of days fished between 1977 and 1985 is approximately 760% and 360%, respectively. The main reason for the growth on these rivers is the relatively easy access provided, the Little Su is accessible by road while the Deshka River is a short distance from boat launch sites that are accessible from the Parks Highway. Another reason for their popularity is that the rivers, especially the Deshka River, have King Salmon.

Boaters using the Susitna Landing evidenced the widest breath of use of the rivers in the area. Just over half of all boaters (from May through September) traveled to the Deshka River; however, during May and June over 75% of the boaters at Susitna Landing had the Deshka River as a first destination. The majority of boaters, over 50% during July and August, exiting at Willow Creek indicated Willow Creek as their first destination while about a third indicated the Deshka River as their first destination.

Most of the people using the rivers are from the Anchorage area. Anchorage residents made up larger majorities at the Willow Creek and Talkeetna exit locations than at Susitna Landing. Borough residents made up the second largest resident group at the exit locations while non-Alaska, USA residents made up the third largest group of users. Most users spent three days or less on the river.

Borough Land Management Responsibilities

The Borough is required by code to manage its lands and Borough residents expect the Borough to wisely manage its lands. One aspect of land management is ensuring that members of the public are given an equal opportunity to enjoy Borough or public resources (land).

However, one of the concerns raised during the last workshop was the "long term" or "all season" use of Borough owned land by individuals and commercial operators. Generally, some individuals and commercial operators set up camps for the entire fishing season thereby depriving other users of a public resource. In addition to depriving the general public of a public resource, some commercial operators are using public lands at no cost which provides them with a competitive advantage over other private operators who own or lease lands and pay taxes and lease payments.

Although the Borough has a provision within its code addressing trespass, it is not well defined nor is it tailored to the special needs of the rivers. After the overview of use and management responsibilities concluded a general discussion took place regarding the definition of trespass. Suggestions for defining trespass included:

- o More than seventy-two hour use.
- o Charging the general public for the use of Borough lands but not paying the Borough a fee.
- o Continuous use over the entire summer or fishing season.

It was suggested that some of the perceived problems are generated by commercial operators who utilize camp sites for much of the fishing season. If special management options are to be designed to resolve commercial/general public conflicts a definition of commercial operator must be developed. Suggestions for defining commercial operations included:

- o Anyone who charges a fee.
- o Any firm providing any of the following services:
 - air taxi
 - boat taxi
 - guides

- outfitters
- dropoffs.

- o Anyone who charges for the use of public lands.

After discussing possible definitions for trespass and commercial operations, workshop participants discussed various methods for managing commercial operations on Borough owned land. The ideas included:

- o Establish commercial use and non-commercial use areas.
- o Discourage commercial sites along prime fishing areas.
- o Establish specific areas for use by the general public.
- o Restrict commercial operations to ten or fifteen percent of the land.
- o Use land use controls.
- o Do not allow commercial leases on any Borough land within the first six miles of the mouth of the river.
- o Require that all commercial operators pay a user's fee.
- o Institute a land disposal program.
- o Designate specific lands for commercial use and offer these lands to operators by competitive bids.

Some participants noted that it is also important to maintain public access along the rivers and suggested fifty foot public use easements. Additionally, individuals noted that a seventy-five foot building setback should be maintained and that the Borough should consider all of the benefits and costs of leasing or selling land within the corridor.

Management Options

After discussing management options for commercial operations the group discussed possible options that the Borough could implement for all users and for all of the rivers. The options mentioned included:

- o Do nothing.
- o Utilize the management ideas within the Susitna Area Plan.
- o Incorporate seasonal regulations that are tailored to the particular uses of each season.
- o Allow the Department of Natural Resources to manage both State and Borough lands within the corridor.
- o Provide limited recreational facilities that can be used by the general public. Some of the facilities/services include:
 - emergency services,
 - restroom facilities,
 - boat launches,
 - signage (e.g., public use, limited X hours camping, etc.),
 - public use cabins,
 - "primitive" camping sites.

Workshop participants noted that even if camping sites and limited facilities were provided, the rules for using the facilities would have to be enforced and resources would have to be allocated to pay for facilities and enforcement.

Enforcement on Borough Lands

After discussing management options and the type of facilities that could be provided, workshop participants discussed enforcement on Borough owned lands. Ideas included:

- o Providing regular on-site inspections during the high use, sports fishing period.
- o Developing a formal State and Borough cooperative enforcement program.
- o Utilizing a campground or park host program.
- o Emphasizing enforcement effort in high use areas and times rather than in low use areas and times.
- o Review and amend Borough ordinances as appropriate.

- o Develop a system of permits and fees for seasonal and day use for high use areas.
- o Require prior (10-30-60 day) notification for use of Borough campgrounds in high use areas.
- o Establish a specific time limit on camping and red flag sites in order to improve turnover.
- o Give all enforcement powers to the State.
- o Limit the number of users.
- o Designate annual "Flush Days" one day after the season ends.
- o Utilize volunteers, i.e., "River Rangers".
- o Issue temporary use permits for specific sites.

The workshop concluded with a discussion of how the Borough should pay for the development of limited camp sites (should that option be chosen) and for increased enforcement activities.

Three general methods were discussed for developing limited camp sites: 1) utilize Borough resources and develop sites with limited facilities, e.g., designated tents sites and sanitary facilities; 2) have the State develop limited campgrounds and parks, and for 3) utilize a competitive bid process and have the private sector develop campgrounds with either limited facilities or campgrounds offering a full range of facilities, e.g., tent sites, cabins, and lodge. Participants did not select a preferred method for developing campgrounds; most agreeing that further analysis is required.

Several options for paying for increased enforcement activities were described. These options included:

- o Identify a committed commercial operator and pay him/her to enforce rules in a specific area.
- o Dedicate Borough and/or State revenues.
- o Develop a system of user fees.
- o Lease Borough lands in the area and dedicate a percentage of the lease payments to enforcement activities.

- o Dispose of Borough lands (trade Borough lands for State lands located elsewhere).
- o Create a series of recreational contests and dedicate the proceeds to enforcement activities.

At the conclusion of the workshop participants were asked to indicate whether or not they supported House Bill 93 as it is currently written, fifty individuals indicated that they did not support the current version and eight individuals indicated that they supported the current version.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

NAME	AFFILIATION
Dorothy Jones	Mayor, Matanuska-Susitna Borough
Doyle Holmes	Assemblyman, Matanuska-Susitna Borough
Fred Lloyd	Assemblyman, Matanuska-Susitna Borough
Paul Barry	Assemblyman, Matanuska-Susitna Borough
Rose Palmquist	Assemblywoman, Matanuska-Susitna Borough
Sam Cotten	State Representative
Dennis C. Hyder	Alaska Boating Association
B. George Holcombe	Alaska Boating Association
Freelon F. Stanberry	Alaska Boating Association
Kenneth Young	Alaska Boating Association
Richard Graham	None Given
Bob Chupach	Alaska Department of Fish & Game, FRED Division
Don Sherwood	Alaska Boating Association
Merle Buckwalter	Land Owner (on 2 rivers)
Dan Gabryszak	Yentna Station Roadhouse (owner)
Butch Hawley	Susitna Station
Larry Williams	Alaska Chapter, Sierra Club
Bob Stickle	Tri River Charters
Jim Richardson	Alaska Sportfishing Association
Dick Palmatier	None Given
Chris Lund	Land Owner (on the TAL)
Cindy Bettine	Mike's Goodtimes Charter
Mike Butchur	Mike's Goodtimes Charter
Noel Woods	Matanuska Valley Sportsmen
Jean Woods	Matanuska Valley Sportsmen
Raylene Tanner	None Given
Joe Tweedy	Viekoda Enterprises
Frank Mielle	Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Bill Blachman	Big Red's Flying Service
Carl Dixon	Riversong Lodge
Judy Snow	Big Red's Flying Service
Joe Polanco	Big Red's Flying Service
Steve Larson	Silvertip
Del Hanrath	Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Commission
Marty Wellborn	Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Mike Abbott	Resource Development Council

Dennis Thacker
Richard Kerr
Hank Rust
Brian O'Donoghue
Eleanor O. Malapenes
Barbara Hunt
Wayne Burkhart

Leonard M. Haire
Pat Newman
Robert Faymev
Leon B. Olck
T. Beilman
Jack M. Willis
Jeff Parker
Roger Poppe
Doyle E. Currier
Chuck Kaucic

Frank Langill

Larry Engel
Mike Bronson
Duane H. Lainy
Judy Bronson

Willow Air Service
Flat Horn Lake Lodge
Rust's Flying Service
Frontiersman
Rep. Ron Larson
Rep. Ron Larson's Aide
Matanuska-Susitna Convention & Visitor's
Bureau
Alaska Air Boat Glacier Tours
Willow Orig.
Deshka River Lodge
Deshka Silver-King Lodge
Senator Kerttula's Office
Alaska Recreational Services
Wildlife Federation of Alaska
Senator Szymanski's Office
Chelatna Shores Lodge
Matanuska-Susitna Borough Parks & Outdoor
Recreation
Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning
Commission
Alaska Fish & Game, Palmer
None Given
User
None Given



MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

ASSEMBLY MEMORANDUM

No. _____

Meeting Date: April 7, 1987

From: Mayor Tony Knowles
Subject: Resolution Supporting Enactment of HB 93 (Recreational Rivers)

WHEREAS, HB 93 would establish six recreation rivers in Southcentral Alaska, including Alexander Creek, Kroto/Moose Creek, Lake Creek, the Talachulitna River, Little Susitna, and the Deshka River, and

Talkeetna

WHEREAS, the recreation opportunities afforded by these rivers are enjoyed by thousands of Anchorage residents every year, and

WHEREAS, these rivers are also heavily utilized by Anchorage's visitor industry and are important to the outdoor recreation based segment of Anchorage's economy, and

WHEREAS, it is important that these rivers are retained in public ownership and that their natural values be conserved so that opportunities for public use and enjoyment of these important corridors are not diminished over the long term, and

WHEREAS, after considerable work, the bill represents a balance between conservation and public use including both recreation and economic uses, and

WHEREAS, the bill provides opportunity for strong involvement by the public in establishing management plans for the individual rivers,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Anchorage Assembly strongly supports passage of HB 93.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be sent to the Governor and all members of the Alaska Legislature.

Respectfully submitted:

Prepared by:

Tony Knowles
Tony Knowles
Mayor

Chip Dennerlein
Chip Dennerlein
Manager, Intergovernmental Affairs

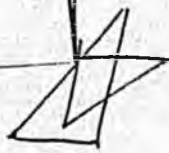
Relationship of Recreation River
Designation and Management to the
Alaska Coastal Management Program (ACMP)

House Bill No. 93, "An act establishing a system of recreation rivers and providing for an effective date", provides for the designation of recreation rivers and development of guidelines for their management. If the bill is enacted, recreation rivers may be designated in areas which are also addressed by either approved or developing district coastal management programs. The Matanuska-Susitna Borough, for example, has an approved coastal management program.

House Bill 93 specifically states that the bill's provisions do not affect the responsibility given to state agencies and municipalities under the Alaska Coastal Management Act to implement the ACMP, including approved district coastal management programs. Recreation river management plans would not supercede or negate existing coastal programs, but should be developed in a manner that is consistent with the content of these programs. The goals and objectives for which recreation rivers are designated (Sec. 41.23.200(b)) are complementary to the goals of the ACMP (AS 46.40.020), indicating that the two processes and plans can be made compatible. The provisions of the bill for coordination with the public in affected communities will facilitate preparing river management plan's which are coordinated with and complementary to district coastal management programs. To further the coordination between the two processes, the sponsors of the bill may wish to explicitly recognize that the affected coastal district (including coastal resource service areas) should be contacted, in addition to individual local communities.

bs87040801jmi

To: Ned Farquhar
From: Tom Hawkins
get to Larry -



DRAFT

ALTERNATIVE HOUSE BILL 93 - RECREATION RIVERS

The Commissioner of Natural Resources is directed to enter into a Cooperative Management Planning agreement with the Matanuska-Susitna Borough for the purposes of cooperatively... developing a management plan for each of the rivers.

The commissioner and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough will jointly establish a Management Planning Team to oversee the development of these individual river management plans.

The Planning Team will be interdisciplinary reflecting the diversity of management concerns on State and Borough lands and waters.

During the three year planning process the river corridor boundaries contained within the Susitna Area Plan shall serve as interim boundaries, final boundaries are to be approved upon adoption of each plan.

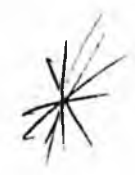


A DRAFT Management Plan for each river will be released for public review and comment./ A final plan will be presented to the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly and the Commissioner for their appropriate approval./

Public Hearings will be held within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and the Municipality of Anchorage.

Cooperative Management Agreements, inherent within the implementation of these plans should be included in each management plan as appropriate.

The final management plan for each river must be completed within three years and a report on each plan submitted to the legislature.



Original sponsors: Cotten, Pourchot,
Rieger, et al.

*THE ALASKA BOATING ASSN IS GOING FOR A COMPLETE
KILL OF THIS BILL. AS OF 22 OCT 87*

1 IN THE HOUSE **REVISED BY AK BOATING ASSN ON 13 OCT 87**
2 CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 93 (Finance) am **BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION
5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act establishing six recreation rivers; and pro-
7 viding for an effective date."

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

9 * Section 1. FINDINGS. The legislature finds that the special values
10 and uses of certain river corridors in Southcentral Alaska justify their
11 retention for public use. The river corridors can support many public
12 uses, including some that will enhance the local economy as well as improve
13 access to retained public land. The designation of these corridors as
14 recreation rivers recognizes the value of the described land and is not
15 intended to become an undue impediment to the use and enjoyment of adjacent
16 land or to the development of access within, across, and around the rivers.

17 * Sec. 2. AS 41.23 is amended by adding new sections to read:

18 ARTICLE 3. RECREATION RIVERS.

19 Sec. 41.23.200. PURPOSES. The purpose of AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.-
20 290 is to establish as recreation rivers the land and water now owned
21 by the state and the land and water acquired in the future by the
22 state that lies within the boundaries described in AS 41.23.290(b).
23 The primary purposes for the establishment of the recreation rivers
24 are

DELETE-PROTECTION → 25

(1) the management, ~~protection~~, and maintenance of the fish
26 and wildlife populations and habitat on a sustained-yield basis;

DELETE-CONSERVATION → 27

*THRU
AND*

→ 28

(2) ~~conservation of the scenic and natural integrity of the
recreation river corridor and~~ continued recreational and economic use
29 and enjoyment by the public including hunting, fishing, trapping,

1 boating, hiking, snowmachining, skiing, dog mushing, and wildlife
2 viewing;

3 (3) management of upland activities within the recreation
4 river corridor for the protection and maintenance of water quality and
5 stream flow ~~and~~

6 (4) accommodation of access for recreation, tourism, and
7 other compatible recreation-oriented economic uses of the river corri-

8 dor; ~~AND~~ (5) CONTINUED USE OF THESE WATERWAYS; AS A PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION
CORRIDOR

9 Sec. 41.23.210. ~~COMPATIBLE ACTIVITIES~~ (a) The commissioner
10 shall allow the following activities within a recreation river corri-
11 dor when they are compatible with AS 41.23.200 and consistent with a
12 management plan adopted under AS 41.23.230:

13 (1) the use of aircraft, powerboats, snowmachines, all-
14 terrain vehicles, and other motorized transportation;

15 (2) the harvest of wood products;

16 (3) sand and gravel extraction for public use; and

17 (4) the construction and operation of recreational facil-
18 ities.

19 (b) In addition to the activities identified in (a) of this
20 section, the commissioner may allow other activities within a recre-
21 ation river corridor when they are compatible with AS 41.23.200 and
22 consistent with a management plan adopted under AS 41.23.230.

23 (c) The commissioner shall allow the continuation of commercial
24 or private activities occurring on the effective date of this Act
25 under a valid permit for use of state-owned land within the boundaries
26 of a recreation river corridor so long as the commissioner determines
27 that the activity is compatible with AS 41.23.200. When considering
28 the revocation or nonrenewal of an existing permit, the commissioner
shall make available for public comment, ~~on request~~, a preliminary

ADD AS SHOWN
DELETE-IF THRU MAY 21
DELETE-COMMUNITIES 22
THRU CORRIDOR

SHALL GIVE NOTICE AND
finding and ~~if appropriate, may~~ hold a public hearing ~~in the commu-~~ 23.23
~~nities near the recreation river corridor~~ before determining whether
the activity is compatible with AS 41.23.200.

Sec. 41.23.220. GENERAL MANAGEMENT OF RECREATION RIVER CORRI-
DORS. (a) The state-owned land and water within the area established
as a recreation river corridor under AS 41.23.290(b) is assigned to
the commissioner for management consistent with the purposes of
AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.290.

(b) The commissioner shall reserve to the state under AS 46.15.-
145 an instream flow or level for the water in the rivers described in
AS 41.23.290(b) that is adequate to achieve the purposes of AS 41.23.-
200.

(c) The provisions of AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.290 do not affect the
authority of

(1) the Department of Fish and Game, the Board of Fisher-
ies, the Board of Game, or the Guide Licensing and Control Board under
AS 08.54, AS 16, or AS 41.99.010;

(2) the Department of Environmental Conservation under
AS 46.03; or

(3) state agencies and municipalities under AS 44.19.145-
(a)(11) and AS 46.40.100.

(d) The commissioner ~~may~~ not restrict the use of weapons, in-
cluding firearms, within a recreation river corridor except in ~~sites~~
~~of high public use such as~~ picnic areas, boat ramps, camping grounds,
and parking areas when the commissioner determines that the use of
weapons constitutes a threat to public safety. Except as provided in
this subsection, the commissioner ^{SHALL} ~~may~~ not restrict fishing, hunting,
or trapping within a recreation river corridor.

(e) The commissioner may not regulate under AS 41.23.200 -

DELETE-MAY → 22
- SHALL
DELETE-SITES THRU 23
ADD-DESIGNATED 24
DELETE-MAY-ADD → 27
HALL

(f) THE COMMISSIONER SHALL NOT RESTRICT THE USE OF WATERCRAFT WITH REGARD TO HULL DESIGN, POWER CONVEYANCE, HORSE POWER, HULL SIZE, OR NOISE.

LINE 17 - , A COMMUNITY INCLUDES MAJOR RECREATION USER GROUPS.

1 41.23.290 an activity that occurs on a river that has not been desig-
2 nated as a recreational river under AS 41.23.290(b). Where the water
3 of a river that has been designated under AS 41.23.290(b) flows into
4 the water of a larger river that has not been designated under AS 41.-
5 23.290(b), the authority of the commissioner under AS 41.23.200 -
6 41.23.290 ceases where the water joins the larger river and the com-
7 missioner may not regulate activities on the larger undesignated river
8 under AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.290.

DD-(f)
IE ABOVE)

9 Sec. (f) 41.23.230. MANAGEMENT PLAN. (a) After consultation with
10 local authorities, representatives of groups who will use the recre-
11 ation rivers, and state agencies, including the commissioner of fish
12 and game, the commissioner shall adopt a management plan for a recre-
13 ation river corridor. During the planning process the commissioner
14 shall comply with the notice requirements of AS 38.05.945 and provide
15 written notice by first-class mail to private property owners in the
16 recreation river corridors and shall hold at least two public hearings
17 in municipalities and communities near the recreation river corridor.

IE ABOVE →
DD)

18 The management plan shall establish long-range guidelines and manage-
19 ment practices consistent with AS 41.23.200 to

20 (1) protect, maintain, or enhance the fish and wildlife
21 habitat and the free-flowing nature of the river;

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FY THRU
SE; →

22 (2) ~~identify special recreational values and manage the~~
23 ~~level of intensity and types of recreational uses;~~

24 (3) designate compatible land uses and management guide-
25 lines for associated development;

26 (4) manage commercial activities or development, including
27 recreational services such as guiding;

28 (5) provide for necessary public services, such as trans-
29 portation and utility corridors, public safety, and law enforcement;

1 (6) allow reasonable and necessary access to public land
2 and private inholdings, including municipal land that is offered for
3 sale or lease, and to land beyond the recreation river corridor;

4 (7) establish criteria and timelines to review future
5 proposed uses for compatibility with AS 41.23.200;

6 (8) establish guidelines and setback restrictions for an
7 activity occurring under AS 41.23.210, including mining leasing and
8 oil and gas leasing under AS 41.23.260(b) - (d).

9 (b) The commissioner shall adopt regulations necessary to imple-
10 ment the management plan. The commissioner ~~may~~ not adopt regulations
11 before a management plan is adopted.

DELETE-MAY →
ADD-SHALL

12 (c) A management plan adopted by the commissioner under (a) of
13 this section shall be submitted to the legislature for review within
14 the first 10 days of the first regular session of the legislature to
15 convene after its adoption by the commissioner.

16 Sec. 41.23.240. MANAGEMENT OF MUNICIPAL LAND. If a municipality
17 commits land for inclusion in a recreation river corridor established
18 under AS 41.23.290(b), the commissioner shall obtain the concurrence
19 of the municipality to the management plan proposed under AS 41.23.230
20 as it applies to municipal land. The commissioner shall cooperate, at
21 the request of a municipality, in planning for municipal land adjacent
22 to a recreation river corridor.

23 Sec. 41.23.250. ACQUISITION OF ADDITIONAL LAND. (a) The com-
24 missioner may acquire in the name of the state land that is adjacent
25 to or located within the land described in AS 41.23.290(b) by pur-
26 chase, lease, gift, or exchange for inclusion within a recreation
27 river corridor.

28 (b) The commissioner may not acquire land for inclusion in a
29 recreation river corridor by eminent domain.

Lois Reed

THE SUSITNA VALLEY ASSOCIATION

PURPOSE and PLATFORM

January 20, 1988

The PURPOSE of the Susitna Valley Association is:

To represent the diverse groups using the Susitna Valley which are interested in maintaining the Valley's remote character, current use patterns, and present economic base.

To serve as a clearinghouse for information on the proposed timber sale and subsequent revisions or substitutions to that sale, to provide general information on the sale area, and to act as a resource for individuals interested in commenting on the sale.

The PLATFORM of the Susitna Valley Association is:

The Susitna Valley Association (SVA) is a coalition of individuals, organizations, and businesses committed to maintaining the primitive character, current use patterns, and economic base of tourism and recreation which presently exists in the Susitna Valley.

Since large scale logging, roads, and industrial development is incompatible with the character and current use of the Susitna Valley, the SVA is opposed to large scale timber sales in the Valley. Therefore, the SVA opposes the proposal by the Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for extensive clearcutting and associated development within the Susitna Valley.

DNR's proposal raises numerous economic, social, recreational, environmental, and procedural problems:

Economic Impacts Clearcutting and extensive road development is incompatible with the existing world-class tourism and recreation industry, which requires a remote Susitna Valley environment. The inexpensive fly-in access and an unmarred aerial viewshed is essential to this tourism and recreation industry. In addition, the Cook Inlet commercial fishery depends on unimpaired spawning habitat, and previous state timber sales have shown the inability of DNR to protect fish and wildlife habitat.

Private Landowners Over 2000 privately owned parcels are within the proposed clearcut area, and many others are adjacent to the area. Clearcutting, and the extensive road system necessary for clearcutting, would destroy the character and value of these remote parcels and surrounding areas for both subsistence and recreational uses.

Environmental Impacts The impacts of large scale clearcutting and increased access are extensive and unacceptable. Destruction of habitat necessary for healthy fish populations, increased hunting pressure on big game, extensive loss of furbearer habitat, air pollution from slash burning and pulp mills, and destruction of streamside vegetation are just a few of the adverse impacts which will occur.

Public Process Forest Management Agreements are inappropriate means of administering our public lands. There is inadequate opportunity for informed public review and comment. Specific requirements for environmental protection, clearcut layouts, road locations, and protection of private property are not known until after negotiations are completed between the contractor and the commissioner, and the contract is signed. Site specific planning should be done prior to, not after, entering into a contract.

Planning Reliance on the Susitna Area Plan (SAP) for evaluation of a large scale timber sale is unjustified. Logging on the scale proposed by DNR was not envisioned during the SAP process, nor does the SAP address in a site specific manner the economic, social, and environmental impacts of the proposed project.

The Susitna Valley Association believes the concept of a large scale timber sale in the Susitna Valley should be abandoned. We would prefer to see the state and Mat-Su Borough concentrate on further promotion of the Susitna Valley as a prime tourist and recreation area with a growing and healthy sportfishing industry.

Public sentiment benefits river-use bill

By John Quinley
Times Writer

A bill to establish recreation as the priority use on six Susitna Valley rivers is benefitting from a surge of public interest sparked by a state proposal to sell timber from the area.

The recreational rivers bill has been considered by the legislature in each of the last four years. In 1987, the bill, sponsored by Rep. Sam Cotten, D-Eagle River, passed the House on a 30-9 vote but stalled in the Senate.

After two major amendments — calling for the establishment of a citizens advisory board and increased cooperation with the Matanuska-Susitna Borough — the bill is finding new life in the Senate.

A public hearing in the Community and Regional Affairs Committee is planned Tuesday afternoon, and the chairman of the Resources Committee has indicated the bill should go to the floor for a vote by the full Senate, Cotten said.

The bill would set aside 260,000 acres of state land along the Talachullitna, Talkeetna and Little Susitna rivers and Kroto-Moose, Alexander and Lake creeks. Recreation would be the highest priority use in the river corridors, which would generally extend one-half mile on either side of the water.

Other uses, including oil and gas exploration and mining, could take place in the corridors, but only if they were found to be compatible with recreation, Cot-

ten said. The legislation has also been amended to prohibit any timber harvesting in the corridors until management plans for the rivers have been completed.

The "compatibility test hasn't been terribly helpful in the Lower 48" in excluding development activities, such as grazing, said Cliff Eames, issues director for the Alaska Center for the Environment. The organization has pushed for a full ban on commercial timber harvest inside the

See Rivers, page B-3

Rivers: Recreation

Continued from page B-1

river corridors.

Environmental groups opposed the bill last year, saying it allowed too many non-recreational uses in the river corridors.

Cotten said the bill enjoys strong support among his constituents. "There's been an overwhelming surge of interest in the bill. The timber sale said what might happen if we don't legislatively designate the areas."

Cotten said a survey taken by Rep. Randy Phillips, R-Eagle River, showed that those responding favored the bill by a 7-1 margin.

The timber sale proposed by the state Division of Forestry proposed to allow cutting on about 100,000 acres of Susitna Valley land. The sale has been

postponed because of heavy opposition to the loosely defined plan, which sought to provide a long-term supply of timber to a manufacturer in exchange for the construction of an industrial plant.

The bill would also establish an advisory board to assist with the drafting of management plans for the river corridors. The board would represent a cross-section of users, such as hunters, fishermen, government officials and property owners.

"I can't say we answered all the questions people raised," said Sen. Arliss Sturgulewski, R-Anchorage, who heads the Community and Regional Affairs Committee.

Sturgulewski said legislators have received a tremendous number of comments about the timber sale and land use issues in the Susitna Valley.

Sportsmen tout economic gains from recreation

By CRAIG MEDRED
Daily News reporter

Wilderness recreation is a multimillion-dollar bonanza for Alaska's economy, but it could easily be destroyed by a rush to exploit resources, representatives of several recreation groups warned on Thursday.

In a 45-page report prepared for presentation to the legislature, the Alaska Sportfishing Association, the Alaska Professional Sportfishing Association and the Alaska Hotel & Motel Association urged the state to protect and promote wild lands — particularly undeveloped rivers with good fishing. Tourism income would grow as a result, the report said.

It noted a 1985 study that showed fishing and hunting on the Nushagak River in Bristol Bay generated \$25 million in business for the region.

"That's just one river," said Tom Elias, president of the Alaska Sportfishing Association. "Sportfishing is a viable industry in this state. We can make a lot of money. Unfortunately, those guys in Juneau (Alaska's legislators) are not bright enough to see it."

His comments came as state lawmakers once again debated legislation to protect six recreational rivers in southcentral Alaska — a bill that has languished in the legislature since 1986 — and another bill that would permit private firms to log timber on state land.

The sportfishing groups have pushed for the recreational rivers bill and opposed the timber bill. They said the study, prepared primarily by Anchorage attorney and fishing guide Jeff Parker, buttresses their view.

"If the conclusions of this study are correct, it is a direct challenge to many so-called resource development advocates," said a cover letter attached to the study. "This study

STUDY: State benefits economically from recreation

Continued from Page B-1

appears to put them on the wrong side of jobs, commerce, economic development and sensible state policy."

Parker said the study is imperfect and needs further analysis. But he said its conclusion is valid.

"I think there's a premise there that's probably good," added Tom Hawkins, director of the Division of Land and Water Management in the Alaska Department of Natural Resources.

Hawkins and the various fishermen's groups lately have been at odds over state plans for 100,000 acres of logging in the Susitna Valley north of Anchorage.

Despite that, Hawkins said

compromise is possible.

"You've got 1.7 million acres of forested land up there," he said. "I would not endorse a viewpoint that it's all or none."

The recreational rivers bill calls for development-free corridors along the most important salmon streams in the area. Logging would not have to undermine sportfishing and tourism, Hawkins said.

His agency has joined anglers in backing the recreational rivers bill.

"I think (the study) will help draw attention to the problem," said Ned Farquhar, an aide to Rep. Sam Cotten, D-Eagle River, a main sponsor of the recreational rivers bill. "These are good ideas. (Parker's) right on with a lot

of his comments."

Among the study's conclusions:

- Wilderness-dependent recreation stimulates jobs more efficiently than any industry but oil.

- Wilderness recreation is highly marketable in a world quickly running out of wilderness.

- There is a limit to the number of people who can participate in wilderness recreation in a given area without causing overcrowding, and when that happens the "price structure within the industry erodes and total commerce declines substantially."

The study notes that 14,000 visitors to the wild Nushagak River spent \$25 million in

1985, while a 1986 study done for the state showed 333,000 visitors to the congested Kenai paid out only \$18 million more.

- Alaska has a near monopoly on marketable wilderness fisheries, and that monopoly will only grow in value as wilderness fisheries disappear elsewhere. Parker, however, noted that other governments have already noted the demand in wilderness fishing and moved to market themselves better than Alaska.

- "Where wilderness cannot be used to promote quality sport fisheries ... the market requires a price reduction of one-third to two-thirds for otherwise comparable recreation and services," the study said.

Anchorage Daily News



Winner, 1976 Pulitzer Prize Gold Medal for Public Service
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Howard Weaver
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Editorial Page Editor

Katherine Fanning, Editor and Publisher 1971 to 1983
Lawrence Fanning, Editor and Publisher 1987 to 1971

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DATE: Feb. 4, 1983

(To) Ned Farguhar
Rep. Cottonwood-CMD
465-3711

FROM: S. Piper
Cagle River
694-6683

A bill too weak to bother with

Here's one that falls under the heading of "Why bother?" Spurred on by the proposed Sualtina Valley timber sale, the Alaska Legislature has renewed work on a bill that supposedly protects six popular Sualtina Valley fishing rivers from the hazards of development. But this "recreation rivers" bill is so weak the waterways would almost be better off without it.

The problem: Legislators just can't bring themselves to say no to such intensive activities as mining or logging. Those uses would be allowed along the river corridors as long as they're "compatible" with the rivers and authorized by a management plan.

Supporters say those provisions are strong enough to preclude damage from mining or logging. But there's good cause to wonder. The bill asks Alaskans to have faith that fearless bureaucrats will make the tough choices necessary to protect the rivers. After the way the state forestry crew ran amok with the Sualtina timber sale, no wonder some folks are worried.

The bill does have one advantage: It would stop any timber sales along the rivers until a management plan is done. In the meantime, though, the bill would actually weaken other protections. River corridors are now closed to new mining claims by administrative order; the bill would open them up again.

These narrow corridors of protection — a half mile on either side — just don't have enough room to tolerate development without harming the rivers. People from around the world come to the Sualtina Valley to sample the wilderness and pursue Alaska's legendary fish. They aren't coming to rub elbows with bulldozers and timber trucks.

A multimillion-dollar economy depends on these rivers. They deserve better protection than the legislature appears ready to give them.

one page only

Sam -
misquote + I thought
she wasn't going to use
my name - anyway Ned

Environment

Recreation rivers bill sailing toward House vote

By CONNIE BRANDEL

Frontiersman staff

MAT-SU—The latest draft of a bill to establish six recreation rivers in the Susitna Valley for public use is floating forward in the Legislature on a current of favorable public opinion.

HB 93, sponsored by Rep. Sam Cotten of Eagle River, moved out of the House Resources Committee Wednesday and was expected to come to a quick vote in the Finance Committee. It could come to vote on the floor of the House by next week.

The bill would establish a corridor for public use along six waterways in Southcentral Alaska: the Talkeetna, Little Su and Talachullina rivers, and Lake, Alexander and Krotomoose creeks. Under a management plan developed for each area, the Department of Natural Resources can regulate "compatible activities" such as use of motorized vehicles, logging and mining.

The bill has a yearly price tag of \$134,000 attached, primarily for the development of management plans, Rep. Curt Menard said. The fiscal note is for a three year period.

Menard said he is backing the bill in its present form, which contains provision for mining that he said he was waiting...

Comments supporting the

latest draft of the bill outnumbered those opposing it at a statewide teleconference Tuesday. Borough residents tried to sink earlier versions of the bill, claiming it would "lock up" lands in public ownership.

The Borough Assembly passed a resolution opposing the original draft of the bill. Following Tuesday's meeting, Mayor Dorothy Jones said the assembly probably would reconsider its position in light of the recent revisions.

Following the testimony, Rep. Curt Menard of Wasilla said his position changed from undecided to support of the proposal.

Ned Farquhar, a member of Cotten's staff, said the outlook for this bill is better than last year's proposal, which was killed in the Senate.

A lot of user groups, like boaters who fear too much regulation, are opposing it at present, and the Valley seems not concerned about it this year, Farquhar said.

Speaking against the proposal at the teleconference were several private citizens from the Mat-Su Borough. Testifying in favor of the bill were representatives of statewide conservation groups, user groups such as sport fishermen, and persons with tourism-related businesses

located on the rivers.

Beverly Frost of Palmer said she was concerned about the limitations the bill would place on private enterprise.

"I'm totally opposed to the land classifications," she said. "There's too much socialistic classification of land. With the federal, state and borough lands, there is more than enough land for recreational activities."

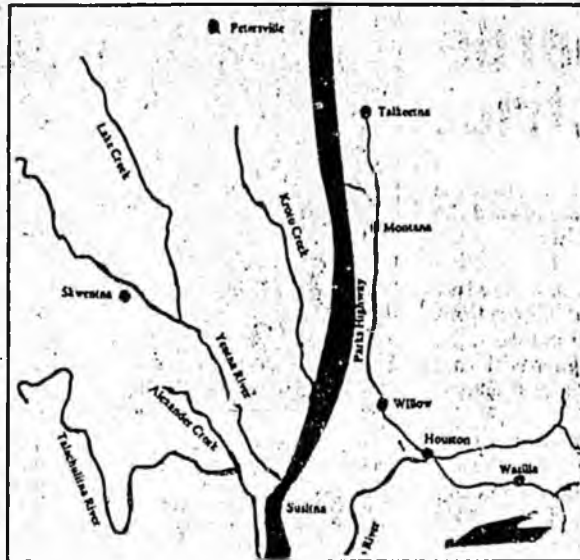
She said the argument of preserving the rivers for tourism is a "smokescreen to lock up the land so there's no potential for economic development. Tourism is only one way to promote development, and that's very seasonal."

Clarence Furbush of Palmer pointed out that most of the land set aside in the corridors is inaccessible by road.

"It's available only to those with expensive boats or planes or by charters," he said.

About a dozen people testified in favor of the bill, hedging their remarks with suggested changes in the language covering mining and mineral exploration near the rivers.

Most of the speakers supporting the bill suggested changing the phrase "the (DNR) commissioner shall allow" compatible activities to "the commissioner may allow"



"If there's going to be mining, we'd like to see rules that water will come out of the operation as clean as it was taken out of the river," Stickle said.

Steve Mahay, operator of a Talkeetna riverboat service, said some people are concerned the regulations may be similar to those on the Kenai River, where all power boats were banned. He asked that a cross-section of user groups have input to the management plan.

Mahay also pointed out that planned cuts in the state fish and game personnel would leave any new rules unenforced. "Rather than cutting fish and game people, they should be doubled," he said.

"Look at the cost to the state and federal government to help them out. That's a very significant investment, and the money could have been used for something else in these hard economic times," Mahay said.

Carl Dixon, a guide from the Lake Creek area, termed it "extremely important" to maintain the closure to new mining operations that are "completely incompatible" with recreation rivers.

"We need to sell aesthetic value, not the murky water, survey flags, Blazo cans and visqueen that we see now," he said.

those activities.

Jeff Parker, representing the Alaska Wildlife Federation, pointed out that the word "may" gives the department discretion as to whether certain activities are compatible on specific rivers.

Bob Stickle, a guide on the Talkeetna River, said "most

people up here support a management plan... the rivers are getting more use and parameters need to be set."

He and several others who testified cited a mining operation several years ago on Clear Creek which muddied the water and spoiled a season of sport fishing.

Budget reserve funds, staff cuts at borough to keep mill levy low



Palmer has difficulty collecting

ADN 5-1-87

Cotten withdraws river bills

The Associated Press

A bill aimed at setting aside 260,000 acres of state land along six rivers near Anchorage for recreational use and activities such as mining and oil exploration was withdrawn Thursday by Rep. Sam Cotten.

The Eagle River Democrat, who sponsored the legislation, said he requested it be left in a Senate committee until January. "In the interim, we need to clear up misconceptions about the bill. There's a lot of misinformation that's gotten around," Cotten said.

The bill, opposed by environmental and development groups, would set the land aside along the Talachulitna, Talkeetna and Little Susitna rivers, and Kroto-Moose, Alexander and Lake creeks.

The legislation passed the House earlier this month. It would require the Department of Natural Resources to

manage the land for recreation. But it also would allow a variety of non-recreational uses, such as mining, oil and gas development, gravel mining, timber harvest and other commercial activities.



Cotten "I'm disappointed, but not discouraged," Cotten said. "Recreational use of those rivers remains my highest priority. We need to avoid a situation like the one that developed on the Kenai, where a crisis occurred because no action took place until it was too late."

Cotten aide Ned Farquhar said the twin goals of accommodating recreation and development made the bill difficult to sell. "The sticking points keep changing. The bill

is one that different interest groups are becoming aware of, then we address their concerns, then another comes along," Farquhar said.

"A lot of people with powerboats are under the misimpression that the purpose of the bill is to restrict their activities," Cotten said. "The owners of large boats saw what happened on the Kenai River and don't want that to happen" on the Susitna Valley streams.

Cotten said the bill's intent was to keep the streams and their adjoining land corridors managed for recreational use, but to also allow compatible non-recreational uses.

"Some people would prefer putting the land into private hands," Cotten said.

He said the public interest is best served by keeping the land in state ownership.

The bill won support from the Alaska Outdoors Council.

hills

Cotten withdraws river bill to clear up misconceptions

Reprinted from yesterday's latest editions.

By John Quinley
Times Writer

A controversial bill aimed at protecting recreational values along six rivers near Anchorage was withdrawn Thursday by its sponsor.

Rep. Sam Cotten, D-Eagle River, said he requested the bill be left in a Senate committee until January. "In the interim, we need to clear up misconceptions about the bill. There's a lot of misinformation that's gotten around," he said.

The bill, which has been opposed by environmental and development groups, would set aside 260,000 acres of state land along the Talachulitna, Talkeetna and Little Susitna rivers and Kroto-Moose, Alexander and Lake creeks.

The legislation, which passed the House on a 30-9 vote earlier this month, would require the Department of Natural Resources to manage the area for recreation. But it also would allow a variety of non-recreational uses on the land along the rivers, such as mining, oil and gas development, gravel mining, timber harvest and other commercial activities.

"I'm disappointed, but not discouraged," Cotten said. "Recreational use of those rivers remains my highest priority. We need to avoid a situation like the one that developed on the Kenai, where a crisis occurred because no action took place until it was too late."

The twin goals of accommodating recreation and development made the bill difficult to sell.

"The sticking points keep changing. The bill is

one that different interest groups are becoming aware of, then we address their concerns, then another comes along," said Ned Farquhar, an aide to Cotten.

"A lot of people with powerboats are under the misimpression that the purpose of the bill is to restrict their activities," Cotten said. "The owners of large boats saw what happened on the Kenai River and don't want that to happen" on the Susitna Valley streams.

Cotten said the intent of the bill is to keep the streams and their adjoining land corridors managed for recreational use, but to also allow compatible non-recreational uses.

"Some people would prefer putting the land into private hands," Cotten said. He said the public interest is best served by keeping the land in state ownership, allowing public access and keeping the area open to camping, hunting and fishing.

The Mat-Su Property Owners Association has called the legislation another "lock-up" of property that would result in undue government regulation.

The final House bill was opposed by the Sierra Club and seven other conservation organizations, according to Jack Hession, Alaska field representative for the club.

"There are too many incompatible uses allowed," he said. "It was so lacking in protection that those rivers are better off without it. There is more of a measure of protection under the Susitna Area Plan," a general plan for state lands in the area.

5-0230B
Bradley
3/5/87

Original sponsors: Cotten, Pourchot,
Rieger, et al.

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 93 (Resources)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act establishing six recreation rivers; and pro-
7 viding for an effective date."

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

9 * Section 1. AS 41.23 is amended by adding new sections to read:

10 ARTICLE 3. RECREATION RIVERS.

11 Sec. 41.23.200. PURPOSES. (a) The purpose of AS 41.23.200 -
12 41.23.280 is to establish recreation rivers on state-owned land and
13 water and establish guidelines for the management of the recreation
14 river corridors.

15 (b) The goals and objectives by which a recreation river corri-
16 dor shall be managed include

17 (1) the protection and maintenance of the fish and wildlife
18 populations and habitat on a sustained-yield basis;

19 (2) conservation of the scenic and natural integrity of the
20 recreation river corridor and continued recreational and economic uses
21 by the public including hunting, fishing, trapping, boating, hiking,
22 snowmachining, skiing, dog mushing, and wildlife viewing;

23 (3) management of upland activities within the recreation
24 river corridor for the protection and maintenance of water quality and
25 stream flow; and

26 (4) accommodation of access, tourism, and economic uses of
27 the river corridor.

28 ~~Sec 41.23.205. COMPATIBLE ACTIVITIES.~~
29 ~~(b)(1) - (4) [of this section]~~ The commissioner shall allow an activity when compatible
with ~~(b)(1) - (4)~~ AS 41.23.200 including, but not limited to

- 1 (1) use of aircraft, powerboats, snowmachines, all-terrain
2 vehicles, and other motorized transportation;
3 (2) harvest of wood products;
4 (3) mineral and oil and gas leasing;
5 (4) sand and gravel extraction for public use; and
6 (5) public use facilities.

7 Sec. 41.23.210. GENERAL MANAGEMENT OF RECREATION RIVER CORRI-
8 DORS. (a) The state-owned land and water within the area established
9 as a recreation river corridor under AS 41.23.280(b) is assigned to
10 the commissioner for management consistent with the purposes of
11 AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.280.

12 (b) The commissioner shall reserve to the state under AS 46.15.-
13 145 an instream flow or level for the water in the rivers described in
14 AS 41.23.280(b) that is adequate to achieve the purposes of AS 41.23.-
15 200 - 41.23.280.

16 (c) The provisions of AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.280 do not affect the
17 authority of

18 (1) the Department of Fish and Game, the Board of Fisher-
19 ies, the Board of Game, or the Guide Licensing and Control Board under
20 AS 08.54, AS 16, or AS 41.99.010;

21 (2) the Department of Environmental Conservation under
22 AS 46.03; or

23 (3) state agencies and municipalities under AS 44.19.145-
24 (a)(11) and AS 46.40.100.

25 (d) The commissioner may not restrict the use of weapons, in-
26 cluding firearms, within a recreation river corridor except in sites
27 of high public use such as picnic areas, boat ramps, camping grounds,
28 and parking areas when the commissioner determines that the use of
29 weapons constitutes a threat to public safety. Except as provided in

1 this subsection, the commissioner may not restrict fishing, hunting,
2 or trapping within a recreation river corridor.

3 (e) The commissioner may lease land competitively within a
4 recreation river corridor for the construction and operation of a
5 public use facility.

6 (f) The commissioner may not restrict commercial or private
7 activities on state-owned land within the boundaries of a recreation
8 river corridor existing on the effective date of this Act unless the
9 commissioner determines that the activity is incompatible with
10 AS 41.23.200(b).

11 Sec. 41.23.220. MANAGEMENT PLAN. (a) After consultation with
12 local authorities and state agencies, including the commissioner of
13 fish and game, the commissioner shall adopt and may revise a manage-
14 ment plan for a recreation river corridor. The commissioner shall
15 comply with the notice requirements of AS 38.05.945 and shall hold at
16 least one public hearing in the municipalities and communities near
17 the recreation river corridor and with the local fish and game ad-
18 visory committee in the area in the adoption or revision of a man-
19 agement plan. The management plan shall establish long-range guide-
20 lines and management practices consistent with AS 41.23.200(b) to

21 (1) protect the fish and wildlife habitat and the free-
22 flowing nature of the river;

23 (2) identify special recreational values and manage the
24 level of intensity and types of recreational uses;

25 (3) designate compatible land uses and management guide-
26 lines for associated development;

27 (4) manage commercial activities or development, including
28 recreational services such as guiding;

29 (5) provide for necessary public services, such as

1 transportation and utility corridors, public safety, and law enforce-
2 ment;

3 (6) allow reasonable and necessary access to public land
4 and private inholdings and to land beyond the recreation river corri-
5 dor;

6 (7) establish criteria and timelines to review future
7 proposed uses for compatibility with AS 41.23.200(b);

8 (8) establish guidelines and setback restrictions for an
9 activity occurring under AS 41.23.200(c) or for mineral and oil and
10 gas leasing under AS 41.23.250(b) - (d).

11 (b) The commissioner may adopt regulations necessary to imple-
12 ment the plan..

13 (c) A management plan adopted or revised by the commissioner
14 under (a) of this section shall be submitted to the legislature for
15 review within the first 10 days of the first regular session of the
16 legislature to convene after its adoption or revision by the commis-
17 sioner.

18 Sec. 41.23.230. MANAGEMENT OF MUNICIPAL LAND. If a municipality
19 commits land for inclusion in a recreation river corridor established
20 under AS 41.23.280(b), the commissioner shall obtain the concurrence
21 of the municipality to the management plan proposed under AS 41.23.220
22 as it applies to municipal land. The commissioner shall cooperate, at
23 the request of a municipality, in planning for municipal land adjacent
24 to a recreation river corridor.

25 Sec. 41.23.240. ACQUISITION OF ADDITIONAL LAND. (a) The com-
26 missioner may acquire in the name of the state land that is adjacent
27 to or located within the land described in AS 41.23.280(b) by pur-
28 chase, lease, gift, or exchange.

29 (b) The commissioner may not acquire land for inclusion in a

1 recreation river corridor by eminent domain.

2 Sec. 41.23.250. APPLICATION OF PUBLIC LAND LAWS. (a) Except to
3 the extent that a provision is inconsistent with a provision of
4 AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.280, the provisions of AS 38.04, AS 38.05,
5 AS 38.35, and AS 38.95 apply to land described in AS 41.23.280(b).

6 (b) Except as provided in (c) of this section, the state-owned
7 land and water within a recreation river corridor is closed to mineral
8 location and entry under AS 38.05.195 and to disposal of leasable
9 minerals under AS 38.05.150 - 38.05.175.

10 (c) Except on state-owned land below ordinary high-water, the
11 commissioner may permit mineral prospecting under AS 38.05.245 and,
12 upon a subsequent discovery, mineral leasing under AS 38.05.205 in an
13 area within a recreation river corridor if leasing is allowed under a
14 management plan that has been adopted by the commissioner. The com-
15 missioner shall establish appropriate conditions in permits, operating
16 plans, and leases to protect the environment and prevent degradation
17 of the recreational uses of the river.

18 (d) The state-owned land and water within a recreation river
19 corridor is available for oil and gas leasing subject to conditions in
20 an adopted management plan.

21 (e) The commissioner of administration shall separately account
22 for funds collected under this section and deposited in the general
23 fund. The annual estimated balance in the account may be appropriated
24 by the legislature to the department to carry out the purposes of this
25 chapter.

26 Sec. 41.23.260. COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT AGREEMENTS. (a) The
27 commissioner may enter into a cooperative management agreement for the
28 management of land and water described in AS 41.23.280(b) or of other
29 adjacent land and water with a federal agency, a municipality of the

1 state, another agency of the state, or a private landowner.

2 (b) The commissioner may transfer the management of a specific
3 site within a recreation river corridor described in AS 41.23.280(b)
4 to a state agency to assist in the development of a facility or to
5 carry out a program authorized by law.

6 (c) The commissioner may not manage a recreation river corridor
7 described in AS 41.23.280(b) as a unit of the state park system. The
8 commissioner may assign management of a recreation site such as a
9 campground or a boat launch to the division of parks and may adopt
10 regulations allowing the division of parks to manage recreation activ-
11 ities in a recreation river corridor.

12 Sec. 41.23.270. ESTABLISHMENT OF RECREATION RIVER CORRIDORS.
13 State-owned land and water may be established as a recreation river
14 corridor only by the legislature.

15 Sec. 41.23.280. DESIGNATED RIVERS. (a) Subject to valid exist-
16 ing rights, the state-owned land and water established as a recreation
17 river corridor under (b) of this section is reserved as a special
18 purpose area under art. VIII, sec. 7, Constitution of the State of
19 Alaska, and is not subject to surface disposal under AS 38.

20 (b) The land and water presently owned by the state and all land
21 and water acquired by the state in the future, including shore and
22 submerged land, that lies within the following described parcels are
23 established as recreation rivers:

24 (1) Talachulitna State Recreation River

25 (A) Township 16 North, Range 10 West, Seward Meridian

26 Section 6: W1/2

27 Section 7: NW1/4

28 (B) Township 16 North, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian

29 Section 1: E1/2, SW1/4

1 Section 2: S1/2, NW1/4
2 Section 3
3 Section 11: N1/2
4 Section 12: N1/2
5 (C) Township 17 North, Range 10 West, Seward Meridian
6 Section 6: W1/2, W1/2SE1/4
7 Section 7
8 Sections 18 - 19
9 Sections 30 - 31
10 (D) Township 17 North, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian
11 Section 1: E1/2E1/2
12 Section 3: W1/2
13 Sections 4 - 5
14 Section 6: S1/2
15 Sections 7 - 8
16 Section 9: N1/2, SE1/4
17 Section 10
18 Section 14: W1/2
19 Section 15
20 Section 17: NW1/4
21 Section 18: N1/2, SW1/4
22 Section 19: NW1/4NW1/4
23 Section 22
24 Section 23: W1/2
25 Section 25: E1/2E1/2
26 Section 26: W1/2
27 Section 27
28 Section 34
29 Section 35: W1/2

1 (E) Township 17 North, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian

2 Section 7: S1/2

3 Section 12: S1/2

4 Section 13

5 Section 14: S1/2

6 Section 15: S1/2

7 Section 16: S1/2

8 Sections 17 - 18

9 Section 20: E1/2

10 Sections 21 - 23

11 Section 24: N1/2, N1/2S1/2

12 (F) Township 17 North, Range 13 West, Seward Meridian

13 Section 9: S1/2

14 Section 10: S1/2

15 Section 11: S1/2

16 Section 12: S1/2

17 Sections 13 - 16

18 Section 24: N1/2

19 (G) Township 18 North, Range 10 West, Seward Meridian

20 Section 18: SW1/4SW1/4

21 Section 19: NW1/4, S1/2NE1/4, E1/2SW1/4, SE1/4

22 Section 20: S1/2, NE1/4

23 Section 21

24 Section 22: W1/2W1/2

25 Section 26: W1/2SW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4

26 Section 27: S1/2, S1/2N1/2

27 Sections 28 - 29

28 Section 30: E1/2, E1/2W1/2

29 Section 31: NE1/4, S1/2NW1/4, NE1/4NW1/4,

- 1 SW1/4, W1/2SE1/4
- 2 Section 33: NE1/4NE1/4
- 3 Section 34: N1/2NW1/4
- 4 (H) Township 18 North, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian
- 5 Section 6: W1/2, W1/2E1/2, E1/2SE1/4
- 6 Section 7
- 7 Section 11: E1/2SE1/4
- 8 Section 12: SW1/4SW1/4
- 9 Section 13: NW1/4, E1/2SW1/4, SE1/4
- 10 Section 16: SW1/4
- 11 Sections 17 - 18
- 12 Section 19: NE1/4
- 13 Section 20: N1/2, SE1/4
- 14 Section 21: W1/2
- 15 Section 24: E1/2NE1/4
- 16 Section 28
- 17 Section 29: E1/2
- 18 Section 32: E1/2
- 19 Section 33
- 20 (I) Township 18 North, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian
- 21 Sections 1 - 2
- 22 Section 12: W1/2, SE1/4
- 23 (J) Township 19 North, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian
- 24 Section 3: N1/2, SW1/4
- 25 Section 4: E1/2E1/2, W1/2SE1/4, SE1/4SW1/4
- 26 Section 9: E1/2, SW1/4, E1/2NW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4
- 27 Section 10: NW1/4
- 28 Section 15: W1/2SW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4
- 29 Section 16

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Section 21

Section 22: W1/2W1/2, E1/2SW1/4, SW1/4SE1/4

Sections 27 - 28

Section 34

Section 35: S1/2, NW1/4

(K) Township 20 North, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian

Section 18: W1/2

Section 19: W1/2

(L) Township 20 North, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian

Section 1

Section 2: N1/2

Section 11: E1/2

Sections 12 - 13

Section 14: E1/2

Sections 23 - 24

Section 25: N1/2

Section 26

Section 27: E1/2

Section 34: S1/2, NE1/4, SE1/4NW1/4

Section 35: NW1/4

(M) Township 21 North, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian

Section 31: SW1/4

(N) Township 21 North, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian

Section 25: that portion south of the Skwentna River

Section 26: that portion south of the Skwentna River

Section 35: that portion south of the Skwentna River

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Section 36: that portion south of the Skwentna
River

(2) Alexander Creek State Recreation River

(A) Township 16 North, Range 7 West, Seward Meridian

Sections 6 - 7

Sections 18 - 19

(B) Township 17 North, Range 7 West, Seward Meridian

Section 18: S1/2, W1/2NW1/4

Section 19

Sections 30 - 31

Section 32: W1/2

(C) Township 17 North, Range 8 West, Seward Meridian

Section 1

Section 2: E1/2, N1/2NW1/4

Section 3: N1/2N1/2

Section 4: N1/2, N1/2SE1/4

Section 11: NE1/4

Section 12

Section 13: E1/2, E1/2NW1/4

Section 24: NE1/4, E1/2SE1/4

(D) Township 18 North, Range 8 West, Seward Meridian

Section 4: W1/2

Section 5

Section 6: NE1/4

Section 8: N1/2, SE1/4

Section 9

Section 10: SW1/4

Section 14: W1/2SW1/4, SE1/4SW1/4

Section 15: W1/2, SE1/4, S1/2NE1/4

- 1 Section 16: N1/2, SE1/4
- 2 Section 22: N1/2, N1/2S1/2, S1/2SE1/4
- 3 Section 23: W1/2, W1/2SE1/4
- 4 Section 26: W1/2, W1/2E1/2, E1/2SE1/4
- 5 Section 27: E1/2NE1/4
- 6 Section 33: SW1/4, S1/2SE1/4
- 7 Section 34: S1/2S1/2
- 8 Section 35
- 9 Section 36: W1/2
- 10 (E) Township 19 North, Range 8 West, Seward Meridian
- 11 Section 19: W1/2, W1/2E1/2
- 12 Section 29: W1/2W1/2
- 13 Section 30
- 14 Section 31: E1/2, E1/2W1/2
- 15 Section 32
- 16 (F) Township 19 North, Range 9 West, Seward Meridian
- 17 Sections 3 - 4
- 18 Sections 9 - 10
- 19 Section 13: S1/2
- 20 Section 14: S1/2
- 21 Sections 15 - 16
- 22 Section 22: N1/2
- 23 Section 23: N1/2
- 24 Section 24
- 25 (3) Lake Creek State Recreation River
- 26 (A) Township 21 North, Range 9 West, Seward Meridian
- 27 Section 3
- 28 Section 4: Excluding Tracts A, B, C and D
- 29 Section 9: N1/2 Excluding Tracts A and B

1 Section 10

2 Section 15

3 (B) Township 22 North, Range 9 West, Seward Meridian

4 Section 4: NW1/4, S1/2

5 Section 5: N1/2, E1/2SE1/4

6 Section 9: N1/2, SE1/4, E1/2SW1/4

7 Section 10: W1/2SW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4

8 Section 15: W1/2

9 Section 16: E1/2, E1/2W1/2

10 Section 21: E1/2

11 Section 22: W1/2

12 Section 27: W1/2

13 Section 28: E1/2

14 Section 34

15 (C) Township 23 North, Range 9 West, Seward Meridian

16 Section 3: W1/2W1/2

17 Section 4

18 Section 5: E1/2, E1/2SW1/4

19 Section 7: SE1/4, SE1/4NE1/4, E1/2SW1/4

20 Section 8: S1/2, NE1/4, S1/2NW1/4, NE1/4NW1/4

21 Section 9: N1/2NW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4, NW1/4SW1/4

22 Section 17: W1/2, W1/2E1/2

23 Section 18: E1/2

24 Section 19: N1/2, SE1/4, E1/2SW1/4

25 Section 20: W1/2, SE1/4, S1/2NE1/4, NW1/4NE1/4

26 Section 29

27 Section 30: NE1/4, E1/2NW1/4, NE1/4SW1/4, SE1/4

28 Section 32

29 Section 33: S1/2SW1/4, NW1/4SW1/4

- 1 (D) Township 24 North, Range 9 West, Seward Meridian
2 Section 28: S1/2SW1/4, SW1/4SE1/4
3 Section 29: NW1/4, S1/2
4 Section 30
5 Section 31: N1/2
6 Section 32: NW1/4, E1/2
7 Section 33
8 Section 34: SW1/4SW1/4
9 (E) Township 24 North, Range 10 West, Seward Meridian
10 Section 3
11 Section 4: E1/2
12 Section 10
13 Section 11: W1/2, W1/2SE1/4, SW1/4NE1/4
14 Section 13: W1/2W1/2
15 Section 14
16 Section 15: NE1/4
17 Section 23: N1/2, SE1/4
18 Section 24: W1/2, S1/2SE1/4, NW1/4SE1/4
19 Section 25
20 Section 36: NE1/4, E1/2NW1/4
21 (F) Township 25 North, Range 10 West, Seward Meridian
22 Sections 6 - 7
23 Section 8: S1/2, NW1/4
24 Section 16: W1/2
25 Section 17
26 Section 18: E1/2
27 Section 20: SE1/4, N1/2
28 Section 21
29 Section 22: W1/2

- 1 Section 25: SW1/4
2 Section 26: S1/2
3 Section 27
4 Section 28: E1/2, NW1/4
5 Sections 34 - 35
6 Section 36: W1/2
7 (G) Township 25 North, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian
8 Section 1: E1/2
9 (H) Township 26 North, Range 10 West, Seward Meridian
10 Section 31
11 (I) Township 26 North, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian
12 Sections 3 - 4
13 Section 9: E1/2
14 Section 10
15 Section 14: W1/2
16 Section 15
17 Section 22: E1/2, E1/2NW1/4
18 Section 23
19 Section 25: S1/2, NW1/4
20 Section 26
21 Section 27: NE1/4
22 Section 35: NE1/4
23 Section 36
24 (J) Township 27 North, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian
25 Section 6: SW1/4
26 Section 7
27 Section 8: SW1/4
28 Sections 17 - 18
29 Section 19: N1/2, SE1/4

- 1 Section 20
- 2 Section 21: SW1/4
- 3 Sections 28 - 29
- 4 Section 30: NE1/4
- 5 Section 32: E1/2
- 6 Section 33
- 7 Section 34: W1/2
- 8 (K) Township 27 North, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian
- 9 Sections 1 - 3
- 10 Section 10: N1/2, SE1/4
- 11 Sections 11 - 14
- 12 Section 15: NE1/4
- 13 Section 23: NE1/4
- 14 Section 24: N1/2
- 15 (L) Township 28 North, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian
- 16 Sections 1 - 5
- 17 Sections 8 - 12
- 18 Sections 13 - 17
- 19 Sections 21 - 24
- 20 Sections 25 - 28
- 21 Sections 33 - 36
- 22 (4) Kroto Creek and Moose Creek State Recreation River
- 23 (A) Township 19 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian
- 24 Section 2: SW1/4
- 25 Section 3
- 26 Section 10: E1/2
- 27 Section 11
- 28 Section 14
- 29 Section 15: E1/2E1/2

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Section 22: E1/2E1/2

Section 23

Section 25: that portion west of the eastern-
most bank of the Susitna River

Section 26

Section 27: E1/2E1/2

Section 34: NE1/4NE1/4

Section 35

Section 36: that portion west of the eastern-
most bank of the Susitna River

(B) Township 20 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian

Section 4

Section 5: E1/2

Section 8: NE1/4, E1/2SE1/4

Section 9

Section 15: W1/2

Section 16

Section 21: E1/2, N1/2NW1/4, SE1/4NW1/4

Section 22: NW1/4, S1/2

Section 27

Section 34

(C) Township 21 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian

Section 3

Section 9: E1/2SE1/4, SE1/4NE1/4

Section 10

Section 15: W1/2, W1/2NE1/4

Section 16

Section 20: E1/2

Section 21

1 Section 28

2 Section 29: E1/2

3 Section 32: E1/2E1/2, NW1/4NE1/4

4 Section 33

5 Section 34: SW1/4

6 (D) Township 22 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian

7 Sections 4 - 5

8 Section 6: E1/2, E1/2W1/2

9 Sections 7 - 9

10 Sections 16 - 18

11 Sections 20 - 21

12 Section 27

13 Section 28: N1/2, SE1/4, E1/2SW1/4

14 Section 29: E1/2NE1/4

15 Section 33: N1/2NE1/4, SE1/4NE1/4

16 Section 34

17 (E) Township 23 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian

18 Section 4

19 Section 7: W1/2

20 Section 9

21 Section 16

22 Section 17: SW1/4SW1/4

23 Sections 18 - 19

24 Section 20: W1/2NW1/4

25 Section 21

26 Section 28

27 Sections 30 - 31

28 Section 32: S1/2

29 Section 33

1 (F) Township 23 North, Range 7 West, Seward Meridian

2 Section 1

3 Section 2: E1/2

4 Sections 12 - 13

5 Section 24

6 Section 25: N1/2, SE1/4

7 Section 36: N1/2NE1/4

8 (G) Township 24 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian

9 Section 4: W1/2

10 Section 5

11 Section 6: NE1/4, E1/2SE1/4

12 Section 8: N1/2, SE1/4, E1/2SW1/4

13 Section 9

14 Section 15: SW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4

15 Section 16

16 Section 17: NE1/4, N1/2SE1/4

17 Section 21: E1/2, SE1/4SW1/4

18 Section 22: NW1/4, N1/2SW1/4, SW1/4SW1/4

19 Section 28: E1/2W1/2, E1/2

20 Section 33

21 (H) Township 24 North, Range 7 West, Seward Meridian

22 Section 6: S1/2, NW1/4

23 Section 7

24 Section 8: S1/2SW1/4

25 Section 16: W1/2, W1/2E1/2

26 Section 17

27 Section 18: N1/2N1/2, SE1/4NW1/4, S1/2NE1/4,

28 N1/2SE1/4, SE1/4SE1/4

29 Section 19: NE1/4NE1/4

1 Section 20: N1/2

2 Section 21: W1/2, SE1/4, W1/2NE1/4

3 Section 27

4 Section 28: E1/2

5 Section 33: NE1/4NE1/4

6 Section 34: E1/2, E1/2W1/2, NW1/4NW1/4

7 Section 35: W1/2, SE1/4, S1/2NE1/4

8 Section 36: SW1/4

9 (I) Township 24 North, Range 8 West, Seward Meridian

10 Section 1: E1/2

11 Section 12: NE1/4, E1/2SE1/4

12 Section 13: NE1/4NE1/4

13 (J) Township 25 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian

14 Section 5

15 Section 8

16 Section 17

17 Section 18: SE1/4

18 Section 19: E1/2, E1/2W1/2

19 Section 20: W1/2W1/2

20 Section 29: W1/2W1/2

21 Section 30: E1/2, E1/2W1/2

22 Section 31: E1/2

23 Section 32: W1/2W1/2, SE1/4SW1/4

24 (K) Township 25 North, Range 7 West, Seward Meridian

25 Section 5

26 Section 6: SE1/4, S1/2NE1/4

27 Section 7: E1/2, SW1/4, E1/2NW1/4

28 Section 8: NW1/4, W1/2SW1/4

29 Sections 18 - 19

Sections 30 - 31

(L) Township 25 North, Range 8 West, Seward Meridian

Section 13: E1/2 SE1/4

Section 24: E1/2NE1/4

(M) Township 26 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian

Section 5

Section 8

Section 17: N1/2, SE1/4, N1/2SW1/4, SE1/4SW1/4

Section 19: SE1/4

Section 20: E1/2, SW1/4, S1/2NW1/4, NE1/4NW1/4

Section 29: E1/2, NW1/4

Section 30: S1/2, NE1/4, SE1/4NW1/4

Section 31: E1/2NE1/4, that portion of NW1/4-NE1/4 within retained easement (50' each side of MHWM)

Section 32: lands within 150' of MHWM

(N) Township 26 North, Range 7 West, Seward Meridian

Section 4: W1/2

Section 5: E1/2, S1/2SW1/4

Section 7: SE1/4

Section 8

Section 9: NW1/4, N1/2SW1/4

Section 17

Section 18: E1/2

Section 19

Section 20: W1/2

Section 29: S1/2, NW1/4

Section 30

Section 31: NE1/4

1 Section 32

2 (O) Township 27 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian

3 Section 4

4 Section 5: E1/2

5 Section 8: E1/2

6 Section 9

7 Section 16

8 Section 17: E1/2

9 Section 20: E1/2

10 Section 21

11 Section 28: W1/2

12 Section 29: E1/2

13 Section 32: E1/2

14 Section 33: W1/2

15 (P) Township 27 North, Range 7 West, Seward Meridian

16 Section 7

17 Section 8: S1/2, NW1/4

18 Section 9: W1/2

19 Section 16

20 Section 17: N1/2, SE1/4

21 Section 20: E1/2

22 Section 21

23 Section 28: N1/2, SW1/4

24 Section 29: E1/2

25 Section 32: E1/2

26 Section 33: W1/2

27 (Q) Township 27 North, Range 8 West, Seward Meridian

28 Section 12: NE1/4

29 (R) Township 28 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian

1 Section 32: S1/2SE1/4

2 Section 33: S1/2S1/2

3 (5) Talkeetna State Recreation River

4 (A) Township 26 North, Range 3 West, Seward Meridian

5 Section 1

6 Section 2

7 Sections 3 - 6: excluding ASLS 81-196, ASLS
8 80-94, ASLS 80-84

9 (B) Township 27 North, Range 2 West, Seward Meridian

10 Section 2: SW1/4

11 Section 3: S1/2

12 Section 4: S1/2

13 Section 5: SE1/4, E1/2SW1/4

14 Section 7: SE1/4

15 Sections 8 - 12

16 Section 13: N1/2

17 Section 14: N1/2NE1/4

18 Section 17

19 Section 18: E1/2, SW1/4

20 Section 19

21 Section 20: N1/2, SW1/4

22 Section 30: W1/2

23 (C) Township 27 North, Range 3 West, Seward Meridian

24 Section 24: E1/2

25 Section 25

26 Section 26: SE1/4

27 Section 31: S1/2

28 Section 32: S1/2 exclusive of ASLS 79-149

29 Section 33: S1/2S1/2 exclusive of ASLS 79-149

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Section 34: S1/2S1/2 exclusive of ASLS 79-149
and ASLS 76-138

Sections 35 - 36

(D) Township 27 North, Range 4 West, Seward Meridian

Section 36: S1/2SE1/4 exclusive of ASLS 74-78
and ASLS 74-77

(6) Little Susitna State Recreation River: the water column of the main stream of the Little Susitna River from mean high water mark to mean high water mark, from the point at which the river crosses the section line dividing Sections 23 and 26 in Township 19 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian downstream to the point at which the river crosses the section line between Sections 15 and 22 in Township 16 North, Range 5 West, Seward Meridian; the water column of Lake Creek from mean high water mark to mean high water mark, from the point at which the creek crosses the section line dividing Sections 10 and 11, Township 18 North, Range 4 West, Seward Meridian downstream to the confluence with the Little Susitna River; and

(A) Township 16 North, Range 5 West, Seward Meridian

Section 3

Section 4: NE1/4NE1/4

Section 10: E1/2, E1/2W1/2

Section 15: E1/2, E1/2W1/2

(B) Township 17 North, Range 5 West, Seward Meridian

Section 12

Section 13

Section 14

Section 15

Section 21: NW1/4NE1/4, N1/2NW1/4

Section 22

- 1 Section 23: N1/2N1/2, SW1/4NW1/4, W1/2SW1/4
 2 Section 26: W1/2W1/2
 3 Section 27
 4 Section 34
 5 (C) Township 18 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian
 6 Section 8: NW1/4, SW1/4NE1/4, S1/2NW1/4NE1/4
 7 (D) Township 18 North, Range 1 West, Seward Meridian
 8 Section 15: N1/2NW1/4
 9 Section 16: NW1/4, N1/2NE1/4, SE1/4NE1/4
 10 (E) Township 18 North, Range 2 West, Seward Meridian
 11 Section 15: NW1/4, N1/2NE1/4, NW1/4SW1/4
 12 Section 16: S1/2
 13 Section 17: S1/2
 14 Section 19: NW1/4, W1/2NE1/4, E1/2SW1/4.
 15 (F) Township 18 North, Range 3 West, Seward Meridian
 16 Section 19
 17 Section 20: SW1/4, W1/2SE1/4, SE1/4NW1/4,
 18 W1/2NW1/4
 19 Section 30: NE1/4, SW1/4NW1/4, NW1/4SW1/4
 20 (G) Township 18 North, Range 4 West, Seward Meridian
 21 Section 11: SW1/4, SW1/4SE1/4, SW1/4NW1/4
 22 Section 13: S1/2, SW1/4NW1/4
 23 Section 14
 24 Section 24
 25 Section 25: N1/2
 26 Section 26
 27 Section 27: S1/2
 28 Section 33: S1/2, S1/2NE1/4
 29 Section 34

1 Section 35: NW1/4, W1/2NE1/4

2 ARTICLE 4. GENERAL PROVISIONS.

3 Sec. 41.23.900. DEFINITION. In this chapter, "commissioner"
4 means the commissioner of natural resources.

5 * Sec. 2. Until a management plan has been adopted for a recreation
6 river corridor under AS 41.23.220(a) as enacted in sec. 1 of this Act,
7 interim management shall be consistent with AS 41.23.200. The commissioner
8 of natural resources shall adopt management plans for the three most exten-
9 sively used rivers by July 1, 1989.

10 * Sec. 3. This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).
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Original sponsors: Cotten, Pourchot,
Rieger, et al.

CHANGES TO
CSHB 93 (FIN) am
are underlined

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IN THE HOUSE

BY THE COMMUNITY AND
REGIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 93 (C&RA)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

A BILL

For an Act entitled: "An Act establishing six recreation rivers; and providing for an effective date."

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

* Section 1. FINDINGS AND INTENT. The legislature finds that the special values and uses of certain river corridors in Southcentral Alaska justify their retention for public use. The river corridors can support many public uses, including some that will enhance the local economy as well as improve access to retained public land. The designation of these corridors as recreation rivers recognizes the value of the described land and is not intended to become an undue impediment to the use and enjoyment of adjacent land or to the development of access within, across, and around the rivers. The legislature is particularly concerned that an owner of private property be assured customary and reasonable access to an inholding. Any regulation of boating under the existing authority of the commissioner should occur under the management plan, with full involvement of interested users and in an accessible public process.

* Sec. 2. AS 41.23 is amended by adding new sections to read:

ARTICLE 3. RECREATION RIVERS.

Sec. 41.23.200. PURPOSES. The purpose of AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.-300 is to establish as recreation rivers the land and water now owned by the state and the land and water acquired in the future by the state that lies within the boundaries described in AS 41.23.300(b). The primary purposes for the establishment of the recreation rivers are

1 (1) the management, protection, and maintenance of the fish
2 and wildlife populations and habitat on a sustained-yield basis;

3 (2) conservation of the scenic and natural integrity of the
4 recreation river corridor and continued recreational and economic use
5 and enjoyment by the public including hunting, fishing, trapping,
6 camping, boating, hiking, snowmachining, skiing, dog mushing, and
7 wildlife viewing;

8 (3) management of upland activities within the recreation
9 river corridor for the protection and maintenance of water quality and
10 stream flow; and

11 (4) accommodation of access for recreation, tourism, and
12 other compatible recreation-oriented economic uses of the river corri-
13 dor.

14 Sec. 41.23.210. COMPATIBLE ACTIVITIES. (a) The commissioner
15 shall allow the following activities within a recreation river corri-
16 dor when they are compatible with AS 41.23.200 and consistent with a
17 management plan adopted under AS 41.23.240:

18 (1) the use of aircraft, powerboats, snowmachines, all-
19 terrain vehicles, and other motorized transportation;

20 (2) the harvest of wood products;

21 (3) sand and gravel extraction for public use; and

22 (4) the construction and operation of recreational facil-
23 ities.

24 (b) In addition to the activities identified in (a) of this
25 section, the commissioner may allow other activities within a recre-
26 ation river corridor when they are compatible with AS 41.23.200 and
27 consistent with a management plan adopted under AS 41.23.240.

28 (c) The commissioner shall allow the continuation of commercial
29 or private activities occurring on the effective date of this Act

1 under a valid permit for use of state-owned land within the boundaries
2 of a recreation river corridor so long as the commissioner determines
3 that the activity is compatible with AS 41.23.200. When considering
4 the revocation or nonrenewal of an existing permit, the commissioner
5 shall make available for public comment, on request, a preliminary
6 finding and, if appropriate, may hold a public hearing in the commu-
7 nities near the recreation river corridor before determining whether
8 the activity is compatible with AS 41.23.200.

9 Sec. 41.23.220. GENERAL MANAGEMENT OF RECREATION RIVER CORRI-
10 DORS. (a) The state-owned land and water within the area established
11 as a recreation river corridor under AS 41.23.300(b) is assigned to
12 the commissioner for management consistent with the purposes of
13 AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.300.

14 (b) The commissioner shall reserve to the state under AS 46.15.-
15 145 an instream flow or level for the water in the rivers described in
16 AS 41.23.300(b) that is adequate to achieve the purposes of AS 41.23.-
17 200.

18 (c) The provisions of AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.300 do not affect the
19 authority of

20 (1) the Department of Fish and Game, the Board of Fisher-
21 ies, the Board of Game, or the Guide Licensing and Control Board under
22 AS 08.54, AS 16, or AS 41.99.010;

23 (2) the Department of Environmental Conservation under
24 AS 46.03; or

25 (3) state agencies and municipalities under AS 44.19.145-
26 (a)(11) and AS 46.40.100.

27 (d) The commissioner may not restrict the use of weapons, in-
28 cluding firearms, within a recreation river corridor except in sites
29 of high public use such as picnic areas, boat ramps, camping grounds,

1 and parking areas when the commissioner determines that the use of
2 weapons constitutes a threat to public safety. Except as provided in
3 this subsection, the commissioner may not restrict fishing, hunting,
4 or trapping within a recreation river corridor.

5 (e) The commissioner may not regulate under AS 41.23.200 -
6 41.23.300 an activity that occurs on a river that has not been desig-
7 nated as a recreational river under AS 41.23.300(b). Where the water
8 of a river that has been designated under AS 41.23.300(b) flows into
9 the water of a larger river that has not been designated under AS 41.-
10 23.300(b), the authority of the commissioner under AS 41.23.200 -
11 41.23.300 ceases where the water joins the larger river and the com-
12 missioner may not regulate activities on the larger undesignated river
13 under AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.300.

14 Sec. 41.23.230. ADVISORY BOARD. (a) An eleven-member Recre-
15 ation Rivers Advisory Board is established and shall be appointed by
16 the governor. Board members serve without compensation but are enti-
17 tled to per diem and travel expenses authorized by law for boards and
18 commissions under AS 39.20.180. The governor shall appoint members
19 representing the following user groups:

- 20 (1) commercial fishing;
- 21 (2) sport fishing;
- 22 (3) sport hunting;
- 23 (4) conservation;
- 24 (5) resource development;
- 25 (6) powerboat users;
- 26 (7) recreationally-oriented commercial users; and
- 27 (8) other recreational users.

28 (b) The commissioner shall consult with the advisory board in
29 preparing, adopting, and revising the recreation river management plan

1 and regulations affecting use and management of the recreation rivers,

2 Sec. 41.23.240. MANAGEMENT PLAN. (a) The commissioner, in
3 consultation with representatives of affected municipalities, shall
4 prepare and adopt a management plan for each recreation river corri-
5 dor. In preparing the plan, the commissioner and each affected munic-
6 ipality shall consult with the public, the advisory board established
7 under AS 41.23.230, and state agencies, including the commissioner of
8 fish and game. In preparation of the plan, the commissioner shall
9 comply with the notice requirements of AS 38.05.945 and provide
10 written notice by first-class mail to private property owners in the
11 recreation river corridors and shall hold at least two public hearings
12 in municipalities and communities near the recreation river corridor.
13 The management plan shall establish long-range guidelines and manage-
14 ment practices consistent with AS 41.23.200 so

15 (1) protect, maintain, or enhance the fish and wildlife
16 habitat and the free-flowing nature of the river;

17 (2) identify special recreational values and manage the
18 level of intensity and types of recreational uses;

19 (3) designate compatible land uses and management guide-
20 lines for associated development;

21 (4) manage commercial activities or development, including
22 recreational services such as guiding;

23 (5) provide for necessary public services, such as trans-
24 portation and utility corridors, public safety, and law enforcement;

25 (6) allow reasonable and necessary access to public land
26 and private inholdings, including municipal land that is offered for
27 sale or lease, and to land beyond the recreation river corridor;

28 (7) establish criteria and timelines to review future
29 proposed uses for compatibility with AS 41.23.200;

1 (8) establish guidelines and setback restrictions for an
2 activity occurring under AS 41.23.210, including mining leasing and
3 oil and gas leasing under AS 41.23.270(b) - (d).

4 (b) The commissioner shall adopt regulations necessary to imple-
5 ment the management plan. The commissioner may not adopt regulations
6 before a management plan is adopted.

7 (c) A management plan adopted by the commissioner under (a) of
8 this section shall be submitted to the legislature for review within
9 the first 10 days of the first regular session of the legislature to
10 convene after its adoption by the commissioner.

11 Sec. 41.23.250. MANAGEMENT OF MUNICIPAL LAND. If a municipality
12 commits land for inclusion in a recreation river corridor established
13 under AS 41.23.300(b), the commissioner shall obtain the concurrence
14 of the municipality to the management plan proposed under AS 41.23.240
15 as it applies to municipal land. The commissioner shall cooperate, at
16 the request of a municipality, in planning for municipal land adjacent
17 to a recreation river corridor.

18 Sec. 41.23.260. ACQUISITION OF ADDITIONAL LAND. (a) The com-
19 missioner may acquire in the name of the state land that is adjacent
20 to or located within the land described in AS 41.23.300(b) by pur-
21 chase, lease, gift, or exchange for inclusion within a recreation
22 river corridor.

23 (b) The commissioner may not acquire land for inclusion in a
24 recreation river corridor by eminent domain.

25 Sec. 41.23.270. APPLICATION OF PUBLIC LAND LAWS. (a) Except to
26 the extent that a provision is inconsistent with a provision of
27 AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.300, the provisions of AS 38.04, AS 38.05,
28 AS 38.35, and AS 38.95 apply to land described in AS 41.23.300(b).

29 (b) Except for land within the Talkeetna State Recreation River

1 north and east of Iron Creek, the state-owned land and water within a
2 recreation river corridor described in AS 41.23.300(b) is closed to
3 mineral entry by location under AS 38.05.195 and to disposal of leas-
4 able minerals under AS 38.05.150 - 38.05.175.

5 (c) Except on state-owned land below ordinary high-water or mean
6 high tide, the commissioner may, upon a mineral discovery validated by
7 the commissioner, permit mining leasing under AS 38.05.205 in an area
8 within a recreation river corridor if leasing is allowed under a
9 management plan that has been adopted by the commissioner. The com-
10 missioner shall establish appropriate conditions for permits, operat-
11 ing plans, and leases to protect the environment and prevent degrada-
12 tion of the recreational uses of the river.

13 (d) The state-owned land and water within a recreation river
14 corridor is available for oil and gas leasing subject to conditions in
15 an adopted management plan.

16 (e) To enhance public use and enjoyment of a recreation river
17 corridor under a management plan adopted under AS 41.23.240, the
18 commissioner may provide for the construction and operation of commer-
19 cial facilities such as lodges, campgrounds, and boat launches by

20 (1) leasing land including competitive leasing to a pre-
21 qualified bidder under AS 38.05.070; and

22 (2) contracting for the construction and operation of a
23 facility under AS 36.30.

24 (f) The commissioner of administration shall separately account
25 for funds collected under this section and deposited in the general
26 fund. The annual estimated balance in the account may be appropriated
27 by the legislature to the department to carry out the purposes of this
28 chapter.

29 Sec. 41.23.280. COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT AGREEMENTS. (a) The

1 commissioner may enter into a cooperative management agreement for the
2 management of land and water described in AS 41.23.300(b) or of other
3 adjacent land and water with a federal agency, a municipality of the
4 state, another agency of the state, or a private landowner.

5 (b) The commissioner may transfer the management of a specific
6 site within a recreation river corridor described in AS 41.23.300(b)
7 to a state agency to assist in the development of a facility or to
8 carry out a program authorized by law.

9 (c) The commissioner may not manage a recreation river corridor
10 described in AS 41.23.300(b) as a unit of the state park system. The
11 commissioner may assign management of a recreation facility or site
12 such as a campground or a boat launch to the division of parks and may
13 adopt regulations allowing the division of parks to manage recreation
14 activities in a recreation river corridor.

15 Sec. 41.23.290. ESTABLISHMENT OF RECREATION RIVER CORRIDORS.
16 State-owned land and water may be established as a recreation river
17 corridor only by the legislature.

18 Sec. 41.23.300. DESIGNATED RIVERS. (a) Subject to valid exist-
19 ing rights, the state-owned land and water within one-half mile of
20 either ordinary high water or mean high tide on a recreation river
21 designated in (b) of this section that is established as a recreation
22 river corridor under (b) of this section is reserved as a special
23 purpose area under art. VIII, sec. 7, Constitution of the State of
24 Alaska and shall be retained by the state.

25 (b) The general grant land, acquired land, and the water pres-
26 ently owned by the state and all land and water acquired by the state
27 in the future, including shore and submerged land and land redesi-
28 gnated after the effective date of this Act as general grant land, that
29 lie within the following described parcels are established as

recreation rivers and shall be managed under AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.300:

(1) Alexander Creek State Recreation River

(A) Township 16 North, Range 7 West, Seward Meridian

Sections 6 - 7

Sections 18 - 19

(B) Township 17 North, Range 7 West, Seward Meridian

Section 6: Otter Lake, Weenie Lake, and that

portion of the SW1/4 in Tract B, ASLS 81-77

Section 7: Otter Lake and Tracts F-2 and F-3 of

ASLS 79-147

Section 18: S1/2, W1/2NW1/4

Section 19

Sections 30 - 31

Section 32: W1/2

(C) Township 17 North, Range 8 West, Seward Meridian

Section 1

Section 2: E1/2, N1/2NW1/4

Section 3: N1/2N1/2

Section 4: N1/2, N1/2SE1/4

Section 11: NE1/4, E1/2SE1/4

Section 12

Section 13: E1/2, E1/2NW1/4

Section 24: NE1/4, E1/2SE1/4

(D) Township 18 North, Range 8 West, Seward Meridian

Section 4: W1/2

Section 5

Section 6: NE1/4

Section 8: N1/2, SE1/4

Section 9

PAGES 10-29

consist of legal
descriptions of
the six Rea. River
condens. These
are unchanged from
CSHB 93 (FIN) am.

1 Section 34: S1/2S1/2 exclusive of ASLS 79 - 149
2 and ASLS 76 - 138

3 Sections 35 - 36

4 (G) Township 27 North, Range 4 West, Seward Meridian

5 Section 36: S1/2SE1/4 exclusive of ASLS 74 - 77
6 and ASLS 74 - 78

7 (H) Township 27 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian

8 Section 5: NW1/4

9 Section 6

10 (I) Township 28 North, Range 1 West, Seward Meridian

11 Section 36: SE1/4SE1/4

12 (J) Township 28 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian

13 Section 2

14 Section 3: SE1/4

15 Section 9: SE1/4

16 Section 10

17 Section 11: NW1/4, W1/2NE1/4, W1/2SW1/4

18 Section 15: N1/2, SW1/4

19 Section 16: E1/2SW1/4

20 Section 20: SE1/4

21 Section 21

22 Section 22: NW1/4

23 Section 28: N1/2, SW1/4

24 Section 29: E1/2, SW1/4, SE1/4NW1/4

25 Section 31: SW1/4, E1/2

26 Section 32

27 Section 33: NW1/4

28 ARTICLE 4. GENERAL PROVISIONS.

29 Sec. 41.23.900. DEFINITION. In this chapter, "commissioner"

1 * Sec. 3. Until a management plan has been adopted for a recreation
2 river corridor under AS 41.23.240(a) as enacted in sec. 2 of this Act,
3 interim management shall be consistent with AS 41.23.200. The commissioner
4 of natural resources may not dispose of timber or other resources within a
5 recreational river corridor under AS 38.05.115 before the adoption of the
6 management plan for the recreation river corridor. The commissioner of
7 natural resources shall adopt a management plan for each river by July 1,
8 1992.

9 * Sec. 4. This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).
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Rep. Cotten
March 7, 1987

flows be reserved simply and expeditiously. Statutory language could be added here to prevent the issuance of any water permit for more than 5,000 gpd from the affected rivers until instream flow reservations have been completed. (2/12-15.)

5. AS 41.23.220(a)(8). The plan will establish guidelines and setbacks for mineral and oil and gas leasing. (4/9-10.)
6. AS 41.23.230. The commissioner must cooperate in planning for adjacent municipal lands if requested. (4/22-24.)
7. AS 41.23.250. APPLICATION OF PUBLIC LAND LAWS. This section has been amended to allow hardrock mineral leasing after planning (including the compatibility test) and with environmental/recreational protections. (5/10-17.) In the bill as introduced, all areas within one-half mile of the river were closed to any mineral entry; areas beyond one-half mile were unconditionally open to mineral entry. This section also sets some conditions for oil and gas leasing, closes riverbeds themselves to any mineral leasing, and prohibits the disposal of leasable minerals (such as coal, phosphates, geothermal, sulfur). This section establishes a program receipts funding mechanism for mineral and oil and gas revenues from the recreation rivers. If the Committee wishes to adopt a setback for mineral leasing activities in statute, this is the place.
8. AS 41.23.260(c) The commissioner may assign management of recreation sites to the Division of Parks and may adopt regulations allowing the Division of Parks to conduct recreation management in the recreation rivers. (5/7-11.)
9. Former AS 41.23.270 is gone. It set conditions for the commissioner's future recommendations for recreation rivers.
10. AS 41.23.280(b) is clarified to show that land disposals are prohibited in the recreation rivers. (5/17-19.)
11. Section Two of the bill is changed to require that three management plans be completed within two years (July 1, 1989). There is no deadline for the other plans. (26/5-9.)

Policy issues

Minerals.

- House-passed bill allowed no mineral entry last year.
- Senate Finance bill closed within half-mile of rivers.
- Susitna Area Plan recommended closure (1985).

Rep. Cotten
March 7, 1987

24 copies
Ned
110
3715

- Rivers are currently under administrative closure by DNR. This could be revoked/amended with public notice, possibly requiring revision of Susitna Area Plan.
- Mineral potential is low.
- Draft CS allows mineral leasing after planning (compatibility test), environmental/recreational protections. Mineral leasing: time limits, conditional conveyance of mineral rights after discovery, must be developable, hardrock only.
- Should mineral leasing setbacks be established statutorily?

Land disposals.

- Retention of public-use corridors is primary intent of the bill.
- Some interest groups are interested in land disposal on the rivers.
- Leasing, public facilities (campgrounds, public use cabins, lodges) are expressly allowed in the bill.
- Many Mat-Su officials have objected to past impacts of state land disposals within the Borough.
- Future legislatures would have the power to open the corridors if disposals are warranted.
- Last year the House opened the corridors to land disposal more than one-half mile from the rivers.
- Should an amendment be adopted to allow specialized land sales at the direction of future legislatures?

Boundaries.

- Chelatna Lake. Should this lake be included? It is currently relatively free of "inholdings," is one of few such lakes in the area, is a logical part of the rec rivers system (Lake Creek).
- Lower Talkeetna River. About nine miles were left out of the bill last year to exclude mental health lands. Should state lands, excluding MH lands, be designated? MH groups have in the past implied that designation of conservation units near MH lands can reduce the value of MH lands.
- Upper Talkeetna River. This area was recommended for inclusion in the original Susitna Area Plan, but was dropped because of potential mining conflicts.
- Some groups have recommended establishing corridors rather than using aliquot parts description of the rivers. This is not possible under the Legislature's current drafting standards.
- The bill could be amended to allow the commissioner,

Rep. Cotten
March 7, 1987

after planning for the rivers, the discretionary authority to add or delete small areas (within one-quarter mile, for instance) of the statutorily established boundary.

Instream flow.

- Should the bill be amended to prevent major allocations until instream flow reservations have been completed?

Compatability/regulation.

- Some interest groups are concerned that the bill does not have adequate protections allowing the commissioner to regulate incompatible activities or to weigh among uses according to the management goals in the purposes section of the bill.
- Does the compatability section need strengthening?

Fiscal note

Planning. The Department of Natural Resources has been asked to prepare a fiscal note showing the most logical way of laying out the planning for the recreation rivers. This should be available Monday morning. Although it might not comport entirely with the bill in its current draft, this information may be useful to the committee.

Instream flow. As stated above, a draft letter of intent regarding instream flow reservation is attached. The cost for the reservation can be reduced to virtually nothing, according to state agency staff. We have no more information about the possibility of using federal funds for instream flow or planning at this time.

DRAFT LETTER OF INTENT - HB 93

The Legislature intends that the Department of Natural Resources reserve instream flows for the recreation rivers as soon as practicable within budgetary limits. Instream flow reservations can in most cases be accomplished for the recreation rivers at relatively low cost using available stream data. In the future, after instream flows have been reserved and when water use conflicts seem imminent, it may be necessary to spend more money to improve the data base and refine the instream flow reservations, but at this time an intensive, expensive instream flow reservation process is not necessary.



Coastal Resource Service Area

P.O. Box 3110, Dillingham, Alaska 99576

(907) 842-2666—842-2667

March 12, 1987

Representative Cotten
Alaska State Legislature
P.O. Box V (MS 3100)
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Representative Cotten:

The Bristol Bay Coastal Resource Service Area (CRSA) Board is a publicly elected body responsible for the development and implementation of a local coastal management program.

Enclosed is a copy of Resolution #7-01 recently passed by the Board in support of the concept of HP 93. With the promotion of tourism and increasing recreational demand by various users, the Board feels it is important that commercial recreation and related development be properly managed so as to protect the very values that sustain this rapidly growing industry. This is an important issue presently facing the Bristol Bay region and one the CRSA Board is also attempting to address. Although HP 93 does not specifically include any waterbodies in Bristol Bay, it represents an important step towards recognizing careful planning and comprehensive management of important recreational river systems is necessary for compatible and longterm economic development.

The Bristol Bay CRSA Board appreciates your consideration of the attached resolution.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eusan Flensburg".

Eusan Flensburg
Planner
Bristol Bay CRSA

Encl:

cc: House Resources Committee Members

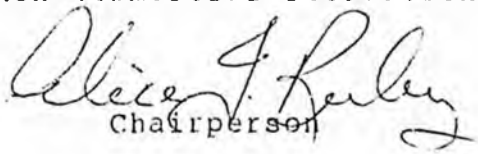
BRISTOL BAY COASTAL RESOURCE SERVICE AREA
P.O. Box 289
Dillingham, Alaska 99576

Resolution 87-01

- WHEREAS Heavily-used river systems and other waterbodies throughout the state, noted for their high recreational values, continue to experience increased pressure from local, state, national and international users for a variety of recreational pursuits; and
- WHEREAS Recreation contributes significantly to the states overall economy and will play an increasing role in economic development planning for local and regional areas; and
- WHEREAS There is a need to respond to the growing recreational demand by both the general public and private sector; and
- WHEREAS Comprehensive management of recreational uses and associated development is necessary to protect fish and wildlife populations and habitat upon which recreation and other existing economic uses depend; and
- WHEREAS An accepted strategy for recreation management planning and development is needed to address both these economic and environmental issues; and
- WHEREAS HB 93; as currently written, would provide a legal framework for designating recreation rivers and general guidelines for comprehensive management of a river system once designated; and
- WHEREAS HB 93, as currently written, places a primary emphasis on the protection of fish and game populations, maintenance of habitat and water quality for multiple uses sustained by these resources;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Bristol Bay Coastal Resource Service Area (CRSA) Board supports the concept of HB 93 as long as the focus of this proposed legislation remains on addressing the resource conservation needs and compatible economic development uses associated with commercial and non-commercial recreation.

SIGNED:


Chairperson

REPRESENTATIVE
SAM COTTEN
DISTRICT 15



P.O. BOX 296, EAGLE RIVER, AK 99577
P.O. BOX V, JUNEAU, AK 99811

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Rep. Al Adams
House Finance Committee members
FROM: Rep. Sam Cotten *Sc*
SUBJECT: HB 93, Recreation Rivers
DATE: April 1, 1987

The Resources Committee has considered and passed out the recreation rivers bill, HB 93, which is now before the Finance Committee for consideration.

The bill implements a high priority of the Susitna Area Plan (1985): the establishment of recreation river corridors to retain high-value public lands for public use. These lands are to be managed primarily for their recreation and habitat values, including fishing, hunting, and boating, although other compatible uses will be allowed.

The bill affects six southcentral rivers: the Talkeetna, Talachulitna, and Little Susitna Rivers, and Lake, Alexander, and Kroto-Moose Creeks. About 270,000 acres of state land are included in the bill, out of 17 million acres covered by the Susitna and Willow Subbasin Plans.

As many members will recall, this bill has had a great deal of debate in past years. In fact, the bill that I introduced earlier this year was the same one that did not quite make it out of the Senate Rules Committee last year. That bill has undergone constructive revision in the Resources Committee. Here is a summary of the major changes:

p.1/line 6. The title has been changed from "a system of" to "six" recreational rivers.

1/9. A findings section has been added to provide the legislature's intent regarding retention, use, and access in the recreation rivers.

1/19. The purposes section has been modified to reflect language in other retained land categories such as state forests, and the compatible activities language has been moved out of this section into a separate one.

2/6. The purposes have been slightly modified, including the addition of (4), accommodation of compatible recreation-oriented economic uses.

2/9. The compatible activities section has been created from a subsection of the previous purposes section, and has been changed to require consistency with the management plan. (AS 41.23.210)

2/18. Existing activities, which are compatible, are grandfathered, as in the original bill. However, the commissioner is required to find compatibility rather than incompatibility.

2/28. The deadline for instream flow reservation, which had been five years, has been removed.

3/19. The new paragraph under AS 41.23.220 provides that the commissioner shall not manage rivers at the mouths of recreation rivers under the same authority as recreation rivers. For instance, the land descriptions for the Talachulitna include some of the Skwentna River; the Skwentna would not be managed as a recreation river.

3/28. The management planning section has been slightly modified to allow for more public process.

5/23. The original bill opened to mining claims all land more than a half-mile from the rivers. The Resources CS closes the entire river corridors to mineral entry by location, except for the upper Talkeetna, which was not included in the original bill.

5/28. The commissioner may open areas to mineral leasing, with protections, if the management plan allows mining. Thus any mining activity would have to be compatible with the purposes of the bill.

6/10. The language allowing leasing has been clarified and strengthened.

7/3. Recreation and site management by the Division of Parks are allowed.

7/9. A long section regarding future recommendations by the commissioner for other recreation rivers has been dropped.

7/12. The language has been modified so that the State must retain only those lands within one-half mile of the rivers, which would allow land disposals beyond the one-half mile corridor.

7/19. Only general grant and acquired lands are designated, thus not affecting mental health lands. If mental health

lands are someday converted to general grant status, they would fall within this designation.

7/25. The legal descriptions have been revised to include all lands proposed for recreation river status by the Susitna Area Plan. Several areas had been removed last year and in the bill as introduced.

There are several major issues that have persisted on this bill and which, no doubt, will come before you. Herewith some history:

Mining

CSHB 93 (Res) allows mining leasing within the recreation rivers if permitted in a management plan, which must be compatible with the purposes of the bill. Some groups oppose the inclusion of the mining provision because it seems incompatible with the recreational designation and may lead to abuse of mining leases for residential purposes. On the other hand, the inclusion of a carefully crafted mining leasing provision makes the bill more balanced, could allow development of important resources, and might in the future allow the addition of other rivers (with higher mineral potential) without amendment of AS 41.23.200-290.

Land disposals

Some groups have advocated land disposal within the river corridors. CSHB 93 would retain all lands within one-half mile of the rivers, as envisioned in the Susitna Area Plan. Land disposal is not a compatible or appropriate activity within the recreation rivers.

Regulation

Many members have been contacted by constituents who oppose the bill because they fear overregulation of boat traffic. On the other hand, the commissioner may already have some authority to regulate boat traffic on public waters (our communication with the Attorney General's Office indicated that the commissioner's authority is not clear). Additionally it is better to prepare for the management conflicts that are bound to arise among boating users than to wait until they have become unmanageable.



Resource Development Council

for Alaska, Inc.

807 "G" Street, Suite 200, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3440
Box 100516, Anchorage, Alaska 99510-0516 - 907/276-0700

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Paula P. Easley

March 24, 1987

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Mayor Dorothy Jones and
Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly
Matanuska-Susitna Borough
Box B
Palmer, AK 99645

re: Recreational River legislation

Dear Mayor Jones and Assemblymen:

The Resource Development Council appreciates the Matanuska-Susitna Borough's interest in RDC's work on the issue of legislative designation of recreational rivers in Southcentral Alaska.

RDC supports a management regime for these river areas that emphasizes recreational use and development, but we do not support legislative designation as a means of achieving that goal. We are very concerned that legislative land designations across the state, for recreation or any other purpose, will unduly limit the authority of the Department of Natural Resources to effectively and efficiently manage state lands.

We will oppose the effort to legislatively designate these six river areas, but we will gladly support efforts to minimize use conflicts, plan for better resource management, and enhance the recreational values of these important areas. We feel that most, if not all, of the management directions found in current versions of this bill can be executed without legislative action.

Despite our opposition to the concept of a legislative designation, RDC has been working to insure that the bill is improved to the greatest extent possible. Toward that end we are working to see that five additional changes be made to draft legislation. Some of our suggestions have already been incorporated into recent proposals.

- 1) Provide clear language establishing legislative intent that reasonable, commercially-viable access to and across river corridors is not to be restricted.
- 2) Designate only interim boundaries until more detailed analysis justifies the inclusion of so much land in the corridors.

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George P. Wuerch

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Senator Ted Stevens
Senator Frank Murkowski
Congressman Don Young

Mayor Dorothy Jones
March 23, 1987
page 2

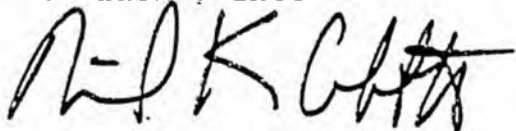
- 3) Eliminate the use of "scenic and natural" conservation as a standard for judging the acceptability of projects within corridors. We suggest the use of "recreational".
- 4) Insure that the designation will not impact non-state lands within the corridor without the approval of the public or private landowner.
- 5) Insure that the corridor designation will not negatively impact adjacent resource development efforts.

RDC recognizes that the present versions of this legislation are vast improvements over previous efforts and we appreciate the efforts of the House Resources Committee to meet our concerns. However, despite the improvements, we are convinced that this legislation is unnecessary and undesirable.

The Resource Development Council will continue to work on this issue until we feel it has been properly resolved. We would be glad to participate in any process developed by the Borough to insure that your own interests are fully protected.

Sincerely,

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
for Alaska, Inc.



Michael K. Abbott
Projects; Coordinator

cc: Commissioner Judy Brady, DNR
Senator Jan Faiks, Alaska Legislature
Representative Sam Cotten, Alaska Legislature
Ric Davidge, RDC Lands Division
Phil Holdsworth

<u>Quad</u>	<u>River or Creek</u>	<u>Total Acres</u>	
Talkeetna C-4	Lake Creek	3,680	
Talkeetna C-3	Lake Creek	7,200	
Talkeetna B-4	Lake Creek	1,600	
Talkeetna B-3	Lake Creek	2 ⁶ / ₇ , 760	
Talkeetna A-3	Lake Creek	9,240	
Talkeetna A-2	Lake Creek	10,720	
Tyonek D-3	Lake Creek	4,840	
		Subtotal: 64,040	
Talkeetna B-2	Kroto Creek	12,880	
Talkeetna A-2	Kroto Creek	7,920	
Talkeetna A-1	Kroto Creek/Moose Creek	21,520	
Tyonek D-2/D-1	Kroto Creek	17,040	
Tyonek C-1	Kroto Creek/Little Susitna	10,020	7k L. Su
Tyonek B-1	Little Susitna River	9,600	
Anchorage C-8	Little Susitna River	4,940	
Anchorage C-7	Little Susitna River	800	
Anchorage C-6	Little Susitna River	40	
Talkeetna B-1	Moose Creek	11,240	
		Subtotal: 87,360	
Talkeetna B-1	Talkeetna River	4,120	
Talkeetna Mtns. B-6	Talkeetna River	15,080	
Talkeetna Mtns. B-5	Talkeetna River	8,120	
Talkeetna Mtns. C-5	Talkeetna River	3,840	
		Subtotal: 31,760	

(over)

<u>Quad</u>	<u>River or Creek</u>	<u>Total Acres</u>
Tyonck D-3	Alexander Creek	1,920
Tyonck C-3	Alexander Creek	7,520
Tyonck C-2	Alexander Creek	11,680
Tyonck B-2	Alexander Creek	1,920
		Subtotal: 23,040
Tyonck C-5	Talachulitna River	5,120
Tyonck C-4	Talachulitna River	35,520
Tyonck C-3	Talachulitna River	2,800
Tyonck B-4	Talachulitna River	1,520
Tyonck D-4	Talachulitna River	9,280
		Subtotal: 54,240
		260,440
Total		260,440 acres

REPRESENTATIVE
SAM COTTEN
DISTRICT 15



P.O. BOX 296, EAGLE RIVER, AK 99577
P.O. BOX V, JUNEAU, AK 99811

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

M E M O R A N D U M

May 8, 1988

TO: Senators
FROM: Rep. Sam Cotten *Sam Cotten*
SUBJECT: HB 93, recreation rivers

The recreation rivers bill (SCS CSHB 93(Fin)) has several major purposes:

- * to reserve six important southcentral river corridors for their highest and best use, as identified by the Susitna Area Plan adopted by the State and the Mat-Su Borough in 1985;
- * to protect recreation opportunities and fish and wildlife habitat on the rivers;
- * to allow compatible economic activities; and
- * to provide for balanced planning of the river corridors with full public involvement.

Affected rivers and acreage: The bill designates about 260,000 acres of state-owned land in the Little Susitna, Talkeetna, Talachulitna, and Deshka Rivers, and Lake and Alexander Creeks. The retained corridors are about half a mile wide.

Need for the bill: Fish and game harvest statistics show that the corridors support tens of thousands of sportfishing and hunting days every year. The Alaska Outdoor Council, the Alaska Sportfishing Association, and the National Rifle Association strongly support the bill, considering it their highest legislative priority. In addition the bill has the support of other user groups including United Fishermen of Alaska. Use of the corridors is growing rapidly.

Economic importance: The affected state lands support numerous lodges, guiding businesses, and other tourism-related opportunities for Alaskans and visitors. Compatible economic development will be allowed. Private property rights and access are protected, and regulation of boating (allowed under existing law) must occur in the management plan. The bill provides for overland access through and within the corridors. Mining is allowed if compatible with recreation and habitat management.

Planning and management standards: The need for management planning on these overcrowded, valuable rivers is obvious. HB 93 includes thorough, practical standards for land management and planning with full public involvement. There are provisions for cooperative planning for adjacent Mat-Su Borough lands.

Departmental support: Commissioner Judy Brady and Commissioner Don Collinsworth support this legislation. Both DNR and ADF&G recognize the need to elevate planning and management of the recreation river corridors.

REPRESENTATIVE
SAM COTTEN
DISTRICT 15



P.O. BOX 296, EAGLE RIVER, AK 99577
P.O. BOX V, JUNEAU, AK 99811

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

M E M O R A N D U M

April 8, 1988

TO: Senator Jack Coghill, Chair,
Senate Resources Committee
Resources Committee members
FROM: Rep. Sam Cotten
SUBJECT: HB 93 (Recreational rivers)

The recreation rivers bill before the Senate Resources Committee has several major purposes:

- * to reserve six important Southcentral river corridors for their highest and best use, as identified in the Susitna Area Plan adopted by the State and the Mat-Su Borough in 1985;
- * to protect recreation opportunities and fish and wildlife habitat on the rivers;
- * to allow compatible economic activities; and
- * to provide for balanced planning of the river corridors with full public involvement.

Affected rivers and acreage: The bill designates about 260,000 acres of state-owned land in the Little Susitna, Talkeetna, Talachulitna, and Deshka Rivers and Lake and Alexander Creeks. The retained corridors are about half a mile wide.

Need for the bill: Fish and game harvest statistics show that the corridors support tens of thousands of prime sportfishing and moose hunting days every year. The Alaska Outdoor Council, the Alaska Sportfishing Association, and the National Rifle Association strongly support the bill and consider it a high legislative priority. Use of the corridors is growing rapidly.

Economic importance: The affected state lands support numerous lodges, guiding businesses, and other tourism-

Page two
Senator Jack Coghill

oriented opportunities for Alaskans and visitors. Compatible economic development will be allowed in the corridors. Private property rights and boating will be protected. The bill contains provisions for overland access so that adjacent lands can be used. New mining will be allowed on uplands if compatible with habitat and recreation management priorities.

Planning and management standards: The current version of HB 93 includes thorough, practical standards for land management and planning with the full public involvement. There are provisions for cooperative planning for adjacent Mat-Su Borough lands. The Department of Natural Resources supports the bill in part because it will help address the growing user conflicts on the rivers.

Timber: The Susitna Valley Association has proposed prohibiting commercial timber harvest in the recreation river corridors. In the House Resources Committee, we have heard from DNR that the recreation river corridors could be excluded from the proposed Mat-Su timber sale with very little effect on long-term timber supply. Thus the Senate Resources Committee may wish to consider language allowing personal use timber harvest only, for firewood and houselogs.

(Attachment)

ALASKA STATE SENATE

DNR

JOE P. JOSEPHSON
DISTRICT H ANCHORAGE
3111 C STREET, SUITE 550
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503
(907) 561-7611



WHILE IN JUNEAU
P.O. BOX V
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
(907) 465-4525

To: Senator Dick Eliason, Chair
Rules Committee

From: Senator Joe P. Josephson *Joe Josephson*

Re: Scheduling of HB 93 -- Recreational Rivers

Date: May 6, 1988

By this memo, I request you schedule for Senate floor action House Bill 93, the bill that would establish a system of recreational rivers.

Considerable work has gone into this bill, resulting in hours of deliberation. I believe it should be brought to the Senate floor.

Thank you for your attention to my request.

STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE

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


LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY

MEMORANDUM

April 26, 1988

SUBJECT: Six recreation rivers; amendment to
Sec. 41.23.270(b) (SCS CSHB 93(Finance))

TO: Representative Sam Cotten

FROM: Richard A. Bradley
Legislative Counsel 

The use of "only" in Sec. 41.23.270(b) seems inadequate.

Consider

(b) Except for a negotiated timber or material sale under AS 38.05.115 to provide for personal use, including house logs and firewood, for a use incidental to the construction of access, or for habitat enhancement, the commissioner may not dispose of timber or materials under AS 38.05.115 within a recreation river.

RAB:bb
b5/044

REPRESENTATIVE
SAM COTTEN
DISTRICT 15



P.O. BOX 296, EAGLE RIVER, AK 99577
P.O. BOX V, JUNEAU, AK 99811

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

M E M O R A N D U M

April 25, 1988

TO: Sen. Jack Coghill, Chair
Senate Resources Committee
FROM: Rep. Sam Cotten
SUBJECT: Technical amendment to HB 93

In its work on HB 93, the recreation rivers bill, the Senate Resources Committee concurred that commercial logging should not occur in the recreation river corridors. This was pursuant to our agreement in discussion last week.

However, the language adopted at p.7, lines 5-8, is open to the interpretation that commercial logging might be allowed to occur. To address this possible ambiguity, I am seeking your agreement to a technical amendment of the bill in the Finance Committee:

(b) The commissioner may conduct only [A] negotiated timber or material [SALE] sales, under AS 38.05.115, to provide for personal use, including house logs and firewood, or for a use incidental to the construction of access, or for habitat enhancement.

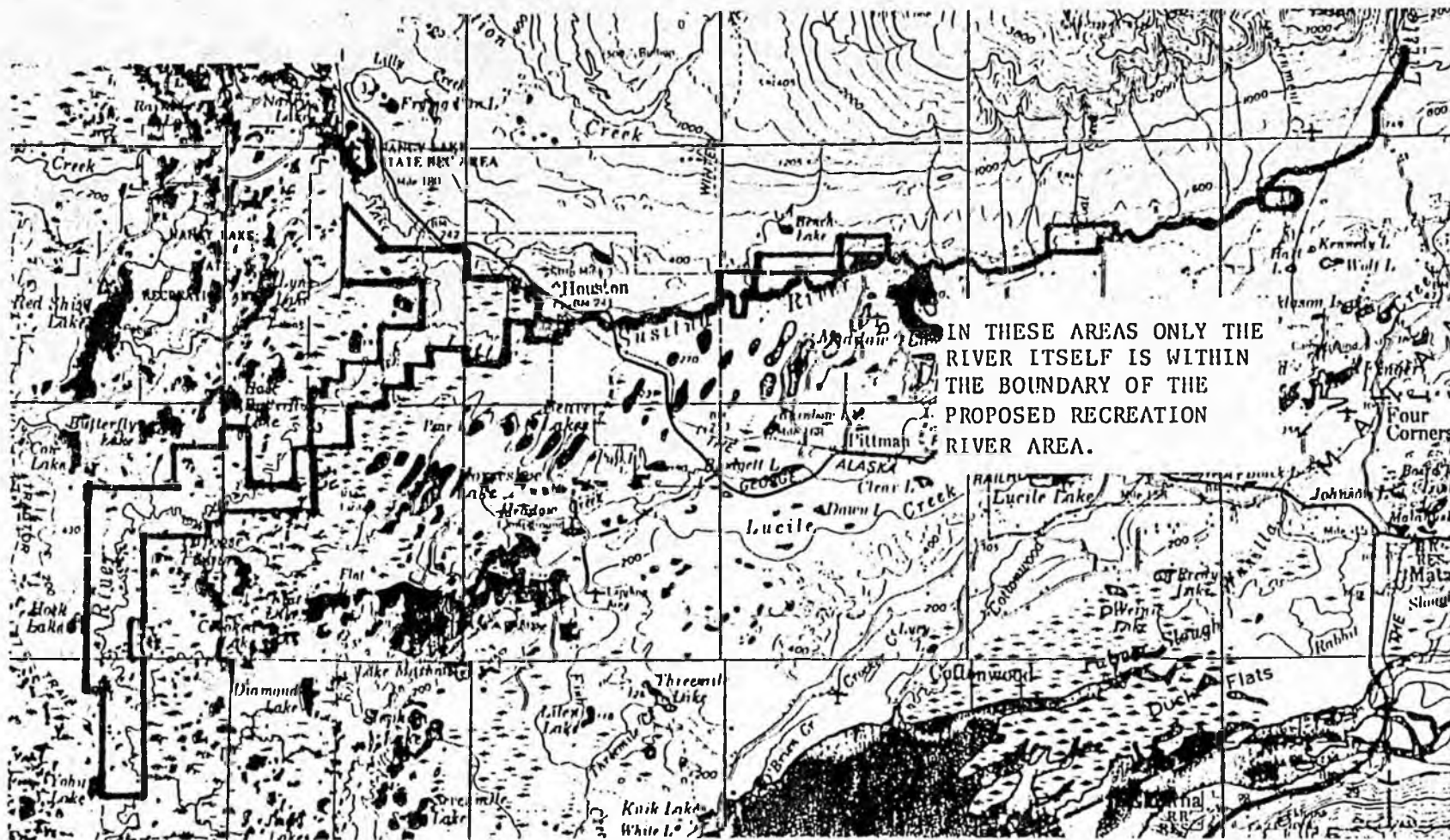
Thank you for helping out on this.

attachment

letter of intent

LITTLE SUSITNA RIVER

Proposed Recreational River Corridor



Scale 1:250,000

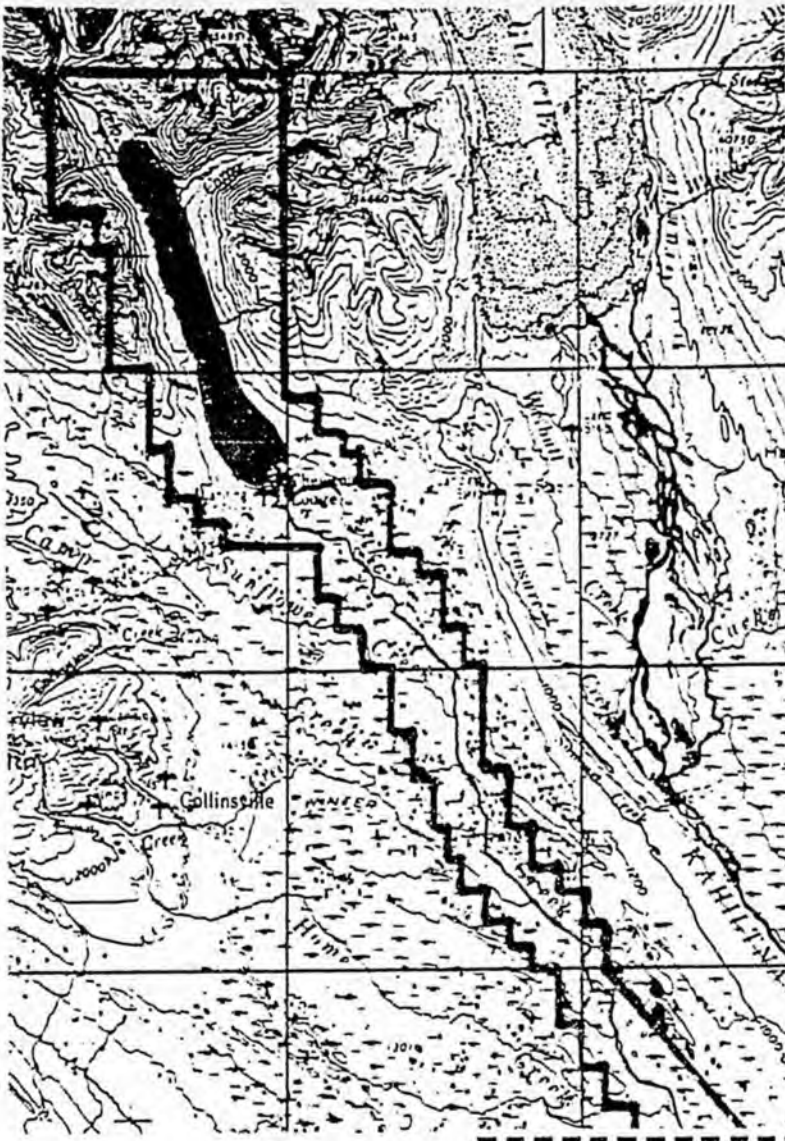


0 1 2 3 4 5 6 MILES

LAKE CREEK

Proposed Recreational River Corridor

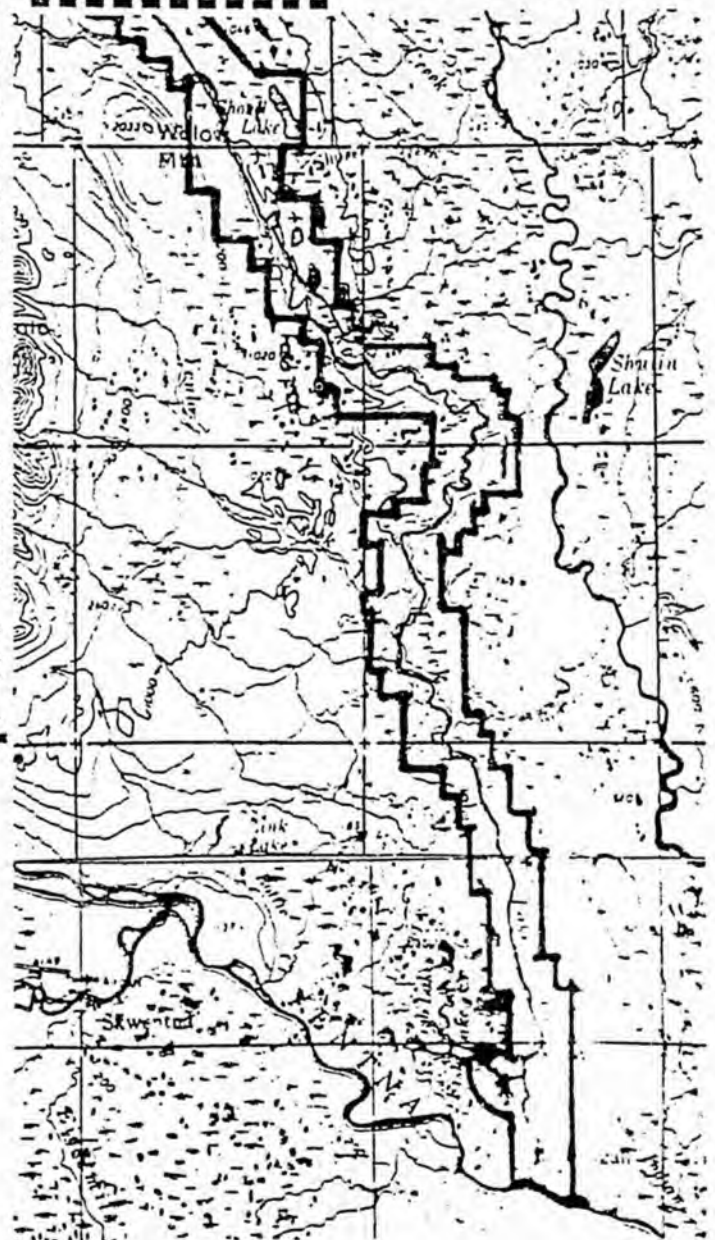
North Half



Match Line

Match Line

South Half

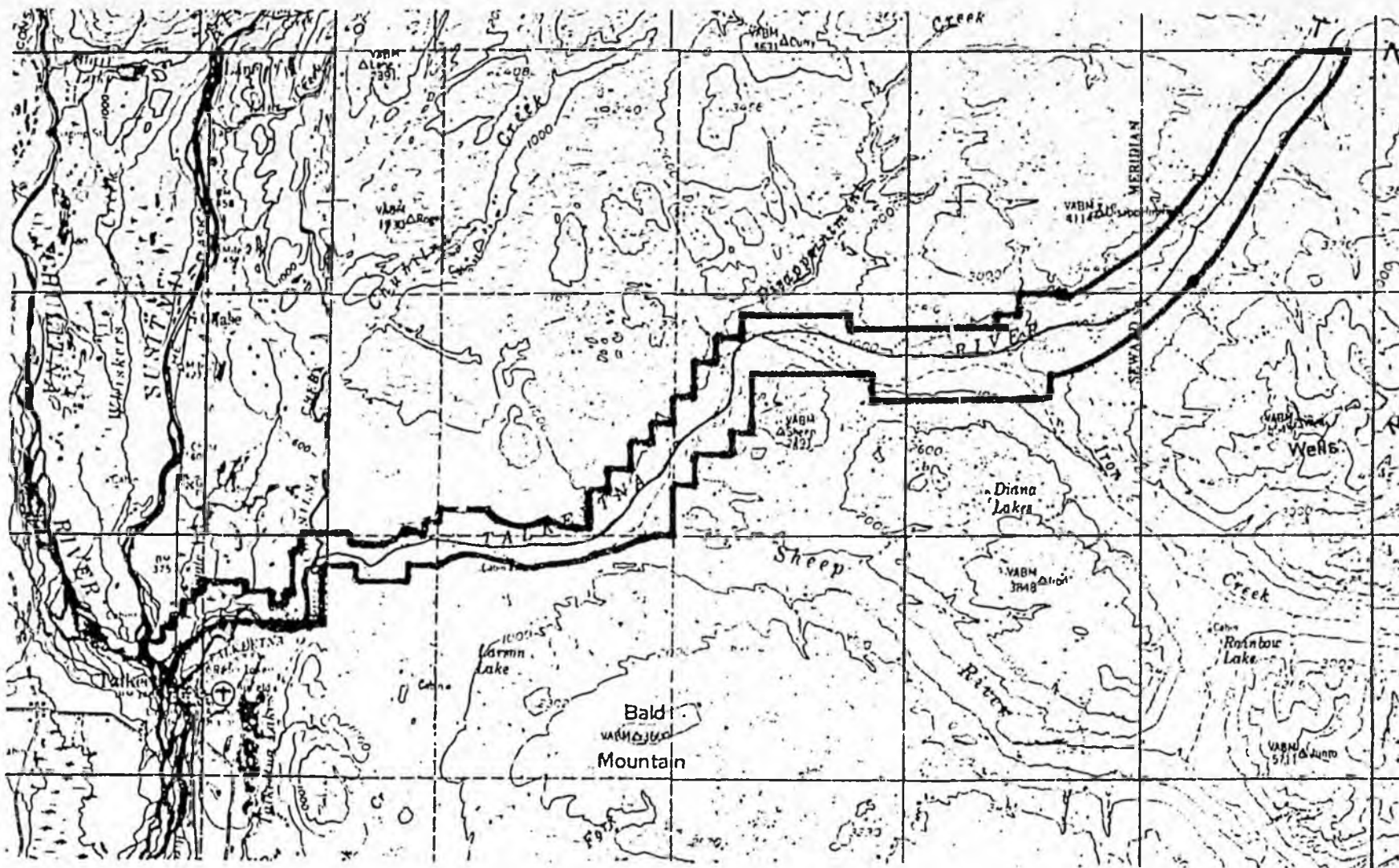


Scale 1:250,000

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 MILES

TALKEETNA RIVER

Proposed Recreational River Corridor



Scale 1:250,000

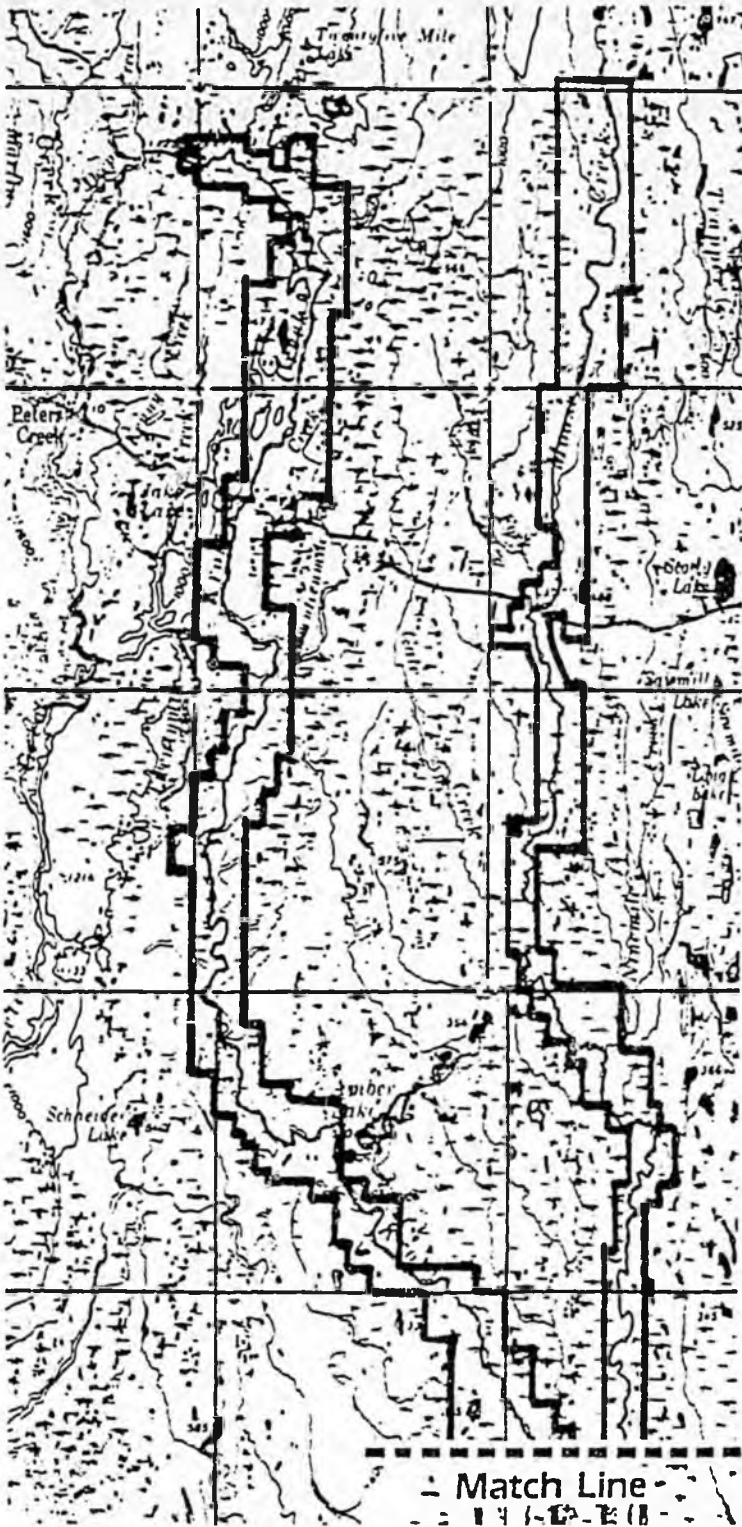


0 1 2 3 4 5 6 MILES

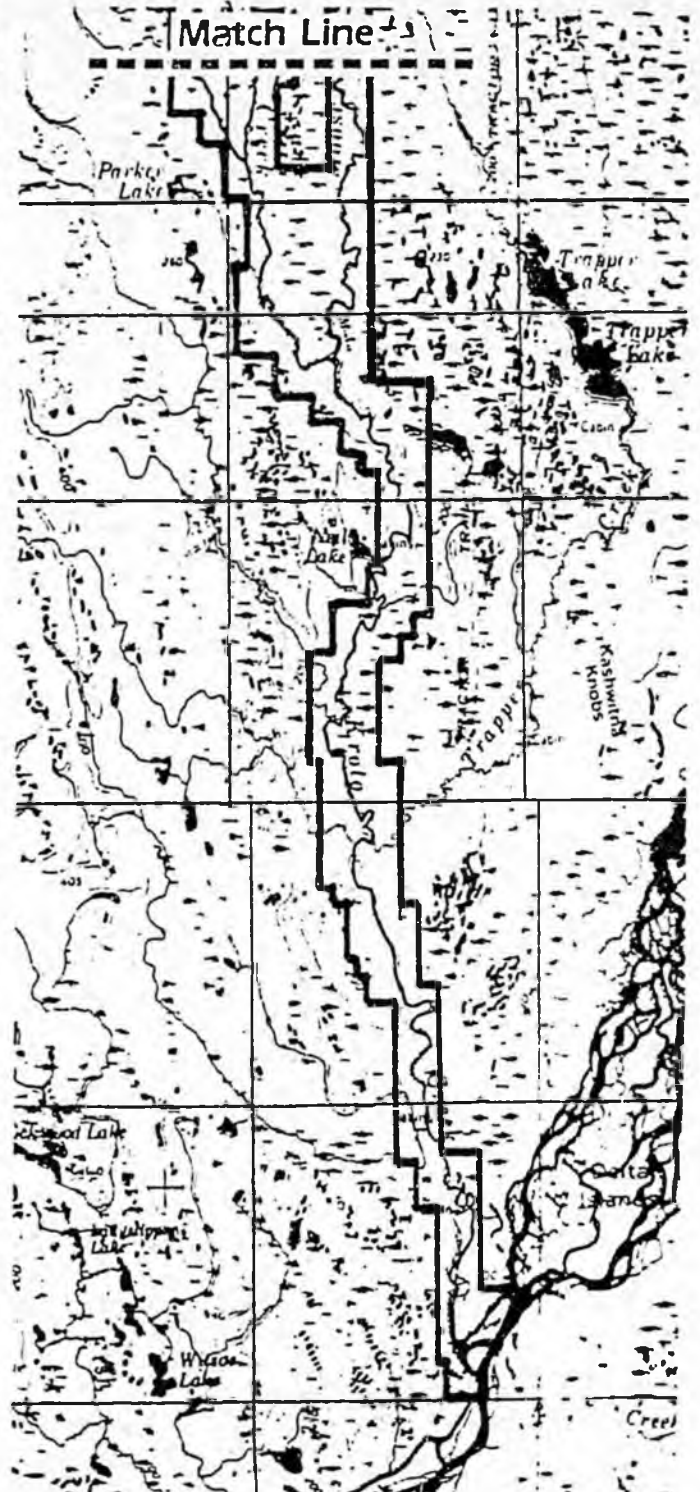
KROTO CREEK — MOOSE CREEK

Proposed Recreational River Corridor

North Half



South Half



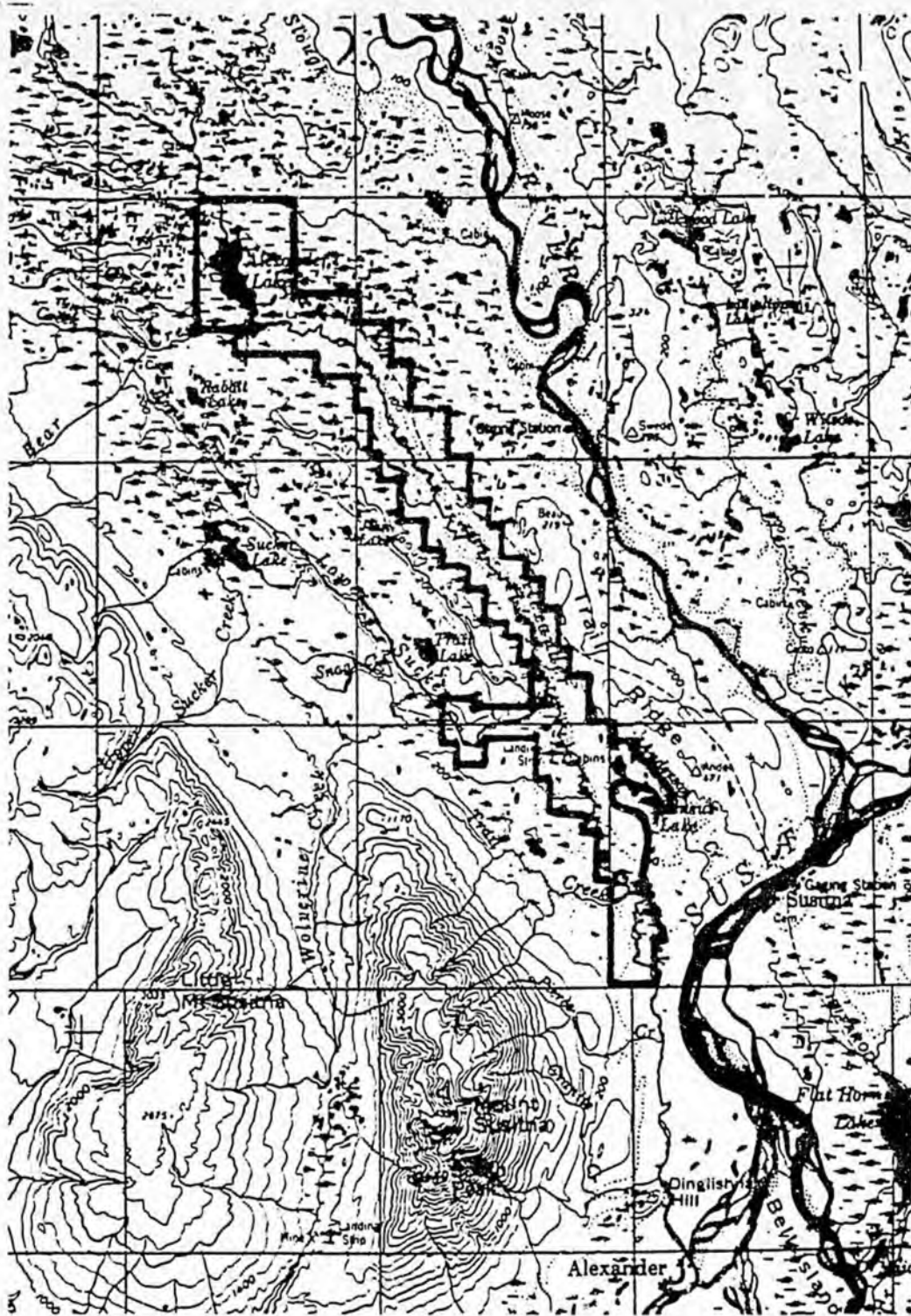
Scale 1:250,000



0 1 2 3 4 5 6 MILES

ALEXANDER CREEK

Proposed Recreational River Corridor



Scale 1:250,000



0 1 2 3 4 5 6 MILES

March 2, 1988

Susitna Valley Association

Position Paper SCS SCHB 93 - Recreational Rivers

The Susitna Valley Association is an organization of diverse groups using the Susitna Valley which is interested in maintaining the valley's remote character, current use patterns and present economic base. Our current mailings to individual members, member organizations, and member businesses reaches over 12,000 individuals.

The Susitna Valley Association was formed in late 1987, primarily to oppose the Susitna Valley/Tyonek Timber Sale as proposed by the Department of Natural Resources at that time. While the original plan has been withdrawn for further review by the Department of Natural Resources, considerable concern was expressed by members of the association about both the effect of timber harvesting on many of the rivers subject to HB 93, and about the effect of large scale timber harvesting on the commercial and private recreational activities on or near these rivers.

The Susitna Valley Association is supportive of the concept of protecting the current uses and values associated with the important recreational rivers in the Susitna Valley and throughout the state. To that extent, we support HB 93, which requires the commissioner to closely regulate activities in or near these rivers while preserving many of the current use patterns.

However, the current version of HB 93, referenced above, permits, as compatible activities, the harvesting of wood products within the corridors. The Susitna Valley Association believes that such activities, at least on a commercial scale, are fundamentally incompatible with the uses and values of these rivers. A number of our members have also expressed concern that the bill permits mining and the extraction of sand and gravel within the

March 2, 1988 - SVA Position Paper on SCS CSHB 93

Page 2

corridors, but our primary concern is commercial harvesting of timber products. Therefore, if SCS CSHB 93 was amended to prohibit commercial logging within the corridors, and if no adverse amendments were made in the meantime, the Susitna Valley Association would be in support of the bill.

If HB 93 should pass, we do want to stress that this would still not address our concerns regarding a large scale timber sale in the Susitna Valley. The two are totally different issues to be dealt with separately. Even if HB 93 becomes law, the even more important feeder streams and wetlands where salmon actually spawn would not be protected from damage from extensive logging operations. Such issues as extensive roading, critical animal habitat, the thousands of private properties that would be impacted, the potential impact on other successful industries already operating in the valley, etc., would still have to be addressed.

Should further information from the association be required on SCS CSHB 93, please contact one of the following representatives of the association:

Officers of the Susitna Valley Association:

Loisann G. Reeder, President
9600 Slalom Drive
Anchorage, AK 99516
346-1943

Jim Seeley, Vice-President
4330 Seeley Court
Anchorage, AK 99502
243-7001

Ed Sharpe, Secretary
P.O. Box 190711
Anchorage, AK 99519
248-4337

Todd Rust, Treasurer
P.O. Box 190325
Anchorage, AK 99519
243-1595



Alaska Sportfishing Association

3605 Arctic Blvd., Suite 800 • Anchorage, Alaska 99503

February 9, 1987

Representative Sam Cotten
Alaska State Legislature
Pouch V (MS 3100)
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear *Sam* Representative Cotten:

The 2,000 individual members and 135 business members of the Alaska Sportfishing Association wish to express our appreciation on the extensive efforts that you put forth last year, and again this year, on the Recreation Rivers Bill, HB 93.

It is of great importance to us and to the state of Alaska that meaningful legislation be enacted to preserve these great resources. Your work last year nearly saw that goal a reality. With your continued assistance, it can be a reality this year.

The one great concern that we now have is that the "watering down" has already been done. To retain a meaningful bill, there remains very little that can be changed without the bill being reduced to below current protection standards as provided in the Susitna Area plan.

Thanks again for your hard work.

Sincerely,

ALASKA SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION

Robert L. Hunter
Chairman, Legislative Committee



UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

211 4th Street, Suite 106
Juneau, AK 99801
907-586-2820

April 13, 1988

To: Members of Senate Resources Committee

The board of directors of United Fishermen of Alaska believes that Alaska's wealth is founded on our natural resources.

They provide not only income and employment for Alaskans, but also the basis for recreation and relaxation which contribute so thoroughly to the quality of life that we prize here.

It is with this in mind that UFA supports House Bill 93, establishing six recreational rivers in Southcentral Alaska.

The bill appears to be concerned with, among other things, maintenance of fish populations and habitat. Yet it allows resource development to take place as long as those activities are compatible with habitat maintenance.

We think these are reasonable provisions and they have our support.

We were also glad to see that this bill does not affect the current authority of the Board of Fisheries to allocate the fish resources among the various user groups. If the committee contemplates revisions to the bill, we urge you to retain this provision.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SOUTHCENTRAL ALASKA SPORT FISHING ECONOMIC STUDY

PREPARED FOR:

Alaska Department
of Fish and Game
Division of Sport Fisheries
Anchorage, Alaska



ALASKA DEPT. OF FISH AND GAME PHOTO

PREPARED BY:

Jones & Stokes
Associates, Inc.
Sacramento, California

WITH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE BY:

Niehaus and Associates
Marketing Planning and
Management Consultants
Dr. W. Michael Hanemann
Dr. Richard T. Carson
Dr. Russell Gum
Dr. Robert Mitchell

JANUARY, 1988

INTRODUCTION

Sport fishing in southcentral Alaska is an important economic activity that contributes to employment and income in the region and to the well-being of resident and nonresident anglers. In 1986, more than 1.3 million days were spent sport fishing in southcentral Alaska, accounting for 65 percent of the statewide total (Alaska Department of Fish and Game). Resident anglers accounted for more than 85 percent (1,153,600) of the days fished. Nonresidents spent more than 201,000 days fishing in southcentral Alaska in 1986, stimulating the state economy with vital tourist dollars.

The abundance and diversity of angling opportunities largely explains the popularity of sport fishing in southcentral Alaska. Both freshwater and saltwater sport fisheries are numerous throughout the region, with more than 20 different species to target. Many sport fishing areas are characterized by unique qualities such as trophy-sized fish or a wilderness experience. Although most sport fishing occurs in summer months, more than 20 percent of resident angling households also participate in winter sport fishing, primarily ice fishing.

As the state population has grown, demands on the significant but exhaustible fishery resources have increased. Competition among user groups for access to the fisheries has intensified. To determine the most beneficial and sustainable use, resource managers and decision makers must increasingly rely on economic information for policy making.

The purpose of this study was to assess the economic importance of sport fisheries in the southcentral region of Alaska (Figure 1). The primary analytical objectives were:

- to estimate expenditures of sport anglers by water body fished and species sought at fishing locations throughout southcentral Alaska;
- to estimate the economic impacts of angler spending on sport fishing in southcentral Alaska at four regional levels—the Kenai Peninsula, the Anchorage area, the rest of Alaska, and outside Alaska; and
- to estimate nonmarket values (or consumer's surplus) of sport fishing by water body fished and species sought at locations throughout southcentral Alaska. These values are equivalent to the monetary value of sport fishing to anglers over and above expenditures.

Surveys of resident and nonresident anglers and of sport fishing-related businesses and guides were conducted by mail. The data collected in these surveys then were used in economic models to derive the estimates.



FIGURE 1

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION

Market Effects

Anglers spent more than \$127 million on sport fishing in southcentral Alaska in 1986, equivalent to total statewide spending in furniture, home furnishings, appliance, radio, television and music stores in 1982 (U.S. Dept. of Commerce). State residents spent more than \$74 million, while nonresident anglers

contributed nearly \$53 million. More than 60 percent (\$31 million) of expenditures by nonresident anglers was on transportation purchased out of the state.

Sport fishing in southcentral Alaska pumped more than \$44 million into the Anchorage area economy and nearly \$32 million into the Kenai Peninsula economy in 1986 (Figure 2). More than \$17 million associated with southcentral sport fishing was spent in stores outside southcentral Alaska, primarily in the Fairbanks area.

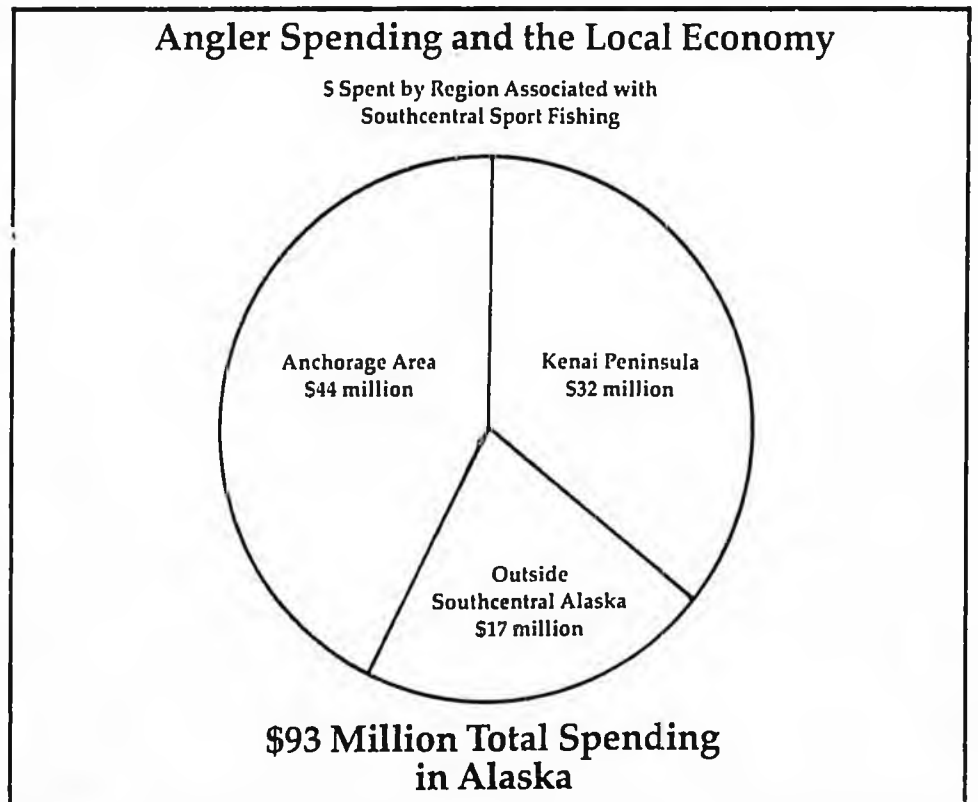


FIGURE 2

Southcentral anglers spent much of their money—more than \$38 million—fishing for king salmon. Of this total resident anglers spent more than \$16 million fishing for king salmon, while nonresidents spent nearly \$22 million. Halibut fishing also generated significant spending, with resident anglers spending more than \$12 million and nonresidents spending \$6 million.

Large expenditures were associated with Kenai River sport fishing, with total spending at \$38 million (Figure 3). Sport fishing for king salmon was the most valuable activity on the Kenai, accounting for nearly half of all spending. Other important sport fisheries in southcentral Alaska include halibut at Kachemak Bay (\$8.7 million in spending), red salmon on the Russian River (\$5.2 million), king salmon in West Side Cook Inlet/Susitna streams (\$5.0 million), and halibut at Deep Creek Marine (\$4.0 million).

Total spending associated with sport fishing in southcentral Alaska directly supported 2,178 jobs in Alaska in 1986, including 781 in the Anchorage area and 886 on the Kenai Peninsula. By comparison, the statewide lumber and wood products industry supported 1,252 jobs, and the statewide mining industry (excluding oil and gas extraction) supported 2,533 jobs (Figure 4) in Alaska in 1985 (U.S. Dept. of Commerce). It is emphasized that employment in those latter two industries include activities

Angler Spending on Southcentral Sport Fishing (\$127 million total spending)

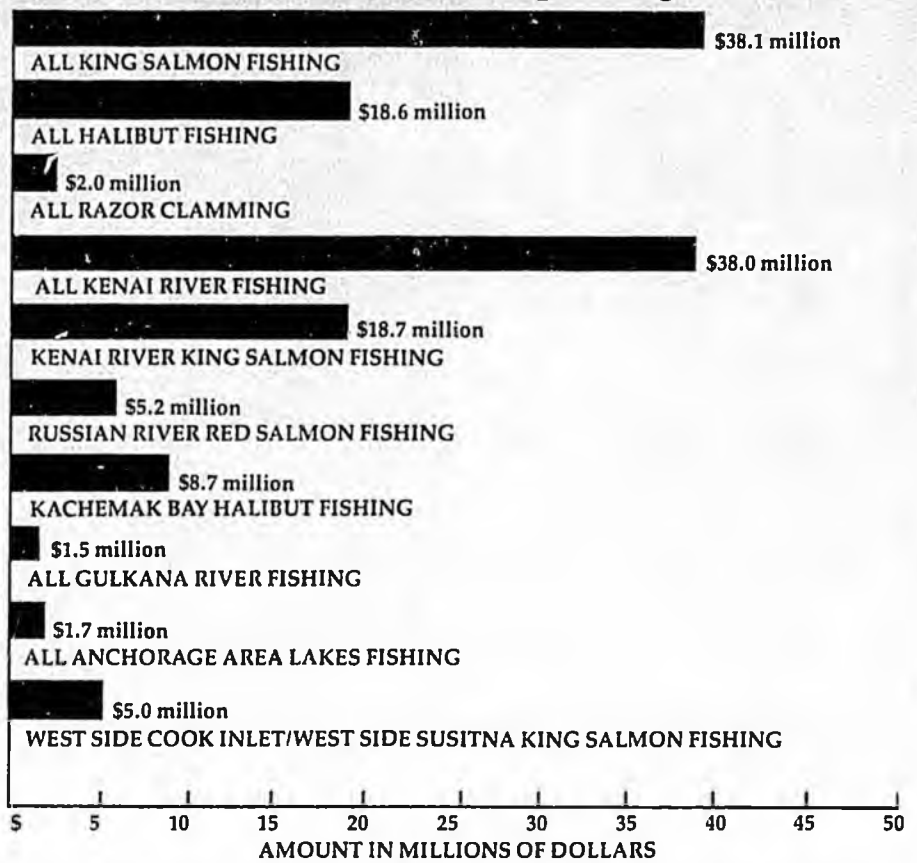


FIGURE 3

Jobs in Alaska Directly Supported by Southcentral Sport Fishing vs. Selected Statewide Industries

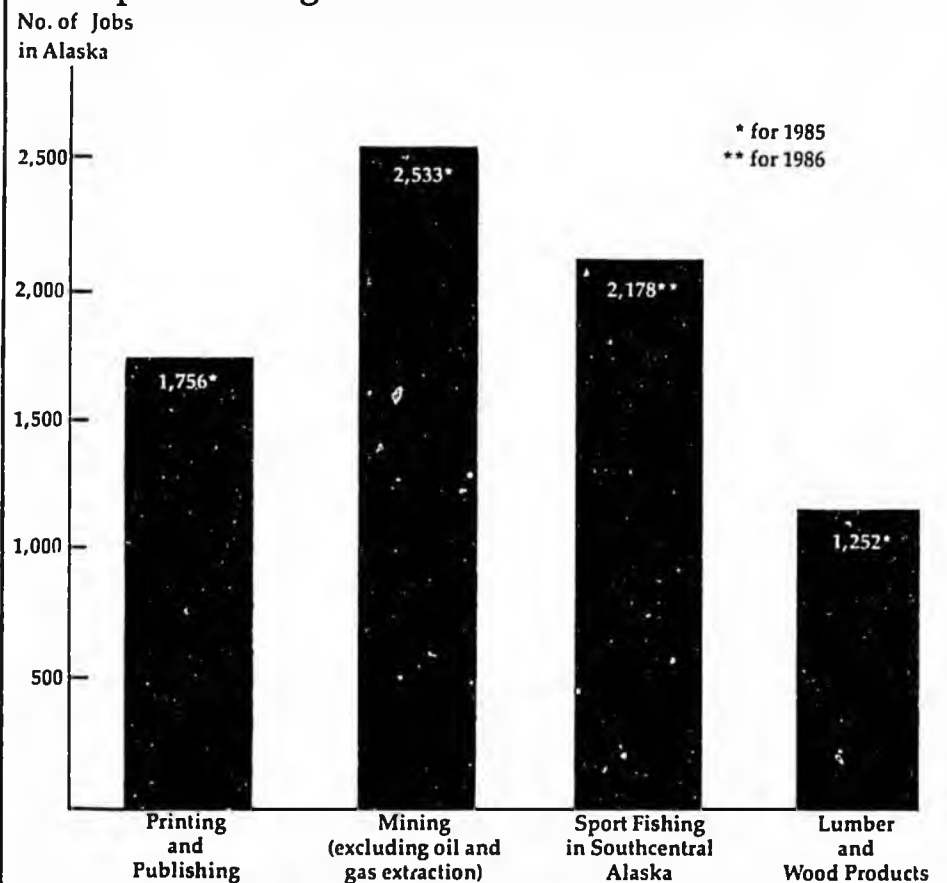


FIGURE 4

throughout Alaska, whereas the employment effects of sport fishing are associated with activities in southcentral Alaska only. Wages and salaries generated directly by angler spending on southcentral sport fishing was more than \$18 million in 1986.

Nonmarket Benefits

In addition to its impact on the state and regional economy, sport fishing provides substantial nonmarket benefits to anglers. These benefits are equivalent to the dollar amount that southcentral Alaska anglers would be willing to pay (over and above their current expenditures) to ensure the availability of sport fishing opportunities in southcentral Alaska. Nonmarket benefits to southcentral anglers totaled more than \$276 million in 1986, with resident anglers receiving \$246 million and nonresidents receiving \$30 million. The Kenai River was the most valuable fishery in terms of nonmarket values, generating \$23.2 million in net benefits to anglers. Other sport fisheries in southcentral Alaska generating significant nonmarket benefits to anglers include halibut fishing at Kachemak Bay (\$8.1 million), red salmon fishing at the Russian River (\$3.2 million), and halibut fishing at Deep Creek Marine (\$2.6 million).

ANGLER SPENDING

Alaska households with members who sport fish in southcentral spent an average of \$804 per household on sport fishing-related goods and services. Anchorage area residents spent the most—\$865 per household, with 95 percent of this spending associated with sport fishing in southcentral Alaska (Figure 5). Kenai Peninsula residents spent the least, with an average of \$670 per household; 99 percent of that amount was for southcentral sport fishing. Fairbanks residents spent an average of \$769 per household, with only 42 percent associated with southcentral sport fishing.

Resident anglers spent nearly 60 percent of their money in retail trade businesses, including department and sporting goods stores, retail food and liquor stores, and service stations (Figure 6). Marine boat stores accounted for more than 17 percent of total spending by residents, and guiding businesses received about 3.3 percent of the residents' dollars.

Nonresident anglers spent an average of \$1,369 per household on sport fishing-related goods and services on trips to Alaska. Per day spending on sport fishing averaged \$168 per household. Although many anglers fished outside southcentral Alaska, 84 percent of the spending by nonresidents took place either in the Anchorage area (38 percent) or on the Kenai Peninsula (46 percent). Nonresident anglers spent most of their money in

Alaska in retail trade stores, which received more than 39 percent of their business (Figure 7). Guide businesses took in more than 15 percent of statewide nonresident angler spending. Nonresident anglers indicated that, if necessary, their household would have been willing to pay an average of \$305 more in transportation costs per household to take their most recent trip to Alaska.

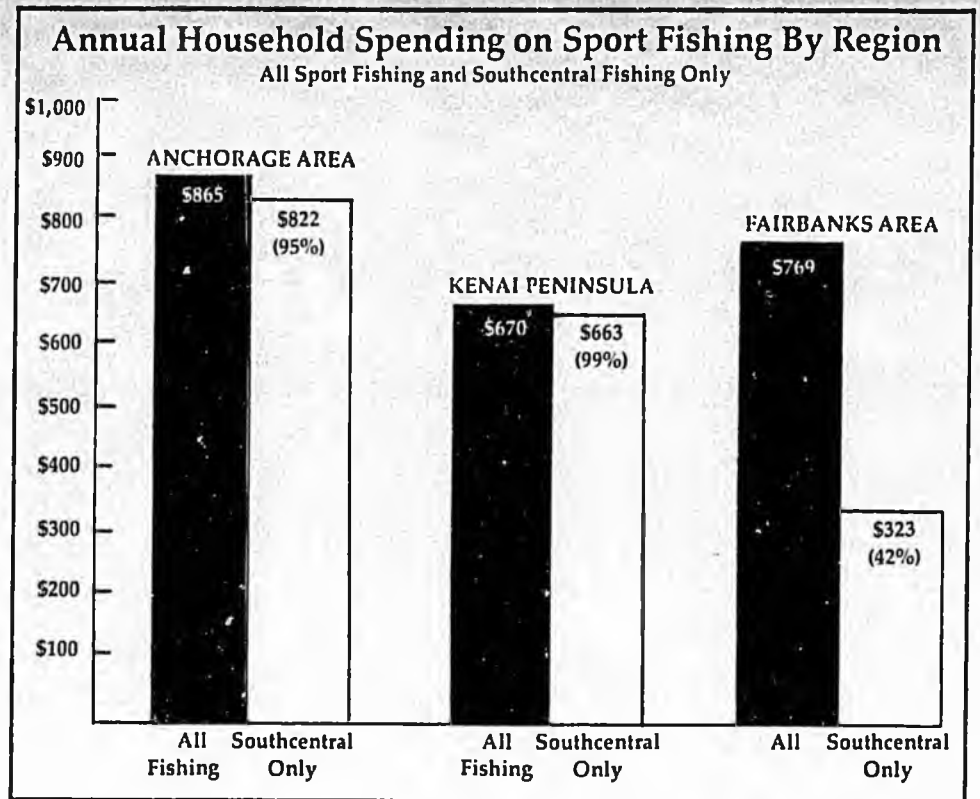


FIGURE 5

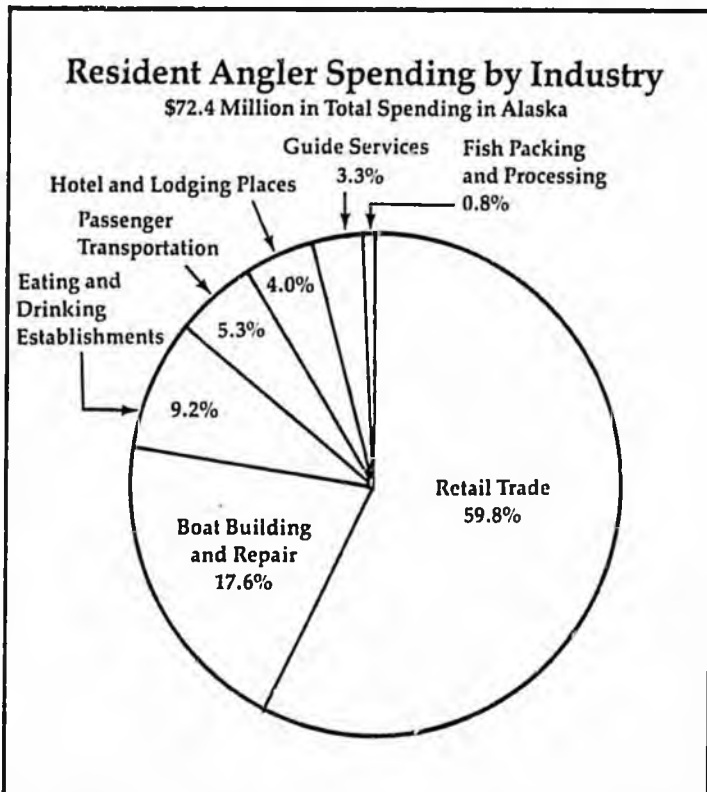


FIGURE 6

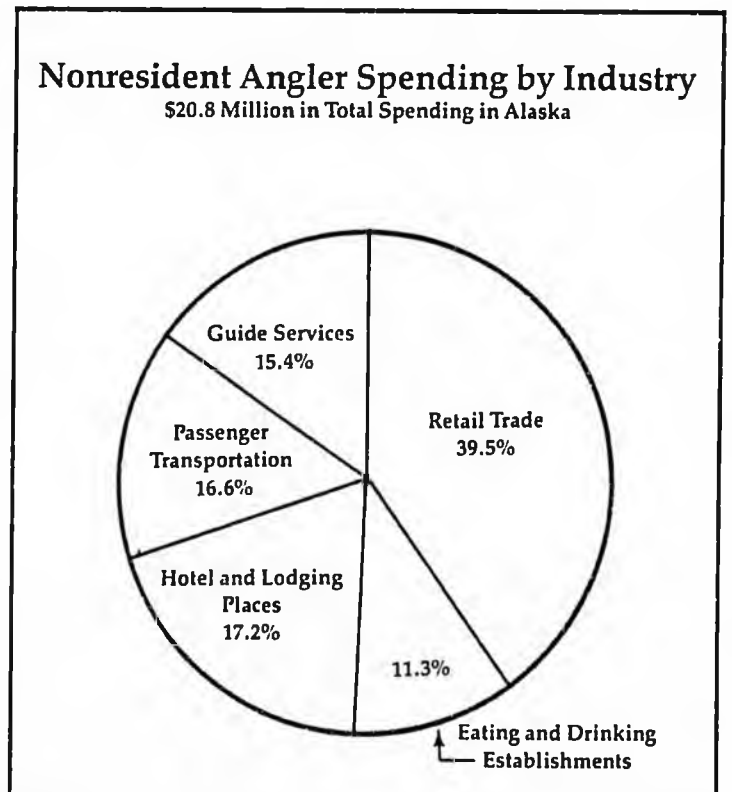


FIGURE 7

RELATED BUSINESS ACTIVITY

Anglers made purchases in many types of businesses throughout southcentral Alaska, including variety and department stores, general sporting goods stores, specialty fishing stores, hotels and motels, eating and drinking establishments, transportation service businesses, fishing lodges and camps, travel and booking agencies, boat stores, guide service businesses, and retail food and liquor stores. These businesses are dependent to varying degrees on sport fishing. Sport fishing-related sales as a percentage of total sales ranged from 1.8 percent for eating and drinking establishments to 70.3 percent for specialty fishing stores (Figure 8). The average percentage of sales related to sport fishing for all sport fishing-related businesses was 11.7 percent. The average percentage of sport fishing-related labor employed was much higher (56.3 percent), indicating that many employees spend only a small proportion of their time in sales of sport fishing-related items.

Dependence of Southcentral Businesses on Sport Fishing

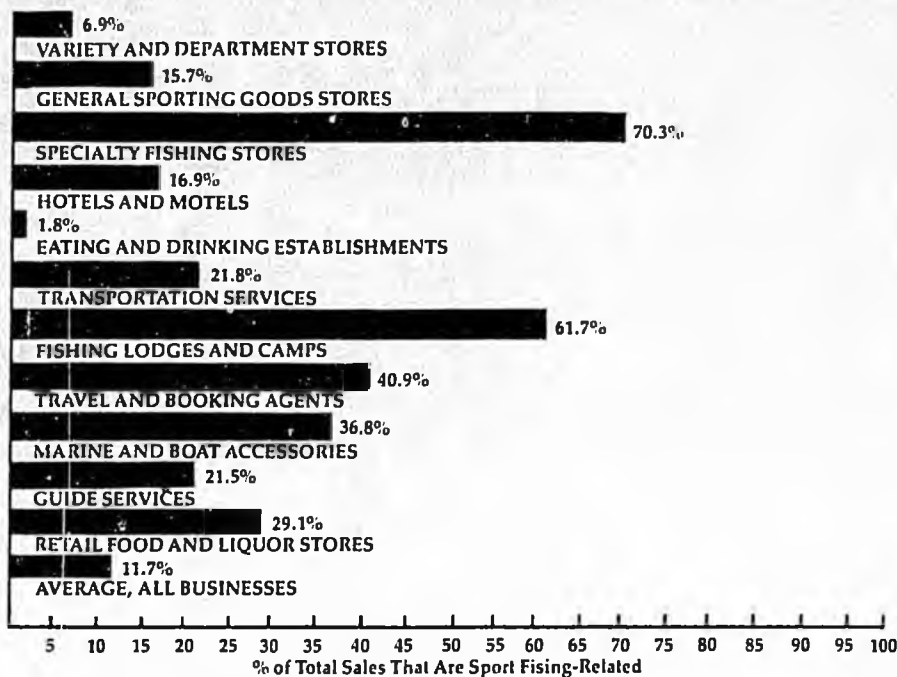


FIGURE 8

Local Spending by Sport Fishing-Related Businesses in the Anchorage Area

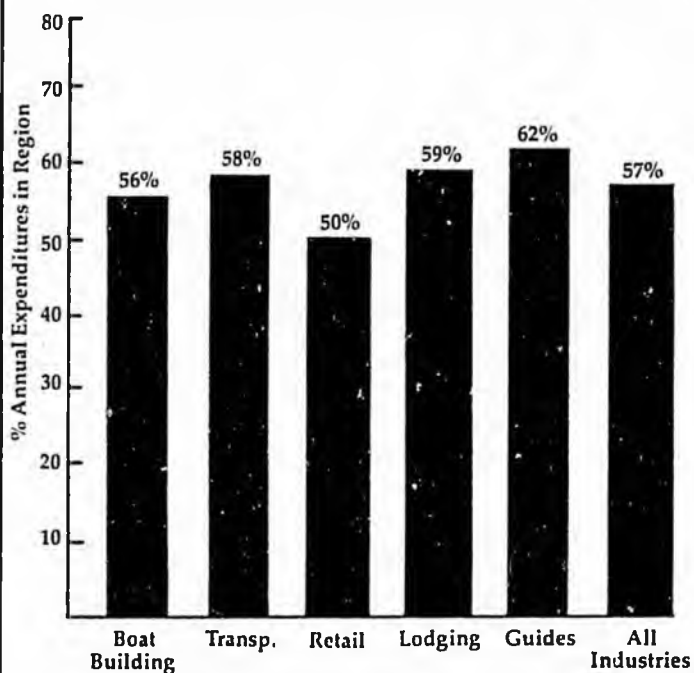


FIGURE 9A

Sport fishing guides in the Kenai Peninsula depend almost exclusively on sport fishing to support their business. More than 98 percent of their sales was related to sport fishing. Sport fishing guide businesses in the Anchorage area and elsewhere in southcentral Alaska are less dependent on sport fishing, with sport fishing-related sales of 73 percent and 81 percent, respectively. More than 62 percent of all guided sport fishing trips were destined for the Kenai Peninsula.

The respending of angler dollars in

Local Spending by Sport Fishing-Related Businesses in the Kenai Peninsula

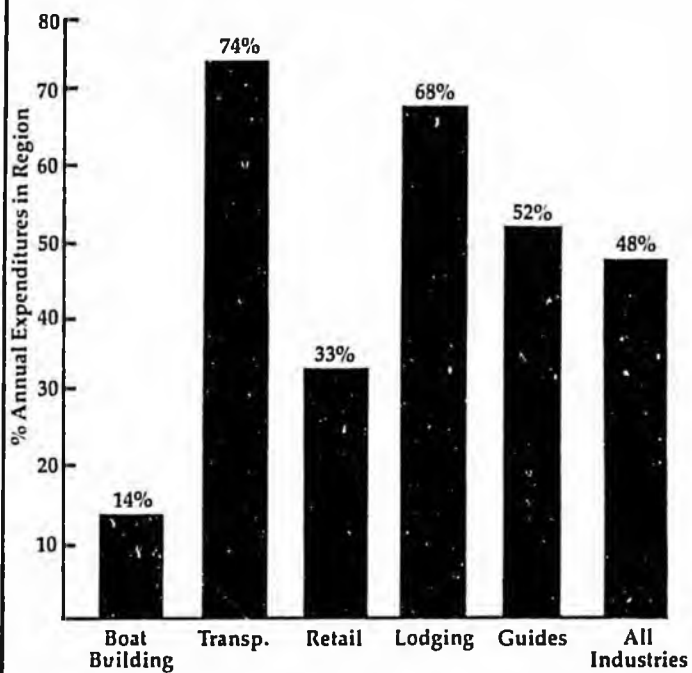


FIGURE 9B

southcentral businesses helps fuel the local economy. In the Anchorage area, 57 percent of the spending by sport fishing-related businesses was made in the local area, with no industry spending more than 62 percent, or less than 50 percent, outside the local area (Figure 9a). In the Kenai Peninsula, 48 percent of spending by sport fishing-related businesses stayed in the local economy. The percentage of local spending ranged from 14 percent for the boat building industry to 74 percent for the transportation service industry

(Figure 9b).

As angler dollars are respent by businesses, additional employment and income are created that further contribute to the state and local economy. In total, angler spending associated with sport fishing in southcentral Alaska supported the equivalent of 2,840 full-time jobs statewide in 1986. Alaska residents received more than \$65 million in wages and salaries attributable to sport fishing in southcentral Alaska.



JONES AND STOKES
ASSOCIATES, INC.

1725 23rd St., Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95816
(916) 444-5638

1802 136th Place NE
Bellevue, WA 98005
(206) 641-3982

S A S INTERNATIONAL, INC.
CONSULTANTS TO MANAGEMENT

RECEIVED

AUG 28 1987

6557 Shawnee Run Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45243
Area Code 513 561-6809

Telex Address

241-468 BAN COM CIN

DIV. OF ADMIN.

August 15, 1987

Secretary
Alaska Dept. of Game & Fisheries
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Sir:

I just finished a very enjoyable 7-day fishing trip on the Deska River. I was impressed with the beauty of the area.

I was also distressed by the presence of numerous airboats and high powered jet and propeller boats.

They rush up and down the river, creating large waves that are badly eroding the shore line.

The airboats are particularly bad-extremely noisy, and I personally saw one strike and crush a King salmon on its spawning bed. I saw the fish struggle and the next day saw it dead on the shoreline.

I understand that this is a common occurrence as these boats use their shallow draft to run in the spawning bed areas.

I strongly recommend that you put a limit of 35 hp Mercury's. That is ridiculous.

As our last wilderness state, Alaska has a responsibility to preserve it for future generations, as well as, to support tourism, hunting, and fishing that is so vital to the state's economic health.

How can I help?

Sincerely,

J. F. STEVENSON

J. F. Stevenson

cc: Governor of Alaska, Juneau, Alaska

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

STEVE COWPER, GOVERNOR

P.O. BOX 3-2000
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99802-2000
PHONE: (907) 465-4100

September 11, 1987

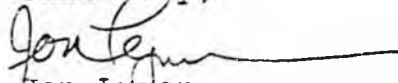
S A S International, Inc.
6557 Shawnee Run Road
Cincinnati, OH 45243

Dear Mr. Stevenson:

The misuse of our fisheries resource on the Deshka River is part of a larger problem. A system to plan for the better use and management of our rivers is proposed in Alaska House Bill number 93. This bill, introduced by Representative Cotton from Eagle River, would not solve all the problems, however, it is a start toward formalizing a planning process to study the impacts we are having on our rivers and to establish effective management plans. This bill will be considered during the next legislative session. I will forward your letter to the members of the House Resources Committee.

As for the impact of public use or abuse on our fisheries resources in the Deshka River, while there are no formal studies, run strength continues to be strong and the escapement needed for continuation of the run does not appear to be dropping because of public use. Your concerns do, however, mirror those of the department, and we are continuing to monitor this and other rivers that are subject to similar use.

Sincerely,


Jon Lyman
Information Officer

cc: Representative Adelheid Herrmann
Representative Sam Cotten
Representative John Sund
Representative Mike Navarre
Representative Cliff Davidson
Representative Drue Pearce
Representative Heinrich Springer
Representative Lyman Hoffman
Representative Richard Schultz



Alaska Boating Association



P.O. Box 210430
Anchorage, Alaska 99521

11 April 1988

Representative Sam Cotten
P.O. Box V
Mail Stop 3100
Juneau, AK 99811

Re: House Bill 93 Recreational Rivers

The Alaska Boating Assoc. has been closely and intimately involved in the public discussions surrounding the Recreation Rivers issue as presented by House Bill 93.

The Alaska Boating Assoc. attended all the workshops held by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and State teleconference's. We have in an objective effort to address various problems and policy issues surrounding the Recreation Rivers issue.

We have consistently objected in the most strenuous terms, to a passage of a bill prior to the completion of a management plan. The Alaska Boating Assoc. is requesting that legislation specifically directed to the Commissioner of Natural Resources enter into a cooperative planning effort with the Matanuska-Susitna Borough for the development of a management plan prior to the designation of Recreation River status.

Efforts by the legislature, as represented in the Senate Committee Substitute for HB93 as presented by the Community of Regional Affairs does not reflect the changes that the Alaska Boating Assoc. has requested.

The Alaska Boating Assoc. supports the recommendations of the Alaska Miners Assoc., Mat-Sue Homeowners Assoc., and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. The Alaska Boating Assoc. requests the legislature to amend the proposed bill as follows:

1. The Alaska Boating Assoc. rejects the concept of an Advisory Board as presented in Section 41.23.230. We find that the management issues between state and local group's have not been effectively resolved in the past by the Advisory boards consisting of special interests groups as seen in the Kenai River Bill and the state Fisheries Board. The Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resource, if properly directed by Statute, can develop a cooperative management plan that will allow every opportunity for groups to participate in the discussions, draft plan reviews, and comments on each plan for these rivers.

11 April 1988

Page 2

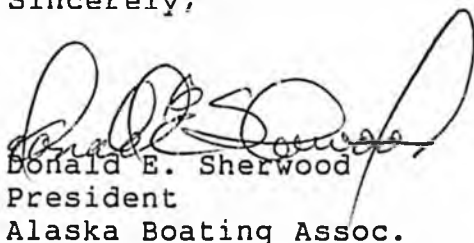
2. Section 41.28.240, dealing with the management plan, although the Alaska Boating Assoc. appreciates the addition of the language on consultation with local municipalities, the Alaska Boating Assoc. would point out that this language is nothing more than what is already required by state statute. This same statement applies to regulations that presently exist in state statutes concerning and effecting the land and river systems in this state. The policy and enforcement decisions should not be made by one commissioner but by all Department Commissioners directly responsible within the area of the Six River Recreational River Bill, Public Safety and etc.

3. The Alaska Boating Assoc. with respect to limitations on the disposal of timber or other resources within the Recreation River corridors, we would respectfully request that the corridors be extended to one (1) mile on each side of the high water mark.

The Alaska Boating Assoc. thinks that with good professional land management, using current and future scientific knowledge along with existing constraints described in regulations, would allow for the continued protection of fisheries, wildlife and recreational values while allowing for development of timber and mineral reserves.

With these changes, the Alaska Boating Assoc. could and would support this legislation.

Sincerely,



Donald E. Sherwood
President
Alaska Boating Assoc.

For an Act entitled: "An Act establishing six recreation
rivers; and providing for an effective
date."

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

*Section 1. FINDINGS AND INTENT. The legislature finds that the special values and uses of [certain] six rivers [corridors] in Southcentral Alaska justify [their] the retention of the rivers and their adjacent corridor for public use. The six rivers should be managed for public recreation and the six river corridors can support many public uses, including some that will enhance the local economy as well as improve access to [retained] public and private land outside the river corridors. The designation of [these] the six rivers and their corridors [as recreation rivers] recognizes the value of the [described land] rivers and their corridors for public use and is not intended to become an undue impediment to [the] multiple use [and] land and water management or the enjoyment of adjacent public and private land, or to the development of access within, across, and around the rivers and their corridors. The legislature is particularly concerned that an owner of [private property] land or a legal interest in land, within or adjacent to the river corridors be [assured] allowed [customary and] reasonable access to [an inholding] and the full use of the

rights. [Any regulation of boating under the existing authority of the commissioner should occur under the management plan, with full involvement of interested users and in an accessible public process.]

*Sec.2. AS 41.23 is amended by adding new sections to read:

ARTICLE 3. RECREATION RIVERS.

Sec. 41.23.200. PURPOSES. (a) The purpose of AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.300 is to establish as recreation rivers the land and water now owned by the state and the land and water acquired in the future by the state that lies within the recreation rivers and the river corridors [boundaries] described in AS 41.23.300.

(b) The primary purpose for the establishment of the six recreation rivers [are] is the maintenance and enhancement of the land and water described in AS 41.23.300 for recreation.

(c) The primary purpose for the management of the six recreation rivers are

2 (X) [(3)] multiple use management of upland activities within the recreation river corridors [for the protection and maintenance of] to ensure that mitigation measures to alleviate potential adverse effects on water quality and stream flow will take place; [and]

3 ~~(2)~~ (1) the management, ~~the~~ protection and maintenance of the fish and wildlife populations and habitat on a sustained-yield basis;

1 ~~(2)~~ [(2) conservation of the scenic and natural integrity of the recreation river corridor and] continued recreational ~~and economic~~ use, including the uses described in (1) and (4) of this section, and enjoyment by the public and individuals for recreational activities that include hunting, fishing, trapping, camping, boating, hiking, snowmachining, skiing, dog mushing, and wildlife viewing, while ensuring the scenic and ^{natural integrity} fundamental characteristics of the recreation river corridor;

4 ~~(4)~~ accommodation of access [for recreation, tourism, and other compatible recreation oriented economic uses of the river corridor.] for ^{resource} economic uses, including recreation and tourism, within or adjacent to the river corridor.

Sec. 41.23.210. COMPATIBLE ACTIVITIES. (a) The commissioner shall allow the following activities within a recreation river or within a recreation river corridor when they are compatible with AS 41.23.200 and consistent with a management plan adopted under AS 41.23.240:

(1) the use of aircraft, powerboats, snowmachines, all terrain vehicles, [and other] motorized transportation and transportation by animal;

(2) the sale and harvest of wood products;

(3) sand and gravel extraction [, for public use];

[and]

(4) the construction and operation of [private] recreational facilities[.]; and

(5) other uses permitted in the management plan required by AS 41.23.230, including mining and mineral development.

[(b) In addition to the activities identified in (a) of this section, the commissioner may allow other activities within a recreation river corridor when they are compatible with AS 41.23.200 and consistent with a management plan adopted under AS 41.23.240.]

[(c) The commissioner shall allow the continuation of commercial or private activities occurring on the effective date of this Act under valid permit for use of state-owned land within the boundaries of a recreation river corridor so long as the commissioner determines that the activity is compatible with AS 41.23.200. When considering the revocation or renewal of an existing permit, the commissioner shall make available for public comment, on request, a preliminary finding and, if appropriate, may hold a public hearing in the communities near the recreation river corridor before determining whether the activity is compatible with AS 41.23.200.]

Sec. 41.23.220. GENERAL MANAGEMENT OF RECREATION RIVER CORRIDORS. (a) The state-owned land and water within the area

established as a recreation river corridor under AS 41.23.300, including to recreation river corridor, is assigned to the commissioner for management consistent with the purposes of AS 41.23.200 [- 41.23.300.].

(b) The commissioner shall reserve to the state under AS 46.15.145 an instream flow or level for the water in the rivers described in AS 41.23.300[(b)] that is adequate to achieve the purposes of AS 41.23.200.

(c) the commissioner may regulate boating, if necessary, under the management plan adopted under AS 41.23.240;

(d) The provisions of AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.[300] 310 do not affect the authority of

(i) the department of fish and game, the board of fisheries, the board of game, or the guide licensing and control board under AS 08.54, AS 16, or AS 41.99.010

(2) the department of environmental conservation under AS 46.03; or

(3) state agencies and municipalities under AS 44.19.145 (a)(11) and AS 46.40.100.

(e) [(d)] The commissioner may not restrict the use of weapons, including firearms, within a recreation river corridor except in sites of high public use such as picnic areas, boat ramps, camping grounds, and parking areas when the commissioner determines that the use of weapons constitutes a threat to public safety. Except as provided in this subsection, the commissioner may not restrict fishing, hunting, or trapping within a recreation river corridor.

(f) [(e)] The commissioner may not regulate an activity under AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.[300] 310 [an activity] that occurs on a river that flows into or out of a river that has [not] been designated as a recreation[al] river, under AS 41.23.300[(b)]. Where the water of a river that has been designated under AS 41.23.300(b) flows into the water of a larger river that has not been designated under AS 41.23.300(b), the authority of the commissioner under AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.300 ceases where the water joins the larger river and the commissioner may not regulate activities on the larger undesignated river under AS 41. 23.200 - 41.23.300.] The authority of the commissioner under AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.310 ceases where the water established as a recreation river under AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.310, meets water that is not established as a recreation river.

Sec 41.23.230. ADVISORY BOARD. (a) An eleven-member Recreation Rivers Advisory Board is established and shall be appointed by the governor. Board members serve without compensation [but] and are not entitled to per diem and travel expenses authorized by law for boards and commissions under AS 39.20.180. The governor shall appoint members representing the following user groups:

- (1) commercial fishing;
- (2) sport fishing;
- (3) sport hunting;
- (4) conservation;

- (5) resource development; *(substituted)*
- (6) forest products;
- (7) mining;
- (8) [(6)] powerboat users;
- (9) [(7)] recreationally-oriented commercial users;

and

- (10) [(90)] other recreational users.

(b) The commissioner shall consult with the advisory board in preparing, adopting, and revising the recreation river management plan and regulations affecting use and management of the recreation rivers.

Sec 41.23.240. MANAGEMENT PLAN. (a) The commissioner, in consultation with representatives of affected municipalities, shall prepare and adopt and may revise a management plan for each of the six recreation rivers and their recreation river corridors. In preparing or revising the plan, the commissioner and each affected municipality shall consult with the public[, the advisory board established under AS 41.23.230.] and state agencies, including the commissioner of fish and game and the advisory board established under AS 41.23.230. In preparation or revision of the plan, the commissioner shall comply with the notice requirements of AS 38.05.945 and provide written notice by first-class mail to private property owners in the recreation river corridors and shall hold at least two public hearings in municipalities and communities near the recreation river corridor. The

management plan shall establish long-range guidelines and management practices consistent with AS 41.23.200 to

(1)[(8)] establish guidelines and [setback] restrictions, if necessary, for activities occurring under AS 41.23.210, [including mining leasing and oil and gas leasing under AS 41.23.270(b) - (d).] to implement the purposes of AS 41.23.200.

[(1)] (2) protect, maintain, or enhance the fish and wildlife habitat and the free-flowing nature of the river;

[(2)] (3) identify special recreation[al] values and manage the level of intensity and types of recreation[al] uses;

[(3)] (4) designate [compatible land uses and] management guidelines for [associated] development activities;

[(4)] (5) [manage] designate management guidelines for commercial recreation activities or development, including recreation[al] services [such as guiding];

[(5)] (6) provide for necessary public services, such as transportation and utility corridors, crossings or fording corridors, public safety, and law enforcement;

[(5)] (7) allow reasonable [and necessary] access to public land and private inholdings, including municipal land that is offered for sale or lease, and to land beyond or adjacent to the recreation river and the recreation river corridor;

[(7)] (8) establish criteria and expedient timelines to review future proposed uses for compatibility with AS 41.23.200;

(b) The commissioner shall adopt regulations necessary to implement the management plan. The commissioner may not adopt regulations before a management plan [is adopted] takes effect. The commissioner may designate employees of the department as peace officers to enforce the provisions of AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.310.

(c) A management plan adopted by the commissioner under (a) of this section shall be submitted to the legislature for review within the first 10 days of the first regular session of the legislature to convene after [its] completion of the plan adoption by the commissioner. The plan takes effect 100 days after submission of the plan to the legislature unless rejected by an act of the legislature.

Sec 41.23.250. MANAGEMENT OF MUNICIPAL LAND. If a municipality commits land for inclusion in a recreation river corridor [established under] described in AS 41.23.300[(b)], the commissioner shall obtain the concurrence of the municipality to the management plan proposed under AS 41.23.[240] 230 as it applies to municipal land. The commissioner shall cooperate, at the request of a municipality, in planning for municipal land adjacent to a recreation river corridor. Municipal land not committed by a

municipality for inclusion in a recreation river corridor is excluded from the operation of the management plan.

Sec. 41.23.260. ACQUISITION OF ADDITIONAL LAND.

(a) The commissioner may acquire in the name of the state, land that is adjacent to or located within the land described in AS 41,23.300[(b)] by purchase, lease, gift, or exchange for inclusion within a recreation river corridor.

(b) The commissioner may not acquire land for inclusion in a recreation river corridor by eminent domain.

Sec. 41.23.270. APPLICATION OF PUBLIC LAND LAWS.

(a) [Except to the extent that a provision is inconsistent with a provision of AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.300, the] The provisions of AS 38.04, AS 38.05, AS 38.35, and AS 38.95 apply to land described in AS 41.23.300[(b)], except to the extent that a provision of AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.310 is inconsistent.

[(b) Except for land within the Talkeetna State Recreation River north and east of Iron Creek, the state-owned land and water within a recreation river corridor described in AS 41.23.300(b) is closed to mineral entry by location under AS 38.05.195 and to disposal of leasable minerals under AS 38.05.150 - 38.05.175.]

[(c)] (b) [Except on state-owned land below ordinary high-water or mean high tide, the] The commissioner may, [upon a mineral discovery validated by the commissioner,] permit

mining leasing under AS 38.05.205 on upland [in an area] within a recreation river corridor[,] if leasing is allowed under a management plan that has been adopted by the commissioner. The commissioner shall establish appropriate conditions for permits, operation plans, and leases to [protect] mitigate the effects of mineral development activities on the environment and to prevent, to the extent practicable, degradation of the recreation[al] uses of the river.

[(d) The state-owned land and water within a recreation river corridor is available for oil and gas leasing subject to conditions in an adopted management plan.]

[(e)] (c) To enhance public use and enjoyment of a recreation river corridor under a management plan adopted under AS 41.23.240, the commissioner may provide for the construction and operation of commercial facilities such as lodges, campgrounds, and boat launches by

(1) leasing land under AS 38.05.070 including competitive leasing to a prequalified bidder [under AS 38.05.070]; and

(2) contracting for the construction and operation of a facility under AS 36.30, so long as the facility is not in competition with a private facility or enterprise.

[(f)] (d) The commissioner of administration shall separately account for funds collected under this section and deposited in the general fund. The annual estimated balance in the account may be appropriated by the legislature to the

department to carry out the purposes of [this chapter] AS
41.23.200 - 41.23.310.

Sec. 41.23.280. COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT AGREEMENTS.

(a) The commissioner may enter into a cooperative management agreement for the management of land and water described in AS 41.23.300[(b)] or of other adjacent land and water with a federal agency, a municipality [of the state], another agency of the state, or a private landowner.

(b) The commissioner may transfer the management of a specific site within a recreation river corridor described in AS 41.23.300[(b)] to a state agency, a municipality, or a private entity [to assist in the development of a facility or] to carry out a program authorized by law, or to enhance the objectives of the management plan adopted under AS 41.23.240.

(c) The commissioner may not manage a recreation river corridor described in AS 41.23.300[(b)] as a unit of the state park system or as a game refuge, game sanctuary or a critical habitat. The commissioner may assign management of a recreation facility or site such as a campground or a boat launch to the division of parks [and may adopt regulations allowing the division of parks to manage recreation activities in a recreation corridor].

Sec. 41.23.290. LIMITATION ON ESTABLISHMENT [OF RECREATION RIVER CORRIDORS.] State-owned land and water may

be established as a recreation river corridor only by the legislature.

Sec. 41.23.300. [DESIGNATED RIVERS] ESTABLISHMENT OF RECREATION RIVERS AND RECREATION RIVER CORRIDORS. [(a)] Subject to valid existing rights, the state-owned land and water and all land and water acquired by the state in the future, including shore and submerged land that lies within the following described parcels, [within one-half mile of either ordinary high water or mean high tide on a recreation river designated in (b) of this section that] is established as a recreation river [corridor under (b) of this section is] and reserved as a special purpose area under art. VIII, sec. 7, Constitution of the State of Alaska and shall be re ined by the state[.] and be managed under AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.310:

[(b) The general grant land, acquired land, and the and water presently owned by the state and all land and water acquired by the state in the future, including shore and submerged land and land redesignated after the effective date of this Act as general grant land, that lie within the following described parcels are established as recreation rivers and shall be managed under AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.300:]

FOLLOWING THIS ARE ALL THE LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS
FOR 250,000 acres of land:

(1) Alexander Creek State Recreation River

(2 pages of descriptions follow)

(2) Kroto Creek and Moose Creek State Recreation
River (6 pages of descriptions follow)

(3) Lake Creek State Recreation River
(3 pages of descriptions follow)

(4) Little Susitna Recreation River: the water column of the main stream of the Little Susitna River from mean high water mark to mean high water mark, from the point at which the river crosses the section line dividing Sections 23 and 26 in Township 19 North, Range 1 east, Seward Meridian downstream to the point at which the river crosses the section line between Sections 15 and 22 in Township 16 North, Range 5 West, Seward Meridian; the water column of Lake Creek from mean high water mark to mean high water mark, from the point at which the creek crosses the section line dividing Sections 10 and 11, Township 18 North, Range 4 West, Seward Meridian downstream to the confluence with the Little Susitna River; and;

(2 pages of descriptions follow)

(5) Talchulitna State Recreation River
(5 pages of descriptions follow)

(6) Talkeetna State Recreation River: the water column of the Talkeetna River from mean high water mark to mean high water mark from the point at which it crosses the line dividing Townships 28 and 29 North, Seward Meridian, downstream to its confluence with the Susitna River; the water column of Chunilna Creek from mean high water mark to mean high water mark for the point at which it crosses the line dividing Township 27 and 28 North, Seward Meridian, downstream to its confluence with the Talkeetna River; and

(4 pages of description follow)

[ARTICLE 4. GENERAL PROVISIONS.]

Sec. 41.23.[900] 310. DEFINITIONS. In [this chapter,] AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.310.

(1) "commissioner" means the commissioner of natural resources;

(2) "recreation river corridor" means the uplands within a recreation river established under AS 41.23.300.

* Sec.3. Until a management plan has been adopted for a recreation river corridor under AS 41.23.240(a) as enacted in sec. 2 of this Act, interim management of the recreation river shall be consistent with AS 41.23.200. [The] Except for negotiated sales under AS 38.05.115, the commissioner of

natural resources may not dispose of timber or other resources within a recreation[al] river corridor before the adoption of the management plan [for the recreation river corridor except under AS 38.05.115]. The commissioner of natural resources shall [adopt] propose a management plan for each recreation river by [July 1, 1992] the first ten days of the Second Regular Session of the Eighteenth Alaska State Legislature.

* Sec. 4. This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

5-0230P ✓

Bradley
4/12/88



Original sponsors: Cotten, Pourchot,
Rieger, et al.

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

2 SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 93 (Resources)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act establishing six recreation rivers; and pro-
7 viding for an effective date."

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

9 * Section 1. FINDINGS AND INTENT. The legislature finds that the
10 special values and uses of six rivers in Southcentral Alaska justify the
11 retention of the rivers and their adjacent corridors for public use. The
12 six rivers should be managed in their present state for public recreation
13 and the six river corridors can support many public uses, including some
14 that will enhance the local economy as well as improve access to public and
15 private land outside the river corridors. The designation of the six
16 rivers and their corridors recognizes the value of the rivers and their
17 corridors for public use and is not intended to become an undue impediment
18 to multiple use land and water management [concepts] or the enjoyment of
19 adjacent public and private land, or to the development of access within,
20 across, and around the rivers and their corridors. The legislature is
21 particularly concerned that an owner of ^{(land) or legal interests in land or resources} valid land leases or use permits
22 within or adjacent to the river corridors be ^{allowed} guaranteed reasonable access
23 to and the full use of the rights. *Restore 828 sense?*

24 * Sec. 2. AS 41.23 is amended by adding new sections to read:

25 ARTICLE 3. RECREATION RIVERS ~~[AND RECREATION RIVER CORRIDORS]~~.

26 Sec. 41.23.200. PURPOSES. (a) The purpose of AS 41.23.200 -
27 41.23.290 is to establish as recreation rivers ~~[and recreation river~~
28 ~~corridors]~~ under AS 41.23.290(a) and (b) the land and water now owned
29 by the state and the land and water acquired in the future by the

1 state that lies within the boundaries described in AS 41.23.290(c).

2 (b) The primary purpose for the establishment of the six recre-
 3 ation rivers is the maintenance ^{+ enhancement} of the land and water described in
 4 AS 41.23.290(a) [~~in its present state~~ ^{submerged}] for recreation.

5 (c) The primary purposes for the establishment of the six recre-
 6 ation river corridors are

7 ³ (1) the [~~multiple use~~] management, protection, and mainte-
 8 nance of the fish and wildlife populations and habitat on a sus-
 9 tained-yield basis;

10 (2) continued recreation and economic use, including the
 11 uses described in ³(3) and (4) of this subsection, and enjoyment by the
 12 public and individuals of recreational activities that include hunt-
 13 ing, fishing, trapping, camping, boating, hiking, snowmachining, ski-
 14 ing, dog mushing, and wildlife viewing, while ^{encouraging} precautionary measures
 15 for the scenic and fundamental characteristics of the recreation river
 16 ^{corridor} and the recreation river corridor are followed;

17 ¹ (3) multiple use management of upland activities within the
 18 recreation river corridor to ensure that mitigation measures to alle-
 19 viate potential adverse effects on water quality and stream flow will
 20 take place; and

21 (4) accommodation of access for ^{resource} economic uses, including
 22 recreation and tourism, within or adjacent to the river corridor.

23 Sec. 41.23.210. COMPATIBLE ACTIVITIES. [(a)] The commissioner
 24 shall allow the following activities on a recreation river or within a
 25 recreation river corridor when they are compatible with AS 41.23.200
 26 and consistent with a management plan adopted under AS 41.23.230:

27 (1) the use of aircraft, powerboats, snowmachines, all-
 28 terrain vehicles, motorized transportation, and transportation by
 29 animal;

- (2) the sale and harvest of wood products;
- (3) sand and gravel extraction; *for public use or use w/in corridor?*
- (4) the construction and operation of recreation facilities; and

(5) other uses permitted in the management plan required by AS 41.23.230, including ~~farming,~~ mining, and mineral development.

~~(b) In addition to the activities identified in (a) of this section, the commissioner may allow other activities on a recreation river or within a recreation river corridor when they are compatible with AS 41.23.200 and consistent with a management plan adopted under AS 41.23.230.~~

Sec. 41.23.220. GENERAL MANAGEMENT OF RECREATION RIVERS AND CORRIDORS. (a) The state-owned land and water within the area described as a recreation river and a recreation river corridor under AS 41.23.290(c) is assigned to the commissioner for management consistent with the purposes of AS 41.23.200.

(b) The commissioner shall reserve to the state under AS 46.15.-145 an instream flow or level for the water in the rivers described in AS 41.23.290(a) that is adequate to achieve the purposes of AS 41.23.-200.

(c) The commissioner may regulate boating, if necessary, under the management plan adopted under AS 41.23.230.

(d) The provisions of AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.290 do not affect the authority of

(1) the Department of Fish and Game, the Board of Fisheries, the Board of Game, or the Guide Licensing and Control Board under AS 08.54, AS 16, or AS 41.99.010;

(2) the Department of Environmental Conservation under AS 46.03; or

delete & restore old sentence in findings?

1 (3) state agencies and municipalities under AS 44.19.145-
 2 (a)(11) and AS 46.40.100.

3 (e) The commissioner may not restrict the use of weapons, in-
 4 cluding firearms, within a recreation river and a recreation river
 5 corridor except in sites of high public use such as picnic areas, boat
 6 ramps, camping grounds, and parking areas when the commissioner deter-
 7 mines that the use of weapons constitutes a threat to public safety.
 8 Except as provided in this subsection, the commissioner may not re-
 9 strict fishing, hunting, or trapping within a recreation river and a
 10 recreation river corridor.

11 (f) The commissioner may not regulate an activity under AS 41.-
 12 23.200 - 41.23.290 that occurs on a river that flows into or out of a
 13 river that has been designated as a recreation river under AS 41.23.-
 14 290(c). The authority of the commissioner under AS 41.23.200 - 41.-
 15 23.290 ceases where the water established as a recreation river under
 16 AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.290 meets water that is not established as a
 17 recreation river.

adv board →

insert *use dev & mining / forest prodn*
compensation / production
 Sec. 41.23.230. MANAGEMENT PLAN.

18 (a) The commissioner, in con-
 19 sultation with representatives of affected municipalities, shall pre-
 20 pare and adopt and may revise a management plan for each of the six
 21 recreation rivers and recreation river corridors. In preparing or
 22 revising the plan, the commissioner and each affected municipality
 23 shall consult with the public and state agencies, including the com-
 24 missioner of fish and game. In preparation or revision of the plan,
 25 the commissioner shall comply with the notice requirements of AS 38.-
 26 05.945 and provide written notice by first-class mail to private
 27 property owners in the recreation river corridors and shall hold at
 28 least two public hearings [in each of] the municipalities and commu-
 29 nities near the recreation river and the recreation river corridor.

read the adv

1 The management plan shall establish long-range guidelines and manage-
2 ment practices consistent with AS 41.23.200 to

3 (1) establish guidelines and restrictions, if necessary,
4 for an activity occurring under AS 41.23.210 to implement the purposes
5 of AS 41.23.200;

6 (2) protect, maintain, or enhance the fish and wildlife
7 habitat and the free-flowing nature of the river;

8 (3) identify special recreation values and manage the level
9 of intensity and types of recreation uses;

10 (4) designate management guidelines for development activ-
11 ities;

12 (5) ^{designate mgmt guidelines for} ~~manage~~ commercial recreation activities or development,
13 including recreation services;

14 (6) provide for necessary public services, such as trans-
15 portation and utility corridors, crossing or fording corridors, public
16 safety, and law enforcement;

17 (7) allow reasonable access to public land and private
18 inholdings, including municipal land that is offered for sale or
19 lease, and to land beyond or adjacent to the recreation river and the
20 recreation river corridor;

21 (8) establish criteria and expedient timelines to review
22 future proposed uses for compatibility with AS 41.23.200.

23 (b) The commissioner shall adopt regulations necessary to imple-
24 ment the management plan. The commissioner may not adopt regulations
25 before a management plan takes effect. ^{add enforcement}

26 (c) A management plan proposed by the commissioner under (a) of
27 this section shall be submitted to the legislature for review within
28 the first 10 days of the first regular session of the legislature to
29 convene after completion of the plan by the commissioner. The plan

1 takes effect 100 days after submission of the plan to the legislature
2 unless rejected by an act of the legislature.

3 Sec. 41.23.240. MANAGEMENT OF MUNICIPAL LAND. If a municipality
4 commits land for inclusion in a recreation river corridor described in
5 AS 41.23.290(c), the commissioner shall obtain the concurrence of the
6 municipality to the management plan proposed under AS 41.23.230 as it
7 applies to municipal land. The commissioner shall cooperate, at the
8 request of a municipality, in planning for municipal land adjacent to
9 a recreation river corridor. Municipal land not committed by a munic-
10 ipality for inclusion in a recreation river corridor is excluded from
11 the operation of the management plan.

12 Sec. 41.23.250. ACQUISITION OF ADDITIONAL LAND. (a) The com-
13 missioner may acquire in the name of the state land that is adjacent
14 to or located within the land described in AS 41.23.290(c) by pur-
15 chase, lease, gift, or exchange for inclusion within a recreation
16 river corridor.

17 (b) The commissioner may not acquire land for inclusion in a
18 recreation river corridor by eminent domain.

19 Sec. 41.23.260. APPLICATION OF PUBLIC LAND LAWS. (a) The pro-
20 visions of AS 38.04, AS 38.05, AS 38.35, and AS 38.95 apply to land
21 described in AS 41.23.290(c) except to the extent that a provision of
22 AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.290 is inconsistent.

23 (b) The commissioner may permit mining leasing under AS 38.05.-
24 205 ^{on uplands} ~~in an area~~ within a recreation river corridor if leasing is al-
25 lowed under a management plan that has been adopted by the commis-
26 sioner. The commissioner shall establish appropriate conditions for
27 permits, operating plans, and leases to mitigate the effects of min-
28 eral development activities on the environment and to prevent to the
29 extent practicable degradation of the recreation uses of the river.

1 (c) To enhance public use and enjoyment of a recreation river
2 corridor under a management plan adopted under AS 41.23.230, the
3 commissioner may provide for the construction and operation of commer-
4 cial facilities such as lodges, campgrounds, and boat launches by

5 (1) leasing land including competitive leasing to a pre-
6 qualified bidder under AS 38.05.070; and

7 (2) contracting for the construction and operation of a
8 facility under AS 36.30 so long as the facility is not in competition
9 with a private facility or enterprise.

10 (d) The commissioner of administration shall separately account
11 for funds collected under this section and deposited in the general
12 fund. The annual estimated balance in the account may be appropriated
13 by the legislature to the department to carry out the purposes of
14 AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.290.

15 Sec. 41.23.270. COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT AGREEMENTS. (a) The
16 commissioner may enter into a cooperative management agreement for the
17 management of land and water described in AS 41.23.290(c) or of other
18 adjacent land and water with a federal agency, a municipality of the
19 state, another agency of the state, or a private landowner.

20 (b) The commissioner may transfer the management of a specific
21 site within a recreation river corridor described in AS 41.23.290(c)
22 to a state agency, a municipality, or a private entity to carry out a
23 program authorized by law or to enhance the objectives of the manage-
24 ment plan adopted under AS 41.23.230.

25 (c) The commissioner may not manage a recreation river corridor
26 described in AS 41.23.290(c) as a unit of the state park system or as
27 a game refuge, game sanctuary, or a critical habitat. The commis-
28 sioner may assign management of a recreation facility or site such as
29 a campground or a boat launch to the division of parks, ~~if the~~

1 ~~commissioner assigns management of a facility or site to the division~~
2 ~~of parks, the commissioner shall adopt regulations relating to the~~
3 ~~recreation activities at the facility or site assigned to the division~~
4 ~~of parks.~~

5 Sec. 41.23.280. LIMITATION ON ESTABLISHMENT. State-owned land
6 and water may be established as a recreation river corridor only by
7 the legislature.

8 Sec. 41.23.290. ESTABLISHMENT OF RECREATION RIVERS AND RECRE-
9 ATION RIVER CORRIDORS. (a) Subject to valid existing rights, the
10 state-owned land and water within ordinary high water or mean high
11 tide on a river described in (c) of this section is established as a
12 recreation river and reserved as a special purpose area under art.
13 VIII, sec. 7, Constitution of the State of Alaska and shall be re-
14 tained by the state.

15 (b) Subject to valid existing rights, the state-owned land and
16 water outside of the boundaries of the recreation rivers established
17 under (a) of this section but within the land described in (c) of this
18 section is established as a recreation river corridor and reserved as
19 a special purpose area under art. viii, sec. 7, Constitution of the
20 State of Alaska, and shall be retained by the state.

21 (c) The land and water presently owned by the state and all land
22 and water acquired by the state in the future, including shore and
23 submerged land that lie within the following described parcels, shall
24 be managed under AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.290:

25 (1) Alexander Creek State Recreation River

26 (A) Township 16 North, Range 7 West, Seward Meridian

27 Sections 6 - 7

28 Sections 18 - 19

29 (B) Township 17 North, Range 7 West, Seward Meridian

Section 6: Otter Lake, Weenie Lake, and that
portion of the SW1/4 in Tract B, ASLS 81-77

Section 7: Otter Lake and Tracts F-2 and F-3 of
ASLS 79-147

Section 18: S1/2, W1/2NW1/4

Section 19

Sections 30 - 31

Section 32: W1/2

(C) Township 17 North, Range 8 West, Seward Meridian

Section 1

Section 2: E1/2, N1/2NW1/4

Section 3: N1/2N1/2

Section 4: N1/2, N1/2SE1/4

Section 11: NE1/4, E1/2SE1/4

Section 12

Section 13: E1/2, E1/2NW1/4

Section 24: NE1/4, E1/2SE1/4

(D) Township 18 North, Range 8 West, Seward Meridian

Section 4: W1/2

Section 5

Section 6: NE1/4

Section 8: N1/2, SE1/4

Section 9

Section 10: SW1/4

Section 14: W1/2SW1/4, SE1/4SW1/4

Section 15: W1/2, SE1/4, S1/2NE1/4

Section 16: N1/2, SE1/4

Section 22: N1/2, N1/2S1/2, S1/2SE1/4

Section 23: W1/2, W1/2SE1/4

Section 26: W1/2, W1/2E1/2, E1/2SE1/4

Section 27: E1/2NE1/4

Section 33: SW1/4, S1/2SE1/4

Section 34: S1/2S1/2

Section 35

Section 36: W1/2

(E) Township 19 North, Range 8 West, Seward Meridian

Section 19: W1/2, W1/2E1/2

Section 29: W1/2W1/2

Section 30

Section 31: E1/2, E1/2W1/2

Section 32

(F) Township 19 North, Range 9 West, Seward Meridian

Sections 3 - 4

Sections 9 - 10

Section 13: S1/2

Section 14: S1/2

Sections 15 - 16

Section 22: N1/2

Section 23: N1/2

Section 24

(2) Kroto Creek and Moose Creek State Recreation River

(A) Township 19 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian

Section 2: SW1/4

Section 3

Section 10: E1/2

Section 11

Section 14

Section 15: E1/2E1/2

1 Section 22: E1/2E1/2

2 Section 23

3 Section 25: that portion west of the eastern-
4 most bank of the Susitna River

5 Section 26

6 Section 27: E1/2E1/2

7 Section 34: NE1/4NE1/4

8 Section 35

9 Section 36: that portion west of the eastern-
10 most bank of the Susitna River

11 (B) Township 20 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian

12 Section 4

13 Section 5: E1/2

14 Section 8: NE1/4, E1/2SE1/4

15 Section 9

16 Section 15: W1/2

17 Section 16

18 Section 21: E1/2, N1/2NW1/4, SE1/4NW1/4

19 Section 22: NW1/4, S1/2

20 Section 27

21 Section 34

22 (C) Township 21 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian

23 Section 3

24 Section 9: E1/2SE1/4, SE1/4NE1/4

25 Section 10

26 Section 15: W1/2, W1/2NE1/4

27 Section 16

28 Section 20: E1/2

29 Section 21

1 Section 28

2 Section 29: E1/2

3 Section 32: E1/2E1/2, NW1/4NE1/4

4 Section 33

5 Section 34: SW1/4

6 (D) Township 22 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian

7 Sections 4 - 5

8 Section 6: E1/2, E1/2W1/2

9 Sections 7 - 9

10 Sections 16 - 18

11 Sections 20 - 21

12 Section 27

13 Section 28: N1/2, SE1/4, E1/2SW1/4

14 Section 29: E1/2NE1/4

15 Section 33: N1/2NE1/4, SE1/4NE1/4

16 Section 34

17 (E) Township 23 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian

18 Section 4

19 Section 7: W1/2

20 Section 9

21 Section 16

22 Section 17: SW1/4SW1/4

23 Sections 18 - 19

24 Section 20: W1/2NW1/4

25 Section 21

26 Section 28

27 Sections 30 - 31

28 Section 32: S1/2

29 Section 33

1 (F) Township 23 North, Range 7 West, Seward Meridian

2 Section 1

3 Section 2: E1/2

4 Sections 12 - 13

5 Section 24

6 Section 25: N1/2, SE1/4

7 Section 36: N1/2NE1/4

8 (G) Township 24 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian

9 Section 4: W1/2

10 Section 5

11 Section 6: NE1/4, E1/2SE1/4

12 Section 8: N1/2, SE1/4, E1/2SW1/4

13 Section 9

14 Section 15: SW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4

15 Section 16

16 Section 17: NE1/4, N1/2SE1/4

17 Section 21: E1/2, SE1/4SW1/4

18 Section 22: NW1/4, N1/2SW1/4, SW1/4SW1/4

19 Section 28: E1/2W1/2, E1/2

20 Section 33

21 (H) Township 24 North, Range 7 West, Seward Meridian

22 Section 6: S1/2, NW1/4

23 Section 7

24 Section 8: S1/2SW1/4

25 Section 16: W1/2, W1/2E1/2

26 Section 17

27 Section 18: N1/2N1/2, SE1/4NW1/4, S1/2NE1/4,

28 N1/2SE1/4, SE1/4SE1/4

29 Section 19: NE1/4NE1/4

1 Section 20: N1/2

2 Section 21: W1/2, SE1/4, W1/2NE1/4

3 Section 27

4 Section 28: E1/2

5 Section 33: NE1/4NE1/4

6 Section 34: E1/2, E1/2W1/2, NW1/4NW1/4

7 Section 35: W1/2, SE1/4, S1/2NE1/4

8 Section 36: SW1/4

9 (I) Township 24 North, Range 8 West, Seward Meridian

10 Section 1: E1/2

11 Section 12: NE1/4, E1/2SE1/4

12 Section 13: NE1/4NE1/4

13 (J) Township 25 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian

14 Section 5

15 Section 8

16 Section 17

17 Section 18: SE1/4

18 Section 19: E1/2, E1/2W1/2

19 Section 20: W1/2W1/2

20 Section 29: W1/2W1/2

21 Section 30: E1/2, E1/2W1/2

22 Section 31: E1/2

23 Section 32: W1/2W1/2, SE1/4SW1/4

24 (K) Township 25 North, Range 7 West, Seward Meridian

25 Section 5

26 Section 6: SE1/4, S1/2NE1/4

27 Section 7: E1/2, SW1/4, E1/2NW1/4

28 Section 8: NW1/4, W1/2SW1/4

29 Sections 18 - 19

Sections 30 -.31

1
2 (L) Township 25 North, Range 8 West, Seward Meridian

3 Section 13: E1/2SE1/4

4 Section 24: E1/2NE1/4

5 (M) Township 26 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian

6 Section 5

7 Section 8

8 Section 17: N1/2, SE1/4, N1/2SW1/4, SE1/4SW1/4

9 Section 19: SE1/4

10 Section 20: E1/2, SW1/4, S1/2NW1/4, NE1/4NW1/4

11 Section 29: E1/2, NW1/4

12 Section 30: S1/2, NE1/4, SE1/4NW1/4

13 Section 31: E1/2NE1/4, that portion of NW1/4-
14 NE1/4 within retained easement (50' each side
15 of MHWM)

16 Section 32: land within 150' of MHWM

17 (N) Township 26 North, Range 7 West, Seward Meridian

18 Section 4: W1/2

19 Section 5: E1/2, S1/2SW1/4

20 Section 7: SE1/4

21 Section 8

22 Section 9: NW1/4, N1/2SW1/4

23 Section 17

24 Section 18: E1/2

25 Section 19

26 Section 20: W1/2

27 Section 29: S1/2, NW1/4

28 Section 30

29 Section 31: NE1/4

Section 32

1
2 (O) Township 27 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian

Section 4

Section 5: E1/2

Section 8: E1/2

Section 9

Section 16

Section 17: E1/2

Section 20: E1/2

Section 21

Section 28: W1/2

Section 29: E1/2

Section 32: E1/2

Section 33: W1/2

14
15 (P) Township 27 North, Range 7 West, Seward Meridian

Section 7

Section 8: S1/2, NW1/4

Section 9: W1/2

Section 16

Section 17: N1/2, SE1/4

Section 20: E1/2

Section 21

Section 28: N1/2, SW1/4

Section 29: E1/2

Section 32: E1/2

Section 33: W1/2

26
27 (Q) Township 27 North, Range 8 West, Seward Meridian

Section 12: NE1/4

28
29 (R) Township 28 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian

1 Section 32: S1/2SE1/4

2 Section 33: S1/2S1/2

3 (3) Lake Creek State Recreation River

4 (A) Township 21 North, Range 9 West, Seward Meridian

5 Section 3

6 Section 4: Excluding Tracts A, B, C and D

7 Section 9: N1/2 Excluding Tracts A and B

8 Section 10

9 Section 15

10 (B) Township 22 North, Range 9 West, Seward Meridian

11 Section 4: NW1/4, S1/2

12 Section 5: N1/2, E1/2SE1/4

13 Section 9: N1/2, SE1/4, E1/2SW1/4

14 Section 10: W1/2SW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4

15 Section 15: W1/2

16 Section 16: E1/2, E1/2W1/2

17 Section 21: E1/2

18 Section 22: W1/2

19 Section 27: W1/2, W1/2SE1/4

20 Section 28: E1/2

21 Section 34

22 (C) Township 23 North, Range 9 West, Seward Meridian

23 Section 3: W1/2W1/2

24 Section 4

25 Section 5: E1/2, E1/2SW1/4

26 Section 7: SE1/4, SE1/4NE1/4, E1/2SW1/4

27 Section 8: S1/2, NE1/4, S1/2NW1/4, NE1/4NW1/4

28 Section 9: N1/2NW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4, NW1/4SW1/4

29 Section 17: W1/2, W1/2E1/2

1 Section 18: E1/2

2 Section 19: N1/2, SE1/4, E1/2SW1/4

3 Section 20: W1/2, SE1/4, S1/2NE1/4, NW1/4NE1/4

4 Section 29

5 Section 30: NE1/4, E1/2NW1/4, NE1/4SW1/4, SE1/4

6 Section 32

7 Section 33: S1/2SW1/4, NW1/4SW1/4

8 (D) Township 24 North, Range 9 West, Seward Meridian

9 Section 28: S1/2SW1/4, SW1/4SE1/4

10 Section 29: NW1/4, S1/2

11 Section 30

12 Section 31: N1/2

13 Section 32: NW1/4, E1/2

14 Section 33

15 Section 34: SW1/4SW1/4

16 (E) Township 24 North, Range 10 West, Seward Meridian

17 Section 3

18 Section 4: E1/2

19 Section 10

20 Section 11: W1/2, W1/2SE1/4, SW1/4NE1/4

21 Section 13: W1/2W1/2

22 Section 14

23 Section 15: NE1/4

24 Section 23: N1/2, SE1/4

25 Section 24: W1/2, S1/2SE1/4, NW1/4SE1/4

26 Section 25

27 Section 36: NE1/4, E1/2NW1/4

28 (F) Township 25 North, Range 10 West, Seward Meridian

29 Sections 6 - 7

Section 8: S1/2, NW1/4

Section 16: W1/2

Section 17

Section 18: E1/2

Section 20: SE1/4, N1/2

Section 21

Section 22: W1/2

Section 25: SW1/4

Section 26: S1/2

Section 27

Section 28: E1/2, NW1/4

Sections 34 - 35

Section 36: W1/2

(G) Township 25 North, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian

Section 1: E1/2

(H) Township 26 North, Range 10 West, Seward Meridian

Section 31

(I) Township 26 North, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian

Sections 3 - 4

Section 9: E1/2

Section 10

Section 14: W1/2

Section 15

Section 22: E1/2, E1/2NW1/4

Section 23

Section 25: S1/2, NW1/4

Section 26

Section 27: NE1/4

Section 35: NE1/4

Section 36

(J) Township 27 North, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian

Section 6: SW1/4

Section 7

Section 8: SW1/4

Sections 17 - 18

Section 19: N1/2, SE1/4

Section 20

Section 21: SW1/4

Sections 28 - 29

Section 30: NE1/4

Section 32: E1/2

Section 33

Section 34: W1/2

(K) Township 27 North, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian

Sections 1 - 3

Section 10: N1/2, SE1/4

Sections 11 - 14

Section 15: NE1/4

Section 23: NE1/4

Section 24: N1/2

(L) Township 28 North, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian

Sections 1 - 5

Sections 8 - 12

Sections 13 - 17

Sections 21 - 24

Sections 25 - 28

Sections 33 - 36

(4) Little Susitna State Recreation River: the water column

1 of the main stream of the Little Susitna River from mean high water
2 mark to mean high water mark, from the point at which the river cross-
3 es the section line dividing Sections 23 and 26 in Township 19 North,
4 Range 1 East, Seward Meridian downstream to the point at which the
5 river crosses the section line between Sections 15 and 22 in Township
6 16 North, Range 5 West, Seward Meridian; the water column of Lake
7 Creek from mean high water mark to mean high water mark, from the
8 point at which the creek crosses the section line dividing Sections 10
9 and 11, Township 18 North, Range 4 West, Seward Meridian downstream to
10 the confluence with the Little Susitna River; and

11 (A) Township 16 North, Range 5 West, Seward Meridian

12 Section 3

13 Section 4: E1/2NE1/4

14 Section 10: E1/2, E1/2W1/2

15 Section 15: E1/2, E1/2W1/2

16 (B) Township 17 North, Range 4 West, Seward Meridian

17 Section 4

18 Section 6: SW1/4

19 Section 7: W1/2, S1/2SE1/4

20 Section 8: E1/2, S1/2SW1/4

21 Section 17: NW1/4

22 Section 18: N1/2, N1/2SW1/4

23 (C) Township 17 North, Range 5 West, Seward Meridian

24 Sections 12 - 15

25 Section 22

26 Section 23: N1/2N1/2, SW1/4NW1/4, W1/2SW1/4

27 Section 26: W1/2W1/2

28 Section 27

29 Section 34

- 1 (D) Township 18 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian
2 Section 8: NW1/4, SW1/4NE1/4, S1/2NW1/4NE1/4
- 3 (E) Township 18 North, Range 1 West, Seward Meridian
4 Section 15: N1/2NW1/4
5 Section 16: NW1/4, N1/2NE1/4, SE1/4NE1/4
- 6 (F) Township 18 North, Range 2 West, Seward Meridian
7 Section 15: NW1/4, N1/2NE1/4, NW1/4SW1/4
8 Section 16: S1/2
9 Section 17: S1/2
10 Section 19: NW1/4, W1/2NE1/4, E1/2SW1/4.
- 11 (G) Township 18 North, Range 3 West, Seward Meridian
12 Section 19
13 Section 20: SW1/4, W1/2SE1/4, SE1/4NW1/4,
14 W1/2NW1/4
15 Section 28: N1/2NW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4
16 Section 29: NE1/4
17 Section 30
- 18 (H) Township 18 North, Range 4 West, Seward Meridian
19 Section 11: SW1/4, SW1/4SE1/4, SW1/4NW1/4
20 Section 13: S1/2, SW1/4NW1/4
21 Section 14
22 Section 24
23 Section 25: N1/2
24 Section 26
25 Section 27: S1/2
26 Section 33: S1/2, S1/2NE1/4
27 Section 34
28 Section 35: NW1/4, W1/2NE1/4
- 29 (5) Talachulitna State Recreation River

- 1 (A) Township 16 North, Range 10 West, Seward Meridian
2 Section 6: W1/2
3 Section 7: NW1/4, N1/2SW1/4
- 4 (B) Township 16 North, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian
5 Section 1: E1/2, SW1/4
6 Section 2: S1/2, NW1/4
7 Section 3
8 Section 11: N1/2, N1/2S1/2
9 Section 12: N1/2, N1/2S1/2
- 10 (C) Township 17 North, Range 10 West, Seward Meridian
11 Section 6: W1/2, W1/2SE1/4
12 Section 7
13 Sections 18 - 19
14 Sections 30 - 31
- 15 (D) Township 17 North, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian
16 Section 1: E1/2E1/2
17 Section 3: W1/2
18 Sections 4 - 5
19 Section 6: S1/2
20 Sections 7 - 8
21 Section 9: N1/2, SE1/4
22 Section 10
23 Section 14: W1/2
24 Section 15
25 Section 17: NW1/4
26 Section 18: N1/2, SW1/4
27 Section 19: NW1/4NW1/4
28 Section 22
29 Section 23: W1/2

1 Section 25: E1/2E1/2

2 Section 26: W1/2

3 Section 27

4 Section 34

5 Section 35: W1/2

6 (E) Township 17 North, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian

7 Section 7: S1/2

8 Section 12: S1/2

9 Section 13

10 Section 14: S1/2

11 Section 15: S1/2

12 Section 16: S1/2

13 Sections 17 - 18

14 Section 20: E1/2

15 Sections 21 - 23

16 Section 24: N1/2, N1/2S1/2

17 (F) Township 17 North, Range 13 West, Seward Meridian

18 Section 9: S1/2

19 Section 10: S1/2

20 Section 11: S1/2

21 Section 12: S1/2

22 Sections 13 - 16

23 Section 24: N1/2

24 (G) Township 18 North, Range 10 West, Seward Meridian

25 Section 18: SW1/4SW1/4

26 Section 19: NW1/4, S1/2NE1/4, E1/2SW1/4, SE1/4

27 Section 20: S1/2, NE1/4

28 Section 21

29 Section 22: W1/2W1/2

1 Section 26: W1/2SW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4

2 Section 27: S1/2, S1/2N1/2

3 Sections 28 - 29

4 Section 30: E1/2, E1/2W1/2

5 Section 31: NE1/4, S1/2NW1/4, NE1/4NW1/4,
6 SW1/4, W1/2SE1/4

7 Section 33: NE1/4NE1/4

8 Section 34: N1/2NW1/4

9 (H) Township 18 North, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian

10 Section 6: W1/2, W1/2E1/2, E1/2SE1/4

11 Section 7

12 Section 11: E1/2SE1/4

13 Section 12: SW1/4SW1/4

14 Section 13: NW1/4, E1/2SW1/4, SE1/4

15 Section 16: SW1/4

16 Sections 17 - 18

17 Section 19: NE1/4

18 Section 20: N1/2, SE1/4

19 Section 21: W1/2

20 Section 24: E1/2NE1/4

21 Section 28

22 Section 29: E1/2

23 Section 32: E1/2

24 Section 33

25 Section 36: E1/2SE1/4SE1/4SE1/4

26 (I) Township 18 North, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian

27 Sections 1 - 2

28 Section 12: N1/2, SE1/4

29 (J) Township 19 North, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian

1 Section 3: N1/2, SW1/4

2 Section 4: E1/2E1/2, W1/2SE1/4, SE1/4SW1/4

3 Section 9: E1/2, SW1/4, E1/2NW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4

4 Section 10: NW1/4

5 Section 15: W1/2SW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4

6 Section 16

7 Section 21

8 Section 22: W1/2W1/2, E1/2SW1/4, SW1/4SE1/4

9 Sections 27 - 28

10 Section 34

11 Section 35: S1/2, NW1/4

12 (K) Township 20 North, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian

13 Section 18: W1/2

14 Section 19: W1/2

15 (L) Township 20 North, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian

16 Section 1

17 Section 2: N1/2

18 Section 11: E1/2

19 Sections 12 - 13

20 Section 14: E1/2

21 Sections 23 - 24

22 Section 25: N1/2

23 Section 26

24 Section 27: E1/2

25 Section 34: S1/2, NE1/4, SE1/4NW1/4

26 Section 35: NW1/4

27 (M) Township 21 North, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian

28 Section 31: W1/2

29 (N) Township 21 North, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian

1 Section 25: SW1/4, SW1/4SE1/4

2 Section 26: E1/2SE1/4, SW1/4SE1/4

3 Section 35: E1/2, SW1/4

4 Section 36

5 (6) Talkeetna State Recreation River: the water column of
6 the Talkeetna River from mean high water mark to mean high water mark
7 from the point at which it crosses the line dividing Townships 28 and
8 29 North, Seward Meridian, downstream to its confluence with the
9 Susitna River; the water column of Chunilna Creek from mean high water
10 mark to mean high water mark from the point at which it crosses the
11 line dividing Townships 27 and 28 North, Seward Meridian, downstream
12 to its confluence with the Talkeetna River; and

13 (A) Township 26 North, Range 3 West, Seward Meridian

14 Sections 1 - 2: north of the left bank of the
15 Sheep River

16 Section 3: all land north of the left bank of
17 the Talkeetna River and Tract B of ASLS 81 -
18 196

19 Section 4: all land north of the left bank of
20 the Talkeetna River and Tract A of ASLS 81 -
21 196

22 Section 5: all land north of the left bank of
23 the Talkeetna River and Tract C of ASLS 80 -
24 94

25 Section 6: all land north of the left bank of
26 the Talkeetna River and Tract A of ASLS
27 80 - 84

28 (B) Township 26 North, Range 4 West, Seward Meridian

29 Sections 1 - 3: exclusive of ASLS 79 - 149

1 Section 4: E1/2, SW1/4 exclusive of ASLS 79 -
2 149

3 Section 7: S1/2

4 Section 8: S1/2 exclusive of ASLS 79 - 149

5 Section 9: E1/2, E1/2W1/2

6 Section 17: that portion north of the left bank
7 of the Talkeetna River

8 Section 18: exclusive of DOT 200642

9 (C) Township 26 North, Range 5 West, Seward Meridian

10 Section 12: E1/2SE1/4

11 Section 13: E1/2, E1/2SW1/4, SW1/4SW1/4

12 Section 23: that portion northeast of the left
13 bank of the Susitna River

14 Section 24: that portion east of the left bank
15 of the Susitna River and west of the right
16 bank of the main channel of the Talkeetna
17 River (that channel of the river that runs
18 diagonally through the NE 1/4 and SW1/4 of
19 Sec. 24)

20 (D) Township 27 North, Range 1 West, Seward Meridian

21 Section 1

22 Section 2: S1/2, NE1/4, S1/2NW1/4

23 Section 3: S1/2, S1/2N1/2

24 Section 4: SE1/4

25 Sections 7 - 10

26 Section 11: N1/2

27 Section 12: NW1/4

28 Section 15: NW1/4

29 Section 16: N1/2

1 Section 17: N1/2

2 Section 18: N1/2

3 (E) Township 27 North, Range 2 West, Seward Meridian

4 Section 2: SW1/4

5 Section 3: S1/2

6 Section 4: S1/2

7 Section 5: SE1/4, E1/2SW1/4

8 Section 7: SE1/4

9 Sections 8 - 12

10 Section 13: N1/2

11 Section 14: N1/2NE1/4

12 Section 17

13 Section 18: E1/2, SW1/4

14 Section 19

15 Section 20: N1/2, SW1/4

16 Section 30: W1/2

17 (F) Township 27 North, Range 3 West, Seward Meridian

18 Section 24: E1/2

19 Section 25

20 Section 26: SE1/4

21 Section 31: S1/2

22 Section 32: S1/2 exclusive of ASLS 79 - 149

23 Section 33: S1/2S1/2 exclusive of ASLS 79 - 149

24 Section 34: S1/2S1/2 exclusive of ASLS 79 - 149
25 and ASLS 76 - 138

26 Sections 35 - 36

27 (G) Township 27 North, Range 4 West, Seward Meridian

28 Section 36: S1/2SE1/4 exclusive of ASLS 74 - 77
29 and ASLS 74 - 78

(H) Township 27 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian
Section 5: NW1/4

Section 6

(I) Township 28 North, Range 1 West, Seward Meridian
Section 36: SE1/4SE1/4

(J) Township 28 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian
Section 2

Section 3: SE1/4

Section 9: SE1/4

Section 10

Section 11: NW1/4, W1/2NE1/4, W1/2SW1/4

Section 15: N1/2, SW1/4

Section 16: E1/2SW1/4

Section 20: SE1/4

Section 21

Section 22: NW1/4

Section 28: N1/2, SW1/4

Section 29: E1/2, SW1/4, SE1/4NW1/4

Section 31: SW1/4, E1/2

Section 32

Section 33: NW1/4

ARTICLE 4. GENERAL PROVISIONS.

Sec. 41.23.900. DEFINITION. In this chapter, "commissioner" means the commissioner of natural resources.

* Sec. 3. Until a management plan has been adopted for a recreation river or a recreation river corridor under AS 41.23.230(a), as enacted in sec. 2 of this Act, interim management of the recreation river or recreation river corridor shall be consistent with AS 41.23.200. ^{Except for negotiated sales} Under AS 38.-05.115, the commissioner of natural resources may ^{not} dispose of timber or

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other resources within a recreational river corridor before the adoption of the management plan for the recreation river corridor. The commissioner of natural resources shall propose a management plan for each recreation river and each recreation river corridor by the first 10 days of the Second Regular Session of the Eighteenth Alaska State Legislature.

* Sec. 4. This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

5-0230P

Bradley
4/14/88

Original sponsors: Cotten, Pourchot,
Rieger, et al.

IN THE HOUSE

BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 93 (Resources)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

A BILL

For an Act entitled: "An Act establishing six recreation rivers; and providing for an effective date."

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

* Section 1. FINDINGS AND INTENT. The legislature finds that the special values and uses of six rivers in Southcentral Alaska justify the retention of the rivers and their adjacent corridors for public use. The six rivers should be managed for public recreation and the six river corridors can support many public uses, including some that will enhance the local economy as well as improve access to public and private land outside the river corridors. The designation of the six rivers and their corridors recognizes the value of the rivers and their corridors for public use and is not intended to become an undue impediment to multiple use land and water management or the enjoyment of adjacent public and private land, or to the development of access within, across, and around the rivers and their corridors. The legislature is particularly concerned that an owner of land or a legal interest in land within or adjacent to the river corridors be allowed reasonable access to and the full use of the rights.

* Sec. 2. AS 41.23 is amended by adding new sections to read:

ARTICLE 3. RECREATION RIVERS.

Sec. 41.23.200. PURPOSES. (a) The purpose of AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.310 is to establish as recreation rivers the land and water now owned by the state and the land and water acquired in the future by the state that lies within the recreation rivers and the river corridors described in AS 41.23.300~~(c)~~.

5-0230P
Bradley
4/14/88

(b) The primary purpose for the establishment of the six recreation rivers is the maintenance and enhancement of the land and water described in AS 41.23.300 for recreation.

(c) The primary purposes for the management of the six recreation rivers are

(1) multiple use management of upland activities within the recreation river corridor to ensure that mitigation measures to alleviate potential adverse effects on water quality and stream flow will take place;

(2) ~~assess~~ the protection and maintenance of the fish and wildlife populations and habitat on a sustained-yield basis;

(3) continued recreation and economic use, (including the uses described in ~~(1)~~³ and ~~(2)~~⁴ of this subsection,) and enjoyment by the public and individuals of recreational activities that include hunting, fishing, trapping, camping, boating, hiking, snowmachining, skiing, dog mushing, and wildlife viewing, while ensuring the scenic and fundamental characteristics of the recreation river; and

(4) accommodation of access for economic uses including recreation and tourism, within or adjacent to the river corridor.

Sec. 41.23.210. COMPATIBLE ACTIVITIES. The commissioner shall allow the following activities on a recreation river or within a recreation river corridor when they are compatible with AS 41.23.200 and consistent with a management plan adopted under AS 41.23.240:

(1) the use of aircraft, powerboats, snowmachines, all-terrain vehicles, motorized transportation, and transportation by animal;

(2) ~~the~~^{harvested} the [sale] and harvest of wood products;

(3) sand and gravel extraction;

(4) the construction and operation of recreation

1 facilities; and

2 (5) other uses permitted in the management plan required by
3 AS 41.23.230, including mining and mineral development.

4 Sec. 41.23.220. GENERAL MANAGEMENT OF RECREATION RIVERS AND
5 CORRIDORS. (a) The state-owned land and water within the area estab-
6 lished as a recreation river under AS 41.23.300, including the recre-
7 ation river corridor, is assigned to the commissioner for management
8 consistent with the purposes of AS 41.23.200.

9 (b) The commissioner shall reserve to the state under AS 46.15.-
10 145 an instream flow or level for the water in the rivers described in
11 AS 41.23.300 that is adequate to achieve the purposes of AS 41.23.200.

12 (c) The commissioner may regulate boating, if necessary, under
13 the management plan adopted under AS 41.23.240.

14 (d) The provisions of AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.310 do not affect the
15 authority of

16 (1) the Department of Fish and Game, the Board of Fisher-
17 ies, the Board of Game, or the Guide Licensing and Control Board under
18 AS 08.54, AS 16, or AS 41.99.010;

19 (2) the Department of Environmental Conservation under
20 AS 46.03; or

21 (3) state agencies and municipalities under AS 44.19.145-
22 (a)(11) and AS 46.40.100.

23 (e) The commissioner may not restrict the use of weapons, in-
24 cluding firearms, within a recreation river and a recreation river
25 corridor except in sites of high public use such as picnic areas, boat
26 ramps, camping grounds, and parking areas when the commissioner deter-
27 mines that the use of weapons constitutes a threat to public safety.
28 Except as provided in this subsection, the commissioner may not re-
29 strict fishing, hunting, or trapping within a recreation river and its

recreation river corridor.

except within the river corridor,

(f) The commissioner may not regulate an activity under AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.310 that occurs on a river that flows into ~~or out of~~ a river that has been designated as a recreation river under AS 41.23.300. The authority of the commissioner under AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.310 ceases where the water established as a recreation river under AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.310 ^{flows into} ~~meets~~ water that is not established as a recreation river.

Sec. 41.23.230. ADVISORY BOARD. (a) An eleven-member Recreation Rivers Advisory Board is established and shall be appointed by the governor. Board members serve without compensation and are not entitled to per diem and travel expenses authorized by law for boards and commissions under AS 39.20.180. The governor shall appoint members representing the following user groups:

- (1) commercial fishing;
- (2) sport fishing;
- (3) sport hunting;
- (4) conservation;
- ~~(5) resource development;~~ *sub.*
- (6) forest products;
- (7) mining;
- (8) powerboat users;
- (9) recreationally-oriented commercial users; and
- (10) other recreational users.

(b) ⁽¹¹⁾ The commissioner shall consult ~~with~~ *sub.* the advisory board in preparing, adopting, and revising the recreation river management plan and regulations affecting use and management of the recreation rivers.

Sec. 41.23.240. MANAGEMENT PLAN. (a) The commissioner, in consultation with representatives of affected municipalities, shall

1 prepare and adopt and may revise a management plan for each of the six
2 recreation rivers and their recreation river corridors. In preparing
3 or revising the plan, the commissioner and each affected municipality
4 shall consult with the public and state agencies, including the com-
5 missioner of fish and game and the advisory board established under
6 AS 41.23.230. In preparation or revision of the plan, the commis-
7 sioner shall comply with the notice requirements of AS 38.05.945 and
8 provide written notice by first-class mail to private property owners
9 in the recreation river corridors and shall hold at least two public
10 hearings in municipalities and communities near the recreation river
11 and the recreation river corridor. The management plan shall estab-
12 lish long-range guidelines and management practices consistent with
13 AS 41.23.200 to

14 (1) establish guidelines and restrictions, if necessary,
15 for an activity occurring under AS 41.23.210 to implement the purposes
16 of AS 41.23.200;

17 (2) protect, maintain, or enhance the fish and wildlife
18 habitat and the free-flowing nature of the river;

19 (3) identify special recreation values and manage the level
20 of intensity and types of recreation uses;

21 (4) designate management guidelines for development activ-
22 ities;

23 (5) designate management guidelines for commercial recre-
24 ation activities or development, including recreation services;

25 (6) provide for necessary public services, such as trans-
26 portation and utility corridors, crossing or fording corridors, public
27 safety, and law enforcement;

28 (7) allow reasonable access to public land and private
29 inholdings, including municipal land that is offered for sale or

1 lease, and to land beyond or adjacent to the recreation river and the
2 recreation river corridor;

3 (8) establish criteria and expedient timelines to review
4 future proposed uses for compatibility with AS 41.23.200.

5 (b) The commissioner shall adopt regulations necessary to imple-
6 ment the management plan. The commissioner may not adopt regulations
7 before a management plan takes effect. The commissioner may designate
8 employees of the department as peace officers to enforce the pro-
9 visions of AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.310.

10 (c) A management plan proposed by the commissioner under (a) of
11 this section shall be submitted to the legislature for review within
12 the first 10 days of the first regular session of the legislature to
13 convene after completion of the plan by the commissioner. The plan
14 takes effect 100 days after submission of the plan to the legislature
15 unless rejected by an act of the legislature.

16 Sec. 41.23.250. MANAGEMENT OF MUNICIPAL LAND. If a municipality
17 commits land for inclusion in a recreation river corridor described in
18 AS 41.23.300, the commissioner shall obtain the concurrence of the
19 municipality to the management plan proposed under AS 41.23.240 as it
20 applies to municipal land. The commissioner shall cooperate, at the
21 request of a municipality, in planning for municipal land adjacent to
22 a recreation river corridor. Municipal land not committed by a munic-
23 ipality for inclusion in a recreation river corridor is excluded from
24 the operation of the management plan.

25 Sec. 41.23.260. ACQUISITION OF ADDITIONAL LAND. (a) The com-
26 missioner may acquire in the name of the state land that is adjacent
27 to or located within the land described in AS 41.23.300 by purchase,
28 lease, gift, or exchange for inclusion within a recreation river
29 corridor.

(b) The commissioner may not acquire land for inclusion in a recreation river corridor by eminent domain.

Sec. 41.23.270. APPLICATION OF PUBLIC LAND LAWS. (a) The provisions of AS 38.04, AS 38.05, AS 38.35, and AS 38.95 apply to land described in AS 41.23.300 except to the extent that a provision of AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.310 is inconsistent.

(b) The commissioner may permit mining leasing under AS 38.05.-205 on upland within a recreation river corridor if leasing is allowed under a management plan that has been adopted by the commissioner. The commissioner shall establish appropriate conditions for permits, operating plans, and leases to mitigate the effects of mineral development activities on the environment and to prevent to the extent practicable degradation of the recreation uses of the river.

(c) To enhance public use and enjoyment of a recreation river corridor under a management plan adopted under AS 41.23.240, the commissioner may provide for the construction and operation of commercial facilities such as lodges, campgrounds, and boat launches by

(1) leasing land under AS 38.05.070, including competitive leasing to a prequalified bidder; and

(2) contracting for the construction and operation of a facility under AS 36.30 so long as the facility is not in competition with a private facility or enterprise.

(d) The commissioner of administration shall separately account for funds collected under this section and deposited in the general fund. The annual estimated balance in the account may be appropriated by the legislature to the department to carry out the purposes of AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.310.

(d) The commissioner may conduct negotiated timber sales under AS 38.05.115 to provide for personal use, including horseback and firewood, or incidental to the construction of acc in the river corri

Sec. 41.23.280. COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT AGREEMENTS. (a) The commissioner may enter into a cooperative management agreement for the

1 management of land and water described in AS 41.23.300 or of other
 2 adjacent land and water with a federal agency, a municipality, another
 3 agency of the state, or a private landowner.

4 (b) The commissioner may transfer the management of a specific
 5 site within a recreation river corridor described in AS 41.23.300 to a
 6 state agency, a municipality, or a private entity to carry out a
 7 program authorized by law or to enhance the objectives of the manage-
 8 ment plan adopted under AS 41.23.240.

9 (c) The commissioner may not manage a recreation river corridor
 10 described in AS 41.23.300 as a unit of the state park system or as a
 11 game refuge, game sanctuary, or a critical habitat. The commissioner
 12 may assign management of a recreation facility or site such as a
 13 campground or a boat launch to the division of parks.

14 Sec. 41.23.290. LIMITATION ON ESTABLISHMENT. State-owned land
 15 and water may be established as a recreation river corridor only by
 16 the legislature.

17 Sec. 41.23.300. ESTABLISHMENT OF RECREATION RIVERS AND RECRE-
 18 ATION RIVER CORRIDORS. Subject to valid existing rights, the state-
 19 owned land and water and all land and water acquired by the state in
 20 the future, including shore and submerged land that lies within the
 21 following described parcels, is established as a recreation river and
 22 reserved as a special purpose area under art. VIII, sec. 7, Constitu-
 23 tion of the State of Alaska and shall be retained by the state and be
 24 managed under AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.310:

- 25 (1) Alexander Creek State Recreation River
 - 26 (A) Township 16 North, Range 7 West, Seward Meridian¹⁴
 - 27 Sections 6 - 7
 - 28 Sections 18 - 19
 - 29 (B) Township 17 North, Range 7 West, Seward Meridian

1 Section 6: Otter Lake, Weenie Lake, and that
2 portion of the SW1/4 in Tract B, ASLS 81-77

3 Section 7: Otter Lake and Tracts F-2 and F-3 of
4 ASLS 79-147

5 Section 18: S1/2, W1/2NW1/4

6 Section 19

7 Sections 30 - 31

8 Section 32: W1/2

9 (C) Township 17 North, Range 8 West, Seward Meridian

10 Section 1

11 Section 2: E1/2, N1/2NW1/4

12 Section 3: N1/2N1/2

13 Section 4: N1/2, N1/2SE1/4

14 Section 11: NE1/4, E1/2SE1/4

15 Section 12

16 Section 13: E1/2, E1/2NW1/4

17 Section 24: NE1/4, E1/2SE1/4

18 (D) Township 18 North, Range 8 West, Seward Meridian

19 Section 4: W1/2

20 Section 5

21 Section 6: NE1/4

22 Section 8: N1/2, SE1/4

23 Section 9

24 Section 10: SW1/4

25 Section 14: W1/2SW1/4, SE1/4SW1/4

26 Section 15: W1/2, SE1/4, S1/2NE1/4

27 Section 16: N1/2, SE1/4

28 Section 22: N1/2, N1/2S1/2, S1/2SE1/4

29 Section 23: W1/2, W1/2SE1/4

1 Section 26: W1/2, W1/2E1/2, E1/2SE1/4

2 Section 27: E1/2NE1/4

3 Section 33: SW1/4, S1/2SE1/4

4 Section 34: S1/2S1/2

5 Section 35

6 Section 36: W1/2

7 (E) Township 19 North, Range 8 West, Seward Meridian

8 Section 19: W1/2, W1/2E1/2

9 Section 29: W1/2W1/2

10 Section 30

11 Section 31: E1/2, E1/2W1/2

12 Section 32

13 (F) Township 19 North, Range 9 West, Seward Meridian

14 Sections 3 - 4

15 Sections 9 - 10

16 Section 13: S1/2

17 Section 14: S1/2

18 Sections 15 - 16

19 Section 22: N1/2

20 Section 23: N1/2

21 Section 24

22 (2) Kroto Creek and Moose Creek State Recreation River

23 (A) Township 19 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian

24 Section 2: SW1/4

25 Section 3

26 Section 10: E1/2

27 Section 11

28 Section 14

29 Section 15: E1/2E1/2

1 Section 22: E1/2E1/2

2 Section 23

3 Section 25: that portion west of the eastern-
4 most bank of the Susitna River

5 Section 26

6 Section 27: E1/2E1/2

7 Section 34: NE1/4NE1/4

8 Section 35

9 Section 36: that portion west of the eastern-
10 most bank of the Susitna River

11 (B) Township 20 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian

12 Section 4

13 Section 5: E1/2

14 Section 8: NE1/4, E1/2SE1/4

15 Section 9

16 Section 15: W1/2

17 Section 16

18 Section 21: E1/2, N1/2NW1/4, SE1/4NW1/4

19 Section 22: NW1/4, S1/2

20 Section 27

21 Section 34

22 (C) Township 21 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian

23 Section 3

24 Section 9: E1/2SE1/4, SE1/4NE1/4

25 Section 10

26 Section 15: W1/2, W1/2NE1/4

27 Section 16

28 Section 20: E1/2

29 Section 21

1 Section 28

2 Section 29: E1/2

3 Section 32: E1/2E1/2, NW1/4NE1/4

4 Section 33

5 Section 34: SW1/4

6 (D) Township 22 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian

7 Sections 4 - 5

8 Section 6: E1/2, E1/2W1/2

9 Sections 7 - 9

10 Sections 16 - 18

11 Sections 20 - 21

12 Section 27

13 Section 28: N1/2, SE1/4, E1/2SW1/4

14 Section 29: E1/2NE1/4

15 Section 33: N1/2NE1/4, SE1/4NE1/4

16 Section 34

17 (E) Township 23 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian

18 Section 4

19 Section 7: W1/2

20 Section 9

21 Section 16

22 Section 17: SW1/4SW1/4

23 Sections 18 - 19

24 Section 20: W1/2NW1/4

25 Section 21

26 Section 28

27 Sections 30 - 31

28 Section 32: S1/2

29 Section 33

(F) Township 23 North, Range 7 West, Seward Meridian

Section 1

Section 2: E1/2

Sections 12 - 13

Section 24

Section 25: N1/2, SE1/4

Section 36: N1/2NE1/4

(G) Township 24 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian

Section 4: W1/2

Section 5

Section 6: NE1/4, E1/2SE1/4

Section 8: N1/2, SE1/4, E1/2SW1/4

Section 9

Section 15: SW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4

Section 16

Section 17: NE1/4, N1/2SE1/4

Section 21: E1/2, SE1/4SW1/4

Section 22: NW1/4, N1/2SW1/4, SW1/4SW1/4

Section 28: E1/2W1/2, E1/2

Section 33

(H) Township 24 North, Range 7 West, Seward Meridian

Section 6: S1/2, NW1/4

Section 7

Section 8: S1/2SW1/4

Section 16: W1/2, W1/2E1/2

Section 17

Section 18: N1/2N1/2, SE1/4NW1/4, S1/2NE1/4,

N1/2SE1/4, SE1/4SE1/4

Section 19: NE1/4NE1/4

1 Section 20: N1/2

2 Section 21: W1/2, SE1/4, W1/2NE1/4

3 Section 27

4 Section 28: E1/2

5 Section 33: NE1/4NE1/4

6 Section 34: E1/2, E1/2W1/2, NW1/4NW1/4

7 Section 35: W1/2, SE1/4, S1/2NE1/4

8 Section 36: SW1/4

9 (I) Township 24 North, Range 8 West, Seward Meridian

10 Section 1: E1/2

11 Section 12: NE1/4, E1/2SE1/4

12 Section 13: NE1/4NE1/4

13 (J) Township 25 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian

14 Section 5

15 Section 8

16 Section 17

17 Section 18: SE1/4

18 Section 19: E1/2, E1/2W1/2

19 Section 20: W1/2W1/2

20 Section 29: W1/2W1/2

21 Section 30: E1/2, E1/2W1/2

22 Section 31: E1/2

23 Section 32: W1/2W1/2, SE1/4SW1/4

24 (K) Township 25 North, Range 7 West, Seward Meridian

25 Section 5

26 Section 6: SE1/4, S1/2NE1/4

27 Section 7: E1/2, SW1/4, E1/2NW1/4

28 Section 8: NW1/4, W1/2SW1/4

29 Sections 18 - 19

Sections 30 - 31

1
2 (L) Township 25 North, Range 8 West, Seward Meridian

3 Section 13: E1/2SE1/4

4 Section 24: E1/2NE1/4

5 (M) Township 26 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian

6 Section 5

7 Section 8

8 Section 17: N1/2, SE1/4, N1/2SW1/4, SE1/4SW1/4

9 Section 19: SE1/4

10 Section 20: E1/2, SW1/4, S1/2NW1/4, NE1/4NW1/4

11 Section 29: E1/2, NW1/4

12 Section 30: S1/2, NE1/4, SE1/4NW1/4

13 Section 31: E1/2NE1/4, that portion of NW1/4-
14 NE1/4 within retained easement (50' each side
15 of MHW)

16 Section 32: land within 150' of MHW

17 (N) Township 26 North, Range 7 West, Seward Meridian

18 Section 4: W1/2

19 Section 5: E1/2, S1/2SW1/4

20 Section 7: SE1/4

21 Section 8

22 Section 9: NW1/4, N1/2SW1/4

23 Section 17

24 Section 18: E1/2

25 Section 19

26 Section 20: W1/2

27 Section 29: S1/2, NW1/4

28 Section 30

29 Section 31: NE1/4

Section 32

(O) Township 27 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian

Section 4

Section 5: E1/2

Section 8: E1/2

Section 9

Section 16

Section 17: E1/2

Section 20: E1/2

Section 21

Section 28: W1/2

Section 29: E1/2

Section 32: E1/2

Section 33: W1/2

(P) Township 27 North, Range 7 West, Seward Meridian

Section 7

Section 8: S1/2, NW1/4

Section 9: W1/2

Section 16

Section 17: N1/2, SE1/4

Section 20: E1/2

Section 21

Section 28: N1/2, SW1/4

Section 29: E1/2

Section 32: E1/2

Section 33: W1/2

(Q) Township 27 North, Range 8 West, Seward Meridian

Section 12: NE1/4

(R) Township 28 North, Range 6 West, Seward Meridian

Section 32: S1/2SE1/4

Section 33: S1/2S1/2

(3) Lake Creek State Recreation River

(A) Township 21 North, Range 9 West, Seward Meridian

Section 3

Section 4: Excluding Tracts A, B, C and D

Section 9: N1/2 Excluding Tracts A and B

Section 10

Section 15

(B) Township 22 North, Range 9 West, Seward Meridian

Section 4: NW1/4, S1/2

Section 5: N1/2, E1/2SE1/4

Section 9: N1/2, SE1/4, E1/2SW1/4

Section 10: W1/2SW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4

Section 15: W1/2

Section 16: E1/2, E1/2W1/2

Section 21: E1/2

Section 22: W1/2

Section 27: W1/2, W1/2SE1/4

Section 28: E1/2

Section 34

(C) Township 23 North, Range 9 West, Seward Meridian

Section 3: W1/2W1/2

Section 4

Section 5: E1/2, E1/2SW1/4

Section 7: SE1/4, SE1/4NE1/4, E1/2SW1/4

Section 8: S1/2, NE1/4, S1/2NW1/4, NE1/4NW1/4

Section 9: N1/2NW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4, NW1/4SW1/4

Section 17: W1/2, W1/2E1/2

1 Section 18: E1/2

2 Section 19: N1/2, SE1/4, E1/2SW1/4

3 Section 20: W1/2, SE1/4, S1/2NE1/4, NW1/4NE1/4

4 Section 29

5 Section 30: NE1/4, E1/2NW1/4, NE1/4SW1/4, SE1/4

6 Section 32

7 Section 33: S1/2SW1/4, NW1/4SW1/4

8 (D) Township 24 North, Range 9 West, Seward Meridian

9 Section 28: S1/2SW1/4, SW1/4SE1/4

10 Section 29: NW1/4, S1/2

11 Section 30

12 Section 31: N1/2

13 Section 32: NW1/4, E1/2

14 Section 33

15 Section 34: SW1/4SW1/4

16 (E) Township 24 North, Range 10 West, Seward Meridian

17 Section 3

18 Section 4: E1/2

19 Section 10

20 Section 11: W1/2, W1/2SE1/4, SW1/4NE1/4

21 Section 13: W1/2W1/2

22 Section 14

23 Section 15: NE1/4

24 Section 23: N1/2, SE1/4

25 Section 24: W1/2, S1/2SE1/4, NW1/4SE1/4

26 Section 25

27 Section 36: NE1/4, E1/2NW1/4

28 (F) Township 25 North, Range 10 West, Seward Meridian

29 Sections 6 - 7

1 Section 8: S1/2, NW1/4

2 Section 16: W1/2

3 Section 17

4 Section 18: E1/2

5 Section 20: SE1/4, N1/2

6 Section 21

7 Section 22: W1/2

8 Section 25: SW1/4

9 Section 26: S1/2

10 Section 27

11 Section 28: E1/2, NW1/4

12 Sections 34 - 35

13 Section 36: W1/2

14 (G) Township 25 North, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian

15 Section 1: E1/2

16 (H) Township 26 North, Range 10 West, Seward Meridian

17 Section 31

18 (I) Township 26 North, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian

19 Sections 3 - 4

20 Section 9: E1/2

21 Section 10

22 Section 14: W1/2

23 Section 15

24 Section 22: E1/2, E1/2NW1/4

25 Section 23

26 Section 25: S1/2, NW1/4

27 Section 26

28 Section 27: NE1/4

29 Section 35: NE1/4

Section 36

(J) Township 27 North, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian

Section 6: SW1/4

Section 7

Section 8: SW1/4

Sections 17 - 18

Section 19: N1/2, SE1/4

Section 20

Section 21: SW1/4

Sections 28 - 29

Section 30: NE1/4

Section 32: E1/2

Section 33

Section 34: W1/2

(K) Township 27 North, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian

Sections 1 - 3

Section 10: N1/2, SE1/4

Sections 11 - 14

Section 15: NE1/4

Section 23: NE1/4

Section 24: N1/2

(L) Township 28 North, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian

Sections 1 - 5

Sections 8 - 12

Sections 13 - 17

Sections 21 - 24

Sections 25 - 28

Sections 33 - 36

(4) Little Susitna State Recreation River: the water column

1 of the main stream of the Little Susitna River from mean high water
2 mark to mean high water mark, from the point at which the river cross-
3 es the section line dividing Sections 23 and 26 in Township 19 North,
4 Range 1 East, Seward Meridian downstream to the point at which the
5 river crosses the section line between Sections 15 and 22 in Township
6 16 North, Range 5 West, Seward Meridian; the water column of Lake
7 Creek from mean high water mark to mean high water mark, from the
8 point at which the creek crosses the section line dividing Sections 10
9 and 11, Township 18 North, Range 4 West, Seward Meridian downstream to
10 the confluence with the Little Susitna River; and

11 (A) Township 16 North, Range 5 West, Seward Meridian

12 Section 3

13 Section 4: E1/2NE1/4

14 Section 10: E1/2, E1/2W1/2

15 Section 15: E1/2, E1/2W1/2

16 (B) Township 17 North, Range 4 West, Seward Meridian

17 Section 4

18 Section 6: SW1/4

19 Section 7: W1/2, S1/2SE1/4

20 Section 8: E1/2, S1/2SW1/4

21 Section 17: NW1/4

22 Section 18: N1/2, N1/2SW1/4

23 (C) Township 17 North, Range 5 West, Seward Meridian

24 Sections 12 - 15

25 Section 22

26 Section 23: N1/2N1/2, SW1/4NW1/4, W1/2SW1/4

27 Section 26: W1/2W1/2

28 Section 27

29 Section 34

1 (D) Township 18 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian
 2 Section 8: NW1/4, SW1/4NE1/4, S1/2NW1/4NE1/4

3 (E) Township 18 North, Range 1 West, Seward Meridian
 4 Section 15: N1/2NW1/4

5 Section 16: NW1/4, N1/2NE1/4, SE1/4NE1/4

6 (F) Township 18 North, Range 2 West, Seward Meridian

7 Section 15: NW1/4, N1/2NE1/4, NW1/4SW1/4

8 Section 16: S1/2

9 Section 17: S1/2

10 Section 19: NW1/4, W1/2NE1/4, E1/2SW1/4.

11 (G) Township 18 North, Range 3 West, Seward Meridian

12 Section 19

13 Section 20: SW1/4, W1/2SE1/4, SE1/4NW1/4,

14 W1/2NW1/4

15 Section 28: N1/2NW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4

16 Section 29: NE1/4

17 Section 30

18 (H) Township 18 North, Range 4 West, Seward Meridian

19 Section 11: SW1/4, SW1/4SE1/4, SW1/4NW1/4

20 Section 13: S1/2, SW1/4NW1/4

21 Section 14

22 Section 24

23 Section 25: N1/2

24 Section 26

25 Section 27: S1/2

26 Section 33: S1/2, S1/2NE1/4

27 Section 34

28 Section 35: NW1/4, W1/2NE1/4

29 (5) Talachulitna State Recreation River

- 1 (A) Township 16 North, Range 10 West, Seward Meridian
2 Section 6: W1/2
3 Section 7: NW1/4, N1/2SW1/4
- 4 (B) Township 16 North, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian
5 Section 1: E1/2, SW1/4
6 Section 2: S1/2, NW1/4
7 Section 3
8 Section 11: N1/2, N1/2S1/2
9 Section 12: N1/2, N1/2S1/2
- 10 (C) Township 17 North, Range 10 West, Seward Meridian
11 Section 6: W1/2, W1/2SE1/4
12 Section 7
13 Sections 18 - 19
14 Sections 30 - 31
- 15 (D) Township 17 North, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian
16 Section 1: E1/2E1/2
17 Section 3: W1/2
18 Sections 4 - 5
19 Section 6: S1/2
20 Sections 7 - 8
21 Section 9: N1/2, SE1/4
22 Section 10
23 Section 14: W1/2
24 Section 15
25 Section 17: NW1/4
26 Section 18: N1/2, SW1/4
27 Section 19: NW1/4NW1/4
28 Section 22
29 Section 23: W1/2

1 Section 25: E1/2E1/2

2 Section 26: W1/2

3 Section 27

4 Section 34

5 Section 35: W1/2

6 (E) Township 17 North, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian

7 Section 7: S1/2

8 Section 12: S1/2

9 Section 13

10 Section 14: S1/2

11 Section 15: S1/2

12 Section 16: S1/2

13 Sections 17 - 18

14 Section 20: E1/2

15 Sections 21 - 23

16 Section 24: N1/2, N1/2S1/2

17 (F) Township 17 North, Range 13 West, Seward Meridian

18 Section 9: S1/2

19 Section 10: S1/2

20 Section 11: S1/2

21 Section 12: S1/2

22 Sections 13 - 16

23 Section 24: N1/2

24 (G) Township 18 North, Range 10 West, Seward Meridian

25 Section 18: SW1/4SW1/4

26 Section 19: NW1/4, S1/2NE1/4, E1/2SW1/4, SE1/4

27 Section 20: S1/2, NE1/4

28 Section 21

29 Section 22: W1/2W1/2

1 Section 26: W1/2SW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4

2 Section 27: S1/2, S1/2N1/2

3 Sections 28 - 29

4 Section 30: E1/2, E1/2W1/2

5 Section 31: NE1/4, S1/2NW1/4, NE1/4NW1/4,
6 SW1/4, W1/2SE1/4

7 Section 33: NE1/4NE1/4

8 Section 34: N1/2NW1/4

9 (H) Township 18 North, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian

10 Section 6: W1/2, W1/2E1/2, E1/2SE1/4

11 Section 7

12 Section 11: E1/2SE1/4

13 Section 12: SW1/4SW1/4

14 Section 13: NW1/4, E1/2SW1/4, SE1/4

15 Section 16: SW1/4

16 Sections 17 - 18

17 Section 19: NE1/4

18 Section 20: N1/2, SE1/4

19 Section 21: W1/2

20 Section 24: E1/2NE1/4

21 Section 28

22 Section 29: E1/2

23 Section 32: E1/2

24 Section 33

25 Section 36: E1/2SE1/4SE1/4SE1/4

26 (I) Township 18 North, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian

27 Sections 1 - 2

28 Section 12: N1/2, SE1/4

29 (J) Township 19 North, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian

1 Section 3: N1/2, SW1/4

2 Section 4: E1/2E1/2, W1/2SE1/4, SE1/4SW1/4

3 Section 9: E1/2, SW1/4, E1/2NW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4

4 Section 10: NW1/4

5 Section 15: W1/2SW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4

6 Section 16

7 Section 21

8 Section 22: W1/2W1/2, E1/2SW1/4, SW1/4SE1/4

9 Sections 27 - 28

10 Section 34

11 Section 35: S1/2, NW1/4

12 (K) Township 20 North, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian

13 Section 18: W1/2

14 Section 19: W1/2

15 (L) Township 20 North, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian

16 Section 1

17 Section 2: N1/2

18 Section 11: E1/2

19 Sections 12 - 13

20 Section 14: E1/2

21 Sections 23 - 24

22 Section 25: N1/2

23 Section 26

24 Section 27: E1/2

25 Section 34: S1/2, NE1/4, SE1/4NW1/4

26 Section 35: NW1/4

27 (M) Township 21 North, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian

28 Section 31: W1/2

29 (N) Township 21 North, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian

1 Section 25: SW1/4, SW1/4SE1/4

2 Section 26: E1/2SE1/4, SW1/4SE1/4

3 Section 35: E1/2, SW1/4

4 Section 36

5 (6) Talkeetna State Recreation River: the water column of
6 the Talkeetna River from mean high water mark to mean high water mark
7 from the point at which it crosses the line dividing Townships 28 and
8 29 North, Seward Meridian, downstream to its confluence with the
9 Susitna River; the water column of Chunilna Creek from mean high water
10 mark to mean high water mark from the point at which it crosses the
11 line dividing Townships 27 and 28 North, Seward Meridian, downstream
12 to its confluence with the Talkeetna River; and

13 (A) Township 26 North, Range 3 West, Seward Meridian

14 Sections 1 - 2: north of the left bank of the
15 Sheep River

16 Section 3: all land north of the left bank of
17 the Talkeetna River and Tract B of ASLS 81 -
18 196

19 Section 4: all land north of the left bank of
20 the Talkeetna River and Tract A of ASLS 81 -
21 196

22 Section 5: all land north of the left bank of
23 the Talkeetna River and Tract C of ASLS 80 -
24 94

25 Section 6: all land north of the left bank of
26 the Talkeetna River and Tract A of ASLS
27 80 - 84

28 (B) Township 26 North, Range 4 West, Seward Meridian

29 Sections 1 - 3: exclusive of ASLS 79 - 149

1 Section 4: E1/2, SW1/4 exclusive of ASLS 79 -
2 149

3 Section 7: S1/2

4 Section 8: S1/2 exclusive of ASLS 79 - 149

5 Section 9: E1/2, E1/2W1/2

6 Section 17: that portion north of the left bank
7 of the Talkeetna River

8 Section 18: exclusive of DOT 200642

9 (C) Township 26 North, Range 5 West, Seward Meridian

10 Section 12: E1/2SE1/4

11 Section 13: E1/2, E1/2SW1/4, SW1/4SW1/4

12 Section 23: that portion northeast of the left
13 bank of the Susitna River

14 Section 24: that portion east of the left bank
15 of the Susitna River and west of the right
16 bank of the main channel of the Talkeetna
17 River (that channel of the river that runs
18 diagonally through the NE 1/4 and SW1/4 of
19 Sec. 24)

20 (D) Township 27 North, Range 1 West, Seward Meridian

21 Section 1

22 Section 2: S1/2, NE1/4, S1/2NW1/4

23 Section 3: S1/2, S1/2N1/2

24 Section 4: SE1/4

25 Sections 7 - 10

26 Section 11: N1/2

27 Section 12: NW1/4

28 Section 15: NW1/4

29 Section 16: N1/2

1 Section 17: N1/2

2 Section 18: N1/2

3 (E) Township 27 North, Range 2 West, Seward Meridian

4 Section 2: SW1/4

5 Section 3: S1/2

6 Section 4: S1/2

7 Section 5: SE1/4, E1/2SW1/4

8 Section 7: SE1/4

9 Sections 8 - 12

10 Section 13: N1/2

11 Section 14: N1/2NE1/4

12 Section 17

13 Section 18: E1/2, SW1/4

14 Section 19

15 Section 20: N1/2, SW1/4

16 Section 30: W1/2

17 (F) Township 27 North, Range 3 West, Seward Meridian

18 Section 24: E1/2

19 Section 25

20 Section 26: SE1/4

21 Section 31: S1/2

22 Section 32: S1/2 exclusive of ASLS 79 - 149

23 Section 33: S1/2S1/2 exclusive of ASLS 79 - 149

24 Section 34: S1/2S1/2 exclusive of ASLS 79 - 149

25 and ASLS 76 - 138

26 Sections 35 - 36

27 (G) Township 27 North, Range 4 West, Seward Meridian

28 Section 36: S1/2SE1/4 exclusive of ASLS 74 - 77

29 and ASLS 74 - 78

1 (H) Township 27 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian

2 Section 5: NW1/4

3 Section 6

4 (I) Township 28 North, Range 1 West, Seward Meridian

5 Section 36: SE1/4SE1/4

6 (J) Township 28 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian

7 Section 2

8 Section 3: SE1/4

9 Section 9: SE1/4

10 Section 10

11 Section 11: NW1/4, W1/2NE1/4, W1/2SW1/4

12 Section 15: N1/2, SW1/4

13 Section 16: E1/2SW1/4

14 Section 20: SE1/4

15 Section 21

16 Section 22: NW1/4

17 Section 28: N1/2, SW1/4

18 Section 29: E1/2, SW1/4, SE1/4NW1/4

19 Section 31: SW1/4, E1/2

20 Section 32

21 Section 33: NW1/4

22 Sec. 41.23.310. DEFINITIONS. In AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.310,

23 (1) "commissioner" means the commissioner of natural re-
24 sources;

25 (2) "recreation river corridor" means the uplands within a
26 recreation river established under AS 41.23.300.

27
28 * Sec. 3. Until a management plan has been adopted for a recreation
29 river under AS 41.23.240(a), as enacted in sec. 2 of this Act, interim

1 management of the recreation river shall be consistent with AS 41.23.200.
2 Except for negotiated sales under AS 38.05.115, the commissioner of natural
3 resources may not dispose of timber or other resources within a recreation
4 river corridor, before the adoption of the management plan. The commis-
5 sioner of natural resources shall propose a management plan for each recre-
6 ation river by the first 10 days of the Second Regular Session of the
7 Eighteenth Alaska State Legislature.

8 * Sec. 4. This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).
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^{proposed}
AMENDMENT to SCS CSHB 93 (C&RA) ^{Res}

Timber harvest

~~delete~~ "sale and" and
At p.2, line ²⁷ 20, insert after "products":

~~delete~~

"for houselogs, firewood, and other personal uses or incidental to the construction of access in the river corridors"

At p. ⁷ 6, line ⁶ 28, add a new sentence at the end:

"The commissioner may dispose of timber for personal uses including firewood and houselogs or incidental to the construction of access in the river corridors."

At p.31, lines ²⁻⁴ 4-7, delete:

~~(THE COMMISSIONER OF NATURAL RESOURCES MAY NOT DISPOSE OF TIMBER OR OTHER RESOURCES WITHIN A RECREATIONAL RIVER CORRIDOR BEFORE THE ADOPTION OF THE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE RECREATION RIVER CORRIDOR EXCEPT UNDER AS 38.05.115.)~~

"Sec. 41.23.200. PURPOSES. (a) The purpose of AS 41.23.200 - 41.23.300 is to establish as recreation rivers the land and water now owned by the state and the land and water acquired in the future by the state that lies within the boundaries described in AS 41.23.-300(b).

(b) The primary purpose for the establishment of the recreation rivers is the maintenance and enhancement of the submerged land and water described in AS 41.23.300 for recreation and water quality.

(c) The primary purposes for the establishment of the upland recreation river corridors are

(1) the management, protection, and maintenance of the fish and wildlife populations and habitat on a sustained-yield basis;

(2) conservation of the scenic and natural integrity of the recreation river corridor and continued recreation use and enjoyment by the public and individuals including hunting, fishing, trapping, camping, boating, hiking, snowmachining, skiing, dog mushing, and wildlife viewing;

(3) continued multiple use management and economic use of upland areas in a manner that ensures the mitigation of potential adverse effects on water quality and stream flow; and

(4) accommodation of access for resource uses including recreation and tourism within and adjacent to the river corridor."

proposed Res
AMENDMENT to SCS CSHB 93 (C&RA)

Timber harvest

At p.2, line ²⁷~~20~~, insert after "products":

"for houselogs, firewood, and other personal uses or incidental to the construction of access in the river corridors"

At p.5, line ⁷~~28~~, add a new sentence at the end:

"The commissioner may dispose of timber for personal uses including firewood and houselogs or incidental to the construction of access in the river corridors."

At p.31, lines ²⁻⁴~~4-7~~, delete:

(EXCEPT FOR NEGOTIATED SALES UNDER AS 38.05.115)
[THE COMMISSIONER OF NATURAL RESOURCES MAY NOT DISPOSE OF TIMBER OR OTHER RESOURCES WITHIN A RECREATIONAL RIVER CORRIDOR BEFORE THE ADOPTION OF THE MANAGEMENT PLAN ~~FOR THE RECREATION RIVER CORRIDOR EXCEPT UNDER AS 38.05.115.~~]

To: Ned Farquhar
From: Tom Hawkins
get to Larry

DRAFT

ALTERNATIVE HOUSE BILL 93 - RECREATION RIVERS

The Commissioner of Natural Resources is directed to enter into a Cooperative Management Planning agreement with the Matanuska-Susitna Borough for the purposes of cooperatively... developing a management plan for each of the rivers.

The commissioner and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough will jointly establish a Management Planning Team to oversee the development of these individual river management plans.

The Planning Team will be interdisciplinary reflecting the diversity of management concerns on State and Borough lands and waters.

During the three year planning process the river corridor boundaries contained within the Susitna Area Plan shall serve as interim boundaries, final boundaries are to be approved upon adoption of each plan.

A DRAFT Management Plan for each river will be released for public review and comment. A final plan will be presented to the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly and the Commissioner for their appropriate approval.

Public Hearings will be held within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and the Municipality of Anchorage.

Cooperative Management Agreements, inherent within the implementation of these plans should be included in each management plan as appropriate.

The final management plan for each river must be completed within three years and a report on each plan submitted to the legislature.

From: NRSCFMI --JDCVM1
To: NALCMBI --JDCVM1

Date and time 03/14/88 09:50:23
NALCMBI --JDCVM1

FROM: FRANK MIELKE
DIV. OF LAND & WATER MANAGEMENT
DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Subject: Alternative HB 93 --Comments
762-2692

*** Forwarding note from NRSCFMI --JDCVM1 03/02/88 09:52 ***
To: NALCDCA --JDCVM1

FROM: FRANK MIELKE
DIV. OF LAND & WATER MANAGEMENT
DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES
SUBJECT: Alternative HB 93 --Comments

1) Requiring DNR to enter Cooperative Planning agreement - how can agreement between two parties be legislated? What if one or both of the parties are unreasonable? Does that stop all planning efforts. DNR has always cooperated, especially with the MSB. A better more workable proposal would require DNR to cooperate, rather than to require DNR to agree to cooperate. If MSB thinks we won't cooperate, then the bill should specify what role or weight MSB comments, proposals or suggestion should be given.

2) Management Planning team - this would conflict with the role of the advisory board in the Senate version of HB 93. If MSB does not like the constituency of the advisory board, or its role or function, the that issue should be addressed directly, rather than to overlay the advisory board with another planning team.

3) Interdisciplinary Planning team - no problem with this requirement, other than the general problem with the possible overlap and other problems discussed above.

4) Draft Management Plan - no problem with this approach, so long as it is understood that the plan does not require MSB approval to be adopted.

5) Public Hearings in Anchorage and MSB is already required in HB 93.

6) Cooperative Management Agreements should be included, but is already provided for in 41.23.240 as to MSB lands. I'm sure we would do it anyway, so it doesn't hurt to say it again.

7) Plan within 3 years submitted to legislature - current version gives us 4 years. What's the hurry? 41.23.230(c) in current version requires submittal of the plan to the Legislature.

General Comments - It appears that the originator of the proposal is not familiar with the legislation, as the proposal recommends items already in HB 93. The proposal only creates a mechanism to give the MSB the authority to complicate the process; if there are procedural or substantive concerns about the planning process or the plan, those should be addressed in a straightforward fashion, rather than creating a mechanism that is untested and in its present form, unworkable.

A MSB official objected to HB 93 as "unnecessary". I would characterize the alternative proposal as unnecessary and unworkable. To mandate that the state agree with another party is bad policy; to say that DNR shall consider formal requests from the MSB Assembly to enter into a Cooperative Planning Agreement is quite another. No proposal has been made by the

MSB, even in light of repeated statements that DNR has, will and will continue to engage in cooperative planning or management, legislation or no legislation.

I would recommend giving the proposal serious consideration, if the MSB would pass a resolution stating with some specificity what they mean by cooperative planning and management. Remember, we gave MSB hundreds of thousands of dollars and acres to get a land disposal off the ground, and they haven't done it yet, and have displayed no activity toward that end in years.

762-2692

4/1 Senate Pass

min/entry/no leg v closure
Advis Bd - delete
other uses -
timber - no wait
guaranteed access
conservation of act's
no competition for prt. lodges/leg

Why is this bill important?

- retains six major recre'l corridors for public use
- establishes recreation/habitat as primary uses
- creates a balanced, accessible planning process
- ~~withstands strong effort to delay/limit use~~

Use of these corridors is already very high + is growing. [- discuss - Kenai -
my prior to oversee /
address growth
w/ conf
planning

- SAP/Likee Willow plans id'd for public use
- 1985 stats showed >100,000 SF days in '85

~~delays, etc.~~

- hunting stats show hi moose harvest

This is multi use legis'n and it is econ'ly imp't to SC

- provides for access through + in
- lodges and tourism; ADF+G report on imp'c of fishing in SC
- moose + fish habitat are imp't for lifestyle + economy
- otg/mining/pers'l use timber - sfc vs subsfc.

The bill is carefully tuned - dozens of planning hrs, legiv hrs, workshops

- to accommodate public involvement/local needs
- to protect statewide interests
- no bill in 5 years has had such thorough + workable stds.
- long process so far - advisory ct - workshops in Mt. Su - Strong - CRA

There is wide support for the bill

- AOC, NRA, SVA, ADF+G, DNR - not RDC, not Sierra Club - many thousands of Akers
- ~~legiv~~ ^{Pandy's} legiv ~~questionnaire~~ - questionnaire - 7 to 1
- 60% say small or none or timber sale - ~25% say

→ Does not affect private lands or horsepans etc, not a state park, Kenai Power h. - of AGO

like forward to why on bill

1985 USE FIGURES

	<u>Days Fished</u>	<u>Number of Anglers</u>
TALKEETNA	711	648
LITTLE SO.	41,643	23,079
DESHKA	29,322	15,807
TALACHULITNA	1,682	1,037
ALEXANDER	12,884	5,895
LAKE CREEK	14,323	7,028

HB 93 FACTS

The river corridors are open to hunting and fishing, in accordance with regulations by the Boards of Fish and Game. The Department of Natural Resources may not restrict hunting and fishing in the corridors. Hunting and fishing are a primary purpose of the designations.

The bill does not include any measures such as speed limits or horsepower limits. Under the bill, the commissioner must allow certain uses (such as snowmachining and powerboating) as long as they are compatible with the purposes of the bill. Any regulation of these activities must result from the management plan, with full public participation.

Funding for the bill is \$123,000 per year for three years. The fiscal impact of the bill is entirely related to management planning for the recreation rivers. This management planning could be necessary in the near future whether or not the bill passes, because of the growing public use on the rivers.

The bill has wide public support. Supporters include the Alaska Outdoor Council (10,000+ members), the National Rifle Association (22,000 Alaska members), the Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Fish and Game, Rep. Curt Menard (R-Wasilla), Rep. Ron Larson (D-Palmer), Sen. Mike Szymanski, and Sen. Arliss Sturgulewski. Opponents of the bill include the Resource Development Council (which believes that the legislation is unnecessary, although it supports the proposed management system) and the Sierra Club (which opposes mining leasing in the rivers).

The bill implements management principles from state area and basin plans. The Susitna Area Plan (1985) and the Willow Subbasin Plan (1982) were jointly adopted by the State of Alaska and the Mat-Su Borough for over 17 million acres of land. Retention of the six major recreation river corridors was a priority recommendation of both plans. Six rivers are affected, including about 265,000 acres: the Talkeetna, Little Su, and Talachulitna Rivers; and Lake, Moose-Kroto, and Alexander Creeks.

The bill will establish multiple use management for the rivers. Public access is encouraged. Timber harvest is allowed where compatible with recreation and habitat management. Mining leasing can occur with appropriate protections. Land leasing may occur for recreational lodges and other recreation-oriented purposes. Campgrounds, boat launches, and trails are envisioned.

Contact: Rep. Sam Cotten (465-3711, Juneau; 694-2283, Eagle River).

THE **SUSITNA**
VALLEY
ASSOCIATION NEWS

March 12, 1988

This is our first newsletter since the January 20th organization meeting. We want to bring everyone up-to-date, as there has been a lot of activity and much accomplished. Once we get our membership list squared around on the computers, our mailings will become easier. We will also be calling on some of you who offered help.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

Briefly, the executive committee has been involved in the following activities:

- Held SVA meetings and strategy sessions one or two times per week, often more, since mid-December.
- Attended Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR) hearings in Anchorage and Willow.
- Met with DNR and forestry officials, Governor's representatives, and Representative Sam Cotten.
- Flew SVA members and media people to Skwentna for a hearing initiated by SVA so Skwentna residents had a chance to speak on the proposed sale.
- Traveled to Palmer for the address labels of 1740 property owners in the sale area used in a subsequent mailing.
- Began an extensive letter-writing and calling campaign.
- Prepared and distributed petitions, mailings, and handouts.

At this point, because of the overwhelming opposition, the Governor pulled the first sale proposal and directed that it be rewritten. Thanks to everyone who wrote and called!

- Continued letter-writing and calling campaign to the Governor, legislators, and newspapers.
- Participated in a legislative briefing teleconference with the House Resources Committee.
- Held the SVA meeting on Jan. 20th, at the Clarion Hotel, attended by about 350 people.
- Went to Talkeetna and helped organize the Talkeetna Chapter of SVA.

- Testified at a Senate committee teleconference meeting on the Recreational Rivers Bill (HB93).
- Attended a Mat-Su Borough Assembly meeting. **The Governor pulled back further since the outcry had not abated. (Details follow.)**
- Continued weekly meetings.
- Wrote more letters to the Governor and all legislators.
- Provided speakers for several organizations.
- Continued monitoring bills in Juneau which impact on the Susitna Valley timber issue.
- Met with Division of Forestry officials.
- Attended the two-day Resource Development Council Convention in Anchorage.
- Continued campaign to increase membership.

CURRENT STATUS

The four affected state agencies and representatives from the Mat-Su Borough will form an Interdisciplinary Study Team (IST). They will review the proposals for management of state-owned lands designated for forestry in the Susitna basin. These meetings will be open to the public, but probably on a "listen only" basis.

Also to be formed is a Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC) with representatives of public organizations. DNR Assistant Commissioner Tom Hawkins stated, "The CAC will be briefed regularly as a group and by mail, and will be asked to comment on proposals developed by the IST." SVA has been asked to have a representative on this committee. If you are a member of an organization which you believe should be represented on the CAC, have the organization call Hawkins at the State Division of Natural Resources in Anchorage and request representation. The need for additional voices on this committee is obvious.

Hawkins also said, "The goal of this project is to determine how these lands can best con-

tribute to the regional and state economies, and to co-ordinate timber management with other uses of state forest lands." Public meetings will be held prior to the development of any final proposal.

STRATEGY UNTIL A NEW PROPOSAL IS PRESENTED

There is no way to tell how this will all come out. DNR says they have no agenda for the outcome. But they have also said they will have a forest management plan for the valley when it's over. It may involve a continuation of small-scale logging such as is being done now, or, more likely, it may be another plan for large scale clearcutting. There's just no way of telling. In any event, **our bottom line will be that large scale commercial logging operations are not compatible with the other uses of the valley.**

We must be prepared to provide a solid, united response if things go awry. We need to build our membership lists. We would like to establish more local chapters in Willow, Skwentna, and Kenai for instance. Besides adding to SVA's credibility, it would provide more people with up-to-date information from DNR. These organizations could request representation on the CAC.

An organization called the Coalition of Boreal Forest Development Association has been formed to oppose our position. They are primarily directing their activities at residents of the Mat-Su borough and the legislature. Those of you who live in the Mat-Su area need to let your local government officials and legislators know that large-scale clearcut logging, of the magnitude proposed by the state and borough, is not compatible with the current uses of the valley.

LEGISLATION

We have been monitoring two bills in Juneau which would directly impact on the Susitna Valley. The SVA has prepared Position Papers on both these bills.

One Bill, HB 93, called the Recreational Rivers Bill, would establish one-half mile recreational river corridors on each side of

specific streams in the valley. A management plan would be required for each stream. However, the current version of HB 93, permits, as a compatible activity, the harvesting of wood products within the corridors, provided the harvesting meets the purposes of the bill and is allowed by the management plan. The SVA's position is that we want to eliminate any possibility of commercial logging within the corridors, both now and in the future. We believe such activities, at least on a commercial scale, are fundamentally incompatible with the uses and values of these rivers. If the bill is amended to prohibit commercial logging within the corridors, we would urge support of the bill.

ACTION:

Send Public Opinion Messages (POM's) from your local Legislative Information Office of 50 words or less, or short letters, to your own Senator plus the members of the Senate Resource Committee. Those Senators are Jack Coghill, Paul Fischer, Arliss Sturgulewski, Jim Duncan, Ken Fanning, Fred Zharoff, and Dick Eliason. Their mailing address is P. O. Box V, Juneau, AK 99811. We understand there is a good chance this amendment will be made if there are enough requests.

IMPORTANT POINTS TO MAKE:

1) You support the bill, but **only** if commercial logging is not allowed within the corridors, and: (2) If HB 93 should pass, you do want to stress that this would still not address your concerns regarding a large scale timber sale in the Susitna Valley. You might mention a concern or two, such as:

- Feeder streams and wetlands, even more important than the corridors to salmon spawning, would still not be protected from the damage of extensive logging operations.
- The undesirable effects of extensive road building.
- The destruction of critical animal habitat.
- The thousands of private properties that would be impacted.
- The potential harm to other successful industries already operating in the valley.
- Anything else of concern to you.

Basically, we support the bill as **added** protection for the valley. It's very likely the bill will pass this year because of all the inter-

est generated by the timber sale proposal. If it's going to pass, we would rather see it amended. Responding on this issue will give our association and its members more exposure in the eyes of our legislators. They will know that we are still very active and watching. We don't want them to think we have quit because the Governor slowed things down. Supporting this bill also gives us a chance to say we are "FOR" something and not just a group opposing things. This image will be important for future activity.

THE LETTERS AND POM'S ARE NEEDED NOW!

The other bill, **SB 112**, would authorize the Commissioner of DNR to enter into long term forest management agreements with a single purchaser of timber, outside review by the public and interested state agencies. This is exactly what was proposed in the 20 year Susitna Valley Sale. **We are strongly opposed to this bill.** It is presently in the House Resources Committee and we understand it is being completely rewritten, so there's no need to respond further on it at this time.

MEMBERSHIP

Since our organization consists of individuals, organizations, and businesses, we presently reach over 12,000 people when we do a full mailing. Luckily, a good portion of that is covered by other interested organizations who, in turn, distribute to their own members. Our individual membership and petition list is growing rapidly. At the least, we would like to triple that number before mid-summer when we expect further activity from the state.

We need help from all to do this. The individual mailings go to everyone who has either joined SVA or who has signed one of our petitions and we can read their names and addresses. Our strength and success is very dependent on numbers. The more people whose concerns we represent, the more clout we have. **You can help in two ways:**

(1) Check the label on this newsletter. If only your name is there and not your spouse's, send us your spouse's name also.

Be sure any children over 18 sign-up. The number of people we can count is important.

(2) To make signing up others easy, we have enclosed a Petition/Membership form and Purpose and Platform statement. **Pass it around.** People can either just sign the petition, or, preferably, they can join the association by checking the membership box. **When you get several names or a full page send it to the Susitna Valley Association, 9600 Slalom Drive, Anchorage, AK 99516.** This puts those individuals on our mailing list, allowing them to be kept up-to-date on Susitna Valley timber sale developments.

Donations

Membership costs nothing unless you want to make a donation. However, we can't do very many mailings without money. Up to this point, we have received a number of donations. **Thanks to every one of you!** Out of the current donations will come expenses for the Jan. 20th meeting plus the printing, labels, and postage for mailings. Since we are still waiting for our checks to arrive, individual members have paid expenses out of pocket. Those expenses need to be reimbursed. Our meeting space has been donated by the Clarion Hotel, some of our typesetting has been donated, as has xeroxing, and the cost of flying our members to meetings and the media on familiarization trips.

If you wish to make a donation, make your check out to the Susitna Valley Association and send it to SVA, Treasurer, 9600 Slalom Drive, Anchorage, AK 99516. (Donations are not tax deductible.)

COMMITTEES

We have established eight different committees at this point: Membership, Research, Legislative, Legal, Secretarial, Finance, Newsletters, and Media. Hopefully, activity will stabilize a little and we will have time to get a more definitive structure operating. As we continue to get the membership list on track, we will be contacting more of you who

March 12, 1988

The SVA News

have offered help. If interested in any of the areas listed, please get in touch.

OFFICERS

The officers of the association, elected at the Jan. 20th meeting, are:

Lois Reeder	President	346-1943
	Property on Yensus Lake	
Jim Seeley	Vice-President	243-7001
	Property on Red Shirt Lake	
Ed Sharpe	Secretary	248-4337
	Wilderness Place Lodge	
Todd Rust	Treasurer	243-1595
	Rust's Flying Service	

PURPOSE AND PLATFORM

If any of you would like additional copies of the Purpose and Platform of the SVA to pass around, let one of us know. Our association has a very limited scope. Basically, we are committed to maintaining the remote character, current use patterns, and economic base of tourism, fisheries, and recreation which

presently exists in the Susitna Valley.

Extensive clearcut logging, of the magnitude recently proposed by DNR, is not compatible with those uses. It is not compatible with the successful industries which already exist in the valley, and certainly not compatible with the thousands of privately owned properties located throughout the valley.

SUMMARY

We have been very successful, up to this point, thanks to everyone's concern and timely response. The Governor did respond to your overwhelming opposition. We now have the opportunity to consolidate and prepare for our biggest challenge, overcoming the state's upgraded plan, which we should see in late summer. At that time, we must be ready to work together to oppose any attempt at large-scale clearcutting in the Susitna Valley. Unfortunately, the Mat-Su Borough is as committed to keeping a large timber sale, as we are committed to seeing it stopped.

The **S**usitna **V**alley **A**ssociation
9600 Slalom Drive
Anchorage, AK 99516

BULK RATE
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 811
Anchorage, Alaska

*Rep. Sam Cotten
P.O. Box 5
Juneau, Alaska
99811*

THE SUSITNA VALLEY ASSOCIATION

PURPOSE and PLATFORM

January 20, 1988

The PURPOSE of the Susitna Valley Association is:

To represent the diverse groups using the Susitna Valley which are interested in maintaining the Valley's remote character, current use patterns, and present economic base.

To serve as a clearinghouse for information on the proposed timber sale and subsequent revisions or substitutions to that sale, to provide general information on the sale area, and to act as a resource for individuals interested in commenting on the sale.

The PLATFORM of the Susitna Valley Association is:

The Susitna Valley Association (SVA) is a coalition of individuals, organizations, and businesses committed to maintaining the primitive character, current use patterns, and economic base of tourism and recreation which presently exists in the Susitna Valley.

Since large scale logging, roads, and industrial development is incompatible with the character and current use of the Susitna Valley, the SVA is opposed to large scale timber sales in the Valley. Therefore, the SVA opposes the proposal by the Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for extensive clearcutting and associated development within the Susitna Valley.

DNR's proposal raises numerous economic, social, recreational, environmental, and procedural problems:

Economic Impacts Clearcutting and extensive road development is incompatible with the existing world-class tourism and recreation industry, which requires a remote Susitna Valley environment. The inexpensive fly-in access and an unmarred aerial viewshed is essential to this tourism and recreation industry. In addition, the Cook Inlet commercial fishery depends on unimpaired spawning habitat, and previous state timber sales have shown the inability of DNR to protect fish and wildlife habitat.

Private Landowners Over 2000 privately owned parcels are within the proposed sale area, and many others are adjacent to the area. Clearcutting, and the extensive road system necessary for clearcutting, would destroy the character and value of these remote parcels and surrounding areas for both subsistence and recreational uses.

Environmental Impacts The impacts of large scale clearcutting and increased access are extensive and unacceptable. Destruction of habitat necessary for healthy fish populations, increased hunting pressure on big game, extensive loss of furbearer habitat, air pollution from slash burning and pulp mills, and destruction of streamside vegetation are just a few of the adverse impacts which will occur.

Public Process Forest Management Agreements are inappropriate means of administering our public lands. There is inadequate opportunity for informed public review and comment. Specific requirements for environmental protection, clearcut layouts, road locations, and protection of private property are not known until after negotiations are completed between the contractor and the commissioner, and the contract is signed. Site specific planning should be done prior to, not after, entering into a contract.

Planning Reliance on the Susitna Area Plan (SAP) for evaluation of a large scale timber sale is unjustified. Logging on the scale proposed by DNR was not envisioned during the SAP process, nor does the SAP address in a site specific manner the economic, social, and environmental impacts of the proposed project.

The Susitna Valley Association believes the concept of a large scale timber sale in the Susitna Valley should be abandoned. We would prefer to see the state and Mat-Su Borough concentrate on further promotion of the Susitna Valley as a prime tourist and recreation area with a growing and healthy sportfishing industry.

**I am opposed to large scale timber sales in the Susitna Valley and support the Purpose and Platform
Statement of the Susitna Valley Association**

NAME (Last, First, Initial)	MAILING ADDRESS (Street or P.O. Box)	CITY	PHONE	I wish to join SVA	I wish to help SVA
NAME (Last, First, Initial)	MAILING ADDRESS (Street or P.O. Box)	CITY	PHONE	I wish to join SVA	I wish to help SVA
NAME (Last, First, Initial)	MAILING ADDRESS (Street or P.O. Box)	CITY	PHONE	I wish to join SVA	I wish to help SVA
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NAME (Last, First, Initial)	MAILING ADDRESS (Street or P.O. Box)	CITY	PHONE	I wish to join SVA	I wish to help SVA

PLEASE PRINT

MAIL TO: The Susitna Valley Association, 9600 Slalom Drive, Anchorage, AK 99516



Alaska State Legislature

House

Official Business

REPRESENTATIVE RANDY PHILLIPS
HOUSE DISTRICT 15
(907) 465-4949

P.O. BOX V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Memorandum

TO: Governor Cowper
All Members of Alaska Legislature
All Commissioners

FROM: Rep. Randy Phillips *R.E.P.*

DATE: February 25, 1988

RE: District 15 - 1988 Legislative Questionnaire Responses

Attached for your review is the tabulation of the results of my annual legislative questionnaire for House District 15 constituents. I thought you might be interested in these results.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Attachment


REP. COTTEN

RANDY PHILLIPS
 State Representative
 P.O. Box 770142
 Eagle River, Alaska 99577
 (907) 694-4949

1988

Report to the People

REP. RANDY PHILLIPS
 Alaska House of Representatives



While in Session:

P.O. Box V
 Juneau, Alaska 99811
 (907) 465-4949

Thank you for participating in my 1988 legislative questionnaire. Of the 8,382 questionnaires mailed, 1,082 or 13% were returned. The results are indicated below. Percentages expressed in each answer represent a percent of the total answering that question and not a percent of the total returned.

1. ALASKA PERMANENT FUND

The Alaska Constitution protects the principal of the Permanent Fund from legislative appropriation but does not protect the Earnings Reserve Account. The October 1987 projections indicate that after allowances for payment of the 1988 permanent fund dividends (\$421 million) and 1988 inflation proofing (\$348 million), the June 30, 1988, balance of the Earnings Reserve Account should be approximately \$493 million. This remaining \$493 million is the unencumbered balance of the reserve account. Should the \$493 million from this account be (Please check one):

- 12% Used for State's Operating Budget (Note: means funds used to pay for day-to-day operation of state government including municipal assistance, revenue sharing, school foundation, etc.)
- 20% Used for State's Capital Budget (Note: means funds used for roads, water, sewer, school buildings, etc.)
- 13% Left as is, do not use for anything
- 26% Added to dividends
- 29% Placed in principal of permanent fund Total answers: 933

2. ALASKA'S FISCAL 1989 BUDGET

Of the total State operating budget, 39% or \$748 million out of \$1.9 billion for Fiscal Year '88 goes for municipal assistance, revenue sharing, school foundation, and school construction debt retirement programs that assist local governments in offering services and keeping local property taxes down. Do you feel that funding for these programs should be (Please check one in each category):

Municipal Assistance:	3% Eliminated	24% Increased	17% Reduced	56% Remain Same	991 ans.
Revenue Sharing:	3% Eliminated	16% Increased	21% Reduced	60% Remain Same	972 ans.
School Foundation:	4% Eliminated	22% Increased	20% Reduced	54% Remain Same	992 ans.
School Construction Debt:	7% Eliminated	16% Increased	23% Reduced	54% Remain Same	1006 ans.

3. ALASKA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE (ANWR)

The United States Congress is considering several proposals relating to the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge, generally referred to as "ANWR". Which of the options below best describes your views on ANWR?

- 41% Open entire area to oil exploration
 - 44% Open for exploration, except for the caribou calving "core" area
 - 13% No oil exploration
 - 2% No opinion
- Total answers: 1061

4. RECREATIONAL RIVERS

Legislation is pending that would designate six rivers on land owned by the State in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough as recreational rivers. These six waterways are: Talchulitna, Doshka, Little Susitna, and Talkeetna Rivers, and Alexander and Lake Creeks. The thrust of the legislation is to preserve land along these waterways for long-term public access and to give priority for recreational uses (boating, snowmobiling, camping, hunting, fishing). Opponents suggest that even though resource development could be allowed, the recreation priority would restrict such development.

A. Which option listed below do you prefer?

- 88% Support public-use designation with a priority for recreation Total answers: 1054
12% Oppose public-use designation with a priority for recreation

B. Although this legislation does not restrict the use of power boats on these waterways, would you support or oppose restrictions (i.e., horsepower limits, no-wake zones, special use areas) on the use of power boats on these rivers?

- 72% Support 28% Oppose Total answers: 1048

5. EAGLE RIVER SKI RESORT

Rogner Touristik/Eagle Valley Resort, Inc. is in the process of developing a \$230 million ski resort on 93 acres of land off Hiland Road. The ski runs would be located within the boundaries of Chugach State Park. The project is anticipated to start construction in the summer of 1988 with a final total project completion date of 1991. According to representatives of the developer, 600 jobs will be created for the three-year construction period. Additionally, the developers anticipate that the operating period will provide 1200 direct jobs. The developer has \$50 million in private financing and is working on financing for the remaining \$180 million. Due to the current American economic climate, it is anticipated that financing will be done in America rather than in European markets. Some discussion has been generated as to whether or not the State of Alaska should provide some form of financial assistance for this project. Please review the options listed below and check the ONE which best describes your thoughts on the financing package for this project:

- 41% No state financial participation, should be privately financed
28% State financial participation by use of guaranteed loans
1% State grants Total answers: 1043
30% State financial participation for roads and utilities

6. MOTOR VEHICLES

Should individuals registering motor vehicles be required to present proof of insurance before that vehicle can be registered in Alaska?

- 82% Yes 18% No Total answers: 1067

7. GAMBLING

Do you feel Alaskan local governments should have the option of deciding whether gambling should be legalized within their boundaries?

- 56% Yes 44% No Total answers: 1076

8. SPEED LIMIT

Should Alaska raise the state speed limit from 55 miles per hour to 65 miles per hour?

49.6% Yes

50.4% No

Total answers: 1066

9. CONCEALED WEAPONS

Alaska law does not presently allow the carrying of a concealed weapon. Would you support or oppose legislation which would allow individuals over 21 to apply for a permit to carry a concealed firearm if the permit were issued by the Department of Public Safety after a review of the application and person's record and payment of fee by the applicant?

41% Support

59% Oppose

Total answers: 1073

10. UNIVERSITY/COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The University's Board of Regents voted to merge the University of Alaska and the state community college systems. Do you support a separate community college system in Alaska or do you support a merged University system?

40% Separate community college system

41% Merged university system

19% No opinion

Total answers: 1037

11. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

What ONE capital improvement project (i.e. road, sewer, water, school, park, etc.) do you feel our district needs? Please be as SPECIFIC as possible (name of road, name of school, location of water/sewer systems, etc.). PLEASE LIMIT YOURSELF TO THE ONE PROJECT THAT YOU FEEL SHOULD HAVE THE HIGHEST PRIORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 1989. Project:

THE HILAND ROAD BRIDGE PROJECT IS THE NUMBER ONE PROJECT MENTIONED BY RESPONDENTS.

12. GENERAL COMMENTS

TOO VARIOUS TO MENTION -- MANY COMMENTS ON ALASKA'S CURRENT ECONOMIC SITUATION.

FROM: REPRESENTATIVE RANDY PHILLIPS -- 465-4949 (in session) 694-4949 (at home)

DISTRICT 15 TELECONFERENCE & HEARING SCHEDULE FOR REMAINDER OF 1988 SESSION

Monday, March 21, 1988 - TELECONFERENCE

7:00 p.m. - Muldoon Elementary School, 515 Cherry, Anchorage
Chugiak-Eagle River Library, 11801 Business Boulevard, Eagle River

Saturday, April 9, 1988 - HEARING

11:00 a.m. - Muldoon Elementary School
4:00 p.m. - Chugiak-Eagle River Library

Monday, April 25, 1988 - TELECONFERENCE

7:00 p.m. - Muldoon Elementary School
Chugiak-Eagle River Library

Monday, May 2, 1988 - TELECONFERENCE

7:00 p.m. - Muldoon Elementary School
Chugiak-Eagle River Library

SCHOOL FOUNDATION/MUNICIPAL ASSISTANCE/REVENUE SHARING INFORMATION

For your review, I am providing information on three programs which effect your local property tax rate.

School Foundation: This program provides state funds to school districts for operating costs and the program has a direct impact on your real property taxes. During 1985 when the Anchorage School District experienced a funding shortfall from this program, local property taxes were increased to cover the shortfall.

Municipal Assistance: State money from this program is distributed to municipalities and does impact property taxes. Your municipal real property tax statement contains information as to the impact of this program on your local property taxes.

Revenue Sharing: State money from this program provides aid for roads, health facilities and hospitals, and volunteer fire departments.

The chart below provides information on the impact of these programs.

<u>Program</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Anchorage Operating Budget</u>	<u>State Aid Amount</u>	<u>Percentage State Aid is of Anchorage School District or Municipality of Anchorage Operating Budget</u>
School Foundation	1985	\$233,400,000	\$136,700,000	59%
	1986	\$221,730,588	\$154,495,000	70%
	1987	\$242,000,000	\$159,300,000	66%
	1988*	\$249,900,000	\$163,900,000	65%
Municipal Assistance and Revenue Sharing	1985	\$216,500,000	\$ 53,800,000	25%
	1986	\$214,900,000	\$ 58,000,000	27%
	1987	\$196,417,130	\$ 44,886,820	23%
	1988*	\$190,643,270	\$ 46,167,880	24%

These operating budget figures do not include any capital project funding. Information on dollar amounts supplied by Municipality or School District.

*projected for 1988

ORIGIN OF THIS STUDY AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This study of the economics of wilderness dependent recreation industries has its origin in discussions in February 1988 with several state legislators who deal with issues related to economic development, tourism, and natural resources. Those legislators are Representatives, Johnny Ellis, Pat Pourchot, and Senator Arliss Sturguluski.

These three legislators had open minds. They played a useful role in urging me to document what had been observations orally presented. In so doing, they helped to bring about the closer look at the recreation industry that this study seeks to achieve. In doing this study, I learned some things I would have never believed, so I hope the study returns the favor. Recognition is also due to Ned Farquar, an assistant to Representative Cotton. Mr. Farquar posed a question that helped to bring one issue related to recreation in Southcentral Alaska into sharper focus.

I should acknowledge that I am a fishing guide and an attorney, not an economist or social scientist, and that much of my work has been for conservation and recreational interests. I was also special counsel to the Senate State Affairs Committee when it dealt with subsistence in 1985 and 1986. My experiences and values may induce bias on my part, which I have attempted to limit.

Finally, this study is dedicated to a few humorous, creative and intelligent gentlemen I never knew, but who like much of America's wilderness, are long since deceased. This study is dedicated to the gentlemen of the Fife and Drum Corps of the Continental Army and the music that they played after the Battle of Yorktown in 1781. When the sword passed, they displayed their faculties. The Army formed two lines. The defeated British marched between them to sail home. And, the Corps played "The World is Turned Upside Down".

Jeff Parker

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This study focuses on the economics and marketing practices of wilderness dependent recreation industries in Alaska. By "wilderness" the study means only the character of the land, rather than a legal designation. The study is applicable to many public policy issues involving natural resource management, including economic, social, political and governmental issues. In general, this study bears upon matters related to jobs, commerce, resource development, recreation, the recreation industry, the marketing of that industry, Native concerns about the industry and wilderness recreation, and the management of state agencies dealing with natural resources and recreation industries.

The primary question this study seeks to address is:

- o From an economic perspective only and for purposes of resolving many natural resource issues, how can the diverse recreational industry best be characterized so that issues related to it and natural resources can be wisely decided?

This study assumes, and then supports the assumption, that the recreation industry in Alaska can be characterized as having two major sectors. One can be termed an "access-service dependent recreation industry", and the other can be termed a "wilderness dependent recreation industry". Both sectors are probably much broader than many policy makers realize.

This study reveals that the wilderness dependent recreation industry appears to be incredibly efficient in producing jobs and commerce, and that wilderness and appropriately named conservation designations are highly marketable and are good business.

In attempting to answer the primary question, other questions arose.

- o How do these two sectors relate to functions of supply and demand?
- o How much of Alaska's wilderness is marketed and is marketable by the recreation industry?
- o To whom is Alaska's wilderness marketed and marketable?
- o How is Alaska's wilderness marketed and marketable?
- o How productive of jobs and commerce is the wilderness dependent recreation industry?

- o What can the State do to assist marketing, creation of jobs and commerce, and resolution of conflict between rural and non-rural interests concerning the wilderness dependent recreation industry?
- o What sort of balance should the State seek, if any, between the various types of wilderness dependent recreation industries?

Although this study does not fully answer these questions, by raising and addressing them the study has many public policy implications. It also has implications for public officials, for positions they have taken and for positions they should be taking.

Because the study relies mostly on data related to the sport fishing economy and the industries within it, the conclusions reached by the study can be best applied to that economy. Sport fishing is the largest segment of wilderness based recreation. However, as stated above, the study concerns far more than just recreational fishing industries.

The study reaches numerous conclusions. Among them are:

(1) That second only to the oil industry, the best sector of the Alaska economy in which to most efficiently stimulate jobs and commerce may be wilderness dependent recreation industries.

(2) That to do so the state should undertake a sophisticated program to protect, promote and in many instances regulate wilderness dependent recreation industries.

(3) That in areas of marketable wilderness, wilderness dependent recreation industries are incredibly efficient in producing commerce and jobs.

(4) That the commerce and jobs produced in the wilderness dependent recreation industries on the Nushagak River compares favorably with that of the Kenai Peninsula recreation industry.

(5) That in the advertising practices of the recreational fishing industry, wilderness is highly marketable and is, in fact, the most marketed commodity after fish.

(6) That in the advertising practices of the recreational fishing industry, conservation designations are highly marketable to non-residents so long as the designation is consistent with what the recreational consumer seeks to purchase.

(7) That there is an economic and social carrying capacity in wilderness dependent recreation areas and that when the carrying capacity is surpassed through overcompetition and

overcrowding, price structure within the industry erodes and total commerce declines substantially.

(8) That Native interests, recreational interests, economic interests, industry interests, and conservation interests will all be served by identifying such carrying capacities in areas of marketable wilderness.

(9) That the recreation industry in Alaska can be divided into an "access and service dependent industry" and a "wilderness dependent industry" and that each element is probably much broader than many policy makers realize.

(10) That with respect to the functions of supply and demand, the economic productivity of the access-service dependent recreational industry is probably governed more by the function of demand.

(11) That the economic productivity of the wilderness dependent recreational industry is probably supply limited.

(12) That common sense observations that "there is plenty of wilderness in Alaska" beg important questions, such as:

- (a) How much of it is marketed and marketable?,
- (b) To whom is it marketed and marketable?,
- (c) How is it marketed and marketable?,
- (d) How productive of jobs and commerce should it be?,
- (e) What can the state do to assist marketing, creation of jobs and commerce, and resolution of conflicts over resource allocation?, and
- (f) What sort of balance should the state seek, if any, between various sectors of the wilderness dependent recreation industry?

(13) That within the present market for wilderness recreation, most of Alaska's marketable wilderness is probably within the coastal drainages in southcentral Alaska, the Bristol Bay drainages, Kodiak Island, southeast Alaska, Prince William Sound and perhaps some of the western Alaska drainages.

(14) That there are important distinctions between the resident based sport fishing industry and the nonresident based sport fishing industry with respect to species preference, crowding and wilderness, and that those distinctions have economic and resource management implications.

(15) That within the current market for wilderness based recreation, the most salable commodity is the combination of world class rainbow trout fisheries, in conjunction with salmon and resident stock fisheries, located in a wilderness setting that is neither overcrowded or overcompetitive and that is within

a marketable conservation designation.

(16) That there are some indications that the sport fishing lodge industry is seeking to market a Native cultural experience in conjunction with a fishing experience, and that such attempts in marketing may provide opportunities for Native employment in the bush and for maintaining traditional and contemporary Native culture as a viable entity.

(17) That the marketing practices and price structure within the wilderness dependent fishing lodge industry indicate that Alaska has a near monopoly on marketable wilderness fisheries, and that as marketable wilderness fisheries disappear elsewhere, this monopoly is likely to become increasingly economically valuable.

(18) That where wilderness cannot be used to promote quality sport fisheries existing in a non-wilderness setting, the market requires a price reduction of one third to two thirds for otherwise comparable recreation and services.

(19) That, therefore, the interstate and international economic competition for angler dollars is not only between businesses operating in Alaska and businesses operating elsewhere, but it is also between resource management agencies of the respective governments as to which can maintain the most economically productive sport fisheries and recreational experiences.

(20) That the Susitna drainage confronts policy makers with especially complex problems because it contains access-service dependent sport fishing industries in the lower portions of several streams and wilderness dependent sport fishing industries on the upper portions of several streams.

(21) That regardless of issues of boundaries and resource management, the marketing data suggests that more marketable designations for the proposed recreational rivers in the Susitna drainage might be: (a) "Susitna Wilderness Trout and Salmon Reserve" for some upper river areas where the industry is wilderness dependent and markets trout, salmon and wilderness, and (b) "Alaska Salmon Sport Fishery Reserve" for some lower river areas where the industry is access-service dependent, more crowded, less expensive, and markets only salmon.

(22) That if several of the proposed recreation rivers can be characterized as access-service dependent on the lower reaches, and wilderness dependent on the upper reaches, then the boundary, regardless of name, should support the marketing of the different industries in the respective areas.

(23) That improper identification of areas for the proposed

Susitna timber sale risk a net, long term, loss of total commerce and possibly of jobs, and that a more sound economic policy would be to protect, promote and enhance the marketability of existing wilderness dependent recreational industries in the area through a variety of state actions.

II. ANALYSIS

A. INTRODUCTION

1. Purposes of the Study

There are several purposes of this study. One is to see what can be said about commerce, jobs, marketing practices, price structure, competition, and the nature of the market within the recreation industry in Alaska. For the most part that information relates to a variety of industries that are in the sport fishing economy.

Another purpose is to make some observations about the breadth and character of the recreation industry as it relates to the functions of supply and demand.

A third purpose is to provide a more sharply focused understanding of the recreation industry, so that interest groups that deal with natural resource issues may improve their effectiveness and decision makers may improve their decisions.

A fourth purpose is to fertilize public debate over natural resource issues. Such debates frequently contain three kinds of information that are the grist of public decisions. All interest groups submit subjective beliefs and value judgments. Agencies submit biological, natural resource and economic information. And, well organized and financially well supported economic interests are capable of submitting their own economic and natural resource information. All of this informational "grist" has important roles. This study attempts to supplement those roles with some objective information about the economics of the a portion of the recreation industry and about market practices. Based on that information, this study makes observations, reaches conclusions, and submits a number of logical deductions, in order to fertilize public debate and add yeast to the brew.

A final purpose of this study is to promote not only economic discussion of commerce and jobs in the recreation industry, but also to promote conservation of resources upon which it depends. The conclusions reached by this study also have implications in the areas of taxation, Native concerns, agency management, the promotion, regulation and protection of the recreational industry, and politics.

2. Assumptions, Supply and Demand, and Questions Addressed

For the purposes of this study, it was assumed, and later supported by the data, that recreation industries, which is often thought of as only the tourist industry, can be divided into two large classes.

One class of recreation industries depends on conservation of resources and depends in varying degrees on development of inexpensive services, access, and accommodations. This class can be characterized as composed of "access-service dependent" recreation industries. Some examples are:

- (a) the cruise ship industry in southeast Alaska and Glacier Bay National Park,
- (b) sportfisheries on the Kenai River system, on several streams near Fairbanks, and on the lower portions of numerous streams along the Parks Highway, the Sterling Highway, and on west side of the Susitna,
- (c) Alyeska ski resort,
- (d) most visitor use of Denali National Park and Chugach State Park,
- (e) recreational snowmachining,
- (f) cross country skiing,
- (g) much of the unguided hunting, hiking, fishing, boating, and photography in areas accessible from the road system,
- (h) the Seward Salmon derby,
- (i) in a historical sense the Anchorage Fur Rendevous in that it was and to some extent still is conservation dependent, and
- (j) the retail sales, lodging, transportation, insurance and construction industries that support all of the above.

The other class of recreation industries depends on conservation of resources but depends in varying degrees on lack of development of inexpensive services, access and accommodations. This element can be characterized as a "wilderness dependent" recreation industry. (I use "wilderness" not in terms of federally designated wilderness, but only to connote the character of the land.) Some examples of this element are:

- (a) much of the private aircraft industry,
- (b) most of the lodge, guide, outfitter, and air-taxi industries, regardless of whether the recreational use is for guided or unguided fishing, hunting, boating, hiking, and other recreational pursuits,
- (c) the tourist and recreational use of Wood-Tikchik State Park, McNeil River Brown Bear Sanctuary, Katmai National Park and Preserve, the Gates of the Arctic National Park, and Noatak National Preserve,
- (d) most guided and unguided big game hunting,
- (e) the big game meat processing industry,
- (f) the Iditarod Sled Dog Race,
- (g) a portion of the motorized and non-motorized recreational boating in Prince William Sound, and

(h) the retail sales, lodging, transportation, insurance and construction industries that support all of the above.

One distinction between the two classes appears to be in how they relate to the functions of supply and demand. The access-service dependent recreation industry is governed more by demand than supply. As demand for access, services and accommodations increases, the market will seek to provide them. For example, there appears to be market demand for a new downhill ski resort, so the market is apparently going to build one. Similarly, if there is a market demand for a new Denali National Park, then the market is likely to result in paving the road into McCarthy and building services and accommodations there in Wrangell-St. Elias National Park.

In contrast, the wilderness dependent recreation industry can be characterized as supply-limited. There is no shortage of wilderness in this state, but that observation begs important questions such as:

- (a) How much of it is marketable?
- (b) To whom is it marketable?
- (c) How can it be marketed?
- (d) How productive of jobs and commerce can it be?
- (e) What can the State do to assist marketing, creation of jobs and commerce, and resolution of conflicts over resource allocation concerning this element of the recreation industry?
- (f) What sort of balance should the State seek, if any, between various sectors of the wilderness dependent recreation industry?

B. METHODOLOGY

In order to address the above questions this study --

(1) analyzes the price structure and marketing practices by approximately 60 Alaska sportfishing businesses, and 15 non-Alaska sportfishing businesses, as reflected in two tourist-oriented catalogues identified below, and

(2) relies upon existing economic data on the commercial value, job production and market characteristics of various sectors of the recreation industry as reflected in two recent economic studies, of which one is of the wilderness dependent guide, lodge, air taxi and outfitter industries in the Nushagak River drainage, and the other is of the economics of the sport fishing industry in southcentral Alaska.

The two catalogues I used to analyze marketing practices are

"Frank Amato's Alaska Angling Guide - 1988" and the Fly Shop Catalogue from Redding, California. Amato's publication is on sale now at newsstands throughout the country. It contains 49 advertisements that are by Alaska sport fishing businesses and that contain verbal content and artwork (usually photos) that are analytically useful in answering the questions addressed in this study. The Fly Shop Catalogue, serves a more limited clientele (fly fisherman) and promotes 27 internationally significant fishing services throughout the world, of which 12 are in Alaska. In addition to verbal content and artwork, the Fly Shop Catalogue contains price information for all advertising services, which Amato's publication does not.

Sport fishing publications, rather than other recreational publications, were selected for two reasons. First, sport anglers are the largest group of non-resident consumers in what is defined above as the wilderness dependent recreation industry. Second, by selecting sport fishing advertising it is possible to test the consistency of conclusions reached from the marketing analysis against conclusions reached in the two economic studies, since the southcentral economic study focuses solely on sport fishing and the Nushagak study focuses on guides, lodges and air-taxi operators for whom the bulk of the clientele were sport fishers.

The two economic studies utilized in this study are the "Southcentral Alaska Sport Fishing Economic Study", available from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and the "Commercial Recreation Service Providers Study of the Nushagak", available from the Bristol Bay Coastal Resource Service Area Board in Dillingham. Both studies were done on contract for those agencies, and the former was specifically requested by the Alaska Legislature in order to facilitate answering questions such as those addressed here.

The two economic studies are not as comparable in format, terminology and design as was desirable for purposes of this study and comparing the two recreational economies. The statistics in the southcentral study relate to sport fishing, while the statistics in the Nushagak study relate mostly to sportfishing, but the numbers are obscured by unknown portions of other recreationists in the guide and air taxi industries. Finally, statistics are not life; they only simplify it. The economic estimates of the sport fisheries on the west side of the Susitna seem questionable because of possible problems with a small sample size for those fisheries in the southcentral study. Nevertheless, these studies were the only available economic data on wilderness dependent and access-service dependent recreational industries.

C. DISCUSSIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

1. Economics

(a) CONCLUSION -- Direct consumer spending in the guide, lodge, and air taxi industries for wilderness based recreation in the Nushagak compares favorably with direct consumer spending in all industries for access-service dependent recreation on the Kenai River and Russian River.

DISCUSSION -- The Nushagak study estimated the client population of the lodge, air taxi and guide industries. At the 90% confidence level, the Nushagak study estimated the client population at between 9,896 and 18,192 clients. (BBCRSA 1986, p. 55).

The Nushagak study projected the total income for the guide, lodge, and air taxi industries on the Nushagak. This appears to be a projection of gross income rather than net profit and therefore probably represents direct client spending for services within those industries. The gross income of the industries was \$25 million (BBCRSA 1986, p. 57).

The Southcentral study uses different terms, but it estimated the number of angler trips. A trip can contain more than one person (Mills ADF&G, pers. comm., 1988). The southcentral study estimated the number of angler trips to the Kenai-Russian rivers at 333,000 in 1986 (ADF&G 1987, 3-3). Therefore, there were at least 333,000 angler visits to those rivers in 1986. Angler expenditures on the Kenai and Russian River sport fisheries was estimated at \$43 million dollars. ADF&G, 1987, p. 4-2.

There is an important difference between how the two studies examined expenditures. The Nushagak study appears to look just at client expenditures (\$25 million) for guide, lodge, and air taxi services, since it appears to look only at gross income in those industries. The Southcentral study looks at angler expenditures (\$43 million) in terms of "sport fishing related spending per trip" (ADF&G 1987, p. 8-44). It includes items not included in the Nushagak figures, such as expenditures in department/variety stores, sporting goods stores, travel businesses (e.g., commercial airlines, travel agents, car rental), trailer parks and campgrounds, hotels/motels, grocery stores, restaurants, gas, and "other types of business". The Nushagak figures do not include these types of related expenditures. Nevertheless, the figures are comparable.

What is most interesting is the efficiency with which the wilderness dependent recreation industry on the Nushagak generates commerce. The approximately 14,000 Nushagak visitors

spent \$25 million on guide, lodge, and air taxi services, while a minimum of 333,000 sportfishing trips to the Kenai and Russian Rivers resulted in direct spending of \$43 million in a broader range of services analyzed.

Since the State is concerned about commerce, this observation about the commercial horsepower of the wilderness based recreation industry is one worth making. To carry this commercial and automotive metaphor a bit further, the Kenai/Russian River fisheries are analogous to an old Detroit gas guzzler and the Nushagak is a peppy little Japanese car that runs at a much higher r.p.m. You have to pour a lot more anglers into the Kenai/Russian River fisheries to get the same commerce than you do with the Nushagak. The Nushagak appears to be twenty times more efficient than the Kenai/Russian River fisheries in producing comparable spending.

(b) CONCLUSION -- The number of jobs generated in the wilderness dependent recreation industries in the Nushagak compares favorably to the number of jobs generated from all Kenai Peninsula sportfishing.

DISCUSSION -- The Nushagak study gives figures on the "maximum number of employees per month" for the guide, lodge and air taxi industries (BBCRSA 1986, p. 57). The figures are shown in the table below.

Table 1

Maximum Number of Employees Per Month
by Category (Nushagak Study)

	Air Taxis	Guides	Lodges
Guides	7	35	111
Pilots	82	2	45
Cooks	0	17	67
Maintenance	29	12	4
Management/Marketing	34	4	4
SUBTOTALS	160	70	231

TOTAL: 461 jobs, full & part time

Thus, it appears that the approximate 10,000 to 18,000 wilderness based recreation visitors to the Nushagak in 1985 generated 461 full and part-time jobs in the lodge, guide and air taxi industries using the Nushagak.

The southcentral study estimates the number of angler trips to the Kenai Peninsula as 647,000 in 1986 (ADF&G 1987, p. 3-3). The study also calculated full and part-time employment on the

Kenai Peninsula that results from angler spending associated with sport fishing in Southcentral. ADF&G, 1987, p. 4-10. Obviously, these jobs are created almost totally by the trips to the Peninsula to fish and are not created by trips away from the Peninsula to fish elsewhere in Southcentral. Table 2 reflects employment in Peninsula industries analogous to the air taxi, lodge and guide industries on the Nushagak.

Table 2

Number of Full and Part-time Jobs on Kenai Peninsula
Directly Resulting from Sport Fishing

Passenger Transport	43
Hotel/Lodging Places	156
Eating/Drinking Establishments	117
Guide Services	<u>331</u>
TOTAL	647

Thus, it appears that the 647,000 angler trips to the Peninsula generated 647 jobs there, while the 14,000 visitors to the Nushagak generated 461 jobs there. One way of comparing these two economies is that it takes 31.5 clients in the wilderness dependent industries using the Nushagak to generate a job in the guide, lodge, air taxi industries, and it takes 1000 angler trips to the crowded Kenai Peninsula fisheries to generate 1 job in analogous industries there.

That manner of comparison at first seemed incredible. However, the comparison is quite logical if one thinks about how these numbers relate to economics of scale. Admittedly, these numbers compare slightly different terms (angler trips and recreational visitors), so the comparison is not precise. The point of the comparison is to draw out the next conclusion, which is about economics of scale.

(c) CONCLUSION -- The efficiency of the wilderness dependent recreation industries on the Nushagak in producing jobs and commerce results from them being on the "flip side" of the "economics of scale".

DISCUSSION -- A positive statement of the flip side of the economics of scale is that the wilderness dependent recreation industries are incredibly efficient in producing commerce and jobs because they are so inefficient in the services they provide. That is to say, they are labor intensive and costly.

Labor intensive and costly industries are assets in a depressed economy if one need not be concerned about competition.

The concept of economics of scale is only meaningful if a

consumer is concerned about price of a product or a producer of a product is concerned about competition. When those concerns occur, then economics of scale is a virtue.

However, economics of scale is not a concern when a producer has a near monopoly on a product. As will be discussed below, Alaska has nearly an international monopoly on certain forms of marketable wilderness recreation involving portions of the sport fishing recreation industry.

Furthermore, current state economic concerns are currently focused on stimulating jobs and commerce.

Finally, in the wilderness dependent recreation industry, economics of scale is probably more of a threat than a virtue. As will be discussed below, it appears that in the wilderness dependent recreation industry, there is an economic and social carrying capacity in any given area of marketable wilderness, and that when that carrying capacity is surpassed through over growth of the wilderness dependent recreation industry and overcrowding of a marketable wilderness area, competition and economics of scale erode price structure and total commerce actually declines.

It should be clear from conclusions (a) and (b) that a well managed wilderness dependent recreation industry creates more jobs and more commerce on a per consumer basis than any other sector of the recreation and tourist industry.

To see the rationality of this deduction one need only, first, observe the difference between a Cessna 206 on floats and a tour bus on wheels, and second, speculate on the implications of purchasing those two pieces of equipment.

The Cessna carries a pilot, a guide, and three guest anglers. A small fishing lodge probably requires about 45 additional, week-long guests annually (3 per week in a 15 week season) to require purchase of another Cessna 206 on floats. That will require hiring an additional pilot and an additional guide.

In contrast, a tour company probably requires at least several hundred additional annual clients to necessitate the purchase of another tour bus and the hiring of an additional driver.

(d) CONCLUSION -- Wilderness is highly marketable, and within the wilderness dependent sport fishing industries, wilderness is in fact, second only to fish, the most marketed commodity.

DISCUSSION -- In Frank Amato's Alaska Angling Guide, 33

advertisers are Alaska sport fishing businesses operating in the bush. Table 3 shows the words they use in their advertisements to describe, and promote on the basis of, the character of their locale and business.

Table 3

Promotional Description of Business Setting

	No. of services mentioning	total No. of mentions
"wilderness"	21	32
"remote"	7	8
"wild", "wild Alaska", or "wilds of Alaska"	4	4
"solitude"	2	2
"scenery" or "scenic"	2	2
"completely unspoiled"	1	1
"unspoiled"	1	1
"awesome beauty"	1	1
"bush"	1	1
"accessible only by sea and air"	1	1
"Alaska's outback"	1	1
"beautiful region"	1	1
"beautiful setting"	1	1
"beautiful river/lake system"	1	1
"expansive beauty"	1	1
No mention of setting	3	n/a

Clearly, wilderness sells to the clientele of these industries.

Roughly the same observation can be made in the Fly Shop catalogue; nine of the 12 Alaska services in that catalogue promote on the basis of their locales. The most common terms are "wilderness", "remote", and "scenic". The terms are frequently used repetatively or in conjunction with synonomous phrases such as "bush", "isolated", "inaccessible" or "most secluded".

The two publications market to non-residents. The conclusion that wilderness (whatever it implies to the consumer) is highly marketable is compatible with what the two economic studies indicate about crowding and non-residents.

The Nushagak study asked industry respondents to describe changes in the areas used for recreation since 1981. The data of those responses is reproduced in Table 4.

Table 4

Changes in Areas Used for Recreation Since 1981
(% of Sample in Nushagak Study)

	Air Taxis	Guides	Lodges
Decline in Quality From Crowding	41	55	80
Decline in Abundance of Fish	23	5	36
Decline in Abundance of Wildlife	14	10	16

Decline in quality due to crowding is clearly the most dominant response in these sectors of the wilderness dependent recreation industry on the Nushagak.

It is noteworthy at this point that the Nushagak study indicates that the recreational visitors to the Nushagak are 69% non-residents (meaning from outside of Alaska). The study gives point estimates of the number of visitors utilizing the guide, lodge and air taxi industries (BBCRSA 1986, p. 42). And, the study presents data on the resident/non-resident mix among the clients of these industries (BBCRSA 1986, pp. 62-63). Based on these data, the following table can be constructed.

Table 5

Resident/Non-resident Clients
(Nushagak) (1985 data)

	Point Est. # Clients	Non- resident	Resident
Lodge Industry	6466	85%	15%
Guide Industry	1650	80%	20%
Air Taxi Industry	5926	47%	53%
TOTAL	14,042	69%	31%

The reason that the predominance of non-residents is noteworthy is that the southcentral study focused on how non-residents determine where to fish. That study indicates that with respect to non-residents, concern over crowding was second only to target species as the most important factor in non-resident determinations of where to fish. The least important

factors in non-resident determinations of where to fish were: availability of a package tour, type of lodging and restaurant facilities, availability of guide services, and availability of campground or cabin facilities (AD&G 1986, p. 3-15). That is not to say that non-residents don't like services. They just don't care about them nearly as much as they care about target species and crowding.

Since wilderness is highly marketed, to whom is it being marketed? Clearly, the industry is marketing it to non-residents who are concerned about crowding as a consideration in what constitutes a "wilderness experience".

(e) CONCLUSION -- Conservation designations are good business and are highly marketable, so long as those designations are consistent in name with what recreation consumers seek to purchase.

DISCUSSION -- Of the 61 advertisements for sport fishing businesses operating in Alaska and advertising in either of the two catalogues, 45 are for operators who provide angling services in the field. Of those, 23 are for operators using conservation areas. There are 14 advertisements for operators who operate in national parks, national wildlife refuges, federally designated wilderness areas or the State's trophy trout area, and 9 advertisements are for operators who operate in the Wood-Tikchik State Park or the Kenai River Special Management Area State Park.

Of the 14 advertisements for businesses operating in national parks, national wildlife refuges, national wilderness areas or the State trophy trout area, 10 market on the fact of the conservation designation.

In Amato's Angling Guide, two-thirds (6 of 9) of the services that operate in such areas promote on the basis of the conservation designation. Alaska Rivers Safaris advertises Togiak National Wildlife Refuge and designated wilderness. Andy's Alaskan Fishing Safaris advertises Togiak National Wildlife Refuge. Silver Salmon Creek Lodge advertises Lake Clark National Park. Whaler's Cove Lodge in Angoon advertises Admiralty Island Wilderness. Gone Fishing, Inc. advertises designated wilderness and the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge. Igiugig Lodge advertises the State's designated trophy trout area, Katmai National Park and Lake Clark National Park and Preserve.

In the Fly Shop catalogue, five of the twelve Alaska services operate in such areas. Four of the five use that fact promotionally and a sixth advertises as being in the "shadow of ... Denali National Park". Rainbow River Lodge and No See-Um Lodge are both in the designated Trophy Trout Area; both use that

in promotion. Alaska River Safaris and Andy Jensen's River Camp are both in the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge; both use that in promotion. Wilderness Place Lodge advertises proximity to Denali National Park. Only Karluk Lodge does not mention being in the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge.

However, just the reverse is true for the Wood-Tikchik State Park and the Kenai River Special Management Area state park. Among the 9 advertisements (all in Amato's catalogue), 7 are for businesses that operate in the Kenai River Special Management Area State Park and 2 are for Lodges that operate in Wood-Tikchik State Park. Of those 9, not one markets on the basis of the designation. Wood-Tikchik State Park is a superb wilderness fishery for trout and salmon. The park hosts some of the most successful lodges in the state. The Kenai River is a superb fishery, though it is not a wilderness fishery.

It is important to identify what problems may exist in marketing state parks. It is not that state designations are not marketable, for the state's designated trophy trout area is marketed. And, it is probably not that state parks can't be better named in order to be more useful promotionally. It could be that in the non-resident consumer's mind, the words "state park" connote what state parks are in the lower-48 states -- i.e., small, crowded, covered with picnic tables, and surrounded by land that would not be called "wilderness". Therefore, the problem is one of image and name for the Division of Tourism, the Division of Parks, and the Legislature to overcome.

This observation has an implication for the proposed recreational rivers in H.B. 93. "Recreational river" may be used by the recreation industry to improve marketing, but one can speculate that the Legislature might want to choose a name that comes closer to what the non-resident consumers seek to purchase. Names of conservation designations are obviously commercially important in that a good name is good business. The matter of naming the proposed recreation rivers is discussed further under the conclusions about the Susitna drainage.

It is concluded that legislative designations for conservation are good business and create jobs and commerce that would otherwise be less in number and amount, so long as the designation and management are consistent with what consumers seek. If the designation connotes the experience the consumer seeks, then the industry markets on the basis of the designation.

(f) CONCLUSION -- The wilderness dependent recreation industry in a given area of highly marketable wilderness can be characterized as having an economic and social carrying capacity. Increased use appears to increase total commerce only to a certain point, and after that point is reached, further

competition within the industry and further crowding erode the price structure and result in depressing the total commerce.

DISCUSSION -- Overcompetition and overcrowding appear to be economically disastrous to the wilderness dependent recreation industry. Although neither of the economic studies focused directly on the relationship of crowding and competition to commerce in the wilderness based recreation industry, there is strong evidence in the two studies to infer that areas of marketable wilderness have economic carrying capacities. The studies yield the following four items of compelling evidence.

First, as discussed earlier, the southcentral economic study indicates that for non-residents the two most important factors in deciding where to fish are, first, the species they seek, and second, concern about crowding. In the Nushagak study, "decline in quality from crowding" was the most often cited change in the areas utilized by the air taxis, guides and lodges that were the subject of that study. There is clearly a relationship, in the minds of both industry respondents and non-resident anglers, between crowding, quality and where the non-resident decides to spend his or her dollars.

Second, this analysis will discuss in greater detail later a comparison of prices for comparable services located in southwest Alaska and further out west Susitna drainages. For now, suffice it to say that the market in southwest will bear a price of \$3000 per week at a lodge for a trout and salmon package. A comparable package at west Susitna lodges on Lake Creek or Talachalitna River, where there is relatively more crowding and competition, runs \$1500 to \$2000 per week. Between the two areas, there are different costs within the services (fly-out fishing is more common among southwest lodges), but crowding and competition may also contribute to lower prices on the west side. Thus, price comparisons appear consistent with what non-residents say about how they determine where to fish.

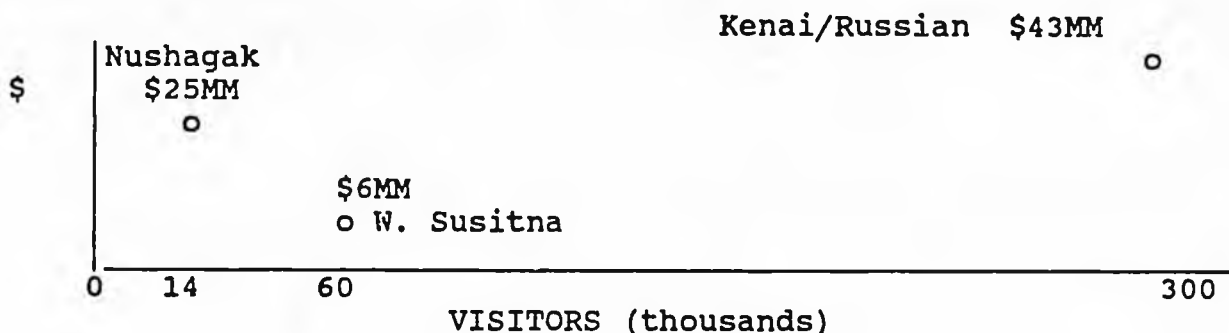
Third, a comparison of the non-resident spending on the Nushagak with non-resident spending on west Susitna streams supports the inference that there is an economic carrying capacity in wilderness recreation areas.

On the Nushagak, on a pro-rata basis, the 9686 non-resident visitors (based on a point estimate total of 14,042 visitors) spent \$17.25 million. In reality they spent much more, because Table 5 shows that they disproportionately purchase expensive lodge and guide services, as opposed to less expensive air taxi services. On the Nushagak, the average price per visitor is \$1785.

On the west Susitna streams, the southcentral study reported only on the king and silver salmon fisheries. With respect to

those fisheries, the study estimated 8529 non-resident angler trips (out of 68,293 total resident and non-resident angler trips) resulted in about \$3 million of direct spending (out of a total \$6 million) on recreational services there (ADF&G, 1987, p. 3-3, p. 4-2). Based on these estimates, for non-residents the average cost per trip was \$58.

Fourth, following graph compares spending and number of visitors for three fisheries. The Nushagak is predominantly a non-resident, wilderness dependent industry. The Kenai/Russian rivers are predominantly resident and access-service dependent. The west Susitna, as will be shown later, is a mix of access-service dependent fisheries on the lower reaches of some streams and wilderness dependent on the upper portions of some streams where the lodge industry is highly competitive.



The only line that can connect these points is one that implies a carrying capacity for wilderness dependent industry. When it becomes overly competitive it becomes less productive of commerce. The line is left undrawn because it would obscure several problems with the data that make the graph less than fully accurate. First, the Nushagak recreation visitors are not all anglers but are predominantly so. Second, as will be seen below, the west Susitna fisheries are only partly comparable to Nushagak fisheries in terms of how they market and the species they market. Nevertheless, this graphic portrayal of three fisheries implies an economic and social carrying capacity tied to competition and crowding.

The difference in non-resident spending between the Nushagak and the west side of the Susitna deserves more analysis than these studies will support. However, the difference clearly exists, and erosion in price structure may contribute to it. It appears that the commercial horsepower of the west Susitna streams is depressed by factors the State would be wise to bring under control.

There are probably many variables that affect recreational spending in these two areas and that obscure the relationship of crowding, competition and spending. Those variables include the

fact that the west Susitna streams have both an access-service dependent fishery in some areas and a wilderness dependent fishery in other areas, less fly-out fishing on west Susitna streams, decreased wilderness, and a predominance of salmon fisheries as opposed to trout with salmon and other stocks. This study however seeks to point out that crowding and overcompetition appear to be among the variables and deserve further study as the State seeks solutions to its depressed economy.

Although the inference of the negative relationship of total spending to crowding and competition is based on indirect evidence, the inference is consistent with a common sense observation that when the fishing hole gets too crowded, the higher dollar wilderness consumer is probably the first to move.

Finally, political leaders and agency officials might want to note that this inference of an economic carrying capacity serves many interests. The notion of an economic carrying capacity serves state economic interests because state agencies can identify carrying capacities to understand what levels of competition and public use maximize commerce and jobs. That is not to suggest that state policy should be governed solely by maximizing commerce, since on the Nushagak that would mean doing away with the less expensive air taxi industry and handing all flying of recreationists over to the more expensive lodge and guide industries. Clearly, there needs to be a mix of different recreational services, catering to different markets for wilderness dependent industries. The mix just needs to be managed to sustain a healthy level of commerce and employment.

The concept of an economic carrying capacity serves industry interests because it protects existing wilderness dependent recreational businesses from overcompetition. The notion of a carrying capacity serves employment interests, because it protects wages against overcompetition and supports the ability to hire high quality staff which is very important in the more lucrative portions of the lodge industry.

The notion of a carrying capacity clearly serves conservation interests, because it protects the character of marketable wilderness.

The notion of a carrying capacity protects Native interests, because it protects rural Alaskans from overcompetition for resources and space. Adoption of such a notion could help to assure rural Natives that the recreation industry will not endlessly keep introducing more and more non-Natives into areas valued by Natives.

(g) CONCLUSION -- The State might benefit economically if public officials had a better understanding of non-resident and resident interests and participation in the wilderness dependent and access-service dependent sectors of the recreation industry. Such an understanding is necessary if Alaska is going to deal with its national and international competition for exotic recreation, regardless of whether the recreation is access-service dependent or wilderness dependent.

DISCUSSION -- In considering what the State can do to promote jobs and commerce in the recreation industry, it is very important to bear in mind that resident versus non-resident participation is a fundamental difference between the consumers of the access-service dependent fisheries, such as many of those in southcentral Alaska, and the wilderness dependent fisheries on places like the Nushagak.

In the Nushagak system, approximately 9,686 of the 14,042 visitors in 1985, or 69%, were non-residents. In southcentral Alaska sportfisheries, the reverse is true. Less than 15% of the sportfishing trips were by non-residents. Of 1,089,000 sportfishing trips, approximately 161,000 were by non-residents. This relationship holds true on the west Susitna drainages where non-resident fishermen took approximately 12.5% of the trips, and on the Kenai Peninsula where non-resident fishermen took approximately 18.7% of the fishing trips (ADF&G 1987, p. 3-3).

The predominance of non-residents in the wilderness dependent recreation industry has important economic implications for a state concerned about commerce and jobs.

If the State seeks to expand the recreation industry, there may be merit to focusing more on the non-resident wilderness consumer who purchases services in industries that are so efficient in producing jobs and commerce. Unfortunately, the Division of Tourism seems to focus most on the non-resident consumer who purchases services in access-service dependent industries, such as the cruise ship industry and the package tour industry, which may be inefficient in producing jobs for Alaskans and are probably disproportionately run by outside firms.

For example, compare the following two hypothetical tourists. One is an angler booking into an expensive southwest Alaska lodge and the other is a purchaser of a cruise ship ticket.

The economic consequences of the non-resident angler are likely to be:

(1) the angler may spend a thousand dollars on an airline ticket to get here, and the money goes to a non-Alaskan airline

to support non-Alaskan employment,

(2) the angler may spend several hundred dollars on an Alaskan owned airline that takes the angler to the bush,

(3) the angler may spend \$3000 at a lodge that is most likely to be Alaskan owned and that is labor intensive and therefore efficient at producing jobs, and

(4) the angler is likely to purchase several hundred dollars worth of lodging, retail sales and travel in and about Anchorage.

Contrast the foregoing with a hypothetical client in the cruise ship industry.

(1) several thousand dollars to purchase a cruise ship ticket for which the price goes to an out-of-state firm,

(2) probably several nights of lodging worth a few hundred dollars which go to Alaska firms,

(3) retail purchasing and group travel in Alaska, costing perhaps in excess of several hundreds of dollars.

There are two distinctions between these hypothetical examples. The angler appears to leave more money in the state than does the cruise ship client. And, the angler spends within an industry that is labor intensive, operates on the "flip side" of the economics of scale and is therefore efficient in producing the next incremental job. The cruise ship client spends only in industries that operate on the economics of scale.

The foregoing comparison does not necessarily mean that the consumers of wilderness recreation spend more or generate more jobs than access-service dependent consumers. There are probably many more non-resident "clients" than "anglers". This matter should be examined further.

(h) CONCLUSION -- There is little the State can do to expand the portion of the recreation industry that is overwhelmingly dependent on residents. For the most part, all the State can do is shift the locale of resident activities through increased access.

DISCUSSION -- Outside of oil matters and national defense defense expenditures in Alaska, the state may have limited options that result in increasing the number of Alaska residents and thereby increasing the recreational commerce in which they engage. Since Alaskans are burning fuel and rubber getting out of here, the portion of the recreation industry the depends on

their expenditures is not a good candidate for state efforts.

However, the State can promote out-of-state visitors, who incidentally don't require schools, jobs, roads and other services.

Since the number of residents is limited and declining, state efforts to increase access to desirable recreation areas are likely to result only in shifting the location of where the resident recreation dollar is spent and where the job is generated.

Therefore, statements by the Division of Forestry that the originally proposed Susitna timber sale would increase recreational spending are misguided. The exact opposite is probably true since the cost of recreation on the west side of the Susitna would decrease. So would the value of the private aircraft industry. Furthermore, there is no evidence that such access would increase non-resident use of the area. Fewer non-residents use the cheaper west Susitna fisheries than use the expensive Nushagak fisheries. Except for the rather unique Kenai River fishery, non-residents seem to prefer expensive fishing vacations over cheaper ones.

(i) CONCLUSION -- With the exception of stimulating commerce related to the oil industry, the most efficient state action to stimulate jobs and commerce on a long term basis may be to undertake a sophisticated program to protect, regulate and promote wilderness dependent recreation industries.

DISCUSSION -- All of the above conclusions and discussions lead to this conclusion. This study makes a number of recommendations as to what that program might be.

(j) CONCLUSION -- Within the current market for wilderness based recreation, the most lucrative combination of commodities is probably the combination of world class rainbow trout, in conjunction with salmon and resident fish stocks, in a wilderness setting that carries an administrative or legislative designation that is marketable to the consumer.

DISCUSSION -- World class rainbow trout is the most important species to the non-resident angler, as indicated by the price structure within the industry, the marketing practices of the industry, and the economic data. The Fly Shop catalogue contains prices for all advertisers. Amato's contains almost no price information and therefore could not be used to analyze price structure. Both catalogues yield data of species depicted in the artwork (mostly photographs) in the advertisements.

With respect to price structure, of the 27 world wide services marketed in the Fly Shop Catalogue, the highest prices (about \$3000 per week) are commanded by wilderness lodges offering world class trout fishing in Alaska and Patagonia (Chile).

Furthermore, the Fly Shop catalogue shows that in Alaska, rainbow trout offered in conjunction with salmon and resident fish species command 50% higher prices and therefore commerce, than just salmon alone.

In southwest Alaska, the price for a week of world class rainbow trout fishing, mixed with salmon, char and grayling, is about \$3000 per week. Dave Egdorf's Western Alaska Sport Fishing sells trout camp at \$2900/wk. Rainbow River Lodge markets rainbows at \$2995/wk. and emphasizes the Iliamna Trophy Trout area designated by the Board of Fisheries. No See-Um Lodge is \$3195/wk. and emphasizes the Iliamna Trophy Trout designation. Alaska River Safaris, near Goodnews, sells "superb rainbow trout" and equally emphasizes salmon at \$2850/wk and \$2350/wk.

Contrast these prices with prices in the same locale (Southwest) and even in the same business facilities, when only salmon is offered. Dave Egdorf's Western Alaska Sport Fishing sells salmon camp for \$1900/wk. Dave Coray's "Shelter Creek" near Iliamna Volcano sells silver salmon for \$995 for 4 days. Karluk Lodge on Kodiak Island sells king salmon at \$1595/wk., red and pink salmon at \$795/wk., and silver salmon at \$1750/wk. Karluk's highest price is \$300 per day of fishing for steelhead, which are ocean run rainbow trout. Andy Jensen's River Camp, near Togiak, sells salmon for \$1850/wk.

Obviously, the market will bear a 50% higher price tag for experiences that include world class rainbow trout fishing than for salmon fishing in the same locale and even in the same camp. That differential is a differential of commercial power in the two resources in southwest Alaska.

With respect to marketing practices, in Amatos' Alaska Angling Guide, Rainbow trout is the species most marketed by the sport fishing industry in the advertising artwork. Table 6 summarizes the data.

Table 6

Species Depicted in Amato Advertising

Rainbow Trout	17
King Salmon	13
Silver Salmon	1

Similarly, for the clientele to which the Fly Shop markets, rainbow trout is the species most marketed in lodge industry photographs. Eleven of those 12 Alaska services in the Fly Shop catalogue promote by photograph, and a total of 13 photos are used. Table 7 summarizes the data.

Table 7

Species Depicted in Fly Shop Advertising

Rainbow Trout	7
Silver Salmon	3
King Salmon	1*
Grayling	1
Pool of Salmon	1

* King salmon photo used in conjunction with silver salmon photo, therefore the numbers do not add to 12.

The foregoing comparison of prices and the photographic analysis is consistent with the Nushagak study, which found fishing for rainbow trout is the most popular activity, slightly ahead of king and silver salmon, in that system (BBCRSA, 1986, p. 18). This species preference for rainbows is characteristic of most of the clientele in the Bristol Bay drainage.

The importance of rainbow trout does not mean that kings and silvers are not important elements in marketing or in the economics of the sport fishing industry. It simply indicates there is an economic relationship between species, price structure, and marketing practices.

An implication of that relationship is that conservation of world class rainbow trout stocks is wise economic policy. During the past four years, pressure from the sport fishing community and the sport fishing industry has moved the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the Board of Fisheries toward improving the management of Alaska's world class rainbow trout stocks.

The lodge industry is very supportive of conservative management of trout. Esthetics aside, rainbows are slow growing, reproductive at a late age in southwest Alaska, and financially important. Maintaining world class trout is necessary to the economic future of the lodge industry. Of the 25 lodges responding in the Nushagak study, 24 reported they do not allow clients to kill rainbow trout, and 16 reported they do not allow clients to kill grayling or char (BBCRSA 1986, p. 31).

The guide industry is supportive of strict management of rainbow trout, but the industry is not as strongly conservationist on this measure as the lodge industry. Of the 22 guides responding in the Nushagak study, 13 reported they do not allow clients to kill rainbow trout. Id. Although both industries are clearly supportive of very careful management of world class rainbow trout, the lodge industry is more so probably because it involves investment in facilities that depends on continued world class trout.

The situation with respect to species appears somewhat reversed for southcentral Alaska businesses. As a consequence the State's ability under present circumstances to market southcentral recreation to non-residents appears to be deleteriously diminished. With the exception of some wilderness Susitna drainage fisheries, southcentral businesses have to focus on salmon more than the combination of trout, salmon and wilderness. They have to do so even though salmon are a less lucrative species to market to non-residents as indicated by the previous price structure analysis. And, they have to do so in the context of the comparatively depressed overall recreational commerce generated from non-residents on the west side of the Susitna. And, they have to do so in an arena fraught with competition and crowding. And, they have to compete for non-residents who are demonstrably concerned about crowding.

Therefore, firms dependent on southcentral fisheries market to non-resident anglers proportionately focused more on salmon than on trout, salmon and wilderness. Table 8 presents the data derived from analysis of the photographic artwork and the verbal descriptions of locale of operation with respect to advertisers that operate in southcentral Alaska.

Table 8 makes clear that in southcentral, there are two sport fishing industries. One is access-service dependent. It markets salmon. The Kenai River advertisements in Table 8 are representative of this industry. The other is a wilderness based industry, and the commodity it markets is the combination of trout, salmon, and wilderness. This industry is more analogous to the industry on the Nushagak in terms of product, marketing practices, and probably clientele and efficiency with which it produces jobs and commerce.

Table 8

Species Depicted and Locale Descriptions in Southcentral
and Kenai River Sport Fishing Advertisements
in Amato, Fly Shop and Access-Service Dependent
and Wilderness Dependent Fisheries

	Amato	Fly Shop	Kenai (Access service depend)	Talachalitna R. Lake Cr. & others (wilderness based)

Sample Size	12	2	7	8

King Salmon	10	0	5	2
Rainbow Trout	5	2	2	4
Silver Salmon	2	0	2	0

"wilderness"	n/a*	n/a*	0	4
"remote"	n/a*	n/a*	0	3
"scenic"	n/a*	n/a*	1	2
"bush"	n/a*	n/a*	0	1
"unspoiled"	n/a*	n/a*	0	1
"virtually untouched"	n/a*	n/a*	0	1
"wilds"	n/a*	n/a*	1	1
"beautiful setting"	n/a*	n/a*	-	1

* n/a because in analyzing verbal descriptions of locale, it makes sense only to separate access-service dependent fisheries from wilderness dependent fisheries; combining them only produces meaningless data.

This table clearly indicates that when a fishery in southcentral Alaska becomes access-service dependent and is much less efficient in producing commerce and jobs, the market to which the sport fishing industry must appeal changes from a market for trout, salmon and wilderness to a market just for salmon.

Furthermore, the table indicates that when an area of marketable wilderness turns access-service dependent, the ability to market wilderness and locale disappears, along with the efficiently produced commerce and jobs that go with the wilderness dependent recreation industry.

The eight businesses in the southcentral wilderness dependent sample are Talaview Lodge (Talachalitna River), Wilderness Place Lodge (Lake Creek), Lake Creek Lodge, Tolsina Lake Resort, Beluga River Camp, Kalgin Island Lodge, Angler's Alaska Adventures (selling custom "bush" fishing expedition but

based in Anchorage), Ultimate Rivers (offerring "wilderness" fishing experiences and based in Healy). Talaview and Wilderness Place Lodge advertise in Fly Shop; the rest advertise in Amato.

The seven businesses in the access-service dependent sample on the Kenai River are Kenai River Sport Fishing Camp, Wes' Alaskan Fishing Adventures, David and Valerie Booth, King Louie's Salmon Charters, Great Alaska Fish Camp, R. W.'s Guide Service, and Tim Hiner.

The different character of southcentral marketing and commerce probably is due to several factors, including:

- (a) diminished world class trout fisheries where they were historically present in southcentral,
- (b) the predominance of resident interest in salmon over trout, and
- (c) probably different degrees of concern about crowding among salmon fishing clientele in southcentral fisheries as opposed to trout clientele in southwest fisheries.

One implication of this list and the evidence about carrying capacity and depressed commerce on the west Susitna drainages is that a wise economic policy would be to seek measures that enhance the marketability of wilderness dependent fisheries in the Susitna drainage.

It is important to note the "wilderness" is not mentioned in the above list. "Wilderness", whatever it means in the marketplace, is clearly relevant economically to the industry. It is not mentioned in the list because the concept of "wilderness" is an intangible entity. The concept probably exists first and foremost in the eyes of the beholder. What it may mean for Alaskan law is a problem for the Legislature, not this study. However, one should not infer that wilderness in the Susitna drainage should not be addressed. Business does, and therefor, public policy should.

(k) CONCLUSION -- The marketing practices of the lodge industry are consistent with conservative management of resident fish stocks, particularly rainbow trout. The economic importance of rainbow trout indicates that very conservative management of rainbow trout is good business and sound economic policy.

DISCUSSION -- A competent guide or angler can distinguish a photograph of a live released fish from a dead fish. A competent guide or angler will simply "know" a picture of a released fish because she or he has taken a thousand pictures likes those in

the advertising artwork. Released fish are horizontal. Dead ones are verticle. Released fish have the tail held firmly to control the animal for its safety, and the abdomen is supported with the person's fingers away from the gills. Dead fish, even when held horizontally, are not held like that. Released fish have flapping pectral (front) fins. Dead fish have pectral fins pasted to the body with mucus. Released fish have bright, colorful eyeballs going every which way. Dead fish have dull, flat eyes flush with the body and "looking" straight out. Finally, anglers holding released fish are usually in the water, alone in the picture, holding the fish close to the water with rod still in hand, or nearby, and the hook is frequently still in the mouth (that's so the angler can still get the picture if the fish flops free and starts swimming away). In dead fish pictures, the angler is generally the exact opposite of what he or she is in released fish pictures. Thus, in photographs, dead fish don't have to wear plaid to be "dead", released fish don't have to be swimming to be "released".

Table 9 summarizes the advertising photos in Amato.

Table 9

Released vs. Dead Fish by Species (Amato)

	Released	Dead
Rainbow Trout	11	2
King Salmon	2	11
Silver Salmon	2	8

The photographic advertising data from the Fly Shop catalogue is:

Table 10

Released vs. Dead Fish by Species (Fly Shop)

	Released	Dead
Rainbow Trout	7	0
King Salmon	N/A	N/A
Silver Salmon	3	0
Grayling	1	0

What is important in all of this is that in the non-resident market, released rainbows sell, but dead ones don't. Thus, a sound economic argument can be made for conservative management of trout stocks.

2. Conclusions About the Susitna Drainage

The west Susitna fisheries confront the State with especially complex problems because they support both high volume, low budget, access-service dependent fisheries and more expensive wilderness fisheries. Fundamentally, that is one reason why the recreational rivers bill, H.B. 93, has been controversial even among recreationists. Few of them dispute the value of these rivers and the need to manage them wisely. They just can't agree on the bill. Throw in the so-called resource development advocates, the environmentalists, the Borough, the Susitna timber issue, and the conflicting beliefs of legislators and agency officials, and it should be no wonder that the Legislature has had a difficult time resolving the issue.

Some suggestions will be made in this section of the analysis.

(1) CONCLUSION -- Fishing lodges on the west side of the Susitna are presently unable to command the price of comparable services in southwest Alaska.

DISCUSSION -- Two of the 12 Alaska services in the Fly Shop catalogue are on the west Susitna drainages. This is a small sample, but the prices are apparently representative of the lodge industry on the west Susitna streams. (Robert Farmer, pers. comm., 1988).

Talaview Lodge on the Talachalitna River markets salmon and trout at \$940 for 4 days, and Wilderness Place Lodge on Lake Creek markets salmon and trout for \$1595/wk. A question to ask is why this lower economic return from the resource occurs on west Susitna streams, even in the wilderness dependent sector marketing trout, plus salmon, plus wilderness.

Lake Creek still offers excellent rainbows, and the Talachalitna is pretty good. The difference in price structure is probably at least partly the result of increased crowding and competition with the industry. Both systems are readily accessible by air and boat from Anchorage. Lake Creek has more than 20 lodges and guide services operating on it, and the Talachalitna has 7 or 8. Crowding from resident anglers and competitor's clientele, whether resident or non-resident, may contribute to the substantially lower prices than occur in southwest Alaska.

The indications of depressed price structure are consistent with what the southcentral study found with respect to crowding and non-resident determinations of where to fish -- i.e., that second only to species preference and availability of species

sought, crowding is the most significant factor in where non-residents decide to fish.

The two west side packages in the Fly Shop Catalogue also include airfare from Anchorage, whereas the southwest packages generally do not, thereby increasing the strength of the inference that the relative price structure on the west side is not as secure as that in southwest and in comparative terms appears to have caved in on itself. What we have in the wilderness dependent industry on Lake Creek and the Talachalitna may be examples of a surpassed carrying capacity.

This does not mean that the state should go about eliminating lodges, outfitters, air taxi operators, guides, or recreational anglers whether resident or non-resident. It does mean, however, that the State should be very cautious about further competition, over harvest of large rainbow trout, land disposal, timber harvest and road access to these areas. A wise economic policy would enhance the marketability of the area rather than deplete the marketability of the area.

(m) CONCLUSION -- The wilderness based recreation on the west side of the Susitna appears to have surpassed its carrying capacity. It is operating at about one-sixth to one-fourth the commercial horsepower of the Nushagak recreation, despite the fact that the west Susitna drainages receive five times as many total visitors, an approximately equal number of non-resident visitors, and still in some areas seek to market trout, salmon and wilderness.

DISCUSSION -- Based on the southcentral study, direct expenditure by non-residents on 8529 angler trips to west Susitna streams amounted to \$3 million. Based on the Nushagak study, 9,686 non-resident recreational visitors to the Nushagak spent at a pro-rata minimum, about \$17.25 million in just the guide, lodge and air-taxi industries. Furthermore, expenditures on 68,000 total (resident and non-resident) trips to the west Susitna streams amounted to \$6 million, compared to 14,000 total (resident and non-resident) visitors to the Nushagak who spent \$25 million.

Based on the price structure, it appears that lodge prices for comparable fisheries on the wilderness streams on the west side of the Susitna (eg. Talachalitna and Lake Creek) are depressed from 30% to 50% below economic carrying capacity when compared to southwest Alaska. Thus, it appears that the wilderness based recreation industry on the west Susitna drainage may have passed its economic carrying capacity and tipped over. The State should look into the wisdom of protecting existing industry and price structure by limiting new guide and lodge operations in places where there is evidence of overcompetition.

For purposes of recreational commerce, these fisheries are functioning far below potential. The problems appear to be crowding, overcompetition within the lodge and guide industry, the absence of marketable state conservation designations, decline of trout stocks, a history of land disposal.

(n) CONCLUSION -- On the west Susitna fisheries, the State would do well to recognize that there are two different industries operating in different areas of these rivers and that the difference gives rise to implications for economic policy, resource management and legislation.

DISCUSSION -- Sport fisheries on the lower reaches of the Deshka (the 25 miles of water downstream from Neil Lake) and Alexander Creek (downstream from Sucker Creek which is a mid point of Alexander) appear to be too crowded to market to many high paying non-resident wilderness consumers. They will clearly buy into such areas, for there is some lodge industry activity on the lower portions of these rivers. However, for the most part these fisheries are resident based. They appear most marketable to residents, who comprise 85% of the visitors.

Furthermore, the upper river wilderness based fisheries may be too crowded with competing services to maintain a price structure comparable to similar fisheries in southwest Alaska.

The most sensible economic policy may be a combination of marketable conservation designations and management that distinguishes between accessible, high volume, low budget fisheries on the lower reaches of several rivers and higher priced, wilderness dependent fisheries on streams such as the Talachalitna River and Lake Creek. Such distinctions would promote the ability of the recreation industry to market accordingly.

Based on the evidence that appropriately named conservation designations are highly marketable, the Legislature, as it considers the recreational rivers bill, would be wise to think before naming the baby. A thoughtful argument can be made that the Legislature should be bearing twins. One might be named "Susitna Wilderness Trout and Salmon Reserve" and be for the rivers or portions of rivers that remain wilderness in character, less crowded, more expensive, efficient or capable of being efficient in producing jobs and commerce, conducive to multi-day trips, and supportive of a wilderness dependent industry that markets trout, salmon, and wilderness. The other might be named "Alaska Salmon Sport Fishery" and be for the rivers or portions of rivers that are access-service dependent, more crowded, less expensive and are marketable to anglers mostly seeking salmon.

If the Legislature did that, then the industries, particularly the wilderness based industry that focuses proportionately more on non-residents, would be likely to start cutting new advertisements immediately.

(o) CONCLUSION -- The Legislature and several state agencies should examine the wisdom of amending the boundaries of the proposed recreational rivers, since it may be that, regardless of the name, a boundary on some of the rivers should be redesigned to accommodate the different industries that occur. It may be that it should be broader in areas where the wilderness dependent industries are marketable, or potentially marketable, than in areas of access-service dependent industry.

DISCUSSION -- The last industries Alaska needs to dispose of are those that efficiently produce commerce and jobs. This conclusion simply follows from much of what has been discussed above about marketing, jobs and commerce, resident versus non-resident behavior, the wilderness dependent industry compared to the access-service dependent industry, price structure, and carrying capacities. This conclusion is simply a deduction from many of the foregoing conclusions and discussions.

(p) CONCLUSION -- State decisions, such as massive timber harvests, that severely impact the character of marketable wilderness may lead to net long term losses of existing and potential commerce.

DISCUSSION -- On December 29, 1987 the Division of Forestry revised upwards its previous estimates of the economic value of the proposed Susitna timber sale. (Memorandum, DNR, Forestry, to Office of Policy Development, 12/29/87.) The revised figures on annual product value is \$4.4 million to \$14.7 million.

The highest of these figures is lower than the minimum estimate -- \$17.25 million -- of the direct non-resident spending on the Nushagak on just the guide, lodge, and air taxi services. That spending disregards other spending by those non-residents in Alaska, and that estimate disregards the fact that non-residents disproportionately purchase the more expensive lodge and guide services, as opposed to air taxi services, on the Nushagak.

During the Susitna timber advisory committee meetings, estimates for rotation (return of forest to harvestable condition) ranged from 30 to 100 years. Taking these admittedly unsubstantiated figures at face value, it is possible to reach a range for the annualized product value across the rotation period. A worst case scenario might be 100-year rotation at \$4.4 million of yearly product, and a best case would be a 30-year rotation at \$14.7 million of yearly product.

These worst and best cases put the annualized product value between \$0.88 million and \$9.7 million, assuming that the timber would be harvested across 20 years as originally planned.

Since the evidence also appears to be that the wilderness based recreation industry on the west Susitna drainages is depressed below its economic carrying capacity, the wisest economic policy seems to be one that pushes the wilderness dependent recreation industries on the west side back toward its economic carrying capacity, rather than undermining it further through timber harvest.

It has already been shown that the wilderness based industry on the west side markets like the Nushagak and has the combination of quality trout, salmon and wilderness. Policies that might push the industry back toward its carrying capacity might be --

(1) enactment of a recreational rivers bill that protects the access-service dependent industry attractive to residents, expands the commercial value of the wilderness based industry that is more attractive to non-residents, names the conservation designation in an appropriate manner, and manages the resources upon which the respective industries depend in a manner supportive of those industries,

(2) a moratorium on new recreation businesses in order to protect present businesses against overcompetition and erosion of price structure,

(3) a long term program to gradually and fairly redistribute competition among what appears to be an overgrown wilderness based industry that has passed its economic carrying capacity. Such a program might involve amortizing operators who have little or no on-the-ground investment, such as non-Alaskan tent-camp permittees.

3. The Nature of the Market and National and International Competition

(g) CONCLUSION -- In the national and international markets for high paying anglers, Alaska appears to be the most popular destination for North American anglers seeking exotic destinations involving marketable wilderness, but Alaska faces difficult competition to match in the world of salt water angling.

DISCUSSION -- Alaska appears to have a near monopoly on

marketable wilderness fisheries for trout, plus salmon and other resident fish. In the market for high paying anglers, this combination appears to be still the most popular and commands the greatest prices.

The destinations the Fly Shop markets include Alaska, Patagonia, Bhutan, the South Pacific, the Bahamas, and other exotic locations. Twelve of the 27 services are Alaska services. Ten of the 27 are for saltwater destinations with which Alaska competes but can't match. These destinations include places such as Belize, Christmas Island, the Yucatan in Mexico, Costa Rica, and the Bahamas.

In the Fly Shop catalogue, Alaska businesses far out number those of other countries or lower-48 locales. The catalogue offers one Montana package for cutthroat trout fishing by horseback in the Bob Marshall Wilderness Area and one Oregon package for rainbow trout and steelhead trout (an ocean run rainbow trout) on the Deschutes River. There are three Canadian packages -- a trout package on the Bow River near Calgary and two steelhead trout packages in British Columbia.

There is a Patagonia package for trout at prices comparable to southwest Alaska. There is a Bhutan package for trout in the Himalayas at prices somewhat lower than southwest Alaska.

Although there is no New Zealand package (winter is approaching there), New Zealand is assumed to be a competitor with Alaska for the national and international, high paying angler.

(r) CONCLUSION -- Non-resident fly fishermen pursuing world class rainbow trout in conjunction with salmon and other resident fish appear to be the portion of the non-resident market that is most productive of jobs and commerce in the wilderness recreation industry. The next most productive consumer is probably the non-resident hunter.

DISCUSSION -- Since the Fly Shop catalogue is a prejudiced sample for purposes of this conclusion, it is excluded.

However, Amato's Alaska Angling Guide is sold on news stands throughout the country and markets to a wider audience for both the wilderness based recreational fishing industry and access-service dependent recreational fishing industry.

Table 10 summarizes the type of tackle shown, if any, in the advertising artwork of all businesses advertising in Amato, and of the businesses advertising field services by locale in southwest (SW) and southcentral and the Kenai River (SC & Kenai).

Table 11

Tackle Depicted in Advertising Artwork (Amato),

	Fly tackle	Spin tackle	Tackle not shown
All Businesses & Areas	38	9	22
SW Services only	13	2	8
All SC & Kenai R. Serv.	5	6	5
SC/Wilderness Dependent	4	2	2
Kenai R./Acc.-serv. Dep.	0	2	5

Table 10 indicates, as did Table 9, that there are two sport fishing industries operating in southcentral -- one access service dependent and one wilderness dependent. Once again, the southcentral wilderness dependent industry is behaving similarly to the one on the Nushagak.

This data adds to much of what has been said previously about the wilderness dependent industry compared to the access-service dependent industry. Fly tackle correlates with the wilderness based industry, efficient production of commerce and jobs, price structure related to rainbow trout, the market for uncrowded fisheries, released fish, and sound economic and resource policy related to the wilderness based industry.

Spin fishing has opposite correlations but not negative implications. The data should not be interpreted as saying that spin fishing is economically unproductive. One need only look at the Kenai to know that it is very productive from the perspective of economics of scale. Spin fishers outnumber fly fishers by many times. Therein lies their productivity.

However, the correlations do indicate that sound economic policy means that the Board of Fisheries, state resource agencies, and the Legislature should be sensitive to fly fishing issues, regardless of whether those issues arise from the public or the industry, and regardless of whether they involve fish, competition within the industry, resource management, or crowding.

(s) CONCLUSION -- Where wilderness, remoteness and solitude can not be used to promote high quality sport fisheries involving trout, the market requires a price reduction in the nature of one-third to two-thirds for otherwise comparable recreation and services.

DISCUSSION -- Just as world class rainbow trout appear to add 50% to the price the market will bear over salmon alone, it

appears that wilderness adds substantially to what the market will bear.

It is useful here to compare the prices of high quality trout fisheries in western state and Canadian trout fisheries that cannot promote on the basis of wilderness. They compete with the Alaskan wilderness recreation industry by offering comparable fisheries in a nonwilderness setting at a greatly reduced price.

The Bow River flows through Calgary, Alberta. Calgary has secondary sewerage treatment which leaves organic nutrients in the water. The result is that downstream from Calgary, a city of about 800,000, an economically useful, non-wilderness trout population has developed in the cattle country south of town. The trout harvest is carefully regulated, and the fishery is among the best in North America. It is non-wilderness and the price structure, at \$510 for 3 days, reflects that.

The Deschutes is in Oregon and is a significant fishery in the lower-48. For the most part it is road accessible. The price structure of the industry is the same as on the Bow -- \$535 for 3 days. Like on the Bow, trout harvest is conservatively managed at two fish per day, only one over 20 inches. Outdoor Life, February 1988, p. 119.

It should be obvious that in the marketplace, lower price does not necessarily mean stronger competition or a more marketable experience. Few lower priced competitors exist in the market for high dollar anglers. Lower price usually means one of three things: (1) lower demand among top dollar tourists as shown in the discussions of salmon camp and trout camp prices, (2) a non-wilderness experience (Bow and Deschutes Rivers), or (3) overcompetition within a region for the same resource and experience (crowding concerns of non-residents and lower price structure of the west Susitna wilderness based industry).

Lower priced competitors can't beat most of Alaska for wilderness and salmon. What is happening, however, is that other governments are challenging Alaska's dominance in the market for high paying Anglers. According to Craig Medred of the Anchorage Daily News, the government of Chili actively promotes and allegedly writes articles for the industry in Patagonia that directly competes with Alaska (Medred, pers. comm., 1988). Alaska also is facing creative competition from lower priced areas that improve the quality of the fishing, if not the esthetic experience, through more conservative management of fisheries. Thus, areas like southern Alberta (eg. Bow River) and many western streams are increasingly going to be low cost competitors and alternatives in the market, even though they lack our salmon and, in varying degrees, our wilderness.

What is happening in some non-wilderness trout fisheries is that areas that cannot compete with Alaska in wilderness, compete with us through lower prices and conservatiely managed fisheries. In short, government acts to compete with Alaska.

Thus, the competition should be viewed in two ways. The competition should be viewed as being between Alaskan and non-Alaskan businesses operating at different price levels and selling different combinations of goods. And, more importantly, the competition should also be viewed as being between comparable governmental agencies in different governments. The nature of that competition is a struggle to see which governments can best manage its resources, its recreational consumers, and its recreational industry.

(t) CONCLUSION -- There are indications that the wilderness dependent sport fishing industry is seeking to market a Native cultural experience in conjunction with a fishing experience, and that such attempts at marketing may provide opportunities for Native employment in the bush and for maintaining traditional and contemporary Native culture as a viable entity.

DISCUSSION -- Two of the most interesting advertisements appear in the Fly Shop catalogue. One is for Bhutan and the other is for White Mountain Lodge near Nome.

The Bhutan advertisement sells "a fine fishing trip" in conjunction with a "fascinating cultural odyssey" in the course of "an intimate ... angling journey through a friendly, mountainous, midieval Shangri-La."

The White Mountain advertisement promotes the lodge as Native owned, with "professional Eskimo guides, staff, and management." The ad offers "a cultural and angling delight", and "evenings highlighted by Native guests."

These two ads are competing for the same clients. Opinions on the wisdom of such marketing practices may vary, but the most important opinions are probably those of the Bhutanese and the people of White Mountain.

In Amato's guide, Mary Bauer, an outdoor writer, has written an article called "A Woman's Experience Fishing in Alaska", which discusses her impressions at what is obviously White Mountain Lodge. The following paragraphs are from her article.

"The lodge was built and is run by Eskimos. The fishing guides are all local men who have fished there all of their lives and know the rivers intimately. Because the Eskimos still live basically on dried fish and seal oil, a chef was brought in from Colorado to

teach them the gourmet cooking that their guests would far more appreciate. However, they were more than willing to let us taste the local delicacies.

"One of my favorite things about the lodge was the cheerful and helpful Eskimo women who worked there. Enid and Chunky served breakfast and dinner, and also taught us Eskimo words and told us of their lives. Each day some of the local people were invited for dinner so we could get to know them and become even more familiar with their customs. These people in turn invited us to visit their summer camps along the river where they netted and dried fish for the winter."

The content of these paragraphs is obviously cross-cultural. They speak of work, food, language, custom, and cross-cultural visits. Although the lodge business is clearly an Anglo activity, these paragraphs are about both Anglo activities and activities that in more famous words could be called "customary and traditional."

The lodge has received a number of excellent reviews in the angling press.

How the wilderness recreation industry and the State will respond to Native concerns is a question for the future. However, it is clear that market forces have led the industry toward --

- (a) economic sensitivity to the effects of crowding on the industry,
- (b) the importance of wilderness as a marketable commodity,
- (c) the need for legislation to protect, regulate and promote the guide and lodge industries,
- (d) the marketing value of legislative and administrative designations, and
- (e) the importance of conservation practices related to rainbow trout.

These advertisements may be an indication that market forces may also be leading the industry toward resolving its conflicts with rural people. If that is the case, then the State might want to assist that process.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STATE POLICY

The State can do many things to support the wilderness based recreation industry, the access-service dependent industry, and address rural concerns. What follows are some specific thoughts that appear to have merit based on the foregoing conclusions and analysis. Since this study has originated from a few individuals in the private sector, rather than in government, some of the following suggestions may be of things already being done or of things that have been tried and failed. Nevertheless, public policy benefits from public discourse, and that is what this study and these recommendations are.

A. In a more organized manner than seems to be currently done, the state could more fully identify --

- (1) marketable wilderness resources by locale,
- (2) the degree and manner in which they are marketed and used,
- (3) the businesses are marketing the resources,
- (4) the competition in the national and international marketplace,
- (5) the marketing practices of the competition are,
- (6) the status of agency management of the resources upon which our national and international competitors rely,
- (7) the areas where there are likely to be conflicts between recreationists and rural people or between different elements of the recreational industry, or between different types of recreational consumers.

This suggestion started out with the phrase "more organized manner". An excellent example of the "more organized manner" that may be needed can be found in ADF&G's habitat guide. A similar effort would be useful with respect to the recreation industry.

The reason this suggestion started with the phrase "more organized manner" is that conflicts between the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Fish and Game frequently seem to involve situations in which the Department of Natural Resources behaves as if Fish and Game is fighting the Department of Natural Resources. That may or may not be the case. But the appearance of that, when viewed from DNR's shoes, seems to provoke a defensive response.

Once that is provoked, smooth government becomes difficult. To see this one need only look the discord that has occurred between the two agencies over the Susitna timber sale. It cannot be characterized as trust and information seeking. The Division of Forestry appears to have gotten defensive, personal and disputatious. (Memorandum, DNR, Forestry to ADF&G, Habitat, 1988.) That should never be the case. Agencies have neutral responsibilities to the public, not obligations to industry. Anchorage Daily News, March 25, 1985.

A problem seems to be that knowledge about the recreational industry exists informally within ADF&G. Another agency may need that information and not even know it. This was clearly the case in the timber sale. DNR simply blundered into a mess that anyone with the slightest knowledge or access to knowledge of the recreation industry could have warned DNR about.

However, ADF&G's present responsibility is to manage wildlife, not businesses dependent on wildlife. This leaves no one looking after the industry as a whole. An agency that knows something about wildlife, recreation and business is needed to mind the store.

To do what is recommended here would require inventory and planning processes, work with local residents, work with existing industry, and work with public interest groups. This would cost money, which is in short supply. So, the State may need to look at special taxes, which will be addressed shortly.

B. The State should establish social, economic, and resource carrying capacities for wilderness areas that are readily marketable so as to protect the industry from going past its peak.

C. In order to fund these inventory, planning, regulatory, and promotional efforts by the State, the State could establish, increase or re-establish port-of-call taxes, commercial aircraft landing fees, king salmon and trout stamps, and taxes on clients of the lodge, guide, outfitter, air-taxi, and motel industry, taxes on the package tour industry, and the restaurant industry.

If these taxes were properly designed, implemented, and spent, the State could focus them on non-residents and probably beat an equal protection challenge under State and Federal law and could beat an "ear marked funds" challenge under the State Constitution. The state has not handled well previous special fish stamps such as many states use for king salmon, steelhead and trout. Such stamps were unpopular several years ago in Alaska because some areas of Alaska paid the tax but received no

benefit. Such problems would have to be avoided.

D. The State should designate marketable conservation areas where such designations will aid promotion of wilderness dependent, non-resident recreation or will aid access-service dependent, non-resident recreation. Recreational rivers legislation is a case in point, and the deficiencies in the present bill, with respect to name, boundaries, and marketability have been discussed elsewhere in this study.

E. The Legislature should enact legislation to protect, regulate, and support the guide, lodge, air taxi and outfitter industries. Several pieces of such legislation are or have been before the Legislature recently. This study has made not attempt to review the legislation. However, legislation could --

- (1) establish enforceable legal standards on the Department of Natural Resources to prevent the Department from disposals of natural resources where, in the absence of good economic evidence supporting the disposal, it can be shown that such disposals are substantially likely to impair the economic vitality of the recreation industry in the area,

- (2) establish standards for the fishing guide, lodge, and outfitter industries, so as to assure competence, truthful advertising, and conformance with public land and resource laws,

- (3) allow utilization of permit authorities to be considered in at least some sectors of the industry and some locales in order to protect existing investment against overcompetition, protect rural interests against overcompetition, and protect social, economic and resource carrying capacities, and

- (4) establish durations of permits sufficient enough to allow the recreational industry to borrow capital and invest with security.

F. The State should address a number of Native concerns about the recreational industry, including concerns about trespass and competition with rural needs and values. Some simple things might be to --

- (1) instruct DNR to post maps and instructional information at bush airports to show private land and urge respect for it,

(2) instruct ADF&G to similarly post explanations to visitors of the subsistence law and urge respect for Native needs and use in the area,

(3) instruct ADF&G to print on the sport fishing regulation booklets a similar explanation of subsistence, instructions to look for the trespass materials a bush airports, statements of the State's new, conservative rainbow trout policy, and advice on litter, and

(4) instruct ADF&G to print in the subsistence regulation books, or similarly post, explanations of public rights in navigable waters and on public lands.

The persistent failure of the State to undertake such simple efforts must appear to be a double standard when for good reason we ask Natives to abide by our rules on our lands (e.g. spring waterfowl harvests), but we fail to ask as much of ourselves when we are near their lands.

G. If rural people wish, the State could undertake efforts to encourage Native employment, investment, management and other participation in the recreation industry.

Non-Natives should probably have great reservations about pushing Anglo-american ideas on Native people.

It may be that the same ingredients in the wilderness dependent recreational industry that cause conflict with rural Alaskans can be rearranged to produce positive outcomes that would protect the traditional and modern vitality of Native culture as well as provide economic, social and political benefits.

Outline and Rationale for Interim Legislation for Recreational Rivers

If the Legislature is unable to draft this session a recreational rivers bill that satisfies the diverse interests tied to the lands surrounding the rivers in H.B. 93, then the legislature should consider brief interim legislation before adjournment of this legislature to protect the status quo within the river drainages, not just the designated corridors. Such interim legislation should set aside the river drainages for two years, prohibit commercial timber sales within those drainages for two years, continue the current administrative closure to new mining claims within the corridors, require that any road development take into account the interim status of the drainages, and direct the Department of Natural Resources, the Division of Parks, the Division of Land and Water, the Division of Forestry, the Department of Fish and Game, the Sportfish Division, the Commercial Fisheries Division, the Habitat Division, and the Subsistence Division to appoint representatives to work with interest groups, the Borough, and the Susitna timber planning process to submit model recreational river legislation and brief tentative management plans by January, 1989 for the six rivers in H.B. 93.

Such an approach would have advantages. First, it should not affect potential timber harvest, because no plant will be built within two two years. Second, it should satisfy Borough and recreational interests that have sought management plans before designation of the rivers. Third, it would allow agencies, the timber planning process, the public, and the Legislature to consider many of the issues raised in the accompanying study.

April 20, 1988

Members of the Alaska Senate
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Members of the Alaska House of Representatives
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Subject: Tourism, Economics, and Natural Resource Management

Dear Senators and Representatives:

We, the undersigned, are sending you the enclosed draft study because we believe it will be useful in addressing numerous issues confronting you now and in the future. The issues upon which this study bears include commerce, jobs, state economic policy, natural resource management, Native concerns, conservation and state agency management. The current legislation upon which this study bears includes H.B. 93, the controversial recreational rivers bill, and S.B. 112, allowing timber management agreements. Because those two bills are now before you, we have decided to send you this document, as a preliminary report.

The study is on the economics and marketing practices of wilderness dependent recreational industries. We believe that for certain areas of Alaska, this study stakes out the high economic ground of resource development for wilderness dependent recreation industry. We hope that you will review the study and accept the following suggestions.

(1) If it appears the Legislature will be unable to draft this session a recreational rivers bill that satisfies the diverse interests tied to those lands, then we urge you to enact brief interim legislation, before adjournment of this legislature, to protect the status quo within the drainages, not just the designated corridors. An outline of interim legislation is attached, along with our rationale for this interim approach. This study indirectly supports such an approach as the best interim economic and political policy.

(2) Based on the study we urge you to reject S.B. 112 as counter productive of jobs and commerce.

(3) This study outlines for the Legislature and several state agencies a more sophisticated approach to the recreation industry. Furthermore, this study indicates that if such an approach is taken, then there

will be benefits for jobs, commerce, resource development, conservation, Native concerns, recreational interests, and the recreational industry. We urge you to adopt in the next Legislature the course of action suggested in the study.

For purposes of the study, the term "wilderness" means only the character of the land, rather than a legal designation. However, the study clearly has implications for resource management and legislative action.

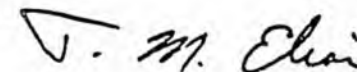
If the conclusions of this study are correct, then it is a direct challenge to many so-called resource development advocates. This study appears to put them on the wrong side of jobs, commerce, economic development, and sensible state policy. It challenges the Legislature, state agencies and so-called resource development advocates to respond with better analysis.

This study acknowledges that better analysis is needed. We hope that our final product will be better than the draft. We hope you will help make it so, by commenting on the draft. But, fundamentally, analysis of this sort is the responsibility of government, not of publicly interested volunteers. We hope that in your roles as Alaska's legislators, you will meet the challenges presented by this study and respond with energy, drive, creativity, intellect and an appreciation for Alaska.

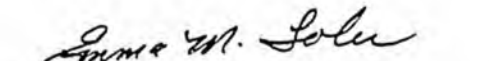
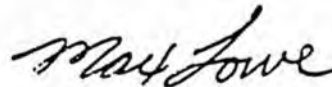
Sincerely,



Jeff Parker
Author of Study



Tom Elias, President
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Sportfishing Assoc.

Max Lowe
Secretary-Treasurer
Alaska Hotel & Motel Assoc.

DRAFT

THE ECONOMICS AND MARKETING PRACTICES OF
WILDERNESS DEPENDENT RECREATION INDUSTRIES IN ALASKA,
WITH IMPLICATIONS FOR PUBLIC POLICY

A PRELIMINARY REPORT TO THE ALASKA LEGISLATURE

By Jeff Parker

With Support of the Following:
Max Lowe, Sec.-Treas., Alaska Hotel and Motel Association
Alaska Professional Sportfishing Association
Alaska Sportfishing Association

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