

S B

184

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

FIRST COMMITTEE OF REFERRAL

Date of 5-DAY NOTICE 4/7/89
IN ACCORDANCE WITH UNIFORM RULE 23

FURTHER

FIN

**FISCAL NOTE(S) MUST BE ATTACHED
IN ACCORDANCE WITH AS 24.08.035

DATE TURNED INTO OFFICE 4/14/89

2/17/89

Mr. President:

RESOURCES

Committee considered

SB 184

establishing the Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area; efd

and recommended:

replace with CS SB 184 (Resources) same title
 attached amendment(s) and new title

_____ letter of intent adopted

do pass

do not pass

no recommendation

individual recommendations

further referral to _____

FISCAL NOTE(S) attached ADFG, DNR zero fiscal impact
 appropriation no FN attached Gov. FN introduced w/ bill

MEMBERS SIGNING DO PASS

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

[Signature]
[Signature]

Rick Halford NO REC
[Signature]
[Signature] No Rec

[Signature]
Chairman signature and recommendation
Acting Chairman

Committee backup attached

**STATE OF ALASKA
1989 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

BILL VERSION: SB 184
PUBLISH DATE: _____

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: 3-Mar-89 Agency Affected: Natural Resources
Title: Redoubt Bay Critical habitat Area BRU: Land & Water Management
Sponsor: Fischer Components: Land & Water Mgt
Requestor: Senate Resources

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND&STRUCTURES						
GRANTS,CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CAPITAL						
REVENUE						

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL	0.0					

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: Larry Ostrovsky Phone: 465-2400
Division: Commissioner's Office Date: 3-Mar-89
Approved by Commissioner: Lennie Gorsuch Date: 3-Mar-89
Agency: Department of Natural Resources

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



STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

MAR 02 1989

BILL ANALYSIS

DEPARTMENT Fish and Game	DIVISION Habitat	BILL NUMBER SB184	SPONSOR Senator Fischer
SHORT TITLE OF BILL Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area			
DEPARTMENT POSITION Support with amendment			
PREPARED BY Frank Rue, Director	DATE 3/1/89	COMMISSIONER'S SIGNATURE <i>Wm. Kellyworth</i>	DATE 3.2.89

SUMMARY

OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED BY BILL Department of Natural Resources	CONSTITUENT GROUP(S) AFFECTED BY BILL Southcentral recreational hunters and fishermen; Commercial Fishermen
ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORT FOR BILL Kenai Peninsula hunters and fishermen (see attached list)	ORGANIZATIONAL OPPOSITION TO BILL None Known

FISCAL IMPACT: NONE FISCAL NOTE ATTACHED

BACKGROUND/LEGISLATIVE INTENT
The purpose of establishing Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area is to provide:
1) Protection and enhancement for fish and wildlife habitat.
2) Conservation of fish and wildlife.
3) Continued opportunity for hunting, fishing, and trapping.
4) Public use and enjoyment of the area.

ANALYSIS OF BILL/PROGRAM EFFECTS

1. Establishes Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area.
2. Identifies the purpose for which the area is established.
3. Ensures continued access to private inholdings and provides for acquisition of private property from willing sellers.
4. Provides for oil and gas exploration and development.
5. Allows for continued fish and wildlife harvest and public use.
6. Establishes a citizens' advisory committee.

AMENDMENTS PROPOSED
See attached

PLEASE ATTACH A SEPARATE SHEET FOR ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OR ANALYSIS.

Amendments Proposed

1. Give the purpose statement a statute number (AS 16.20.620(a) or (b)) so that it will appear in statute.
2. Change (d) to read, "The department shall permit entry within the Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area for the exploration and development of oil and gas resources when it is compatible with the purposes for which the critical habitat area is established. An oil and gas lease of state land within the critical habitat area and existing pipeline rights-of-way [IS] are valid and continue[S] in full force according to [ITS] their terms."
3. Add a new subsection (e) to read, "(e) Inspection and maintenance activities necessary to ensure the integrity of oil and gas transportation systems shall be permitted on existing leases and pipeline rights-of-way in a manner that is compatible with the purposes for which the critical habitat area is established." This will accommodate concerns about pipeline maintenance.
4. Combine (f) and (g) and change them to read, "The department shall establish a citizens' advisory committee to advise the department in the development of policies and regulations that affect Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area. The citizens' advisory committee shall include representatives of fish and wildlife harvest activity, cabin owners, conservation interests, commercial and industrial activity, and borough government." This will provide a more enforceable mechanism for establishment and maintenance of the citizen's advisory committee.

Organizational Support for Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area

Kenai-Soldotna Fish and Game Advisory Committee

Central Peninsula Fish and Game Advisory Committee

Cooper Landing Fish and Game Advisory Committee

Homer Fish and Game Advisory Committee

Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association

Kenai Peninsula Chapter Audubon Society

Kenai Trappers Association

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____
 Title: Redoubt Bay Critical
Habitat Area
 Sponsor: Senator Fischer
 Requestor: _____

Agency Affected: ADFG
 BRU: Habitat
 Components: _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94
PERSONAL SERVICES		0				
TRAVEL		0				
CONTRACTUAL		0				
SUPPLIES		0				
EQUIPMENT		0				
LAND & STRUCTURES		0				
GRANTS, CLAIMS		0				
MISCELLANEOUS		0				
TOTAL OPERATING		0				

CAPITAL		0				
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REVENUE		0				
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND		0				
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL		0				

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME		0				
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: Frank Rue, Director *Elean Fuller for FR*
 Division: Habitat

Phone: 465-4105
 Date: 3/01/89

Approved by Commissioner: *Oneill*
 Agency: Dept. of Fish and Game

Date: 3.2.89

Distribution (by preparer):

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

STATE OF ALASKA
1989 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL VERSION CS SB 184 (Resources) *24*

PUBLISH DATE: _____

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: 3-Mar-89
Title: Redoubt Bay Critical habitat Area

Agency Affected: Natural Resources
BRU: Land & Water Management

Sponsor: Fischer
Requestor: Senate Resources

Components: Land & Water Mgt

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94
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CAPITAL						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

REVENUE						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

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Date: 3-Mar-89

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

Alaska State Legislature



State Senate

Senator Paul Fischer
Senate District D
Box 784
Soldotna, Alaska 99669
(907) 262-9420 W
262-9269

While in Juneau
P.O. Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811
(907) 465-3791

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator Bettye Fahrenkamp, Chairman
Senate Resources Committee

FROM: Senator Paul Fischer *PF*

SUBJECT: Senate Bill 184
(establishing Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area)

DATE: March 6, 1989

I would appreciate your scheduling the above referenced bill before the Senate Resources Committee at your earliest possible convenience.

As you are aware, similar legislation received considerable review during the Fifteenth Legislature. I've attached fiscal notes from the Departments of Fish and Game and Natural Resources, as well as background and historical information.

Your consideration will be greatly appreciated.

PAF/sgn

Attachments

Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat "Fact Sheet"

Past Legislation			Requested By
Year	Bill No. & Type		
1987	SB 426 Critical Habitat		Local Organizations
1981	HB 66 State Refuge		State of Alaska
1978	SB 262, HB 391 State Refuge		State of Alaska

Legislative Intent of 1987 Request
Protect fish and wildlife habitat with emphasis on the Tule White-front Goose;

Continue established public and private uses and assure continued public access to the entire area.

1988 Sponsors

Kenai Soldotna Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Ninilchik Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Cooper Landing Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Homer Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Cook Inlet Aquiculture Association
Kenai Trappers Association
Kenai Peninsula Chapter, Audobon Society

Fish and Wildlife Resources.

Tule White-fronted Goose, nesting habitat.
Waterfowl, ducks 14 species, geese 4 species, swans 2 species; nesting & migration habitat.
Moose calving, summer range, rutting area & winter range.
Brown & Black Bear, summer habitat.
Furbearers, 11 species; year round habitat.
Salmon, 5 species; spawning habitat.
Rainbow & Dolly Varden Trout, year round habitat.
Also raptors, shore birds, song birds, and various small mammals.

Location

West side of Cook Inlet approx. 25 miles west of Kenai.
Senate Districts D & M
House Districts 5 & 24

Access

By boat or light aircraft only

Permanent Residents

None.

Established Uses

Gas/oil transportation pipe line, commercial fishing, fisheries enhancement, guiding, big game and waterfowl hunting, sport fishing, trapping, general recreation.

Potential Uses

Gas/oil production, sport fishing lodges, recreational land disposals, tourist oriented facilities, additional fishery enhancement.

Land Status

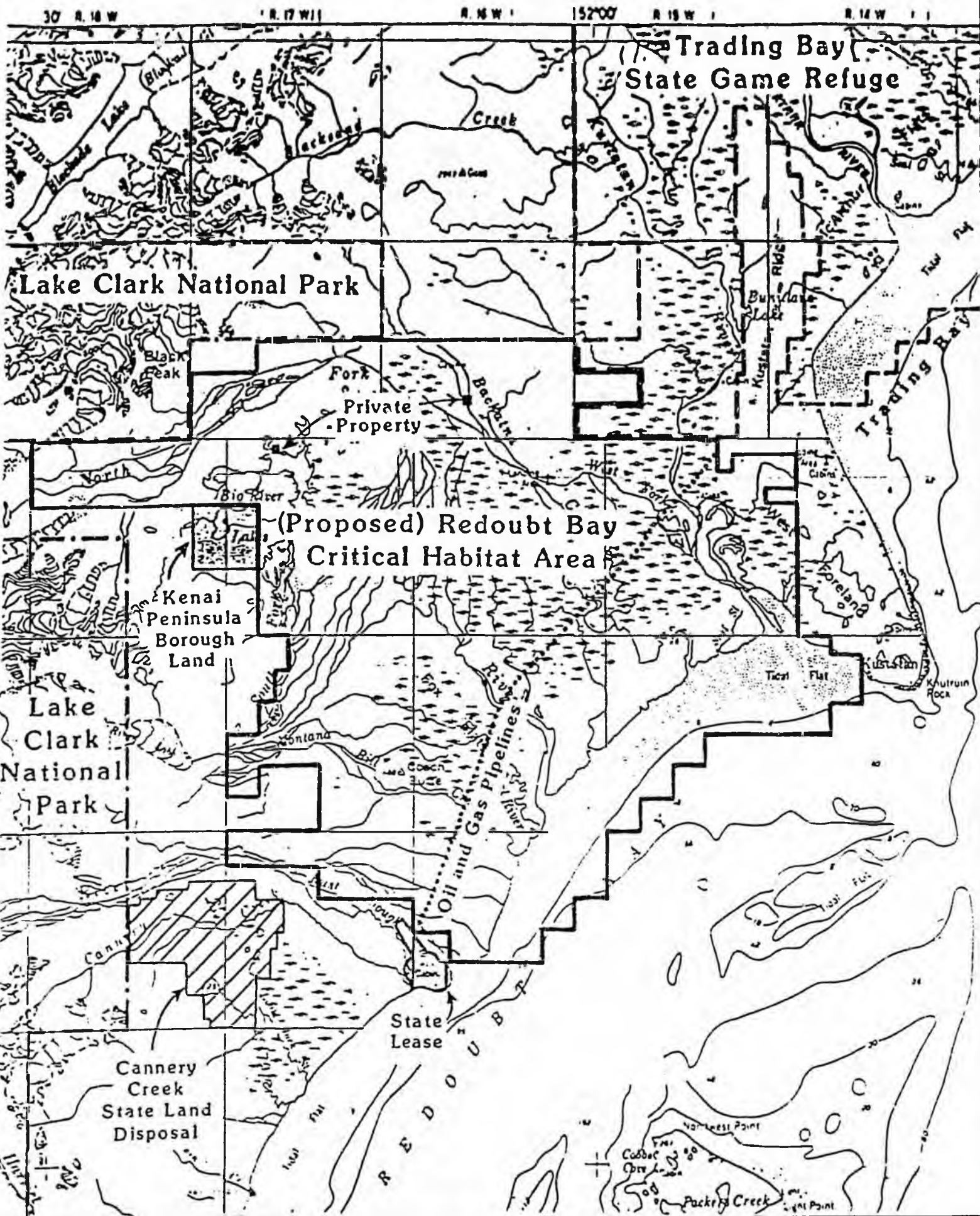
Approximately 183,640 acres of poorly drained coastal marsh and waterways patented to the State of Alaska . Two private holdings totalling less than 10 acres. Leases for 47 private cabins used for commercial fishing and recreational purposes. Established right of way for gas/oil transportation pipeline.

Suggested amendments to SB 426

1. Management with a citizen advisory committee. Recommended by the Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Commission and supported by the Kenai-Soldotna Fish and Game Advisory Committee.
2. Provisions for maintenance of the gas/oil pipeline. Recommended by Cook Inlet Pipeline Co.
3. Boundary adjustments and provisions for maintenance of the gas/oil pipeline. Recommended by ADF&G.

(Proposed) Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area

~~CSSB 426 (Res)~~ SB184 of 1989



Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat "Fact Sheet"

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Moose calving, summer range, rutting area & winter range.
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3. Boundary adjustments and provisions for maintenance of the gas/oil pipeline. Recommended by ADF&G.

STATE OF ALASKA

STEVE COWPER, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

333 RASPBERRY ROAD
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99518-1599
PHONE: (907) 344-0541

January 19, 1989

JAN 25 1989

The Honorable Paul Fischer
Alaska State Senate
P. O. Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Fischer:

On December 22, 1988, your staff requested of Mr. Jim Faro that he provide you with additional background information on Redoubt Bay. On behalf of Mr. Faro and the department, we will do so now.

The coastal marsh and streams of Redoubt Bay are highly productive fish and wildlife habitat and provide Alaska residents with significant annual harvests of salmon, trout, moose, bear, waterfowl, furbearers and other fish and game. Nationally, Redoubt is significant because of the nesting area for tule white-fronted geese, a subspecies that exists in low numbers.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) has twice before sought special legislative designation for the area because of these high resource values. Since 1981, ADF&G has worked with the Kenai Peninsula public to develop a locally acceptable legislative package. In 1987, four separate Fish and Game Advisory Committees and three resource oriented organizations located on the Kenai requested the Legislature to establish the Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area. In response you introduced SB 426.

That bill worked it's way through several Senate Committees and in the process, public review and modifications occurred by persons not previously involved in the original request. There has been continued work on provisions of SB 426 in anticipation of this legislative session. The following changes suggested by different organizations were provided to your staff by Mr. Faro on December 22, 1988:

1. Management with assistance of a citizen advisory committee - recommended by the Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Commission and supported by the Kenai-Soldotna Fish and Game Advisory Committee;
2. Provisions for maintenance of the gas/oil pipeline - recommended by Cook Inlet Pipeline Co; and

January 19, 1989

3. Boundary adjustments and provisions for maintenance of the gas/oil pipeline - recommended by ADF&G.

The public information effort about Redoubt Bay has concentrated on the local Kenai Peninsula public, and your staff requested a summary of the public process leading to bill reintroduction in the current legislative session (report attached). Because acceptable legislation appears close, in addition to continued Kenai Peninsula involvement, we will make a wider public aware of the situation (preliminary 1989 contact list attached). The legislative process will provide even more public review.

Also attached is a brief Redoubt Bay background "fact sheet". Long-term maintenance of these valuable State lands as productive fish and wildlife habitat and continued established public activities can occur without precluding other land uses. Designation of Redoubt Bay as a Critical Habitat Area would be the public's "insurance policy" that this priority would continue into the future.

We look forward to working with you during this legislative session.

Sincerely,



for Dan Timm
Regional Supervisor
Division of Wildlife Conservation

Attachments

cc: Rep. Mike Navarre
Rep. C. E. Swackhammer
Sen. John Binkley
Rep. Kay Wallis

Gloria Wisecarver
Chairman
Kenai-Soldotna Advisory Committee

Mark Wilson
Chairman
Cooper Landing Advisory Committee

Tom Mears
Executive Director
Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association

Doug Blossom
Chairman
Central Peninsula Advisory Committee

Jim Hurbert
Chairman
Homer Advisory Committee

Doug Emery
Audubon Society
Kenai Peninsula Chapter

Leon Metz
Kenai Trappers Association

Don Gilman
Mayor
Kenai Peninsula Borough

Harold Mouser
President
Cook Inlet Pipe Line Co.

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Don Collinsworth
Lew Pamplin
Frank Rue
Jim Faro

REDOUBT BAY CRITICAL HABITAT LEGISLATION
Background, History of Public Involvement and Current Status
January 19, 1989

Redoubt Bay on the west side of Cook Inlet has extensive coastal marsh providing important fish and wildlife habitat and supporting many public uses. Approximately 183,640 acres of the State owned, poorly drained wet lands and waterways are proposed for Critical Habitat designation. The two private parcels, totalling less than 10 acres, would not be regulated by the act and the owners would be assured access to their lands.

The intent of the legislation is to establish dual management priorities of continued fish and wildlife production and continued guaranteed public use of the entire area. The bill would not deny new development or land uses that were compatible with or could be accomplished in a non-detrimental manner to these priorities.

Big game, waterfowl, furbearers, salmon, and trout in this area are taken primarily by Alaskan residents for commercial and recreational purposes. Of national significance, is the nesting by Tule White-front Goose, a scarce subspecies that has been considered for endangered species classification. These fish and wildlife resources prompted ADF&G's request to classify Redoubt Bay a State Refuge in 1978 and 1981.

House Bill 66 met strong opposition in 1981 during the February 28, Soldotna legislative hearing. The public generally agreed with ADF&G's resource evaluation, but opposed establishing the refuge for other reasons: (1) following ANILCA, they were against placing more Alaskan land in special management areas; (2) bureaucrats were not trusted to manage the area; (3) tensions over the future of "trespass cabins" on State land were high and cabin owners opposed anything that could result in loss of cabins at Redoubt Bay or elsewhere; and (4) As the area was essentially wilderness, few could then accept the need for habitat protection as no agent for change was evident.

Since then, ADF&G has worked to inform the public about important resources of the area, identify public uses and concerns, and to promote the understanding that the character of the area could be changed without protection. For example, gas and oil development, land disposals (Cannery Creek 1985), mining, fishery enhancement, and sport fishing lodges could be beneficial or negative depending on a person's perspective and how the activities were accomplished. If the public desires to maintain fish and wildlife populations, habitat, and public uses of the area, long term guidelines for State management needs to be in place.

Renewed efforts to obtain support for a "Redoubt Bay Refuge" began by talking with the cabin owners, commercial fishermen and sportsmen. Based on this information, discussion of future management of State lands in Redoubt Bay occurred with the local Fish and Game Advisory Committees. These public meetings furthered the information exchange between committee members, the public in attendance, and ADF&G staff.

Gradually a consensus for a request to the Legislature evolved. That consensus differed from the earlier ADF&G sponsored attempts in three significant ways: (1) A "Critical Habitat Area" designation was preferred to "Refuge" because of the unique status of the Tule Goose and because it lacked the local negative connotation of a Refuge label; (2) to insure public concerns were addressed, the bill would be a public request rather than ADF&G sponsored; and, (3) the bill would specifically address maintaining existing public activities.

Each of the four Kenai Peninsula Fish and Game Advisory Committees voted for a resolution requesting the Alaska Legislature establish the Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area. The Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association, the Kenai Peninsula chapter of the Audobon Society, and the Kenai Peninsula Trappers Association also signed the resolution, documenting additional local public support. This request was sent only to the Kenai Peninsula legislators (but inadvertently not to Senator John Binkley and Representative Kay Wallis who's districts also include portions of Redoubt the Redoubt area). In response, Senator Paul Fischer introduced SB 426 in 1988.

Because SB 426 was introduced late, it seemed unlikely it could become law that session. Therefore, the communication effort concentrated on the Kenai Peninsula to insure the local public understood its contents and intent. Copies were distributed locally and some not previously involved became active. The bill received the continuing support of the four Advisory Committees and in March, the Kenai Borough Planning and Zoning Commission voted to support it. As the bill worked its way through the Senate committees, good suggestions and proposed changes have been made as a result of public input.

Following adjournment of the Legislature, work continued on drafting an acceptable Redoubt bill. The present request is supported by ADF&G and others, but is sponsored by seven Kenai Peninsula groups directly involved with local fish and wildlife. (A copy of their 1988 resolution for legislative actions is attached). The Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning and Zoning Commission recommended a citizens advisory committee be created. Cook Inlet Pipe Line Co., working with ADF&G, suggested sections to insure continued maintenance of their pipe line. ADF&G has suggested boundary adjustments and pipeline maintenance provisions. The legislative process this session will provide additional public, private, and agency review of these and other recommendations and allow modification as necessary.

Redoubt Bay legislation has evolved significantly since 1981. The elements of a bill that would protect and maintain the fish and wildlife values (the resources, habitat, and established public uses) seem to be in place. Some opposition still exists, but the present approach with the citizen's advisory committee is acceptable to many former opponents. The bottom line is the public's desire to continue using the area as they have in the past. Without a formal management priority, the fish and wildlife values of the area could be lost piece meal, because of conflicting land uses. The designation of Redoubt Bay as Critical Habitat gives that priority. The nesting habitat of the Tule Goose will be protected and current public uses of the area will be preserved.

Special 1988 Alaska Fishing Guide

Alaska

The Magazine of Life
on the Last Frontier

April 1988 / \$2.95



Treasures
from
the Sea

Tips on Where and How
to Reel in Rainbows, Kings, Silvers



Case of the Hide-And- -Seek Geese

By Dan Timm and Bob Elgas

Scientists are a lot like detectives. They often spend years tracking clues that may unravel biological mysteries, or searching for "lost treasures" in the plant and animal kingdoms.

One such mystery was recently solved after decades of searching for a type of goose that most waterfowl biologists claimed was non-existent. It is a unique form of white-fronted or "specklebelly" goose—the tule goose.

For more than a century, the tule goose was an enigma, spotted occasionally and then disappearing again. No one knew where it nested, what its migration patterns were, if it really was a distinct subspecies. Then, just a few years ago, the central clue to this "lost treasure" was found in Alaska's Cook Inlet.

In 1852, G. Hartlaub first identified a new subspecies

Right: In the midst of these Alaskan look-alikes is a yellow-collared goose that was banded in California. (ADF&G) Below: Waterfowl biologists and taxonomists spent decades trying to prove that the tule goose, bottom, was a subspecies distinct from the Pacific white-fronted goose. top. (ADF&G)





of geese in Texas. He referred to the common form of "specklebelly" which was abundant throughout the central and western United States, as the Pacific white-fronted goose, *Anser albifrons frontalis*. But he also identified a subspecies—a larger, dark bird known as *A. a. gambelli*. The range of the questioned subspecies was expanded in 1917, when it also was noted in California.

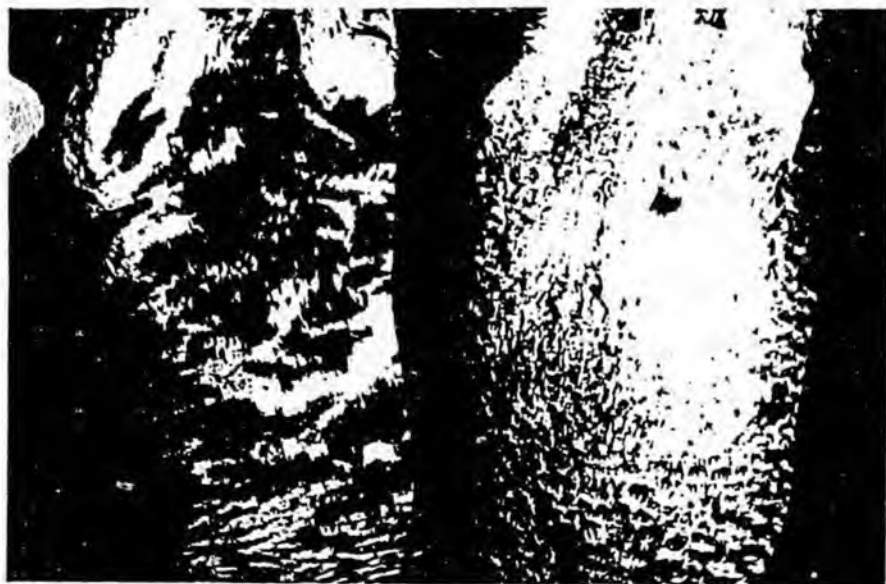
In the early 1900s, a biologist named James Moffitt became interested in the birds and recorded information supporting the idea that the large geese were indeed a distinct subspecies. Most of Moffitt's descriptions were from birds taken in California, and for about 40 years after his death, little more was recorded about tule geese.

In the following decades, the tule goose became almost a myth—a bird of mystery—until most ornithologists and waterfowl biologists denied its existence.

But unlike some questioned species, which disappeared before their existence could be scientifically proven, tule geese were sighted just often enough to keep the controversy alive. On occasion, one would come to the attention of a qualified observer, but usually it was dismissed as an oddity among a flock of "normal" Pacific whitefronts.

A Fresh Pair of Eyes

In 1960, Bob Elgas entered the search for the elusive tule goose. He was familiar with large, dark whitefronts that occasionally were seen during migration in western Saskatchewan, and presumed they were tule geese. His interest picked up after he acquired a storm-injured bird that had been captured by Oregon biologists. That bird launched his search, which lasted nearly two decades and took him to much of



Above, left: Studies of collared geese documented three birds that migrated from northern California to Redoubt Bay—more than 1,900 miles—in four days. (ADF&G) Top: Nests are built as early in May as ice and snow melt allows. (ADF&G) Middle: Young white-fronted geese sport a white belly, and as they age to adulthood, the feathers grow in black splotches. (ADF&G) Bottom: Dick Sellers, a biologist with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, records every inch of a captive tule goose. (ADF&G)

Arctic Canada and Alaska.

Validating the tule goose as a distinct subspecies depended in large part upon finding a geographically isolated nesting area—separate from other whitefronts. Elgas believed they nested on the Mackenzie River Delta of Canada's Northwest Territories. In 1964, he and another aviculturist searched for the breeding grounds and found large, dark whitefronts in the Old Crow Flats of Yukon Territory. They kept some birds, and banded and released about 50 more. Those in captivity were examined by a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ornithologist, who believed these were the tules described more than 100 years earlier in Texas.

The mystery was not neatly tied up, however. A Canadian biologist reported the discovery of large, dark whitefronts breeding far east of Old Crow Flats. To complicate things, Hartlaub's Texas specimens had long since disappeared, and some wondered if he had used the French inch or the English inch to take measurements. Use of the French Inch would make them appear larger by modern standards. Plus, the birds that Elgas banded at Old Crow Flats added to the confusion by wintering in Texas and northeastern Mexico, not California as expected.

Where then were the California tule geese that Moffitt described so well?

A Goose of a Different Color

The geese of Old Crow Flats were large and dark, but they did not approach the large size and dark brown color of the birds in California, so Elgas decided to study the birds there. He reached an agreement with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 1970 to study tule geese on a refuge adjacent to Moffitt's old study area, about 45 miles northwest of Sacramento.

Most of his observations were in early winter, and he concluded that the birds' behavior, habitat use, and color and size differences made them distinct from the much more abundant Pacific whitefronts. Little mixing of the races occurred. Even their voices were different.

Whitefronts are very secretive. Even hundreds of birds can effectively hide from the most eagle-eyed biologist, and they're difficult to catch. Finally, in November 1972, the first geese were obtained. By 1975, an evaluation of these birds, along with Elgas' field observations, led Dr. Dillion Ripley of the Smithsonian Institute and Dr. Jean Delacour of the American Museum, to describe the California birds as *A. a. elgasi*—in honor of Bob Elgas. They

suggested the elusive Texas race remain classified as *gambelli*.

A Missing Puzzle Piece

If tule geese were to be acknowledged as a subspecies, there was one more vital piece of the puzzle to find. There had to be proof that these geese bred in geographic isolation.

With that in mind, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service spent six years in an extensive search of most known white-fronted goose nesting and molting areas in Alaska. Thousands of birds were measured, weighed and banded between 1967 and 1973.

In 1974, radio telemetry was added to the tools used to unravel the goose mystery. Bob Elgas, with a team of two federal biologists and an aviculturist, affixed radio transmitters to seven tule geese in California. For scores of hours, one man listened for radio signals while flying across Alaska; two others chartered

Was there still someplace in Alaska so remote to escape all attention?

a private plane to Alaska for more searching. Despite their efforts, the tule goose nesting ground remained undiscovered.

Curiosity Peaks

Interest in tule geese continued to grow, and from 1976 to 1978, Dan Connelly conducted a master's degree-level study in California. He captured more birds and placed plastic neck collars on some; radios on others. A \$500 reward was offered for neck collar observations in Alaska and Canada. There were no sightings of collared birds, but a private citizen along the British Columbia coast found a dead bird equipped with a radio. The find indicated that Alaska was the likely nesting area.

Meanwhile, the knowledge of tule geese in California was expanding rapidly. In 1978, Mike Wege began a four-year doctoral study of the birds' wintering ecology. Wege collared 200 tules and observed the marked birds. His work resulted in a comprehensive analysis of their use areas, behavior, population size, feeding habits, migration patterns in California and other factors. But where was the nesting ground? Was there still someplace in Alaska so remote to escape all attention?

Summer Place

In August 1978, the Alaska De-

partment of Fish and Game entered the search for the summer nesting area. Dick Sellers and Dan Timm accidentally discovered some tule geese while studying the whitefronts on Susitna Flats in Cook Inlet, within sight of Anchorage. A month later, Timm shot a whitefront on Susitna Flats and discovered its measurements and color were identical to the tules in California. This bird was a clue that focused the nesting-ground search.

Timm had counted hundreds of whitefronts in Redoubt Bay many times during the 1970s, but he thought they were the common Pacific whitefronts. An examination of the geese in Redoubt Bay was clearly warranted.

In July 1979, Warren Hancock, Elgas and Timm joined forces and concluded that the birds in Redoubt Bay were actually tule geese. They found the nesting whitefronts in Cook Inlet geographically isolated from other Alaskan nesting populations.

However, a critical link between Redoubt Bay and California was yet to be made. Without that link, it could be argued that they were not the same birds. Like in a court of law, reasonable doubt could not exist before a tule verdict could be rendered.

During an intensive study from 1980 to 1983, ADF&G and other biologists captured tule geese in Cook Inlet and weighed, measured and marked each one with individually recognizable plastic neck collars. A few carried radio transmitters. In time, all reasonable doubt vanished when these birds reappeared in California, and most of the California birds which Mike Wege had marked were found in Redoubt Bay. These sightings, plus studies in behavior, size and other differences, finally verified Elgas' long belief: The tule goose is no myth.

Where Did They Go?

Much has been learned about tule geese in all these years of study, but many questions remain.

The birds' migration route has been determined from neck-collar sightings and recoveries by hunters. In the fall, they migrate along the Gulf Coast to the Puget Sound area, where they go inland and south to the Summer Lake and Klamath Falls, Ore., area. They then proceed to the central Sacramento Valley, where many overwinter, but some fly farther south and winter in the San Francisco Bay area, and on Grizzly Island State Management Area. But questions keep nagging: What about the large birds that were

Continued on page 79

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Hide-and-Seek Geese

Continued from page 35

first described in Texas 134 years ago? Were they from Alaska, not Canada, as long suspected?

Another perplexing situation for waterfowl managers has to do with the birds' population. At most, only 1,537 tules have been counted during summers in Cook Inlet—about a third of the known numbers. Although the birds are very difficult to find, it seems unlikely that the entire population summers in upper Cook Inlet. However, searches in other areas of Cook Inlet and Alaska have proven fruitless, and band recoveries and neck-collar sightings all point to upper Cook Inlet as the sole nesting area. Is there another "lost treasure" out there?

Finally, waterfowl biologists question how the tule geese will fit into future land management decisions in a region that's rich in oil, gas, coal, timber and other resources. Most of Alaska's residents also live on Cook Inlet, so it is the focus of much demand for development and settlement.

Cook Inlet has Alaska's largest producing natural gas field and the state's second-largest producing oil field. Until 1986, Redoubt Bay was excluded from additional oil and lease sales, primarily because of the tule goose. A recent sale, however, included careful exploratory guidelines.

White-fronted geese are, by nature, secretive birds and are susceptible to disturbance. Cumulative effects of land development and increased human activity on Cook Inlet's west side could seriously affect population size. ADF&G is encouraging the Alaska Legislature to designate Redoubt Bay a "critical habitat," which would ensure that wildlife and fisheries values are given first consideration in any land management decision.

If managing agencies and developmental interests remain sensitive to the birds and their needs, the future status of the hide-and-see geese will remain secure for many years to come. ☆

Dan Timm was the waterfowl project leader for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game from 1971 to 1982. He has since been the Game Division's southcentral regional management coordinator and is now the division's regional supervisor in Anchorage.

Bob Elgas is a retired rancher living in Big Timber, Mont. He has researched propagation of waterfowl for more than 30 years, is widely known as a wildlife artist, and serves as president of the International Waterfowl Wild Association. He recently was named president emeritus of that organization.

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Our Alaskan dream and reality

Joy Orth

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Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat "Fact Sheet"

	Past Legislation		
Year	Bill No. & Type		Requested By
1987	SB 426 Critical Habitat		Local Organizations
1981	HB 66 State Refuge		State of Alaska
1978	SB 262, HB 391 State Refuge		State of Alaska

Legislative Intent of 1987 Request

Protect fish and wildlife habitat with emphasis on the Tule White-front Goose;

Continue established public and private uses and assure continued public access to the entire area.

1988 Sponsors

Kenai Soldotna Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Ninilchik Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Cooper Landing Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Homer Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Cook Inlet Aquiculture Association
Kenai Trappers Association
Kenai Peninsula Chapter, Audobon Society

Fish and Wildlife Resources.

Tule White-fronted Goose, nesting habitat.
Waterfowl, ducks 14 species, geese 4 species, swans 2 species; nesting & migration habitat.
Moose calving, summer range, rutting area & winter range.
Brown & Black Bear, summer habitat.
Furbearers, 11 species; year round habitat.
Salmon, 5 species; spawning habitat.
Rainbow & Dolly Varden Trout, year round habitat.
Also raptors, shore birds, song birds, and various small mammals.

Location

West side of Cook Inlet approx. 25 miles west of Kenai.
Senate Districts D & M
House Districts 5 & 24

Access

By boat or light aircraft only

Permanent Residents

None.

Established Uses

Gas/oil transportation pipe line, commercial fishing, fisheries enhancement, guiding, big game and waterfowl hunting, sport fishing, trapping, general recreation.

Jim Herbert

Jim Herbert
Homer Advisory Committee
Box 1507
Homer, AK 99603
Phone: 235-6382

Thomas E. Means

Tom Means
Executive Director
Cook Inlet Aquaculture Assoc.
HC2, Box 849
Soldotna, AK 99669
Phone: 283-5761

Doug Emery

Doug Emery
Audubon Society
Kenai Peninsula Chapter
Box 3371
Soldotna, AK 99669
Phone: 283-5182

Leon A. Metz

Leon A. Metz
Kenai Trappers Association
10819 Spur Highway, #233
Kenai, AK 99611
Phone: 262-1932

Potential Uses

Gas/oil production, sport fishing lodges, recreational land disposals, tourist oriented facilities, additional fishery enhancement.

Land Status

Approximately 183,640 acres of poorly drained coastal marsh and waterways patented to the State of Alaska . Two private holdings totalling less than 10 acres. Leases for 47 private cabins used for commercial fishing and recreational purposes. Established right of way for gas/oil transportation pipeline.

Suggested amendments to SB 426

1. Management with a citizen advisory committee. Recommended by the Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Commission and supported by the Kenai-Soldotna Fish and Game Advisory Committee.
2. Provisions for maintenance of the gas/oil pipeline. Recommended by Cook Inlet Pipeline Co.
3. Boundary adjustments and provisions for maintenance of the gas/oil pipeline. Recommended by ADF&G.

APR 3 1989

March 31, 1989
PO Box 2176
Palmer, Alaska
99645

Senator Bettye Fahrenkamp
Chair of Senate Resources Committee
State Senate
PO Box V
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Senator Fahrenkamp,

Please schedule for hearing before your committee Senate Bill 184 to establish the Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area on the west shore of Cook Inlet.

For more than ten years outdoors users and state game management professionals have sought to protect species in Redoubt Bay from disturbances on the state lands there. The most productive resources of the 184,000-acre area are fish and game. Salmon fry depend on the extensive wetlands as rearing habitat and yield tens of thousands of fish in the commercial fisheries of Cook Inlet each year. The area is also popular for sportfishermen and big game hunters. The most outstanding species in the proposed Critical Area is the Tule Goose, a rare version of the White-fronted Goose, whose only known nesting area is in the Redoubt Bay area.

The users and managers of the fish and game resources in the Redoubt Bay need the legislative tools to control potentially conflicting uses of state lands. Although no uses would be prohibited in the Critical Area under SB 184, the bill allows the Department of Fish and Game to have a say in the design and placement of developments so they do the least damage to breeding waterfowl and other fish and game resources.

Enclosed for your review is a map and fact sheet on the proposed Critical Habitat Area. I would appreciate your support of this long-awaited legislation.

Sincerely,


Mike Bronson



J- SB 184

MAR 15 1989

March 12, 1989

The Honorable Senator Bettye Fahrenkamp
P.O.B. Pouch V
Capitol, Room 125
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Fahrenkamp:

Attached is a copy of a letter to Senator Paul Fisher, Chairman of the Senate Resources Committee, which urges passage of Senate Bill No. 184 creating the Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area.

Duck's Unlimited's Alaska membership unanimously supports the Bill. Please take a moment to read the letter and please vote for passage of Senate Bill No. 184.

Very truly yours,

Robert L. Plymire
State Chairman
Ducks Unlimited - Alaska



March 12, 1989

The Honorable Senator Paul Fisher
P.O. Box Pouch V
Capitol Building Room 508
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Fisher:

Duck's Unlimited, Inc. of Alaska unanimously supports your Senate Bill No. 184 for the Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area. At their State Convention held March 4, 1989 in Soldotna, the membership unanimously passed a resolution authorizing me as Duck's Unlimited State Chairman to write you and other members of the resources committee stating their support of the Bill and urging its passage.

Duck's Unlimited is an international conservation organization which has developed over 6,000,000 acres of waterfowl habitat in the last 52 years. Nationally the organization has about 600,000 members and raised \$59,000,000 for waterfowl habitat in 1988. Our Alaska organization has approximately 5,000 members in 39 communities around the State who raised over \$500,000 in 1988 for habitat. D.U. has spent over \$480,000 in Alaska on habitat projects including Creamers Field near Fairbanks, the Palmer Hay Flats, and the Copper River Delta Dusky goose project.

Working with Alaska Department of Fish and Game and Federal agencies D.U. is currently looking for more Alaska Habitat projects in Alaska.

Several members present at the Soldotna meeting stated that they had objections to similar Bills introduced in prior years, particularly with respect to recreational cabin use. As long as the continued use of cabins is allowed, as reflected in the wording of your current Bill, these prior objections are removed.

ALASKA DUCKS UNLIMITED
P.O. BOX 1183, HOMER, AK, 99603

As leaders in waterfowl habitat conservation, we believe the Redoubt Bay Bill is entirely compatible with Duck's Unlimited's purposes and supports our conservation objectives and we in turn support its passage.

Very truly yours,



Robert L. Plymire
State Chairman
Ducks Unlimited - Alaska

cc: Johne Binkley
Dick Eliason
Bettye Fahrenkamp
Steve Frank
Rick Halford
Jay Kerttula
Arliss Sturgulewski
Fred Zharoff
Mike Navarre
C. E. Swackhammer
F. Kay Wallis

Introduced by: Mayor
Date: March 21, 1989
Action:
Vote:

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

RESOLUTION 89-26

RECOMMENDING PASSAGE OF SENATE BILL 184 ESTABLISHING THE
REDOUBT BAY CRITICAL HABITAT AREA

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 184 establishing the Redoubt Bay
Critical Habitat Area has been introduced to the Alaska Senate;
and

WHEREAS, the Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Commission
conducted a public hearing on this matter on March 21, 1988 and
recommended approval of a similar bill introduced last year;
and

WHEREAS, the Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Commission
considered this matter again at their December 5, 1988 meeting
and passed Resolution 88-10 recommending revision of the draft
bill to include a citizen advisory board to oversee the
development of policies and regulations for the area; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 184 includes provisions for the
establishment of a citizen advisory board;

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

Section 1. That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly
supports the establishment of the Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat
Area, as provided in Senate Bill 184.

Section 2. That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly
supports the appointment of a citizen advisory board including
representation from user groups to oversee the development of
policies and regulations affecting the critical habitat area.

Section 3. That this resolution takes effect immediately
upon its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH ON
THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 1989.

ATTEST: Jonathan W. Sewall, Assembly President

Borough Clerk

3/14/89

Dear Senator Parnskupp
I understand from Paul Pedice SB184 is in your committee
This above resolution passed unanimously at last
night's (3/13) borough planning commission, and will be
in front of the borough assembly on 3/21/89 for action.
Last week it was in front of the borough's local
affairs committee, and also passed unanimously.

I look for this to pass without any problems.
Would greatly appreciate your help in getting this
bill passed this session. I've talked with our Borough
Mayor Don Gilman and I honestly feel he doesn't
force any problems either. Thank you

Loretta Breeden 1602 Brubara, Kenai AK 99501

Phone
383-4379

MAR 17 1989

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association

Box 545, Seldovia, Alaska 99669
Phone 262-2492



MAR 2 1989

February 27, 1989

Senator Bettye Fahrenkamp
P.O. Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Fahrenkamp:

The Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association recently obtained a copy of Senate Bill 184, introduced by Senator Fisher. This bill establishes the Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area to ensure the protection and enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat and populations.

The Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association recognizes the importance of maintaining and preserving quality habitat to ensure the perpetuation of fish and wildlife populations. We also recognize and support the need for controlled and wise use of our natural resources. Senate Bill 184 appears to offer a reasonable balance between public use and protection of a high quality environment in the Redoubt Bay area.

We would urge your support of this important legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Loren B. Flagg".

Loren Flagg
Executive Director

cc: Mike Navarre, Swack Swackhammer, Kay Wallis, and John Binkley



MAR 06 1989

ALASKA OUTDOOR COUNCIL, INC.

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

March 6, 1989

Senator Paul Fischer
Alaska State Legislature
P.O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Senator Fischer:

This is to advise you that the Alaska Outdoor Council has taken a position supporting SB 184 which would create the Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area. In fact, it is one of our highest priority pieces of legislation this session.

We all fully realize the importance of this area for its wildlife and public use values. I believe your efforts and those of the Department of Fish and Game have paved the way for broad public support on this issue. It is important to us that the Kenai Borough and the Kenai sportsmen are fully supporting this legislative designation.

We appreciate your commitment and pledge to give you our full support in gaining passage of this legislation.

Sincerely,

Ron Somerville
Executive Director



MAR 29

MAR 29 1989

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

144 N. BINKLEY • SOLDOTNA, ALASKA 99669
PHONE (907) 262-4441

DON GILMAN
MAYOR

March 22, 1989

The Honorable Paul Fischer
P.O. Box V
Juneau, Ak 99811

Dear Senator Fischer:

On March 21, 1989, the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly adopted Res. 89-26, "Recommending Passage of Senate Bill 184 Establishing the Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area". The mayor and assembly asked the enclosed copy of the resolution be forwarded to you.

Your review is greatly appreciated.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Catherine Y. DeLacee
Deputy Borough Clerk

ENC: (1)

Introduced by: Mayor
Date: March 21, 1989
Action: Adopted
Vote: 10 Yes, 5 No

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

RESOLUTION 89-26

RECOMMENDING PASSAGE OF SENATE BILL 184 ESTABLISHING THE REDOUBT BAY CRITICAL HABITAT AREA

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 184 establishing the Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area has been introduced to the Alaska Senate; and

WHEREAS, the Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Commission conducted a public hearing on this matter on March 21, 1988 and recommended approval of a similar bill introduced last year; and

WHEREAS, the Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Commission considered this matter again at their December 5, 1988 meeting and passed Resolution 88-10 recommending revision of the draft bill to include a citizen advisory board to oversee the development of policies and regulations for the area; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 184 includes provisions for the establishment of a citizen advisory board;

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

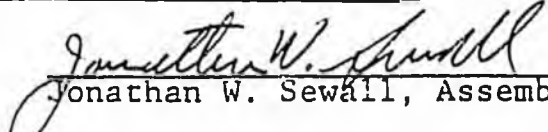
Section 1. That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly supports the establishment of the Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area, as provided in Senate Bill 184.

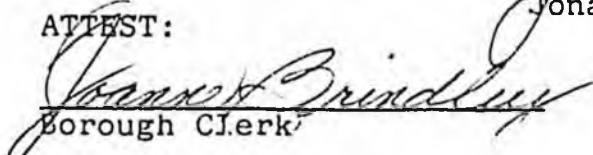
Section 2. That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly supports the appointment of a citizen advisory board including representation from user groups to oversee the development of policies and regulations affecting the critical habitat area.

Section 3. That this resolution takes effect immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH ON THIS 21st DAY OF March, 1989.

ATTEST:


Jonathan W. Sewall, Assembly President


Joann Brindley
Borough Clerk

G.S. Best
Box 426
Soldotna, Alaska 99669
(907) 262-7492

MAR 23 1989
March 23, 1989

Senator Bettye Fahrenkamp
Chairman, Senate Resource Committee
PO Box V M Stop 3100
Juneau, Alaska 99811-3100

Re: Senate Bill No 184 [CSSB 184 (RES)]
Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area

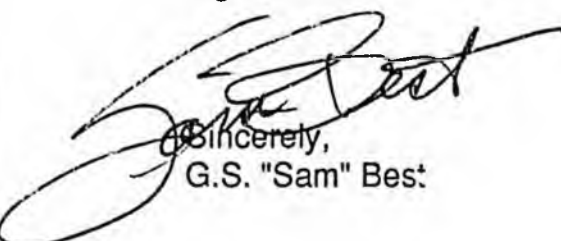
Dear Senator Farenkamp,

My family, friends and I have hunted and fished from our cabin on the banks of the Kustitan River within the area covered by CSSB 184 (RES) since before statehood. We wish to continue to do so and I believe CSSB 184 (RES) will provide the necessary protection and enhancement to allow this.

In the past, I and other users of this area have opposed the formation of such an area. However, CSSB 184 (RES) provides two significant elements which I believe overcome past fears, they are:

1. The recognized continued use of the existing hunting and fishing cabins, and,
2. The Citizen's Advisory Committee created in conjunction with the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to early passage of this important legislation.


Sincerely,
G.S. "Sam" Best

cc: Mike Navarre
C.E. Swackhammer

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MAR 28 1989

March 24, 1989

The Honorable Senator Bettye Fahrenkamp
Alaska State Legislature
P. O. Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Re: Senate Bill No. 184 (Redoubt Bay
Critical Habitat Area)

Dear Senator Fahrenkamp:

This firm represents Cook Inlet Pipe Line Company, ("CIPL), which is the owner of the oil collection and pipeline facilities for Upper Cook Inlet. In cooperation with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game my client has been monitoring and studying the proposal to establish a critical wildlife area in Redoubt Bay. As you may be aware, my client's collection facility has been located at Drift River since November, 1967.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game and CIPL request that the following amendments be made to S.B. 184 with regard to the existing oil transportation system:

Subsection (d) should be changed to read,
"the department shall permit entry within the Redoubt Bay Critical Bay Habitat Area for the exploration and development of oil and gas resources when it is compatible with the purposes for which the critical habitat area is established. An oil and gas lease of state land within the critical habitat area

The Honorable Senator Bettye Fahrenkamp
March 24, 1989
Page 2

and existing pipeline rights-of-way [IS] are valid and continue[S] in full force according to [ITS] their terms."

Add a new paragraph to subsection (e) to read, "(e) Inspection and maintenance activities necessary to ensure the integrity of oil and gas transportation systems shall be permitted on existing leases and pipeline rights-of-way in a manner that is compatible with the purposes for which the critical habitat area is established."

As is apparent from the foregoing, these changes are necessary to address two separate but distinct omissions.

First, as presently written S.B. 184 recognizes the validity of existing land uses such as oil and gas leases, but does not address the existence and validity of the pipeline rights-of-way which are contained within the proposed habitat area.

Second, since the construction of the Drift River/Granite Point pipeline, CIPL has been required to perform various inspections, maintenance and repair operations on that transportation system. This is a result of controlling Federal and state regulations as well as the risks which are inherent in owning and operating a system of this nature. This ongoing process requires not only daily flyovers, but also land-based operations within the pipeline right-of-way. Without specific recognition of these inspections, maintenance, and repairs which are required to the pipeline, the habitat which is in need of protection will be in jeopardy. Any delay in response to a major breach of the system could result in catastrophic effects to the habitat.

It is my understanding that the bill is scheduled first for the Senate Resources Committee, with subsequent action to be taken by the Finance and Rules Committees. Since the breeding of the Tule White-Fronted geese and other waterfowl is fast approaching, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and CIPL request that these amendments be made at the earliest possible date in the legislative process.

The Honorable Senator Bettye Fahrenkamp
March 24, 1989
Page 3

I would, of course, appreciate being kept informed of the progress of this bill. Thank you for your cooperation and please contact me if you have any questions.

Best regards,



George Trefry

GT/jcm

cc: Cook Inlet Pipe Line Company

Roland Shanks, Legislative Liaison
State of Alaska, Department of Fish and Game

ALASKA FRONTIER TRAPPERS ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 2856
Palmer, Alaska 99645

MAR 28 1989

March 22, 1989

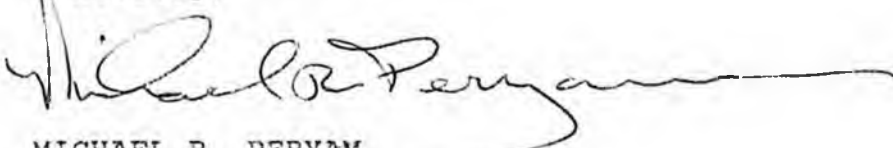
The Honorable Bettye Fahrenkamp

As a representative of the Alaska Frontier Trappers Association, I am writing in reference to S.B. 184, the Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area. We have read the bill describing the proposed area and it's uses. We as a user group that has strong ties to the land and what it provides in terms of the overall enjoyment we derive from it, are in very strong support of this bill. I have to say that of all the land use bills that we have dealt with in the last couple of years, this one is well thought out. It preserves the area in it's natural state, but allows everyone to utilize the area without undo restrictions.

One question that might be asked is why do we need to set aside more land in a restrictive classification. This area is very important to waterfowl production within the state. With waterfowl populations at a 30 year low over North America, protecting areas such as this becomes all the more vital. If this land is not protected, everyone will lose in the long run.

The Alaska Frontier Trappers Association asks you to support this bill very strongly. Thank you for your consideration of our concerns.

Sincerely,



MICHAEL R. PERYAM
Vice President

International Wild Waterfowl Association, Inc.



RFD #1 James Farm
Durham, NH 03824

President: Walter Sturgeon, Jr.
1st Vice President: Edward Asper
2nd Vice President: Paul Dye
Secretary: Nancy Collins
Treasurer: William Lowe
Founding President: Dr. Jean Delacour
President Emeritus: Bob Elgas

March 25, 1989

The Honorable Betty Fahrenkamp
Alaska State Senate
P.O. Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

MAR 28 1989

Directors:
Dr. Jean Delacour (in memoriam)
Guy Greenwell
Gus Ben David
Jack Kiracole
Scott Drieschman
Carolyn Emerick
Frank S. Todd
Ernest Weaver
William Hancock
Stephen Wylie
Dr. Warren Koehler
Michael Lubbock
Philip B. Stanton
Edward C. Schmitt
Walter Sturgeon, Jr.
Edward Asper
Paul Dye
Chuck Pilling
Wendi Schendel
Ray Gwynes
Nancy Collins
William R. Lowe
Bob Elgas
Eldon Pace
William Makus
Glenn Howe

Dear Senator Fahrenkamp:

I am writing in support of SB 184 which would establish Redoubt Bay as a Critical Habitat Area. This bill was introduced by Senator Paul Fischer and it is my understanding that it will be heard by your Resource Committee in the near future. The International Wild Waterfowl Association is particularly interested in this piece of legislation because it would afford habitat protection for the Tule white fronted goose. It is important that priorities be established on the management of this piece of land before the opportunity is lost to conflicting land uses.

The status of Redoubt Bay is of national and international interest not only because of the Tule goose but because of the process and philosophy that has evolved over this issue. Hopefully, this framework will streamline the next similar effort.

SB 184 is the culmination of a great deal of work by a large number of interested parties over the past ten years. It should ensure protection of this critical wildlife habitat and ensure continued current uses by the public; most of whom were drawn to the area in the first place by the wild resource this bill is designed to protect.

I encourage you to support passage of this legislation.

Sincerely,

Walter B. Sturgeon, Jr.
President

International Aviculture Resources, Inc.

Dale & Wendi Schendel

217 Ridge Trail Road

Bozeman, MT 59715

(406) 586-6763

March 23, 1989

MAR 28 1989

Senator Betty Fahrenkamp
P.O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Senator Fahrenkamp:

I am writing you about SB184 which has been introduced by Senator Paul Fischer. The purpose of SB184 is to place Redoubt Bay into Critical Habitat designation; with a primary focus on the long term well being of the Tule goose. Since this area is the primary breeding ground of the Tule goose, its future existence may depend on the success of this bill. Should any unforeseen event unfold that would place the Tule goose on the endangered species list, commercial interests would stand to lose substantially more than they would under SB184. Therefore, I request that you consider supporting this bill when it comes before your committee.

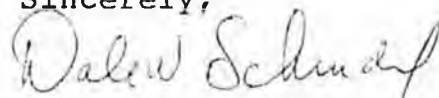
International Aviculture Resources, Inc. is a propagation facility located in Montana. IARI was founded by my wife, Wendi and myself in 1981. Our purpose is to breed rare and endangered waterfowl. In addition to maintaining a captive and genetically diverse flock of each species of waterfowl we keep, we also provide birds from these flocks for state and federal transplant programs, for propagation at zoological facilities, and for research programs at local universities.

In 1984 and 1985, Bob Elgas and I collected Tule geese in Redoubt Bay; and are successfully breeding these geese today. Together, we have the largest flock of Tule geese in captivity. The Tule goose has become the most sought after subspecies of whitefronted goose by both zoos and private aviculturists throughout the world. The Tule goose is a high profile bird in countries other than the United States. I have spoken to some of my friends in Canada and England; and they have assured me that they would be watching the progress of SB184 with a great deal of interest.

SB184 will achieve the purpose of protecting the principal breeding area of the Tule goose without eliminating other commercial and recreational interests. As a hunter, I read this bill carefully to see if hunting and other recreational activities would be adversely affected; and was glad to see that all aspects were considered in writing SB184. Therefore, passing this bill as written is a WIN/WIN situation for all parties involved. Speaking for myself (and for other aviculturists worldwide), we give this bill a strong DO PASS!

cc:Jim Faro/wildlife biologist

Sincerely,



Dale Schendel
President

International Wild Waterfowl Association, Inc.



MAR 28 1989

March 22, 1989

President: Bob Elgas
1st Vice President: Wall Sturgeon
2nd Vice President: Ed Asper
Secretary/Treasurer: Wendi Schendel

Directors

Dr. Jean Delacour
Guy Greenwell
Gus Ben David
Doug Goode, Jr.
Jack Kiracote
Paul Dye
Scott Drieschman
Carolyn Emerick
Frank S. Tedd
Joseph A. DeSano
Chris Marler
Ernie Weaver
William Hancock
Charles R. Pilling
Barron Collier
K.C. Lint
Charles Webster
Steve Wylie
Dr. Warren Koehler
Michael Lubbock
Philip B. Stanton
Edward C. Schmitt

Bob Elgas
P.O. Box 928
Big Timber, Mt. 59011

Ms. Betty Sahrenkamp
Chairperson Senate Resource
committee
State of Alaska
P.O. Box V
Juneau Alaska

Dear Ms. Sahrenkamp:

I am writing in regard to Senate Bill 184. This legislation is of very real interest to me, and I urge you give it your support. Passage of this bill, which will place the Redoubt Bay area into Critical Habitat status, is of the greatest importance. This bill is well thought out, is well supported, will provide some very critical wildlife protection, and has the added advantage of addressing existing usages and providing for continuation of those usages.

One of the very important things enactment of this legislation will accomplish is to secure the preservation of the breeding grounds of the Tule white-fronted goose, which, as I am sure you are aware, is one of the world's rarest wild geese. As a breeding species it is known only in the Redoubt Bay area of your state---no other place in the world. Passage of SB 184 will provide these rare birds with almost certain assurance for continued survival. Without such protection they may well become lost forever. Although Tule geese are specific to your state they are important not only to the people of Alaska, but equally so to people throughout the United States, all of North America, and indeed the world over. You may be sure people everywhere will be anxiously awaiting for word of passage of this legislation. In asking for your support of this bill I speak not only for myself as an individual, but also on behalf of the entire membership of the International Wild Waterfowl Association. I respectfully ask that you give full support to enactment of this legislation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Bob Elgas, President Emeritus

International Wild Waterfowl

March 2, 1989

MAR 20 1989

Bettye Fahrenkamp
Pouch V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Ms. Fahrenkamp

The civics class at Cook Inlet Academy is participating in a competition known as Project Wild. It is designed to familiarize students with both wildlife and our state's legislative process. The theme for this year is "Let's Help Wildlife."

The first thing students do is find a bill that deals with wildlife. Then, by contacting the local legislative affairs office, they obtain a copy of the history and the current standing of the bill. The next step is to write or call the primary sponsor of the bill and let him know that they are in support and that they would like to keep informed of its movement.

Our class decided to use the bill concerning the Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area. It deals with the preservation of that land for the use of the many different species of animals and waterfowl that live there, including the nearly extinct Tule Geese. One of their primary breeding grounds is in the poorly drained area of Redoubt Bay.

The students will also be conducting an interview of some of the supporters of the bill and will put the results in the scrapbook they're creating. The scrapbook will show everything the class did in the competition and on April 5th they will send the book in to be judged.

Enclosed is the class position paper on the Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Bill.

Sincerely, yours

Joe Davis - Renee Price

Bethany Hilpshman

Diana Herzberger

Cook Inlet Academy
Civics Class

CLASS POSITION CONCERNING THE
REDOUBT BAY CRITICAL HABITAT
AREA

WE, THE CIVICS CLASS OF COOK INLET ACADEMY SUPPORT THE IDEA THAT THE BILL CONCERNING REDOUBT BAY AREA SHOULD BE PASSED. WE STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT THE REDOUBT BAY CRITICAL HABITAT AREA SHOULD BE PROTECTED AND PRESERVED FOR THE USE OF FUTURE GENERATIONS. THIS AREA IS VITAL TO THE SURVIVAL OF MANY SPECIES OF ANIMALS THAT MAKE THEIR ABODE THERE. THE TULE GOOSE, A NEARLY EXTINCT BIRD, USES REDOUBT BAY AS ONE OF ITS PRIMARY BREEDING GROUNDS.

ANOTHER STRONG POINT OF THIS BILL IS THAT RECREATIONAL RIGHTS OF THE LAND FOR THE PUBLIC WILL NOT BE TAKEN AWAY. FOR MANY YEARS THE PUBLIC HAS BEEN USING THE REDOUBT BAY AREA FOR HUNTING, FISHING, TRAPPING, HIKING, BACKPACKING, CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING, SNOWMACHING, BOATING, LANDING OF AIRCRAFT AND CAMPING. THE PUBLIC NEEDS TO BE ASSURED THAT THEIR RIGHTS WILL NOT BE TAKEN AWAY.

IN CONCLUSION WE SUPPORT THIS BILL AND WHAT IT STANDS FOR.

Joe Davis

Diana Krushberger

Bethany Halpshman

Renee Price



KENAI PENINSULA AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

P.O. BOX 3371, SOLDOTNA, ALASKA 99669

MAR 31 1989

Senate Resource Committee
P.O. Box V (SM3100)
Juneau, AK 99811

27 March, 1989

Dear Committee Members,

The Kenai Peninsula Chapter of the National Audubon Society, representing approximately 200 Kenai Peninsula residents, urges you to support Senate Bill 184. This bill proposes designation of the Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area.

Redoubt Bay is widely recognized as important habitat for the white-fronted tule and snow geese, in addition to other waterfowl, shorebirds, a variety of land mammals and all five species of Pacific Salmon, rainbow trout and dolly varden. The area's value to the people of Alaska is evident in its use by recreationists, sportsmen and trappers. All of these activities depend on maintaining the health of the habitat and wildlife populations.

Legislation similar to SB 184 has been introduced in the past, with the support of the Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game. The 1989 version specifically guarantees public access and traditional hunting, fishing and trapping activities.

Designating Redoubt Bay as a critical habitat area will insure that the ADF&G is able to oversee any long-term developments with potentially detrimental effects to the area. This action will benefit the habitat, the wildlife and the people who rely on and enjoy the area.

Sincerely,

Kathy Kuletz
Conservation Chair

4231 Tahoe Drive
Anchorage, Alaska 99515
27 March, 1989

Senator Betty Farenkamp
Alaska State Legislature
P.O. Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

MAR 30 1989

Dear Senator Farenkamp,

We have some opinions about the following legislation and wish to convey them to you.

SB184 - Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat

We strongly support this bill. People of the Kenai Peninsula have had major input in crafting this legislation and it is now time for Redoubt Bay to be given a long-term "insurance policy" to guarantee the future of the areas extremely important fish, wildlife and associated public uses.

HB124 - License Fee Increases for ADF&G

We strongly support this bill. Although we do not believe the state should continue to subsidize \$0.25 "low income" license buyers at the expense of fish and wildlife, we could accept a compromise of at least \$5.00 for a "low income license". We would much prefer, however, complete elimination of this antiquated supposed social welfare program.

The Grouse Farming Bill

We do not know the bill number, but please kill this turkey. The commercialization of Alaska's wildlife by game farming is not a turn we want to make in our progressive evolution of wildlife conservation programs in Alaska.

Thank you for considering our views and we sincerely hope you take the action which we have suggested.

Sincerely,

Karen Timm
Dan Timm

Daniel and Karen Timm



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

144 N. BINKLEY • SOLDOTNA, ALASKA 99669
PHONE (907) 262-4441

MAR 29 1989

DON GILMAN
MAYOR

March 22, 1989

The Honorable Bettye Fahrenkamp, Chair
Senate Resources Committee
P.O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Chairman Fahrenkamp:

On March 21, 1989, the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly adopted Res. 89-26, "Recommending Passage of Senate Bill 184 Establishing the Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area". The mayor and assembly asked the enclosed copy of the resolution be forwarded to you.

Your review is greatly appreciated.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Catherine Y. DeLacee
Deputy Borough Clerk

ENC: (1)

Introduced by: Mayor
Date: March 21, 1989
Action: Adopted
Vote: 10 Yes, 5 No

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

RESOLUTION 89-26

RECOMMENDING PASSAGE OF SENATE BILL 184 ESTABLISHING THE REDOUBT BAY CRITICAL HABITAT AREA

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 184 establishing the Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area has been introduced to the Alaska Senate; and

WHEREAS, the Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Commission conducted a public hearing on this matter on March 21, 1988 and recommended approval of a similar bill introduced last year; and

WHEREAS, the Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Commission considered this matter again at their December 5, 1988 meeting and passed Resolution 88-10 recommending revision of the draft bill to include a citizen advisory board to oversee the development of policies and regulations for the area; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 184 includes provisions for the establishment of a citizen advisory board;

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

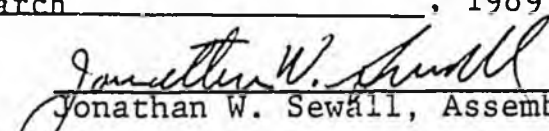
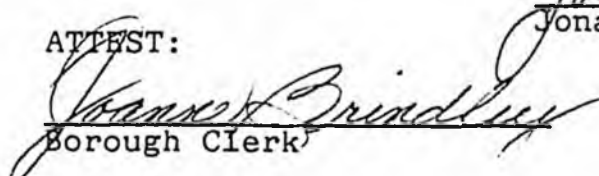
Section 1. That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly supports the establishment of the Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area, as provided in Senate Bill 184.

Section 2. That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly supports the appointment of a citizen advisory board including representation from user groups to oversee the development of policies and regulations affecting the critical habitat area.

Section 3. That this resolution takes effect immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH ON THIS 21st DAY OF March, 1989.

ATTEST:


Jonathan W. Sewall, Assembly President

Borough Clerk

January 15, 1989

Preliminary Dispersal List
Redoubt Bay Critical Habitat Area Legislation Information

Alaska Bow Hunters Assoc.
Alaska Center for The Environment
Alaska Conservation Foundation
Alaska Environmental Lobby
Alaska Frontier Trapper's Assoc.
Alaska Outdoor Council
Alaska Professional Hunter's Assoc
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc.
Alaska Trappers Assoc.
Alaska Waterfowl Assoc.
Alaska Wildlife Alliance
Alexander, Gary
Anchorage Daily News
Anchorage Times
Audobon Society, Kenai Penninsula Chapter
Audobon, Alaska Field Office
Best, Sam
Blaylock, Walter
Blossom, Doug
Boone & Crocket
Branham, Chris
Braun, Fred
Breedon, Loretta
Brewer, Doug
California Waterfowl Habitat Owner's Assoc.
Californis Waterfowl Assoc.
Cashman, Tim
Central Peninsula Fish & Gamr Advisory Comm.
Chenault, Bill
China Poot Bay Society
Cook Inlet Aquaculture Assoc..
Cook Inlet Pipeline Co.
Cook Inlet Sport Professional Fishing Assoc.
Cooper Landing Fish & Game Advisory Comm.
Coray, Dave
Cowan, Patrick
Crawford, Polly
Craycroft. Walt
DR. Russell, Alex
Devito, Spencer
Downs, Bob
Doyle, Jim
Dr. C. Fair
Dr Kobylarz, John
Dr Sangster,
Dr Schulte
Dr. Russel
Ducks Unlimited
Eide, Sterling

Eldridge, Bill
Emery, Doug
Every, Hank
Fair, Clark
France, Dan
Friendshenl, George
Geletti, Walt
Golden, Jim
Haas, Clifford
Hamrick, Mike
Helfer, Harry
Hendrickson, Jack
Hersch, Keith
Hinkle, T. J.
Homer Fish & Game Advisory Comm.
Homer News
Homer, City of
International Game Bird Breeders Assoc.
International Moose Federation
International Wild Waterfowl Assoc.
Isaak Walton League
Isaak, James
Johnson, George
Johnson, Shelby
Kachemak Bay Conservation Society
Keating, Dave
Kenai Borough
Kenai National Wildlife Refuge
Kenai Peninsula Fisherman's Co-op. Assoc.
Kenai Trappers Assoc.
Kenai, City of
Kenai-Soldotna Fish & Game Advisory Comm.
Kittleson, Larry
Knackstedt, Henry
Krohn, Ed
Link, Richard
Lofstedt, Bud
Lofstedt, Craig
Lofstedt, Vern
Logan, Sid
Mc Bee, Terry
McLay, Jake
Metz, Leon
Mullins, Marge
Myrek, Walt
National Rifle Assoc.
National Wildlife Federation
Nature Conservancy
Near, Jerry
Nichols, Lyman
North District Setnetters of Cook Inlet
North Pacific Fisheries Assoc.
Oregon Duck Hunter's Assoc.
Palmer, Les

Pearson, Don
Peninsula Clarion
Poole, Don
Pratt Museum
Prentis, Wayne
Rearden, Jim
Sherwood, Bill
Sierra Club, Alaska Field Office
Soldotna, City of
Stenga, Herman
Trefry, George
Troyer, Will
Trumpeter Swan Society
Trustees for Alaska
United Cook Inlet Drift Assoc.
Van Ray, Larry
West, Bill
Whitney, Clark
Williams, Dave
Wisecarver, Gloria
Woodfille, Frank



SB 184

MAR 31 1989

KENAI PENINSULA AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

P.O. BOX 3371, SOLDOTNA, ALASKA 99669

Betty Fahrenkamp
P.O. Box V (SM3100)
Juneau, AK 99811

27 March, 1989

Dear Representative Fahrenkamp,

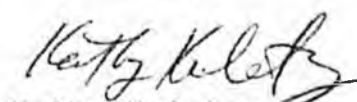
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Sincerely,


Kathy Kuletz
Conservation Chair