

HB

244

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

FURTHER Finance

3/2/88

DATE TURNED INTO OFFICE _____

Mr. President:

Resources _____ Committee considered CSHB 244 (2d Res)

addition of land to Kachemak Bay State Park and Kachemak Bay State Wilderness Park

and recommended

replace with _____ CS SB 244 (res)) same title
 or adopt _____ CS _____) new title

attached amendment(s) and

do pass

do not pass

no recommendation

individual recommendations

further referral to _____

letter of intent adopted _____

Committee attached or adopted fiscal note(s)

new updated or previous

zero fiscal impact

MEMBERS SIGNING DO PASS

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

W. Ellison
Paul Fuchs
William Jurgens

John ...
Chairman signature and recommendation

Committee Backup attached

Alaska State Legislature



APRIL 1988
PO BOX 100
KENA ALASKA 99841
(907) 262-0155

HOME ADDRESS
PO BOX 100
KENA ALASKA 99841
(907) 262-0155

DISTRICT 5

Representative Mike Navarre

March 11, 1988

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: The Honorable Jack Coghill, Chair
Senate Resources Committee

FROM: Representative Mike Navarre *Mike*

SUBJECT: CSHB 244 (2d Resources)

House Bill 244 has passed through the Senate Community and Regional Affairs Committee, and is now in the Senate Resources Committee for consideration. I would sincerely appreciate it if this bill could be scheduled for a hearing at your earliest convenience. Thanks.

3/11/88
(HB 244 is KACHEMAK BAY STATE PARK & WILDERNESS PARK by NAVARRE)
Copy attached.
Bob

5-0976N
Bradley
4/14/88

Original sponsors: Navarre and Swackhammer

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

2 SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 244 (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 relating to the addition of land to Kachemak
7 Bay State Park and Kachemak Bay State Wilderness
8 Park."

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

10 * Section 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS. The legislature, in its designation
11 of additional land to the Kachemak Bay State Wilderness Park, intends that
12 the land within the park be managed for its primitive recreational values
13 without preventing reasonable access to inholdings in the Petrof View
14 subdivision. On Nuka Island, in recognition of planning conducted by the
15 commissioner of natural resources under AS 38.04.065, the legislature
16 intends that the island support

- 17 (1) a commercial lodge in a suitable place;
- 18 (2) renovation of existing facilities at Herring Pete's Cove;
- 19 (3) the construction and operation of one or two public use
20 cabins;
- 21 (4) docks, trails, and moorings necessary to provide for recre-
22 ational use; and
- 23 (5) maintenance of Berger Bay in an undeveloped state.

24 * Sec. 2. AS 41.21.131(a) is amended to read:

25 (a) The presently state-owned land and water, and all that
26 acquired in the future by the state, lying within the parcels describ-
27 ed in this section are designated as the Kachemak Bay State Park. In
28 order to protect and preserve this land and water for its unique and
29 exceptional scenic value, the park is established and shall be managed

1 as a scenic park. The land and water lying within the following
2 described parcels is reserved from all uses incompatible with its
3 primary function as a scenic park and is assigned to the department
4 for control, development and maintenance:

5 (1) Township 5 South, Range 10 West, Seward Meridian

6 Chugachik Island

7 Sections 31 - 32

8 (2) Township 5 South, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian

9 Section 2: Lot 1, excluding Tract A

10 Section 3: Lots 1 - 8, SW1/4NE1/4, S1/2NW1/4,

11 N1/2SW1/4

12 Section 4: Lots 1 - 4, S1/2N1/2, SE1/4, E1/2SW1/4

13 Section 8: E1/2NE1/4, E1/2SE1/4, NW1/4SE1/4,

14 SW1/4SE1/4

15 Section 9: Lots 1 and 2, NW1/4NE1/4, NE1/4NW1/4,

16 W1/2NW1/4, N1/2NE1/4SW1/4, SW1/4NE1/4SW1/4,

17 excluding Lot 6

18 Section 10: Lot 1

19 Section 16: Lot 1

20 Section 17: Lots 1, 3, 4, NW1/4SW1/4, S1/2NW1/4

21 Section 18: Lot 4, SE1/4, E1/2NE1/4

22 Section 19: Lots 1-6, NW1/4NE1/4, NE1/4NW1/4

23 Section 20: Lot 1

24 Sections 24 - 25, excluding tide and submerged land

25 within the Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat Area

26 Section 26: SE1/4, excluding tide and submerged land

27 within the Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat Area

28 Sections 35 - 36

29 (3) [(2)] Township 6 South, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian

1 (4) [(3)] Township 7 South, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian

2 Sections 1 - 4

3 Section 5: N1/2

4 Sections 7 - 36

5 (5) [(4)] Township 7 South, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian

6 Section 12, except N1/2 NE1/4

7 Section 13

8 Sections 19 - 36

9 (6) [(5)] Township 7 South, Range 13 West, Seward Meridian

10 Sections 25 - 26

11 Sections 35 - 36 [25, 26, 35 AND 36]

12 (7) [(6)] Township 8 South, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian

13 Sections 1 - 8

14 Section 9: N1/2

15 Section 10: N1/2

16 Section 11: N1/2

17 Section 12: N1/2

18 Sections 17 - 18 [17 AND 18]

19 (8) [(7)] Township 8 South, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian

20 (9) [(8)] Township 8 South, Range 13 West, Seward Meridian

21 Sections 1 - 2 [1 AND 2]

22 Sections 10 - 14

23 Section 15: E1/2

24 Section 18: Lot 10

25 Section 23: N1/2 and SE1/4

26 Sections 24 - 25 [24 AND 25]

27 Section 26: E1/2

28 Section 35: E1/2

29 Section 36

1 (10) Township 9 South, Range 8 West, Seward Meridian

2 Sections 7 - 10

3 Sections 15 - 22

4 Sections 27 - 34

5 (11) Township 9 South, Range 9 West, Seward Meridian

6 Section 13

7 Sections 24 - 25

8 Sections 35 - 36

9 (12) [(9)] Township 9 South, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian

10 Sections 1 - 6

11 Section 8: NE1/4

12 Sections 9 - 12

13 Section 13: N1/2

14 Section 14: N1/2

15 (13) [(10)] Township 9 South, Range 13 West, Seward Meridian

16 Sections 1 - 2 [1 AND 2]

17 (14) Township 10 South, Range 8 West, Seward Meridian

18 Sections 4 - 8

19 Sections 17 - 19

20 (15) Township 10 South, Range 9 West, Seward Meridian

21 Sections 1 - 4

22 Sections 10 - 15

23 Sections 22 - 24

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2 within the following described parcels is reserved from all uses
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4 assigned to the department for control and maintenance:

5 (1) Township 8 South, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian

6 Section 9: S 1/2

7 Section 10: S 1/2

8 Section 11: S 1/2

9 Section 12: S 1/2

10 Sections 13 - 16

11 Sections 19 - 36

12 (2) Township 9 South, Range 8 West, Seward Meridian

13 Section 2: W1/2

14 Sections 3 - 6

15 (3) Township 9 South, Range 9 West, Seward Meridian

16 Sections 1 - 12

17 Sections 14 - 23

18 Sections 26 - 34

19 (4) Township 9 South, Range 10 West, Seward Meridian

20 Sections 1 - 3

21 Sections 10 - 15

22 Sections 22 - 27

23 Sections 34 - 36

24 (5) [(2)] Township 9 South, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian

25 Section 7

26 Section 8: S 1/2 and NW 1/4

27 Section 13: S 1/2

28 Section 14: S 1/2

29 Sections 15 - 36

1 (6) [(3)] Township 9 South, Range 13 West, Seward Meridian
 2 Section 11: NE 1/4
 3 Sections 12 - 13

4 (7) [(4)] Township 10 South, Range 9 West, Seward Meridian
 5 Sections 5 - 7

6 (8) [(5)] Township 10 South, Range 10 West, Seward Meridian

7 (9) [(6)] Township 10 South, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian

8 (10) [(7)] Township 10 South, Range 12 West, Seward Meridian

9 (11) [(8)] Township 11 South, Range 10 West, Seward Meridian

10 (12) [(9)] Township 11 South, Range 11 West, Seward Meridian

11 (13) [(10)] Township 11 South, Range 12 West, Seward Merid-

12 ian

13 Sections 1 - 10

14 Section 11: W 1/2 and E 1/2

15 Sections 12 - 17

16 Sections 21 - 24.

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18 (c) The tide and submerged land within the Aurora Lagoon is
 19 assigned to the Department of Natural Resources to preserve its value
 20 as a scenic park and to the Department of Fish and Game to preserve
 21 its value as critical habitat.

22 * Sec. 5. This Act does not prohibit the commissioner of natural re-
 23 sources from conveying 50 acres, more or less, on Nuka Island to the Uni-
 24 versity of Alaska in accordance with the final finding of the commissioner
 25 of natural resources issued December 4, 1987, or its amendments. This Act
 26 does not apply to land conveyed to the University of Alaska under the
 27 commissioner's decision dated December 4, 1987.

Mr. Condit:
The following letter was sent
to Sen. Paul Frazier

Feb. 24, 1988
Box 2612
Homer, AK 99603

Senator Paul Frazier
Pouch VG
Juneau, AK 99811

FEB 29 1988

Dear Sen. Frazier,
I am writing today to express
my support for SB 244, which would
exclude certain new additions to
Kachemak Bay State Park and K.B.S.
Wilderness Park. I am particularly
concerned with the Moku Island
addition, for I feel that it is
Truly a treasure of nature. To
be saved for all generations.
Your support for S.B. 244 is encouraged
and appreciated.

Sincerely yours,
Mary and Carl Kerner

March 1, 1988

Brad Faulkner
Box 996
Homer, Alaska
99603

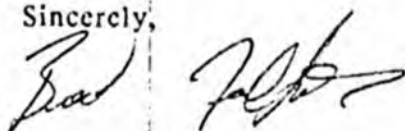
Senator Jack Coghill

Dear Senator Coghill,

I fully support the passage of HB 244 through the Senate. The tremendously broad based support that this bill has received should speak for itself. The lands included in the bill are truly the choice pieces of parkland available to Kachemak Bay.

Please pass HB 244.

Sincerely,



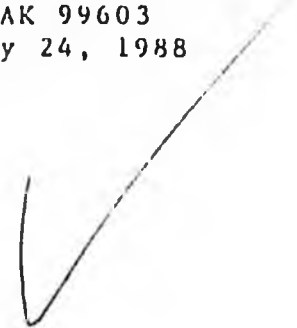
Brad Faulkner

FYI

MAR - 2 1988

P.O. Box 2357
Homer, AK 99603
February 24, 1988

The Hon. Paul Fisher
Pouch "V"
Juneau, AK 99811



Re: House Bill 244

Dear Senator Fisher:

I live in Homer, Alaska and I would like to encourage you to support House Bill 244, which I understand will soon go before the Senate. I belong to various groups that are supporting the bill, i.e.: Kachemak Bay Conservation Society, Sierra Club-Alaska, Homer Society of Natural History. We all urge you to support this bill and get it passed.

Thank you in advance for your help --

Very truly yours,

Johanna Smith
Johanna Smith

cc: The Hon. Arliss Sturgulewski
cc: ~~The Hon. Jack Coghill~~

FEB 29 1988

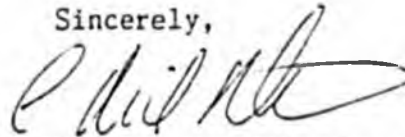
P.O. Box 1883
Homer, Alaska 99603
February 24, 1988

Senator Paul Fischer
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Honorable Senator Fischer:


Please support Senate passage of House Bill 244, adding various tracts of land to Kachemak Bay State Park. The tracts involved are of great potential for recreational use, and partially compensate for the failure of DNR to successfully negotiate a land trade with the Seldovia Native Association for lands they hold in the middle of the park.

Sincerely,



C. Neil McArthur

cc
Sen. Arliss Sturgulewski
Sen. Jack Coghill

FYI 

MAR - 2 1988

Maryjane Murphy
PO Box 3185
Homer, Alaska 99603

Senator Paul Fischer
Alaska State Senate
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

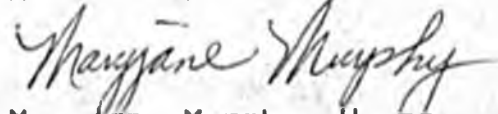
Dear Senator Fischer,

I am writing you concerning HOUSE BILL 244: ADDITIONS OF NUKA UPLANDS TO THE KACHEMAK BAY STATE PARK. I am currently a land owner in the Petrof subdivision and would very much like you to support these NUKA UPLANDS and all lands included in HOUSE BILL 244 to be included in the KACHEMAK BAY STATE PARK lands. I testified at the DNR hearing that was held in Homer in support of this and at this same hearing we heard long range planning for a State ferry stopover on Nuka Island. I see that this would be an additional tourist attraction for kayakers, hikers, outdoor nature enthusiasts to use this as a stopover. The University of Alaska now has the option of renovating the two existing homestead sites which would make it inviting for tourists. The lands in this House Bill 244 are already adjacent to the Kachemak Bay State Park and it just makes sense to include them in the State Park. I have visited the Petrof subdivision and my land and looked out over the Bay to Nuka Island. It's so close but so far. I'd like to get there and explore and feel that this could best be accomplished if it was included in the State Park. Another part of this House Bill 244 is Aurora Lagoon, located in Kachemak Bay. This is a special and one of the only places for kayakers to pull up on a beach and camp in that area of the Bay. This is so important when you're kayaking to have a place to pull into to get off the water. Rocks and tides make most of that shoreline inaccessible to kayakers. I urge you to include that in the Kachemak Bay State Park lands, which is included in House Bill 244. The Cottonwoods area is another area on the Homer side of the Bay to be included in the State Park lands.

PLEASE SUPPORT HOUSE BILL 244 IN FULL.

Thank you. Would you let me know how you vote on this?

A Petrof Subdivision land owner,


Maryjane Murphy, Homer

c.c. Senator Arlis Sturgulewski, Community & Regional Affairs
Senator Jack Coghill, Senate Resources Committee

State Senator Jack Coghill
Chairman - Resources Committee
Post Office Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

APR 11 1988

Dear Senator Coghill,

29 March 1988

We are writing this letter in reference to **HB 244, additions to Kachemak Bay State Park**. This is an excellent piece of legislation which will help to preserve the pristine beauty of the Kachemak Bay area. We believe that Alaska is the only state in America that has mountains, oceans and glaciers all within it's borders. Kachemak Bay contains all these by itself and is a perfect living example of all that Alaska has to offer. This legislation will help maintain this beautiful area as it should always be: wild, undeveloped and available for all to use on terms that will keep it as it is now . . . and forever.

As registered voters and permanent residents of Alaska, we would appreciate your support in passing this bill. Even though we currently live in West Point, New York (as a member of the United States Army), we plan to return to Alaska to live permanently and would like Kachemak Bay to remain just as we remember it from 1986, thanks again.

Bruce I. Graham Sandra F. Graham

Bruce I. and Sandra F. Graham
139-A Dunover Court
West Point, NY 10996

17743 Nitoanya Circle
Eagle River, AK 99577
(Alaskan Permanent Residence)

FEB 29 1988

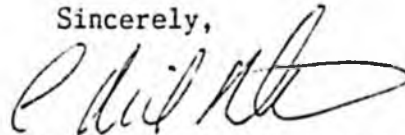
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C. Neil McArthur

cc
Sen. Arliss Sturgulewski
Sen. Jack Coghill

5-0976N
Bradley
4/14/88

Original sponsors: Navarre and Swackhammer

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

2 SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 244 (Resources)

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4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

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6 Chugachik Island

7 Sections 31 - 32

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11 N1/2SW1/4

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14 SW1/4SE1/4

15 Section 9: Lots 1 and 2, NW1/4NE1/4, NE1/4NW1/4,

16 W1/2NW1/4, N1/2NE1/4SW1/4, SW1/4NE1/4SW1/4,

17 excluding Lot 6

18 Section 10: Lot 1

19 Section 16: Lot 1

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25 within the Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat Area

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6 Section 9: S 1/2

7 Section 10: S 1/2

8 Section 11: S 1/2

9 Section 12: S 1/2

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12 (2) Township 9 South, Range 8 West, Seward Meridian

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 25 of natural resources issued December 4, 1987, or its amendments. This Act
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 27 commissioner's decision dated December 4, 1987.

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

March 1, 1988

TO: Senate Community and Regional Affairs Committee Members

FROM: Senate C&RA Staff

RE: HB 244 - "An Act relating to the addition of land to Kachemak Bay State Park and Kachemak Bay State Wilderness Park."

HB 244 will add approximately 46,970 acres to the Kachemak Bay State Park and Kachemak Bay State Wilderness Park. A memo from Rep. Navarre, backup material on the bill, resolutions of support from the City of Homer and the Kenai Peninsula Borough, and maps of the area are included in the packet.

A representative of DNR will be at the meeting as will the sponsor. A fiscal note (\$20.) and bill analysis from the department is attached.

Alaska State Legislature



WHILE IN SESSION
PO BOX V
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
(907) 465-3779

CHAIR, RULES COMMITTEE

HOME ADDRESS
PO BOX 169
KENAI, ALASKA 99611
(907) 262-9366

DISTRICT 5

Representative Mike Navarre

Feb 29, 1988

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Senator Sturgulewski, Chair
Senate Community and Regional Affairs Committee

FROM: Rep. Mike Navarre *Mike*

SUBJECT: House Bill 244, "An Act relating to the addition of land to Kachemak Bay State Park and Kachemak Bay State Wilderness Park"

Attached is back-up material for the above legislation, which would add some 46,970 acres of land to the Kachemak Bay State Park and Kachemak Bay State Wilderness Park. This measure was introduced at the request of the Kachemak Bay State Park Advisory Board. I feel, as they do, that due to the high recreational and /or wilderness value of these lands, it is in the best public interest for them to not only to be maintained as public lands, but to be managed by the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation.

The proposed additions to the park have been endorsed by the Homer City Council and the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly.

If you desire further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I thank you for hearing this measure, and respectfully urge the committee's favorable consideration of CSHB 244 (2d Resources).

STATE OF ALASKA
1988 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL VERSION: CSHB 244(2d RES)
PUBLISH DATE: HOUSE 2/10/88

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: 2/5/88
Title: Addition to Kachemak Bay
State Park
Sponsor: Navarre/Swackhammer
Requestor: House Resource Committee

Agency Affected: DNR--Div. Parks & Outdoor Rec
BRU: Park Management

Components: _____

(DA)

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93
PERSONAL SERVICES		16.5	16.5	16.5	16.5	16.5
TRAVEL		.5	.5	.5	.5	.5
CONTRACTUAL		1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
SUPPLIES		1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
EQUIPMENT		1.0				
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING		20.0	19.0	19.0	19.0	19.0

CAPITAL						
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REVENUE						
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND		20.0	19.0	19.0	19.0	19.0
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL		20.0	19.0	19.0	19.0	19.0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME		19	19	19	19	19
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary) (See Attachment)

HB244 provides for additions to Kachemak Bay State Park and Wilderness Park of important public access points, scenic and recreational values, marine and upland habitat and areas which will enhance the tourism potential of the area.

Prepared by: Neil C. Johannsen
Division: Parks & Outdoor Recreation

Phone: 762-2600
Date: 2/5/88

Approved by Commissioner: [Signature]
Agency: Department of Natural Resources

Date: 2-7-88

Distribution (by preparer):

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

BILL ANALYSIS

ADDITIONS TO KACHEMAK BAY STATE PARK

HB244 adds three parcels totaling 4,816 acres to Kachemak Bay State Park and one parcel of 42,000 acres to Kachemak Bay State Wilderness Park.

The Department of Natural Resources supports HB244 as amended. The completion of the University of Alaska land settlement and the Mental Health lands agreement remove any actively competing interests in these lands.

HB244 has enjoyed wide support from the community of Homer with resolutions of support expected from the City of Homer, the Kenai Peninsula Borough, Homer Businessmen's Association, Chamber of Commerce and Visitor's Association, and from Commercial Fishing Groups.

Lands included in HB244 include,

Aurora Lagoon : A 2,500 acre marine tidal estuary and rich habitat with associated uplands immediately adjacent to Kachemak Bay State Park. The lagoon is the site of several nesting eagles, and an important inter-tidal area. The area has a significant cultural history and is the location of the DeLaguna early man discovery. The lagoon is a major access point to the park and one of the very few safe boat anchorages along the parks' coastline.

McDonald Spit : A 16 acre parcel of land at the tip of McDonald Spit which is the only public access to the 1.5 mile long spit. The area is a popular site for recreational boats to land and for clamming.

Cottonwood/Eastland Creek : This 2,300 acre coastal bluff uplands on the Homer side of Kachemak Bay is the only public land along the entire coastline from Homer to the head of the Bay. The area is accessible by East End Road and offers excellent potential for outstanding scenic vistas, trails, camping and natural history interpretation. There is no other comparable parcel of land near Homer which offers such recreational opportunities for the local community and visitors.

Nuka Island & Uplands : Nuka Island and uplands associated with Petrof glacier are truly wilderness in character and make a logical addition to adjacent Kachemak Bay State Wilderness Park. The island is located along the outer Gulf Coast which experiences a rugged landscape and high energy beaches exposed to wind and waves. The island is largely mountainous but the west side has a number of attractive bays which offer good opportunities for recreational boat anchorages. The University land settlement provides the University with two 25 acre parcels in two bays for development of a wilderness lodge and recreational facilities associated with glacier trips, sealife tours, flight seeing and excursions. The island is home to several nesting bald eagles and is

a haul out area for the Stellar sea lion. Large concentrations of harbor seals and otters are common to the area. The island is an important seabird rookery with concentrations of kittiwakes, tufted and horned puffins, comorants, murre, murrelets and petrels. A survey conducted by the USFWS found Nuka Island to be one of the most heavily used bald eagle nesting areas along the entire south Kenai coast.

Timber resources on the island are marginal due to the exposed coast, rugged terrain and a tree line ending at 500 feet elevation. The primary commercial tree stands are located on the mainland and are not included in this legislation.

Mineral potential on Nuka Island is considered poor for either minerals or sand, gravel, or construction materials. The geologic formation consists primarily of slates, greywacke and easily eroded thinly bedded phyllites which are not known for their mineral potential. The island is unusual in that it is not a granite rock island like others in the region which contain gold in lode deposits. There are no mining claims on the island.

Position Title Park Ranger I		No. of Positions 1	Range/Step 14A	Org Unit GGU
Line Status PPT	Staff Months 5	Location Homer		Election District D, 5-A
Type of Expenditure		Justification HB244		
		Funding for a five month seasonal Park Ranger I to be stationed in Homer. The ranger will be responsible for visitor services, resource protection, recruiting and supervising volunteers, park development and emergency services. Access to the park is primarily by water and visitors often encounter difficult tidal and weather conditions. The ranger provides essential public safety services and visitor information.		
	2			
Salary	12.6			
Benefits	4.3			
Premium Pay				
Other				
Total Personal Services		16.9		
Travel		.5		
Contractual		1.0		
Commodities		1.0		
Equipment		1.0		
Other				
Total Cost		20.4		
Funding Source for Total Cost				
Federal Receipts 1002				
G. F. Match 1003				
General Fund 1004		20.4		
GF Program Receipts 1005				
Other				

**Request For
New Position**

Agency Natural Resources
 BRD Parks & Outdoor Recreation
 Component Parks Management

Page 1 of 4
 Revised Date 7/5/88

FY 89

No. 2
 CSHB 244 (2PRES)
 HOUSE 2/10/88

JUSTIFICATION SUMMARY

NUKA ISLAND and NUKA UPLANDS: 42,092 acres land

Nuka Island has been identified in the U.S. Congressional Record for inclusion within the boundary of the Kenai Fjords National Park. As state land, it obviously cannot be part of the Kenai Fjords, but this is a good illustration of the nationally significant values this island area possesses.

(As a matter of fact, the March 1988 edition of Alaska Magazine contains an article on the Kenai Fjords National Park. The article and its accompanying illustrations still indicate Nuka Island and a portion of the Nuka Uplands as part of the national park.)

Some of the significant values are:

The area has some of the most varied life representation of littoral and sub-littoral marine ecosystem along Kenai Fjord area.

The outstanding scenic beauty, complementing hiking, fishing, boating, and similar recreational opportunities.

Management of a commercial lease for facility development on the west side of the island corresponds with the current DNR Nuka Island Management Plan. Development of recreational use and tourism growth by the Division of Parks would make Nuka Island the logical "jumping off" point for enjoyment of Kachemak Bay State Wilderness Park, Kenai Fjords National Park, and the island itself.

It is the only potential development link between Seward and Homer, via cruise ship and state ferry system, and is also the only sheltered potential development site from Gore Point to Cape Resurrection that is also safe from earthquake and tsunami waves.

Nuka Island has been identified by the Kachemak Bay State Park Advisory for inclusion into the park since 1982. The Nuka Island Management Plan, completed in December of 1986, cites the island's high recreational potential.

NOTE: The State of Alaska's settlement with the University of Alaska has been reached, and some Nuka Island lands are part of this settlement. Only the two sites which are available for commercial lodge development under the Department of Natural Resources' Nuka Island Area Plan will be transferred to the university. This consists of approximately 25 acres at Herring Pete's Cove, and 25 acres at either Mike's Bay or Home Cove. The sites are to be selected by January 1, 1989. Conveyance is subject to the conditions set forth in the management plan. The tentative sites are provided for in HB 244.

HB 244
JUSTIFICATION SUMMARY (cont'd)

COTTONWOOD CREEK & EASTLAND CREEK: 2,310 acres total

The Cottonwood-Eastland Creek parcels have been under consideration as potential park for a decade - in 1979, the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation completed a recreation development feasibility study on these parcels.

While these lands are not contiguous with the balance of Kachemak Bay State Park, they will meet a need for developable recreational park land near Homer. The nearest developed state park facility is the Anchor River State Recreational Area (10 miles north of Homer), primarily used for fishing and camping. The Homer Spit is the only other area with public recreational facilities, and the summer impact to the spit can be somewhat relieved with development of Cottonwood-Eastland.

There are also identified archaeological sites in the area. The 1979 feasibility study noted this, and recommended investigation, evaluation and excavation, if necessary, to preserve and protect these sites. The prime sponsor feels transfer to park status would help assure this protection.

Other justification for inclusion of these parcels:

High scenic and wildlife values.

Developed road to area.

Strong possibility for year-round use, once facilities are developed.

MCDONALD SPIT: 16 acres total (uplands)

This is an extremely small parcel of land at the end of McDonald Spit near Seldovia, consisting of approximately 16 acres. Currently, there is a good deal of local use of this spit, with increasing tourist use, particularly as a "stop over" for kayakers while boating between Halibut Cove and Seldovia. Aside from the obvious scenic values, there is an eagle nesting area on the spit.

HB 244
JUSTIFICATION SUMMARY (cont'd)

AURORA LAGOON: 2,553 acres

This is a logical boundary adjustment of the park. In discussion with former legislators, it seems apparent that the omission of Aurora Lagoon from the original legislation creating Kachemak Bay State Park was an oversight. Currently, the lagoon is heavily utilized for recreational pursuits.

Aurora Lagoon itself offers not only high scenic and recreational values, but is one of the few areas of safe high tide moorage in this area of Kachemak Bay that is unaffected by inclement weather. In addition, there are good beach landing sites for small craft. Other justification:

Excellent camping and hiking potential.

Potential as a public use cabin site.

Good fishing in area: salmon, crab, clams.

The Kachemak Bay State Park Advisory Board identified Aurora Lagoon for inclusion in the Park in 1984.

Commercial development (a wilderness lodge) is taking place on private land at nearby Bear Cove, and state park status of these public lands would enhance and encourage recreation in the Aurora Lagoon/Bear Cove area. This is an excellent area for trail development, with high scenic and recreational use.



CITY OF HOMER

CITY HALL

491 EAST PIONEER AVE.

HOMER, AK 99603-7624

FACSIMILE (907) 235-3140

(907) 235-8121

February 12, 1988

Representative Mike Navarre
P. O. V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Mike:

Enclosed please find a copy of Resolution 88-5 supporting House Bill 244 relating to the addition of land to Kachemak Bay State Park and Kachemak Bay State Wilderness Park as unanimously adopted by the Homer City Council on Monday, February 8, 1988.

Kachemak Bay State Park attracts thousands of visitors annually therefore the City of Homer is interested in protecting and preserving lands in the bay area for recreational and scenic use by both residents and tourists. We believe that your support of House Bill 244 is an excellent example of preservation of a valuable resource and should be promoted if at all possible.

We are grateful for your support of House Bill 244 and hope you will call upon us if we may be of any further assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

CITY OF HOMER


Philip C. Shealy
City Manager

PCS/rah

Enclosure

CITY OF HOMER
HOMER, ALASKA

RESOLUTION 88-5

A RESOLUTION OF THE HOMER CITY COUNCIL SUPPORTING HOUSE BILL 244 RELATING TO THE ADDITION OF LAND TO KACHEMAK BAY STATE PARK AND KACHEMAK BAY STATE WILDERNESS PARK.

WHEREAS, House Bill 244 adds several parcels of state land in the Kachemak Bay area to the existing Kachemak Bay State Park (KBSP) and Kachemak Bay State Wilderness Park (KBSWP); and

WHEREAS, House Bill 244 has the strong support of the Kachemak Bay State Park Citizens' Advisory Board as well as the Homer Parks and Recreation Commission; and

WHEREAS, Kachemak Bay State Park attracts thousands of visitors annually to enjoy its mountains, glaciers, waters and forest for their recreational, scenic and wildlife values; and

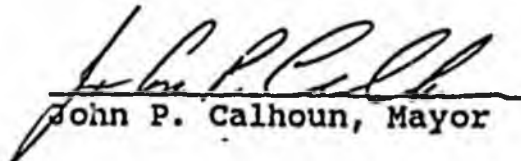
WHEREAS, the City of Homer has an interest in protecting and preserving lands in the Kachemak Bay area for the recreational and scenic uses of both residents and tourists.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Common Council of the City of Homer supports House Bill 244 relating to the addition of land to Kachemak Bay State Park and Kachemak Bay State Wilderness Park.

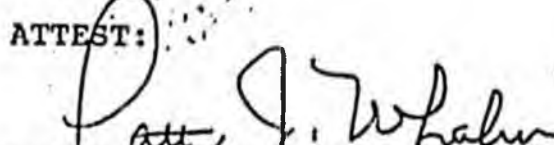
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager is authorized to send copies of this resolution of support to Representative Mike Navarre, Representative C. E. Swackhammer and Senator Paul Fischer as well as Governor Cowper and Dave Stutzer, Chair of the Kachemak Bay State Park Citizens' Advisory Board and respectfully urge support of the expansion of the parks.

DATED at Homer, Alaska this 8th day of February, 1988.

CITY OF HOMER


John P. Calhoun, Mayor

ATTEST:


Patti J. Whalen, City Clerk

Introduced by: Phillips
Date: February 16, 1988
Action: Adopted
Vote: 13 Yes, 3 No

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

RESOLUTION 88-15

ENDORING HOUSE BILL 244, RELATING TO THE ADDITION OF LAND TO KACHEMAK BAY STATE PARK AND KACHEMAK BAY STATE WILDERNESS PARK

WHEREAS, the Kenai Peninsula Borough has an interest in protecting and preserving recreation and scenic use lands within its boundaries; and

WHEREAS, Kachemak Bay State Park attracts thousands of visitors annually to enjoy its mountains, glaciers, waters and forests for their recreational, scenic and wildlife values; and

WHEREAS, other available State lands in the Kachemak Bay area have been identified as appropriate park lands and will, as park lands, enhance the recreational and tourism potential of the Kachemak Bay area; and

WHEREAS, State park properties on the Homer side of Kachemak Bay will help meet the need for year-round road-accessible recreation on the Southern Peninsula; and

WHEREAS, the State lands proposed for additions are free of conflicting claims and interests, following the University settlement and the Mental Health Lands Trust agreement;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:

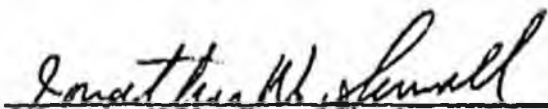
Section 1. That the Kenai Peninsula Borough endorses House Bill 244.

Section 2. That copies of this resolution be sent to Governor Cowper, Senator Paul Fischer, and Representatives Mike Navarre and C. E. Swackhammer.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH ON THIS 16th DAY OF February, 1988.

ATTEST:


Borough Clerk


Jonathan W. Sewall, Assembly President

COTTONWOOD/
EASTLAND CREEK

AURORA LAGOON

DONALD SPIT

STATE WILDERNESS PARK

NUA I
& UPI

ISLANDS

