

ALASKA LEGISLATURE SPECIAL COMMITTEE / SUBJECT FILES 8672

670 SCOM122: ALASKA LANDS FILE 1977-78



ALASKA LANDS NEWS SERVICE

1010 W 6th Ave. Suite 5 • Anchorage, Alaska 99501

CROSS EXAMINATION of statistics under Sen. Durkin's SB222

Statistics as presented by Durkin news release re Durkin bill:

--95% of all high potential oil and gas lands will be open to possible development.

FACT: This is not an accurate statement. With the exception of oil and gas fields near Anchorage and on the North Slope, most of the Interior oil and gas sedimentary basins have not been subjected to ANY form of significant exploratory activity. In fact, in the remaining 300 million acres of Alaska, only 12 exploratory wells have been driven. An information base is virtually non-existent.

--100% of all federal lands in Alaska will be open to mineral assessment for geological information by the Department of the Interior.

FACT: Close to 100% would be open for assessment by the canoe/rock hammer approach, it is true. However, comprehensive assessment and exploration including the use of motorized terrain vehicles and machinery including core drilling and helicopter access, would be prohibited in wilderness lands.

--88% of all land in Alaska could be open to sport hunting.

FACT: "Could" is the key word here. It "could" be open to hunting but "will" not be if past performance by federal agencies involved is any indicator of future plans. In addition, Alaska Fish & Game officials estimate as high as 60% of prime Dall sheep areas (with smaller percentages for other trophy animals) will be removed under proposed legislation. Resulting hunter pressure on remaining stock will mean drastic reduction of hunting in remaining "open" areas.

--70% of the lands with metallic mineral potential in Alaska will be outside the conservation system units.

FACT: This is true when lumping together highly favorable,

moderately favorable and less favorable areas. However, when only highly favorable areas are examined, about 70% of these rich areas would be WITHDRAWN by pending legislation.

--61% (230 million acres, the sum of the above) of all land in Alaska will be open to a wide variety of uses.

FACT: This is an abuse of statistics, a generality with no fact base. If access is difficult or denied to certain lands, if natural transportation corridors are closed and if unnatural boundaries are drawn around resource clusters and migratory wildlife, much of the 61% mentioned becomes useless.

--40% (149 million acres) of all land in Alaska will be or will become the property of the State, Native corporations or private land owners.

TRUE: But how soon? The majority of these lands have not yet been conveyed even though Alaska became a state in 1959; and the Native Claims settlement Act (1971) declared [Sec. 2 (a) (b)] that there was an "immediate need" for settlement and should be accomplished "rapidly."

--21% (80 million acres) of all land in Alaska will be federal land open to mineral entry, logging and other multiple uses.

FACT: Lands open to mineral entry will not be the highly favorable locations. Prime logging stands in Southeastern Alaska will be withdrawn with a promise of research into new methods to log less favorable stands. Interior forests, as yet untouched, will be blocked to development by patchwork D2 withdrawals which cut sparse northern forests into stands not favorable for any future economic development.

--36% (137 million acres) of all land in Alaska will be in one of the conservation system units either already existing or designated by the bill.

FACT: True, but in addition there are all the remaining federal lands, the so-called D1 lands that amount to approximately a third of Alaska, which will be under wilderness review by the Bureau of Land Management--and these "open public lands" will be treated as closed lands while under wilderness review.

Steering Council For Alaska Lands

REP. STEVE COWPER
CHAIRMAN
REP. ALVIN OSTERBACK
REP. JOE L. HAYES
SEN. CHANCY CROFT
SEN. MIKE COLLETTA
SEN. JOE ORSINI
WALTER PARKER
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Alaska Lands Steering Council
1018 WEST 8TH AVENUE, SUITE B
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501
(907) 277-2418/18
[POUCH V, JUNEAU, ALASKA 99911]

TO: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS
FROM: STEVE COWPER
DATE: JUNE 12, 1978
RE: ALASKA LANDS NEWS SERVICE

THE ALASKA LANDS NEWS SERVICE IS OPERATIONAL. ATTACHED IS THE
RELEASE SENT TO ALL ALASKAN NEWS DIRECTORS.



ALASKA LANDS NEWS SERVICE

1016 W 6th Ave, Suite B • Anchorage, Alaska 99501
Telephone (907) 272-5853 • Telex 390 26595 ALASKANEWS AHG

June 12, 1978

News Director
Radio Stations
Alaska

Dear News Director,

The Alaska Lands News Service is now operational. I'd like to explain just what it is.

There are basically two portions to the service: Alaska and the lower 49. The entire operation is funded with state money appropriated to the Steering Council for Alaska Lands, the bi-partisan committee charged with presenting the State's interests in (d)(2) to the Congress.

The Alaska operation will consist basically of a newsfeed operation. Any (d)(2) developments relating to the activities of the Council or the Congress that are deemed newsworthy will be distributed to all radio stations in Alaska. This office keeps track of (d)(2) developments on a daily basis; if you have any questions, please call 272-5853. Any actuality newsfeeds that are produced will be dubbed onto a codaphone, so if the office is unmanned the above phone number becomes the codaphone number. The Associated Press in Anchorage has agreed to billboard any cuts the Lands Service feeds, so keep an eye on your wire for this.

The National Headquarters of the Alaska Lands News Service is located in San Francisco; one correspondent is based in Washington, D. C. The newsfeed operation will develop and distribute (d)(2) stories to other states.

I look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

EDWARD W. BENNETT
Communications Specialist & Correspondent
Steering Council for Alaska Lands

LAW OFFICES

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(907) 586-2890

MEMORANDUM

To: Representative Steve Cowper
Chairman
Steering Council for Alaska Lands

Date: April 18, 1978

H.R. 39
Committee Print No. 4

H.R. 39, as recently reported out of the House Interior Committee, includes two sections that originated either in principle or in language from the Steering Council for Alaska Lands. Both of these sections provide rights and values to Alaska and its citizens that did not exist in the earlier versions of H.R. 39. Also included in the recent bill are a number of policy positions advocated by the Steering Council.

The full Committee retained the provision adopted by the Subcommittee on General Oversight and Alaska Lands regarding access and inholdings. Known as the "Cowper-Colletta Amendment", Section 1202(c) provides that where State, private or native owned lands, valid mining claims or other valid occupancy is effectively surrounded by public lands within one or more of the conservation system units, the Secretary shall give the occupier such rights as may be necessary to assure adequate access. This section prohibits the Federal government from eliminating or reducing the value of existing claims through its power to deny access over surrounding d-2 areas.

The second section formulated by the Steering Council deals with aquaculture and allowing for fish stocking, enhancement and development activities and for the development of small aquaculture sites in wilderness and wilderness study areas. The Council amendment, Section 607(c) of H.R. 39, allows for fishery research, management, enhancement and rehabilitation activities within wilderness and wilderness study areas, except National Parks. By virtue of the Council's amendment, more than 50 million additional acres of Alaska will be made available for aquaculture and fish enhancement. Additionally, four areas designated in Southeastern as "potential wilderness areas" may be used as sites for fish hatcheries.

One of the high priority issues for the Steering Council has been to amend Title VIII, Implementation of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act and Alaska Statehood Act. Within this section, the Committee made some major concessions and implemented a number of the recommendations proposed by the Steering Council. Amendments proposed by the Council which were adopted include a 10 year extension of the State land selection deadline, pursuant to sections 6(a) and (b) of the Alaska Statehood Act; repeal of the provision in section 10 of the Alaska Statehood Act which requires Presidential approval of land selections made north and west of the line described in that section; grant to the State of 75,000 acres of school indemnity lands reserved to the Territory of Alaska under section 1 of the Act of March 4, 1915 from vacant, unappropriated and unreserved lands; ratification and confirmation of all selections; and permission for the State to overselect by 25% in total area the amount of its remaining entitlement under each grant (the Council advocated overselection by 125%).

The Steering Council's amendment to the subsistence provision, reimbursement to the State for carrying out the subsistence program if the State accepts the responsibility for managing subsistence, was adopted by the Interior Committee. The adopted amendment allows for 50% reimbursement for developing and implementing the program, with total payments not to exceed \$5,000,000 during any one fiscal

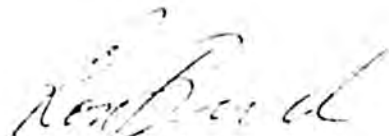
Representative Steve Cowper

Page 4

H.R. 39 - Committee Print No. 4

April 18, 1978

year. The Council took no position on what percent the State should receive in carrying out the program but felt that receipt of Federal assistance was imperative for the State to adequately and properly manage a subsistence program on Federal lands.



Ronald G. Birch

BIRCH, HORTON, BITTNER & MONROE

PLEASE NOTE: THE FOLLOWING PAGES WERE TREATED
AS A UNIT IN THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT.

GOODRICH & SNYDER

**ESTABLISHMENT
AND OPERATION
OF NEWS BUREAU**

(d) (2) *Steering Council*
include Minutes -
file
12/12/61
See for details

Inherent in the press strategy/media contact assignments, is the need for establishing a D-2 News Bureau. The functions of the bureau would be three-fold:

1. To prepare and disseminate on a regular basis news releases, feature stories and appropriate graphic material to daily and weekly newspapers, to radio and TV stations, to specialized newspapers and magazines and to appropriate house-organs, bulletins and newsletters to provide a continuing flow of news information about the D-2 issues.

Special emphasis should be given to labor publications since they reach--through their own national magazines and through local newspapers--an estimated 17,000,000 members of organized labor.

Also, special attention must be directed to various key trade, professional and business publications. There are, for example, 11,000 specialized publications throughout the U.S. read by individuals in every conceivable kind of business, trade or profession.

The magnitude of the communications process also comes into focus in considering that there are 4300 radio stations and over 1100 TV stations within the U.S.

Together with the 12,000 daily and weekly newspapers in the U.S., this amounts to a total of over 22,000 newspapers and periodicals with a readership of over 125,000,000, virtually the entire adult population of the U.S.

2. To furnish the press throughout the U.S. with a single informational source about the D-2 campaign, a source which may be called 24-hours a day to answer questions, acquire additional information or to prepare special material which may be sought by each and every segment of the media.

3. To arrange for special press presentations in key regions of the U.S. and in national media centers, such as New York, Washington, D.C., Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, etc., so the D-2 story may be viewed on local, regional and national network TV programs, heard on radio programs and be quoted in important local, regional and national print publications.

This function would have to be located in an office of its own, with its own telephone, appropriate equipment and a full-time staff of several persons, including professional PR persons and secretarial/production personnel.

ESTABLISHMENT
AND OPERATION
OF NEWS BUREAU
(CONT.)

A special telephone line with a 24-hour answering service would be required and a (Telex or telecopier) set-up to link the office with headquarters in Alaska and other locations, would also be needed.

Some elements on the operation of this press bureau would include:

Professional service of press bureau personnel including full-time and part-time senior executives and supervisors.....

Full-time secretarial services.....

Telephone installation and monthly services.....

Telecommunications installation and monthly services.....

Office and equipment rentals.....

Postage.....

Long distance telephone calls.....

Travel and entertainment as required.....

Miscellaneous.....

"D-2 NEWS CENTRAL" . . . how the news distribution process operates

The "nerve center" of the news distribution process is the computerized listing of over 22,000 printed publications including daily and weekly newspapers, magazines, periodicals and journals listed by classification, city, county, state and region and also including addresses, telephone numbers and individual names of editors and key news department officials.

This vast informational network is so comprehensive that it is literally possible to distribute a news release within minutes to publications serving over 60,000,000 readers, yet so flexible and selective that a single editor of a single publication in a single community anywhere in the U.S. may also be served.

The distribution process is accomplished in one of two ways. For urgent news items, the news may be fed into that portion of the system which involves the use of teletype machines installed in the newsrooms of all major American daily newspapers. For feature or backup news information, a specialized mailing system is utilized.

"D-2 News Central" would be linked to Anchorage headquarters by a telecopier system to permit the instant intercommunication of typewritten copy. "D-2 News Central" also would require installation of an inward/outward WATS telephone wire for the most efficient, least expensive method of two-way telephone communication.

"D-2 News Central" would operate on a round-the-clock basis, staffed by trained news professionals, including researchers, reporters, writers and editors.

"D-2 NEWS CENTRAL" . . .how the news distribution process is utilized

The media strategy decisions and the geo-political considerations are centered in and controlled by the Steering Council on Alaska Lands, (SCAL). The professional preparation and distribution of news and feature information about the issues are the functions of "D-2 News Central."

Here are some examples of how this joint operation can work:

1. SCAL determines that a sudden news development requires immediate distribution of a release. The "raw" information is fed by telecopier to "D-2 News Central" from Anchorage, or from anywhere in the U.S. Within a few minutes, the staff of "D-2 News Central" works up a suggested draft of a professionally-prepared news release and transmits it to SCAL headquarters for review and approval. Corrections, additions or deletions can be made instantly and, upon approval, the dispatch can be on its way to media centers in all or any part of the U.S.

2. SCAL strategy dictates that specially-prepared media news or feature material is urgently needed in the state of Arizona. "D-2 News Central" is assigned to research, write and distribute this information--customized to meet the geo-political requirements of the situation--and, upon approval, this news or feature information is strategically fed to the appropriate news media in that state.

3. Editors of major, influential news magazines or newspapers--Wall Street Journal, Time, Christian Science Monitor, New York Times, etc.--need to be provided with news and background information on the D-2 issue. SCAL assigns "D-2 News Central" to this task and specially-prepared information is furnished to appropriate editors, with follow-up telephone calls made to determine the acceptability and to encourage use of this information.

4. Through a review of its press clipping service, SCAL learns that a particular editor of a particular publication lacks complete information about the D-2 issue or is handicapped by misinformation. "D-2 News Central," alerted to the situation, can respond immediately, personally contact the editor or writer, offer additional information and make the editor aware of SCAL's position on the issues.

5. An editor or writer, preparing an article on D-2, calls "D-2 News Central" on the inward WATS line for further information. SCAL is notified at once, the proper response is determined, and the editor's needs are filled immediately.

6. SCAL decides that a spokesperson for D-2, scheduled to appear before a group, a legislative committee or other forum in Detroit, Michigan, requires a news release and backup materials. "D-2 News Central" provides this information, furnishes the person with names and addresses of key news media personnel in Detroit and, if appropriate, alerts the news media in advance.

"D-2 NEWS CENTRAL" . . . how the news distribution process is utilized

7. Since many national organizations--labor, for instance--have endorsed SCAL's position on the D-2 issue, it is determined that all local, state, regional and national publications reaching labor union members should be utilized for the dissemination of information about the D-2 proposals. "D-2 News Central" prepares customized news releases and background information, written specifically toward the interests of readers of organized labor publications, and distributes this information to the specialized periodicals.

Obviously, the above examples do not cover all of the possible uses of "D-2 News Central," but these should be sufficient to show the capabilities, the flexibility and effectiveness of the system.

"D-2 News Central" has similar lists of names, addresses, and telephone numbers of news directors and special program producers for all radio stations in the U.S. and of news directors, commentators, "talk show" producers and other key personnel of all TV stations in the U.S.

Also noteworthy is the fact that "D-2 News Central," if desirable and appropriate, can call upon the expert services of trained and professional public relations persons in over 60 U.S. cities to provide on-the-spot PR service and representation. This personalized, on-site service is available through our affiliation with an international PR network.

(d)(2) STEERING COUNCIL FOR ALASKA LANDS
SUMMARY MINUTES AUGUST 11, 1977

Council members in attendance: Chairman Steve Cowper, Joe Hayes, Joe Orsini, Walt Parker, Dave Cline, and C.C. Hawley.

Special Assistant to the Secretary for Alaska Planning, Curtis Bohlen, Department of the Interior, briefed the Council on Secretary of the Interior, Andrus, position and recommendations.

Mr. Bohlen advised the Council that Rep. John Seiberling would hold his final wrap-up hearing on September 15. The Committee would have the Administrations position on that date, in the form of a report, using HR 39 as a vehicle and imposing amendments at that time. Departmental recommendations were to be made to OMB by the 1st of Sept., giving them two weeks to clear it up.

The Secretary, because of some overriding issues, could not endorse blanket wilderness designations.

The Secretary was prepared to allow some priorities where traditional use of subsistence was concerned.

The Secretary, politically, could no way recommend less acreage than the Morton bill (85 million acres) and the Udall bill.

The Secretary had no recommendations regarding Yukon Flats at this time but sees agriculture as the main area of conflict.

Regarding any loss of state entitlements between S1500 and HR 39, the Secretary would honor state selections made prior to ANCSA; if state selections fell in Natl. Park status, they would work with the state as a willing party by coercion.

STEERING COUNCIL FOR ALASKA LANDS

Summary Minutes

August 30, 1977 Meeting

Chairman Steve Cowper called the meeting to order at 1:25 p.m. Senators Croft & Orsini, Rep. Hayes & Osterback, Chuck Hawley and Walt Parker were in attendance. Rep. Mike Miller and Kay Brown, Alaska Advocate, observed.

An agenda prepared by staff was given to each member.

Sharon Long reviewed an itemized budget paper with Council; the budget was accepted as a rough working document. Non-member legislators are to clear any (d)(2) committee travel through the chairman.

Steve Cowper and Walt Parker reported on their August 24th trip to Washington, D.C.

- Carter Administration position was being readied for submission to the Seiberling sub-committee on September 15. Carter position will be in the form of a report with specific suggested legislative language.
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife to submit detailed recommendations to Secretary Andrus which include systems other than what they now manage. Jurisdiction would include a water column out to six miles.
- Secretary Andrus will meet with Gov. Hammond during the Western Governors Conference and he will make final changes in his proposal as a result of that meeting.
- OMB to conduct interagency review with participation by the FSLUPC, who will deliver their critique on September 7, concentrating their efforts on co-operative management and fish & game management including subsistence.

Sharon continued with a run down of congressional time schedules:

- House recessed until Sept. 7
- recessed again Sept. 12 - 14
- Seiberling sub-committee holding (d)(2) hearings on Sept. 15 & 16; Secretaries Andrus & Berglund (Agriculture) invited to comment at that meeting. Berglund comments would address wilderness areas and existing forests incorporated in bill.
- mark-up session *undetermined*
- no adjournment date set for House & Senate

Summary Minutes - Continued
Page

Report from Council members on hearings attended:

Bethel - Steve Cowper and Joe Hayes attend Seiberling sub-committee hearing August 8 at the request of the Alaska Village Council Presidents.

- #1 issue was subsistence, residents want to maintain their traditional subsistence lifestyle.
- highly emotional issue with much hostility toward the Dept. of Fish & Game management in that area.

Sand Point - Chaired by Rep. Osterback, attended by Croft, Hayes, Parker and Poland. (8/22)

- residents wanted clarification on how (d)(2) would effect them in terms of continuing subsistence lifestyle.
- discussion on transplanting wildlife to the Aleutians

Chairman Cowper appointed a sub-committee consisting of the legislative council members, chaired by Senator Colletta, to meet and work with media staff, and members of other U.S. Legislatures to transfer creditable information and arouse interest in the Alaska (d)(2) issue.

The Council deliberated on proposed policy considerations of:

State & Native Selections	Agriculture
Game Management	Four Systems Designations
Wilderness	Co-operative Management
Access	Minerals

and unanimously adopted positions on each.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

A G E N D A

(d)(2) STEERING COUNCIL FOR ALASKA LANDS August 30, 1977

Council Office
1016 West 6th Avenue, Suite B
Anchorage

	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>PURPOSE</u>	<u>PAPERS/PRESENTATION</u>
1:00	Convening		
1:10	Summary of last meeting	review	summary, August 11, 1977
1:20	Budget	action	itemized budget paper
1:30	Review of forthcoming Administration (d)(2) proposal	information	Steve Cowper/Walt Parker
2:00	Congressional activities	information	Sharon Long
2:10	Policy considerations	action	Chairman
2:45	Council member assignments in D.C. with members of congress	action	Chairman

STEERING COUNCIL FOR ALASKA LANDS

Summary Minutes

September 13, 1977

The meeting was called to order at 1:15 by Chairman Cowper; Senators Colletta & Orsini, Reps. Hayes & Osterback, and Diann Nelson were in attendance.

Steve Cowper and Mike Colletta gave an account of their Sept. 8th and 9th meetings in Washington, D.C. with congressional and administration officials. Both were completely optimistic and encouraged by the reception they received and the courtesy extended to them throughout their stay.

Senator Colletta said he came away with a good feeling in regard to four major issues that will accrue to Alaska:

- "setting aside how much land is to be classified",
- "state and native land selections will proceed",
- "wildlife management will accrue to the State of Alaska",
- "new designations as far as definitions of wilderness areas for Alaska".

Eli Bleich, Media Group representative, submitted a memo to the council and elaborated on (d)(2) disposition, and the role of information.

Senator Orsini reviewed the forthcoming State Council of Governments Conference in Santa Fe, New Mexico, 9/25-28, and the part of the council at the meeting. Senators Colletta & Orsini will attend.

Forest Service representatives outlined the September 1 (bootleg) copy of the Department of Interior position. Andrus' proposal would place 39 million acres in new national parks, 44 million acres in wildlife refuges, 3.4 million acres in national preserves, and 5.8 million acres in wild and scenic rivers.

After deliberating in executive session, the council authorized Media Group of San Francisco to draw up a \$75,000 proposal for advertising, and submit to the council in one weeks time for council review and action.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

(d)(2) STEERING COUNCIL FOR ALASKA LANDS

September 13, 1977

A G E N D A

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>PURPOSE</u>	<u>PAPERS/PRESENTATION</u>
1:00 Convene		
1:10 Summary of last meeting	review	summary notes, 8/30/77 Sharon Stoops
1:20 Meetings with members of Congress	information	Steve Cowper/Mike Colletta
1:50 Discussion, personnel hire	executive session	
2:30 Personnel hire	action	
2:45 State Council of Governments Meeting	information	Joe Orsini
3:00 Adjourn		

STEERING COUNCIL FOR ALASKA LANDS

Summary Minutes

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(d)(2) STEERING COUNCIL FOR ALASKA LANDS

September 13, 1977

A G E N D A

ITEM	PURPOSE	PAPERS/PRESENTATION
1:00	Convene	
1:10	Summary of last meeting	review summary notes, 8/30/77 Sharon Stoops
1:20	Meetings with members of Congress	information Steve Cowper/Mike Colletta
1:50	Discussion, personnel hire	executive session
2:30	Personnel hire	action
2:45	State Council of Governments Meeting	information Joe Orsini
3:00	Adjourn	

(d)(2) STEERING COUNCIL FOR ALASKA LANDS

Summary Minutes, September 28, 1977

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Cowper at 1:15 p.m., Council members in attendance were Croft, Hawley, Hayes, Parker, and Diann Nelson for Rep. Osterback.

John Katz, Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission, gave a presentation of Andrus (d)(2) proposal. Staff was instructed to prepare a written report of the presentation; Dick Stenmark of the Commission will use this report in his outline of the proposal at the October 11th meeting.

In further business, the Council heard Ed Isenson, Alaska Film Studios, proposal for a media campaign. Isenson's proposal included the following:

- film, 15 minutes & 3 minutes
- arrangements for showing film and conducting interviews on national and regional television shows
- production of literature and newspaper advertising
- assistance with scheduling and arrangements in Washington
- coordination with members of the Alaska delegation and other interest groups regarding any presentations

the proposal included a budget summary, with a total campaign budget figure of \$74,935.

Michael Rowan, Rowan Group, Inc., gave a follow-up presentation to Eli Bleich's, Media Group, proposal (September 13 meeting). Rowan discussed Phase I of the proposal which includes the development of strategy, collection of research data, design of media materials, production of the media, and a presentation of a plan for their use. A questionnaire for survey and research for the U.S. Senate & House and Alaska public opinion was discussed; data-processing of this information would be prepared and conducted by Rowan Group.

Chairman Cowper ruled that five members of the council was a quorum, and five members were present for a quorum count. There were no objections by the council.

Sharon Long informed the council of congressional time schedule.

The minutes were read and accepted.

The council members voted in favor of Media Group.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20

(d)(2) STEERING COUNCIL FOR ALASKA LANDS

September 27, 1977

A G E N D A

ITEM	PURPOSE	PAPERS/PRESENTATION
1:00 Convene		
1:05 Summary of last meeting	review	summary notes, 9/13/77 Sharon Stoops
1:10 Congressional schedule	information	Sharon Long
1:15 Andrus Proposal	information	Walt Parker/John Katz
2:00 Alaska Film Studios multi-media information and education proposal	details & discussion of proposal	Ed Isenson
2:30 Media Group multi-media information and education proposal	details & discussion of proposal	Mike Rowan

(d)(2) STEERING COUNCIL FOR ALASKA LANDS

October 11, 1977

A G E N D A

	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>PURPOSE</u>	<u>PAPERS/PRESENTATION</u>
1:00	Convene		
1:05	Washington Report	Information	Commissioner LeResche Resource Maps
1:20	Andrus Proposal	Information	Richard Stenmark Outline and maps
1:50	Acreage Amendment	Consideration/action	Richard Stenmark
2:20	Amendments re: resolutions	Action	Jack Chenoweth
2:45	Council Meetings	Information	Steve Cowper
2:55	Survey Questions	Individual Action	Sharon Stoops

(d) (2) STEERING COUNCIL FOR ALASKA LANDS

October 26, 1977

A G E N D A

ITEM	PURPOSE	PRESENTATION
10:00 Update	information	Ron Birch
10:30 D.C. findings Conceptual film plan Film treatment/script	review	Mike Rowan Eli Bleich
11:15 Alaska questionnaire	review	Mike Rowan
11:35 Phase II	possibilities	Mike Rowan

(d) (2) STEERING COUNCIL FOR ALASKA LANDS

November 22, 1977

A G E N D A

ITEM	PURPOSE	PAPERS/PRESENTATION
1:00	Convene	
1:05	Subsistence Report	Information
		Nels Anderson, Jr.
1:20	Alaska Lands Public Involvement Forums	Action
		Proposal by Askalaska
1:30	State Selections & (d)(2) legislation	Information
		Bob LeResche/Dave Hanson
2:00	Council positions for U.S. House Deliberations Subsistence All others	Action
		Staff Drafts: Ron Summerville Mike Spann
3:30	Public Comments	Information
		Charles Konigsberg
3:40	Adjourn	

STEERING COUNCIL FOR ALASKA LANDS

JOURNAL MINUTES

January 10-11, 1978
Supreme Court Room A
Juneau, Alaska

TUESDAY, January 10

The 8th meeting of the Steering Council for Alaska Lands was called to order at 3:40 p.m. by the Councils' Chairman Steve Cowper.

Present: Representative Joe Hayes, Representative Alvin Osterback, Senator Chancy Croft, Senator Mike Colletta, Senator Joe Orsini, State Co-Chairman Walt Parker, Commissioner Robert LeResche, Chuck Hawley, Dave Cline, and Executive Director Sharon Long. James Hoffman of Bethel was absent.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss Freedom of Information activities, take action on the Askalaska Proposal, discuss and take possible action on Access/Minerals Amendments, discuss contract with Moss, Frink, & Franklin law firm, review of the January/February dissemination in Washington D. C., and to action on the 1978 budget.

MINUTES

Council moved to adopt the minutes of the November 22, 1977, meeting, but due to malfunction of the recording equipment used to record the meeting, minutes were not transcribed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cowper expressed that the Council has accomplished a great deal. Reviewing that the Council just got organized in July, 1977, and had our first business session in August. Council members, staff, and the attorneys for the Council have watched very closely the House Committee Hearings, in Alaska and in Washington D. C. and established a very cordial relationship with many of the Congressmen and Senators who will be playing a key part in the passage of this legislation, also with the Executive Office of the President through OMB and hopefully with the Department of the Interior. The Council held public meetings in Southeastern Alaska, and Sand Point. Although earlier taht year the Council made a ruling that we would not become a traveling circus. That most of the information was on record through the Seiberling Sub-Committee, and other Congressional meetings that met here in Alaska. We have daily contact with the Administation and the Congress in Washington D. C.

The specific recommendations this Council has made have been given careful consideration by the Sub-Committee and Representative Meads, who allegedly but in a compromising bill. In response to the mineral statement that the Council sent to the Sub-Committee, the Committee print was in fact amended to assure some measure of access across some public lands to valid inholdings. We called early in the game for recognizing and honoring State and Native selections. As most of you know, HR 39 originally revoked pre-existing State selections where they conflicted with the d-2 proposals. We have conducted a survey of the House and Senate and of some of the members of the Administration of how they feel about this legislation. There is also a survey underway of the Alaska public to make sure that we are still in the same ball park that we are suppose to be representing. That survey will be ready toward the end of the month. We did complete a 12 and 1/2 minute film which takes a balance view of the interests involved in the question of the classification of Alaska lands. There are some editorial articles that will be used in some of the major national newspapers and also some radio spots that will be used in Washington.

The Senate d2 hearings will be held in Washington on January 19 and 20. Secretary Andrus is scheduled to speak on January 19th before Senator Jacksons Committee. January 20 Alaska officials will be asked to address that Committee. Senator Moss will testify on January 20th after the Governor.

ON February 10th the National Association of Counties has a d2 panel and Walt Parker was invited. The Council has approved Mr. Parkers travel. Guy Martin is the scheduled guest speaker.

There are Senate Staff workshops scheduled on d2 for Alaska on February 13-17 in Anchorage. This is only tentative.

AGENDA ITEM # L

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

The Freedom of Informaiton Act Request was filed in November. There was a Press Release issued on December 24, 1977. The Interior Department issued a response.

Attorney Mike Spaan was asked to speak regarding the Council's position. Spann discussed circumstances surrounding the F.O.I. act request. Specifically, on Bureau of Mines withholding mineral information.

Council has obtained a binder from Bureau of Mines and is on file documenting all events and memoranda.

AGENDA ITEM #2

ASKALASKA PROPOSAL

Appearing before the Council on behalf of the University of Alaska was Steve Brown, Director of Public Service. Mr. Brown gave a 10 minute presentation of the Askalaska proposal. Briefly, he touched on three underlying concepts and the purpose of the forum. Mr. Brown continued by asking our council if we had ways and means to fund their project.

Discussion among Council members.

A motion made by the Chairman was made to endorse the principle of the project, and defer consideration of adding this item to the Council's budget and have the proposal sent through the Alaska Public Forum, and/or funding would go through normal legislative channels. Senator Colletta seconded the motion.

Discussion ensued on funding, Senator Orsini ask to divide the question: Endorsement of the principle and of funding. Motion carried 7-2 (not roll call - Hand vote) to endorse the principle.

Dave Cline suggested an appropriation for Alaska Humanities to fund the project for \$52,500.00. Discussion among Council Members.

Dave Cline moved that the supplemental appropriation of \$52,500.00 to fully support the Askalaska project be endorsed by Council. Roll call Vote (6-No, 4-Yes) motion does not carry.

Chairman Cowper amends previous motion by adding the following language and taht the sponsors of the Askalaska proposal seek full funding through the normal appropriation process. No objection - Motion carries.

Main motion by Cowper to defer funds was made, carried, no objection.

AGENDA ITEM #3

ACCESS/MINERALS AMENDMENTS

Senator Colletta reported on Seiberling's telegram language regarding access to inholdings.

Attorney Mike Spaan commented on legalities.

Sharon Long answered Senator Croft's question regarding specifically what language the Council suggests striking - lines 14, 15, & 16, page 146 of the Committee Print #2.

Another question arised regarding if the language pre-empts the government's right to condemnation. It was understood that it would not.

Discussion among Council members whether or not the Council should endorse and approve the language by Mr. Seiberling and ask our Congressional delegation to support Mr. Seiberling. Cowper made a motion to send word back to Congressman Seiberling, that the Council does approve the language, but it's not to be taken as a final statement as to access, because of the complexity of the issue. No objection to the motion - motion carries.

Attorney Mike Spaan spoke on two recommended amendments. (1) Access (2) Mineral Position Mainly in concept form so the Council could take a position.

Lengthy discussion among the Council members regarding recommended amendments on access.

Motion was made to draft legislative language regarding access. No objection - motion carries.

Additionally, Attorney Mike Spaan went on with the mineral recommendations. Lengthy discussion among Council Members regarding recommended mineral amendment.

Senator Orsini moved to adopt the mineral position as drafted and the concept as outlined.

Senator Croft moved to amend the previous motion to adopt the mineral position except that relating to wildlife refugees. Hand vote 5-Yes 3-No. Motion carries. No objection to the main motion, continued discussion among Council members regarding wildlife refugees.

AGENDA ITEM #4

ALASKA SURVEY

Mike Rowan presented information on an Alaskan Public Survey regarding the access question. Reporting that the survey was 90% complete. There would be also a 13 minute 8 millimeter film presentation for the Council's use to reflect the Council's position during the 5 day period in Washington D.C. January 30 - February 3. He was also working on scheduled meetings with Washington Star, Washington Post, Radio and TV while the Council is in Washington.

The meeting recessed for the day and was agreed upon to reconvene the next day, January 11, 1978, 8:30 a.m. in the House Finance Committee Meeting Room, Fourth floor, of the Capitol Building.

January 11, 1978
Continuation of Council Meeting
8:30 a.m.
Capitol Building

Discussion continues on proposed wildlife refuges, mineral language, and aquaculture language.

Dave Cline makes a motion regarding wildlife reguges and to adopt proposed language on minerals. No objection, motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #5

MOSS, FRINK & FRANKLIN

Moss, Frink & Franklin has been retained by the Council to continue our efforts to make favorable contact with members of the House and Senate in considering the bill..

Sharon Long informed the Council of the malfunctioning recording equipment which made it impossible to transcribe the 11/22/77 council minutes.

Joe Josephson expressed interest in making himself available for the Council during the Congressional hearings scheduled in D. C later on this month.

AGENDA ITEM #6

BUDGET

Amount requested: \$904,422.00

Amount approved: \$831,222.00

ADJOURNMENT

The Council tentatively scheduled their next meeting for February 16, 1978. Following a motion to authorize John Shively to replace James Hoffman when Hoffman could not make our meetings, no objection, the meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

AGENDA

January 10, 1978 Meeting

COURTROOM "A"

Juneau, Alaska

ITEM	PURPOSE	PAPERS/PRESENTATION
1:30 Convene/Announcements		
1:40 F.O.I. Activities	Information	Mike Spaan
2:00 AskAlaska Proposal	Action	Final Proposal: Dave Cline Steve Brown, Director of Public Service, University of Alaska
2:20 Access/Minerals Amendments	Information Possible Action	Seiberling telegram language/Colletta Council language/Mike Spaan
2:45 Moss, Frink, Franklin	Information	Steve Cowper
3:00 Alaska Survey	Information	Mike Rowan
3:15 January/February information dissemination in Washington D.C.	Review	Sharon Long
3:30 Budget	Action	Steve Cowper
4:30 Adjourn		
5:50 Flight departs for Anchorage		

STEERING COUNCIL FOR ALASKA LANDS

JOURNAL MINUTES

February 28, 1978
Supreme Court Room A
Juneau, Alaska

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28th

The 9th meeting of the Steering Council for Alaska Lands was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by the Councils' Chairman Steve Cowper.

Present: Representative Steve Cowper, Representative Alvin Osterback, Representative Joe Hayes, Senator Mike Colletta, Senator Joe Orsini, State Co-Chairman Walt Parker, Commissioner Robert LeResche, Chuck Hawley, and Executive Director Sharon Long. Senator Chancy Croft, James Hoffman, and Dave Cline were absent. Chip Thoman sitting in for Dave Cline.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss Alaska Survey Results, report on the Senator Jackson Staff Workshops, report on the L.U.P.C. Wilderness Workshops, discuss in greater depth the AskAlaska Proposal, briefing on current HR 39 Committee Print and Meeds Substitute, take action on Acquaculture, Co-Operative Management, and Recreational Amendments, report on the 49-Legislatures, and the Coalition of Western States, report on WETA Coalition, discuss proposed Alaska Survey Brochure, and vote on the retention of Representative Cowper as Chairman of the Council.

MINUTES

Council moved to adopt the minutes of the January 10, 1978 meeting, no objection, minutes were adopted.

AGENDA ITEM #1

Alaska Survey Results

Mike Rowan presented information on the survey he conducted interviewing 465 people regarding their awareness of the (d)(2) legislation now pending before Congress. Rowan found over 60% of the Alaskan interviewed are saying access to the existing National Parks, which they do intend to visit, are limited by the cost of transportation or the total unavailability of some access into some of these parks. In conclusion Rowan feels that the limited access features presented in HR 39, seem to negate or contradict the letter and spirit of what a National Park means.

Sharon Long mentioned she had dollars left in our last contract with the Media Group to produce a brochure.

AGENDA ITEM #2

SENATOR JACKSON STAFF WORKSHOPS

Chuck Hawley, who attended the 7-day public workshops, chaired by Mike Harvey and Steve Quarles, gave a report. The workshops provided light on scenery, wildlife, habitat, state and native lands, renewable resources, agriculture, forestry, fuel, minerals, access and transportation.

The information would be developed into a record for the Senate Committee on energy and natural resources.

Chuck Hawley announced there would be 4-day Senate Hearings scheduled in Washington regarding policy issues.

There were no Senators present. Although Senator Stevens and Gravel both had staff representatives present. Those agencies giving data were: National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Bureau of Mines, State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Transportation, Alaska Coalition, Alaska Miners Association, Alaska Oil and Gas Association, and the Steering Council has a person monitoring, as well as the Professional Hunters and Native Groups were present.

AGENDA ITEM #3

L.U.P.C. WILDERNESS WORKSHOPS

Chuck Hawley was again present during the Joint Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission Wilderness Workshops and gave a report. The format was a bit different from the Senate Workshops, as the L.U.P.C. meeting dealt with policy matters and judicial acts that related. They did not debate the appropriateness of wilderness nor the intent of the Wilderness Act as it applies to Alaska. It was a matter of identifying conflicts, and trying to get some things clarified on what are the administrative difficulties and the administrative precedents involved in the administration of wilderness areas.

Chuck Hawley commented on the 1964 Wilderness Act and restrictions of snow machines. The only motorized access mentioned in the 1964 Act were motorboats and airplanes.

Walt Parker informed the Council that the subject of wilderness will be taken up at the April meeting, but that the position still is that wilderness should be handled on the State basis and be the result of a careful public planning process.

Parker felt he didn't get any insite on what was the Congressional intent.

Discussion among Council members regarding Congressional intent.

AGENDA ITEM #4

ASKALASKA PROPOSAL

Chairman Cowper announced that on the floor of the House, Jim Duncan introduced an amendment with respect to the Askalaska Proposal appropriation that moved it away from the Univercity of Alaska and back into the (d)(2) Steering Council. The amendment passed and it was done on the House Floor not the Finance Committee.

Senator Orsini thought it was a hasty way and should have gone through the Committee hearing process. Discussion among Council members and general agreement.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Chairman Cowper mentioned that legislative Council members would have to incur those additional expenses while in Washington D.C. during any Council business over and above the Juneau per diem rate. In other words no double per diem would be allowed.

AGENDA ITEM #5

BREIFING ON CURRENT HR 39 COMMITTEE PRINT & MEEDS SUBSTITUTE

Walt Parker provided information on the current HR 39 Committee Print. Breifly, he advised to reduce the print to 80 pages which would make the Bill tighter. A lengthy report on the breakdown of proposed acreage and boundaries was given as well.

Parker stated the relationship between Title XI, Wilderness, and Title XII, Subsistence is a fairly intricate one and under Title XIII, Native Conveyance and Land Easement, there was a major problem with no easements conveyed in core townships.

At this time the Council agreed on a short 15 minute recess.

Chuck Hawley continued to explain Title IX, Mineral Assessments, Exploration, Developement, Extraction, and Conservation.

General discussion among Council members.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Chairman Cowper announced that Council member James Hoffman has resigned. It was Cowper's understanding that Governor Hammond would appoint Carl Jack, President of the Bethel Village Council.

Chairman Cowper also announced that the Bristol Bay Native Association has produced an excellent film that relates to subsistence. Cowper suggested the Council obtain a copy of that film. Motion was made by Chairman Cowper to obtain the film at the approximate cost of \$150.00. No objection, motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #6

ACQUACULTURE AMENDMENT

Chip Thomas sat in for Dave Cline who was in Washington D. C. Mr. Thomas stated that he met with the American Fisheries Society in Sitka on the Acquaculture Amendment language. The series of amendments were drawn up in response to potential acquaculture sites and especially hatchery sites that would be precluded in wilderness selections within the National Forest. He doesn't see a conflict in Southeastern Alaska, only in the Prince William Sound.

Later on Attorney Mike Spaan commented on proposed 607C-1 and 607C-2, which is the variation of the Seiberling language which the fisherman, through Sherry Gross and the Alaska Coalition with Dave Cline negotiating for them, feel they can live with. Sherry Gross felt the word "indigenous" should be deleted from 607C-1. What 607C is interpreted to say is that fish hatchery sites that are now identified would not go into the wilderness area, but they would be called potential wilderness, and that the State, the private company, who ever was going to pony up with the fish hatcheries permitted a viable plan with ten years. It would not become part of the wilderness. If no plan was submitted it would go right into either the surrounding or the adjoining wilderness.

General discussion among Council members.

Chairman Cowper ask Sherry Gross who is the Executive Director of United Fisherman of Alaska and Dick Bishop of Fish and Game to participate in the discussion.

After lengthy discussion on proposed acquaculture language, Chairman Cowper made a motion to adopt the proposed draft of Section 607C-1 with the following alterations: Line #5, delete the word "Forest" and insert the words "interest or" so it says "rehabilitation activities with National interest or wilderness areas as designated by this Act." Furthermore, delete "indigenous" and "mamimal acres" from section 607C-2 and add "the land" and delete the second sentence entirely. And add "Secretary of Interior" and delete section numbers, so we are applying it overall to the Act and creating a new title.

Senator Orsini suggested as an amendment to the amendment, in the last sentence in what's C-1 delete the word "no" and "permitted" and substitute the word "minimalized".

General discussion.

Senator Orsini moves on the Acquaculture provision as it has been amended. Motion is made to that effect, no objection, the proposed amendment would be adopted.

Chip Thoman ask the Council to reimburse him for his travel to Washington D.C. when he goes for mark-up. Chairman Cowper informed him of our present financial situation due to the 1978 \$ appropriation still before the Senate Resources and it would not be possible.

CO-OPERATIVE MANAGMENT

Lengthy report by Attorney Mike Spaan and discussion among Council members relating to Co-Operative management grew to be very complex so the Council will be scheduling another meeting 2 weeks from today March 15, 1978, to again take up this matter.

RECREATIONAL AMENDMENT

Attorney Mike Spaan addressed this issue and mentioned there was a problem with the Wilderness Act and the use of no motor vehicles with an exception of airplane and motor boats and snow machines for subsistence use.

General discussion among Council members, then Senator Orsini moved to adopt the proposed amendment.

Chuck Hawley moved to insert the words "wildlife population"

Motion amended, no objection, Recreational Amendment passes.

Representative Joe Hayes mentioned we should address the airplane access issue separately and after general discussion it was agreed to be taken up at the next meeting set for March 15, 1978.

Also Chairman Cowper mentioned he would like to address the matter of subsistence, Title VII, that was recently adopted by the Sub-Committee, but due to the time element he suggested he would bring up that issue at the next meeting as well.

AGENDA ITEM # 7

49-LEGISLATURES

Senator Colletta spoke of the travel to the other 49 legislatures. Also, apologized that the entire Alaska legislature was not invited as they were seemingly offended.

Chairman Cowper mentioned the Council might consider the following policy that any member of the legislature be authorized they can go if they exhibit some knowledge on the issues and familiarize themselves and be knowledgeable on the subject.

General agreement among Council members.

No further discussion on the proposed policy, Chairman Cowper moved to adopt it and take the position of the Council. No objection, unanimous consent. Policy was adopted.

AGENDA ITEM #8

WETA COALITION

Senator Joe Orsini addressed the Council regarding a WETA meeting he attended in Spokane, Washington earlier last week. He felt that there is general concern in the Western States concerning resource development.

AGENDA ITEM #9

RETENTION OF REP. STEVE COWPER ON COUNCIL

Chairman Cowper ask Co-Chairman Orsini to chair the remainder of the meeting, as Cowper would excuse himself during the discussion and the actual voting.

Senator Orsini raised the question: Shall Rep. Cowper resign from the Steering Council? Unanimous consent to retain Chairman Cowper.

Senator Orsini also brought up the Murray, Kroft & Rockey Plan which due to the time element would also be taken up at the next meeting.

Representative Osterback reminded interested parties to gather in Room #118 for HB 211 mark-up.

ADJOURNMENT

The Steering Council scheduled their next meeting for March 15, 1978, 1:30 p.m. to be held in the City of Juneau, and to teletype the whereabouts to all members when that was determined.

AGENDA

February 28, 1978 meeting

COURTROOM "A"

Juneau, Alaska

ITEM	PURPOSE	PAPERS/PRESENTATION
1:30 Convene/Minutes of Last Meeting	ACTION	Minutes of January 11, 1978
1:40 Alaska Survey Results	Information	Mike Rowan
2:00 Senator Jackson Staff Workshops	Information	Chuck Hawley
2:15 L.U.P.C. Wilderness Workshops	Information	Dave Cline
2:30 AskAlaska Proposal	Information	Steve Cowper
2:40 Briefing on Current HR39 Committee Print and Meeds Substitute	Information	Walt Parker
3:10 Acquaculture Amendment Co-Operative Management Amendment Recreational Amendment	ACTION	Mike Spaan
4:00 49-Legislatures Coalition of Western States	Information	Mike Colletta
4:15 WETA Coalition (Spokane Meeting)	Information	Joe Orsini
4:25 ^{Proposed} Alaska Survey Brochure	ACTION	Sharon Long
4:30 Retention of Repr. Cowper on Council	ACTION	
4:45 ADJOURN		

STEERING COUNCIL FOR ALASKA LANDS

JOURNAL MINUTES

March 15, 1978
Committee Room #118
Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 1978

The 10th meeting of the Steering Council for Alaska Lands was called to order at 2:30 p.m. by the Council's Chairman Steve Cowper. The hour delay in commencing was due to the House being in session.

PRESENT: Representative Steve Cowper, Representative Alvin Osterback, Representative Joe Hayes, Senator Mike Colletta, Senator Joe Orsini, State Co-Chairman Walt Parker, C. C. Hawley, and our newly appointed Council member Carl Jack from Bethel. Senator Chancy Croft was meeting with the Governor, Commissioner LeResche was involved with the oil/gas hearings, and Dave Cline was still in Washington D.C. Also present at our meeting was Attorney Mike Spaan, Mike Rowan, H.A. 'Red' Boucher, and Becky Tischer. Executive Director Sharon Long was ill and remained in Anchorage.

The purpose of the meeting was to take action on the Wilderness, Aircraft Access, Subsistence, and Co-Operative Management Amendments. Also consider the Murray, Kraft & Rocky Proposal and Red Boucher's Proposal.

MINUTES

Council moved to adopt the minutes of the February 28th meeting, no objection, minutes were adopted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Cowper announced that Red Boucher was present and that he would present his proposal.

Also, the Chairman informed the Council members of closing down the Anchorage Steering Council offices due to a lack of funds. Although the Council was obliged to pay the rent.

Carl Jack, President of the Association of Villiage Council Presidents was introduced to the Council as our newly appointed member.

Carl Jack moved to have the Councils' Executive Director Sharon Long to make an on going status report on the financing and fiscal commitments at each meeting. No objection. Motion passes.

At this time Red Boucher spoke of his proposal. A breakdown of the time involved, cost, and purpose was given. Discussion among Council members, with questions addressed to Boucher. Boucher was excused by the Chairman and was informed action would be taken at such time as the Council was capable of doing so.

Another announcement by Chairman Cowper was made regarding Title IX. Title IX was adopted with no major amendments to the mining section. Amendments failed. Tuesday morning that bill will pass out of the full committee. There's a 30 day referral to Merchant Marine & Fisheries for the refuge sections. Due to come out of Merchant Marine & Fisheries approximately May 3rd. Another development of interest to the members would be that Susitna is now out of the Wild & Scenic study area and back to the Federal Power Commission for the study thats proposed as an ongoing project.

Senator Mike Colletta addressed the Council in reference to his feelings about the closing down of the Steering Council. He said he was very disturbed that we're going to have to close and he is disturbed for many reasons because he believes that it is one of the major issues affecting Alaska and that now is not the time to close down. He shared Senators Stevens and Gravel feelings that it would be totally disastrous and tragic in the States interest for us to close down.

Mr. Parker said he would echo what Senator Colletta has to say. Parker said the Steering Council would be making its first appearance formally in the National arena on April 5th. Scheduled to testify before the Senate and our absence will be noted and that could be an absolute tragedy and the next 6 months are going to be absolutely critical.

After lengthy discussion Senator Colletta moved to appoint a delegation to go upstairs to Governor Hammond's office to borrow from the Governors contingency fund enough money, perhaps \$25,000.00 - \$50,000.00 so that we do not have to close the office or terminate the lobbying activity and to carry the Council's operation until our own appropriation comes through. Carl Jack seconded the motion, No objection. Senator Colletta and Chuck Hawley were appointed to visit Governor Hammond. A brief recess was called for.

One half hour later Senator Colletta and Chuck Hawley returned and reported they were able to get \$25,000.00 on a gentleman's agreement that they will dig up the money to keep us going until we get an appropriation.

Senator Orsini was then called upon to briefly make a presentation on the 1.3 million dollar Murray, Kroft & Rockey proposal. The concept was to have an opinion poll tacked onto a national poll to find out if we can establish benchmarks of national opinion and knowledge on the issue. A question was raised on whether or not Red Boucher's proposal would be in conflict with the Murray, Kroft, & Rockey proposal. Also, if the Murray proposal was accepted there would have to be a separate appropriation bill. After some discussion it was generally agreed that Con Murray appear before the Council to review the proposal and answer any questions.

Chairman Cowper suggested that we authorize Mr. Red Boucher to put a contract together to present at the next meeting with a view toward getting him on the road almost immediately thereafter, assuming the contract is acceptable to the Council. Discussion among Council members. Cowper then moved to ask unanimous consent that Red Boucher be requested to submit a formal contract for approval by the body at the next meeting and that he be instructed to proceed as soon as possible assuming the contract is in good order. No objection. Motion carries.

The next order of business was discussion on the proposed amendments. Attorney Mike Spaan presented the proposed language on Wilderness, Aircraft Access, Subsistence and Co-Operative management. The Co-Operative Management amendment was generally agreed to be put off until the next meeting or after the Federal State Land Use Planning Commission seminar on Co-Operative Management. The proposed wilderness amendment was agreed to and adopted as an interim working position. Subsistence amendment was reviewed and agreed to be taken up at our next Council meeting as well. There was debate and discussion on the Airplane Motor Boat Access Amendment. Senator Orsini moved to delete "scenic or". Hand vote 2 Yes, 3 No. Motion fails. More discussion. Chairman Cowper moves to adopt the language. No objection. Motion passes. Language will be adopted. Unanimous consent.

Adjournment

The next Council meeting to be scheduled for March 30, 1978 to be held in Juneau.

STEERING COUNCIL FOR ALASKA LANDS

AGENDA

March 15, 1978 Meeting
Committee Room #118
CAPITOL BUILDING
Juneau, Alaska

ITEM	PURPOSE	PAPERS/PRESENTATION
1:30 Convene/Minutes of last meeting	ACTION	Minutes of 2/28/78
1:35 Wilderness Amendment	ACTION	Chuck Hawley/Mike Spaan
2:00 Aircraft Access Amendment	ACTION	Joe Hayes/Mike Spaan
2:20 Subsistence	ACTION	Cowper
2:40 Co-Operative Management	ACTION	Spaan
3:00 Murray, Kraft & Rocky Proposal	Consideration	Joe Orsini/Conn Murray
3:30 Bristol Bay Native Assoc Subsistence Film	Showing Cancelled till next meeting	Cowper
4:00 Adjournment		

PLEASE NOTE: THE PRECEDING PAGES WERE TREATED
AS A UNIT IN THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT.

Steering Council For Alaska Lands

REP. STEVE COWPER
CHAIRMAN
REP. ALVIN OSTERBACK
REP. JOE L. HAYES
SEN. CHANCY CROFT
SEN. MIKE COLLETTA
SEN. JOE ORSINI
WALTER PARKER
COMM. ROBERT LERESCHE
CARL JACK
C. C. HAWLEY
DAVE CLINE



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TO: MEMBERS OF THE ALASKA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES & SENATE
MEMBERS OF THE STEERING COUNCIL FOR ALASKA LANDS

FROM: SHARON LONG
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

RE: (d)(2) IN THE U. S. SENATE

DATE: MAY 25, 1978

Representative Steve Cowper asked me to circulate this memo from our D. C. representatives to you.

The degree of organization and input to Congress from every other state on the part of the Alaska Coalition is massive. In an effort to aid in the dissemination of our State's position we have established the "Alaska Lands News Service" which is capable of disseminating news on a national and/or regional basis.

In addition on May 16, 1978, Senator Dirkin of New Hampshire introduced Senate Amendment 2176. It is a revised version of the Metcalf Bill S.1500. S.1500 is H.R. 39 with a Senate number. Dirkin's Bill modifies S.1500 to reflect some of the action taken in the House on H.R. 39. Co-sponsoring with Senator Dirkin are Senators Metzenbaum, Anderson, Haskell, Abouresk, McIntyre, Mathias, and Proxmire. This is the Alaska Coalition preferred bill.

LAW OFFICES

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130 SEWARD STREET, SUITE 314
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(907) 595-2890

MEMORANDUM

To: Sharon Long

Date: May 18, 1978

Grassroots Lobbying

In the last two weeks, the level of grassroots lobbying in favor of H.R. 39 has reached levels beyond any precedent. Every Congressional office we have dealt with have remarked upon the large number of letters and calls received from the Congressman's district, all of which recommend support for H.R. 39. Each of the offices realizes that a terrific organizational job has been done on a grassroots level to generate so many similar comments. The net effect: it becomes extremely difficult for a Congressman to vote against something when 95+% of the input from back home says vote for it.

Without question, the success the Alaska Coalition is having with this grassroots network will result in even greater emphasis on it when a vote in the Senate nears. The merit of any arguments and proposals we present to the Senate will be lost if Senators' hands are tied by nearly unanimous H.R. 39 support from back home. I cannot stress enough how essential it is for us to expedite initiation of our State information network and to explain to citizens in every State that there are two sides to the issue and that creating parks in Alaska has some detrimental impact to their lives and that they should reflect before supporting the Alaska Coalition's approach. Our objective must be to create a split of opinion in each State on this issue so that Senators can, in all conscience, weigh both sides of each argument and retain the freedom to choose the one they find most meritorious.

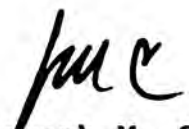
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MAY 23 1978

STEERING COUNCIL
FOR ALASKA LANDS

Sharon Long
Page 2
May 18, 1978

As you know, Senator Jackson has made a commitment to attempt to speed d-2 legislation through the Senate so that it can be enacted in 1978. This leaves us with no choice but to expedite the State education program if we hope to get any results from it.


Joseph M. Chomski

The New York Times

Founded in 1851

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5-16-78

Preserving Alaska's 'Crown Jewels'

The House Rules Committee votes today on the Alaska lands bill—in the opinion of Interior Secretary Andrus “the most sweeping and important conservation legislation that any of us will see in our lifetime.” The bill seeks to preserve extensive tracts as national parks, forests, wildlife refuges, and scenic rivers—protected against mining, oil and gas exploration, logging, and other exploitation. The bill has precipitated a classic confrontation between conservationists and developers. The conservationists want to preserve areas of spectacular scenery and an unparalleled array of wildlife. Developers fear they will be denied access to vast resources simply because a few “effete rich backpackers” want to set aside millions of acres for their own occasional enjoyment.

In our view, the bill offers the best chance to insure orderly development of our last great frontier. It would add some 100 million acres, roughly the size of California, to the 48 million acres of Alaska already protected in Federal reservations, and would give somewhat less than half of these lands an extra layer of protection by designating them as wilderness areas. The areas are vast, but so is the state. One new park—Gates of the Arctic, in the Brooks range—would be four times the size of Yellowstone. Such acreages are needed to protect large, fragile ecosystems. The caribou roam distances as great as that between Chicago and Boston in search of food. A single grizzly requires 100 square miles to survive.

Opponents claim that the bill would “lock up” potential

oil, gas and mineral resources of inestimable value. But the House committees drew their boundaries to leave 95 percent of the most promising onshore oil lands open to development, along with the offshore areas that are believed to contain the bulk of Alaska's oil. As for contentions that the state should be allowed to control its own development, the Federal Government, which owned virtually all the land before Alaska gained statehood in 1959, has already been extraordinarily generous. It has begun transferring 40 percent of the vast area to the state and to its native peoples. That should be enough for a population of only 400,000 surrounded by a roadless wilderness.

Opponents also claim the parks are too remote to serve more than a trickle of tourists. But they are no more inaccessible than Yellowstone was a century ago. Some analysts predict that tourism may eventually become the biggest industry in the state.

If the bill emerges from the Rules Committee, efforts to weaken it will be made on the floor. They should be resisted. Too much land—including the incomparable Misty Fjords area of southeast Alaska—has already been yielded to developers. The new bill offers an opportunity to leave a priceless legacy of parks for future generations. If the mineral and energy resources are eventually needed, they can always be tapped. But if the gold rush mentality prevails, lands that have been described as Alaska's “crown jewels” may be irretrievably squandered.

From
The Evening Star

The Alaska Lands Bill

5-22-78
Wash Post

THE BATTLE over Alaskan land and wildlife has been going on for more than half a century. The conservationists (who want to preserve much of the state in its pristine beauty) and the developers (who want to use its minerals, oil, timber and game) clashed soon after Mount McKinley National Park was created in 1917, and they have been at it ever since. Last Friday, when the House passed the Alaska lands bill, the conservationists won their greatest victory. The bill gives federal protection of one kind or another to 100 million acres of mountains, valleys and open land. If it becomes law in anything like its present form, the bill will rank in importance with the creation of the first national park a century ago and the National Forest System in the early 1900s.

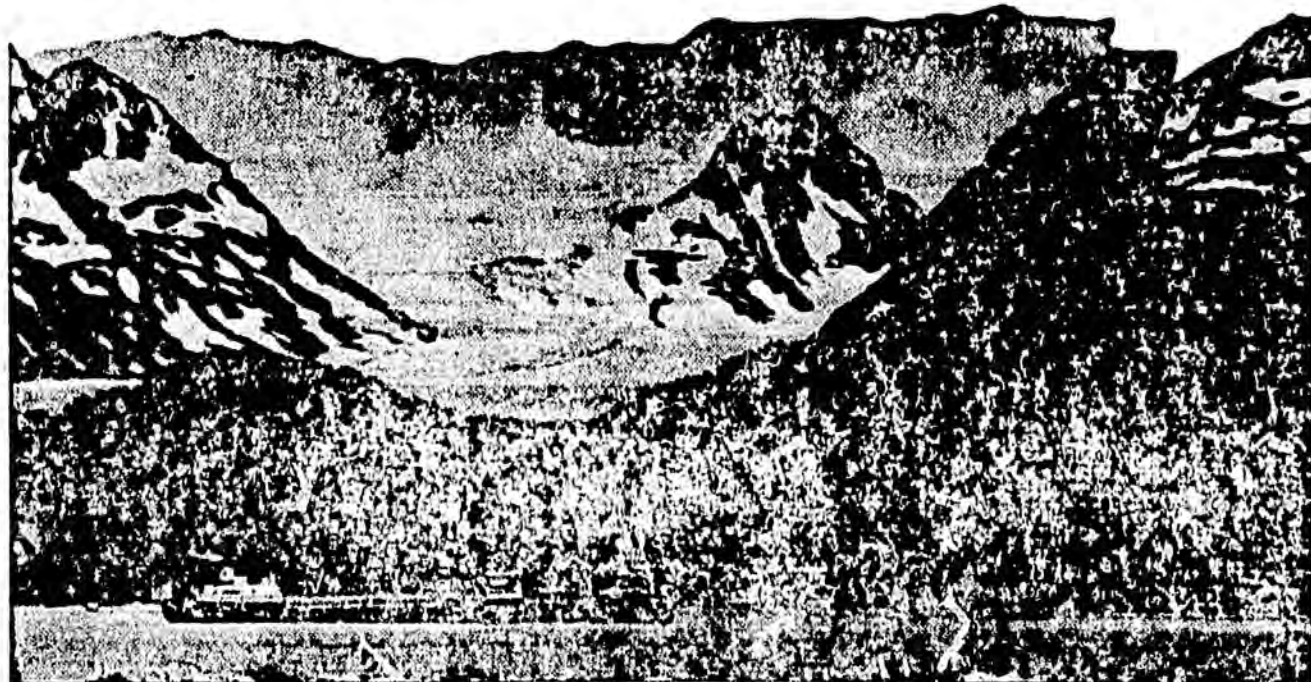
The issues in these struggles have always been the same: How much land should be left relatively untouched? How much should be given some protection but opened to some kinds of development? How much should be given to the Alaskans to do with as they will? The answers provided by the House in its votes last week seem about right. Although many in Alaska, including most of its leading politicians, disagree, the House has struck an appropriate balance between the state's interest in having sufficient resources available to develop its economy and the nation's interest in leaving something for future generations to enjoy or use as they see fit.

Unfortunately, the path of this bill through the Senate appears to be unusually difficult. Senate Ma-

jority Leader Robert C. Byrd has indicated he does not want it to reach the floor so long as Alaska's senators, Mike Gravel (D) and Ted Stevens (R), are threatening to filibuster. Sen. Byrd has said he would not support cloture "on a matter that affects one state" as long as that state's senators vigorously oppose it.

That view of senatorial courtesy might be understandable if the Alaska lands bill were some minor piece of legislation of concern only in that state. But it is not. The land in dispute doesn't "belong to" Alaska any more than the Grand Canyon "belongs to" Arizona or the Mall "belongs to" the District of Columbia. We doubt that even Sen. Byrd would be willing to give the District's congressional delegate the same veto over the use of federal land here that he seems prepared to give to Alaska's senators.

In thinking about the vast spaces of Alaska and this opportunity to set aside huge amounts of virgin land for the future, we are reminded of what Secretary of the Interior Ray Lyman Wilbur wrote in 1931: "One hundred years from now," as people look back on our use of this continent, we shall not be praised for our reckless use of its oil, nor the weakening of our watershed values through overgrazing, nor the loss of our forests. . . . But we may take comfort in the knowledge that we shall certainly be thanked for the national parks." It is in that spirit that we urge Sen. Byrd and his colleagues to consider the bill the House has passed.



Support in San Diego

Anch Times Editorial
May 17, 1978

A READER BY the name of Anthony Gazzola of San Diego, Calif., has sent us a couple of clippings from the San Diego Evening Tribune that provide an insight into the Alaska land battle that is being waged nationwide.

We have written many times of the massive effort being made across the country by environmental lobbies and pressure groups in favor of passage of HR 39, the Udall-Seiberling bill to lock up more than a hundred million acres of Alaska land.

Yet all too often and all too easily this campaign is forgotten by Alaskans busy with local affairs. It's just hard to keep believing that out there in other states a determined lobbying effort is going on, day in and day out, to convince Americans that Alaska's destiny is to become something of a national zoo, preserved and protected from those who live here.

MR. GAZZOLA'S LETTER is a sharp reminder of just what's happening. With the thought that the two clippings he enclosed "might be of some interest to you and your readers," Mr. Gazzola provided us with:

- An article from the "Tribune Town Hall" written by Frank Norris and headlined, "Our Wild Alaskan Heritage." Mr. Norris is identified by the Tribune as "a historian and environmentalist living in San Diego."

- A letter to the editor in the Tribune's "Voice of the People" column, written by Mr. Gazzola in response to Mr. Norris' article and taking sharp exception to the environmentalist's viewpoint. His letter was headed, "Differing on Alaska."

Of the two, Mr. Norris got the most space and the best play. His article was illustrated by a map identified as "Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act." Shown were national parks and monuments, national wildlife refuges, national forests (you have to look closely to find those) and huge areas already set aside in Alaska and labeled "existing units."

Not on the map, according to the fine print of the legend, are wild and scenic rivers.

MR. GAZZOLA'S response took only four paragraphs in the letters column, but from an Alaska standpoint he made a lot of sense in a relatively small space. He got righteously upset over such statements as these by the San Diego historian and environmentalist:

"Common sense...suggests that the (Alaska) land be protected in some way, and this bill does just that. It is a product of wise land-use planning....

"For example, present-day Mount McKinley National Park will be allowed to more than dou-

ble in size, and thus preserve its delicate lower slopes; a new Wrangell St. Elias National Park, adjacent to Canada's highest peak, will preserve much of the snowy magnificence of the Chugach Range of southeast Alaska while providing an excellent opportunity for a large international park; and the Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Range will set aside perhaps the world's largest contiguous area for the preservation of the magnificent brown bear....

"Surprisingly enough, the cost of preserving this monumental chunk of American land is surprisingly low, in both financial and socioeconomic terms. All of this land is currently owned by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management; therefore, transfer to other agencies will be a simple administrative matter, requiring only minimal costs for structures and personnel.

"More important, the bill will have almost no effect on Alaska's burgeoning growth because little commercial value is gained from the land."

NO MATTER that Mr. Norris placed the Chugach Mountains in Southeastern Alaska. Alaskans would say he was no more wrong about that than he was in contending that enactment of such a bill would have almost no effect on Alaska's growth or that little commercial value is gained from the land.

Mr. Gazzola dismissed the appeal to preserve McKinley's delicate lower slopes by noting that "nobody drives on them now." And he might have added that nature itself quite adequately can handle preservation of "much of the snowy magnificence of the Chugach Range." It's done so for hundreds of thousands of years, and probably can be counted on to do so for another hundred thousand.

Mr. Gazzola said it in one word — "Baloney." He suggested that Mr. Norris would be better off addressing himself to local San Diego problems.

MR. NORRIS apparently disagrees.

He concluded his article in the San Diego Tribune by telling readers that "letters to your senators and congressmen are in order."

That is the key to the environmental effort on behalf of this bill to freeze Alaska lands into instant, legislated wilderness and to prohibit multiple use by Alaskans and other Americans.

There is no way that Alaskans, few in number, can offset the massive amount of congressional mail generated by the nationwide appeals and the slick propaganda of the environmental lobbies.

But it sure helps to have friends like Mr. Gazzola in San Diego.

By Mary Russell

Washington Post Staff Writer

A bill environmentalists call the conservation measure of the century, one that would set aside about one third of the state of Alaska as parks, preserves, wildlife refuges, wild and scenic rivers and wilderness areas sailed through the House yesterday by an overwhelming 277-to-31 margin.

In a single stroke, the bill would double the size of the U.S. national park system, adding to it some 102 million acres, an area equal to the size of the state of California.

That fact has caused environmentalists to liken it to other historic conservation measures such as establishment of Yellowstone as the first national park in 1872 and the creation of the National Forest System by President Theodore Roosevelt in the early 1900s.

The bill was a developer-versus-environmentalist controversy. It was opposed by mining and timber interests, the Teamsters and building trades unions as well as most Alaskan officials, including the state's governor, Jay Hammond, its two senators and

its lone House member, Rep. Don Young (R-Alaska).

Though the bill easily passed the House, passage by Congress this year is far from assured, since Alaska's senators—Ted Stevens (R) and Mike Gravel (D)—have threatened to filibuster the bill in the Senate.

Senate Majority Leader Robert C. Byrd (D-W.Va.) has said he would not attempt to shut it off, since the Senate traditionally does not pass bills affecting states that are opposed by the

Alaskan Wilderness Bill Sails Through House on 277-31 Vote

ALASKA, From A1

state's senators. However, the margin of passage in the House will put some pressure on the Senate to act.

Rep. Lloyd Meeds (D-Wash.), a leading opponent of the bill, said it would "effectively stop hard-rock mineral exploration and development" on the lands in question. "We simply cannot lock up" the land "when we need the minerals we do in this country," he said.

But Interior Committee Chairman Morris K. Udall (D-Ariz) argued that Alaska is the last great expanse of wilderness left in this country, saying "There are no more Alaskas, there are no more opportunities" to preserve wildlife and wilderness. Udall also argued that it was a balanced bill that put 70 percent of the land with minerals outside the system and left 100 percent of high-potential oil and gas land open to development.

The parks, wildernesses, refuges and preserves designated in the bill are scattered throughout the state, from the rain forests in the southeast to the frozen tundra near Prudhoe Bay in the far north. In some cases existing parks were merely expanded.

Environmentalists argue that the land mass in Alaska is a fragile ecosystem and must be left intact in order to maintain its wildlife populations of bears, musk ox, caribou and hundreds of species of migratory birds.

Until Alaska became a state in 1958, the federal government owned virtually all of its 375 million acres. Upon statehood, the state was allowed to select 104 million acres for itself by 1984. Native inhabitants of Alaska, Eskimos and other Indian tribes, were granted the right to another 44 million acres by the Alaskan Native Claims Act of 1971.

Alaska, which is twice the size of Texas, has a population of about 405,000.

The 1971 act also allowed the Interior Department to withdraw from state and native claims some 80 million acres for the park system. It also required Congress to act before Dec. 18 of this year on adding lands to the park system.

Udall contends that if a bill is not passed by Dec. 18, "the bulldozers" will begin despoiling the lands. Opponents say a bill extending the deadline could easily be passed.

Young contended that the bill prevents the state from selecting some 5 million acres it is entitled to by the land grant by shutting it off in parks and wilderness. Udall contended that the land is "inholdings" in parks and that the state should not own land in the middle of parks and wilderness areas but is free to choose other land outside the area.

The major fight in the bill was over how much should be designated a wilderness, the highest conservation classification which generally shuts off all commercial development.

All of Maryland's representatives supported the measure except Reps. Goodloe E. Byron (D) and Marjorie S. Holt (R) who did not vote. In the Virginia delegation, only W. C. (Dan) Daniel (D) and David E. Satterfield opposed the bill. William C. Wampler (R) did not vote.

The bill calls for about 66 million acres to be designated wilderness. Meeds offered an amendment that would cut that amount to 33 million acres. Meeds was defeated 240 to 119.

An amendment was adopted, however, that would require continuation of U.S. Geological Survey mineral assessment programs on the lands, and to require the president to submit to Congress recommendations for mineral development procedures by Oct. 1, 1981.

The amendment, by Rep. James Santini (D-Nev.), passed by a 157-to-150 vote, and was something of a victory for the mining interests, since it leaves open some possibility for mining on all the lands.

Wash. Post 6-20-78

Steering Council For Alaska Lands

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MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS
FROM: SHARON LONG
DATE: JANUARY 18, 1978

In your packet are:

- (1) Jack Anderson article on our minerals information;
- (2) Final budget figure's as approved by Council at our January 10th meeting;
- (3) Memo from Ron Birch;

Subcommittee meetings began January 17, 1978, rather than January 16, 1978, due to the deaths of Senators Metcalf, and Humphry. Meeds used the afternoon to explain his substitute (d)(2) bill which breaks down in millions of acreages as follows:

40.2 Parks
34.8 Refuges
1.0 Wild & Scenic Rivers
2.9 National Forests
18.5 National Wildlands
97.4 Total

National Wildlands are basically wilderness with some exploration and extraction of resources provided for. Mark-up on HR 39 begins today (1/18/78). This mornings vote to substitute Meeds bill for HR 39 in mark-up lost 10 to 7.

- (4) A Congressional Quarterly article which may be of interest from a general background point of view especially for those of you going to D. C. this month; and
- (5) A list of members of House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, and Senate Energy Committee.

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MONTHLY STATUS MEMORANDUM

TO: D-2 Steering Council

FROM: Ronald G. Birch of BIRCH, HORTON, BITTNER & MONROE

DATE: January 9, 1978

The Seiberling Subcommittee on General Oversight in Alaska Lands is scheduled to begin markup on January 16. The Subcommittee staff is reported to have a number of additional amendments to offer to its already revised draft of HR-39. It is possible that the large number of amendments will make it necessary to again reprint committee drafts, though at this time there are no plans to re-do the staff draft. There are rumors flying that Committee Chairman Udall is displeased with the constant draft/redraft delays.

Representative Lloyd Meeds's staff is in the process of drafting a new D-2 bill. George Vietsis, the legislative assistant to Meeds, sketched the parameters of this substitute measure. Representative Meeds is committed to immediate transfer of select land to the natives and state. The Meeds bill will also address the issue of transportation and utility corridors in such a way as to be consistent with the existing law. Furthermore, he is not satisfied with the present proposals which fail to address the issue at all. There will be no new national forests in interior Alaska. However, with respect to the management and control of the areas, Meeds envisions the federal government managing the habitat while the state will regulate the resources within each area, including the quantity of wildlife and fish taken from the area.

Representative Meeds has yet to make final decisions with respect to a fifth system, i.e., setting aside land into some kind of holding pattern. In the event that Meeds does attempt to define a fifth system, he will call it "wild lands." Much of this will be treated like wilderness study areas, but exploration would be permitted under special rules during the time in which the area is studied for its suitability for placement in one of the four systems.

MONTHLY STATUS MEMORANDUM

TO: D-2 Steering Council
FROM: Ronald G. Birch, of BIRCH, HORTON, BITTNER & MONROE
DATE: January 9, 1978
PAGE: Two

If Meeds decides to stay with the four conservation systems under the present law, he may designate some of the lands from the mineral management zones or preserves, either of which would be under the jurisdiction of a specific interior agency. In this event, exploration for minerals and oil and gas will be permitted and access would also be guaranteed. In other words, these lands would be wilderness study areas with more uses allowable during study periods than is the norm. Meeds has tentatively selected the areas to be put into the wild lands or wilderness special study category.

It would appear that the Meeds proposal would definitely include less wilderness although the staff is presently considering some areas for the instant wilderness classification.

The Meeds measure will track the Administration's proposal with respect to subsistence. Access for subsistence will be guaranteed. Furthermore, with respect to any in holdings, access will also be guaranteed.

Representative Meeds has yet to take a position on the question of cooperative management of lands, but does favor it for a limited period. He would be willing to identify specific areas for cooperative management and place these areas under the jurisdiction of a commission similar to the Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission. To date, the fate of the Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission is undecided.

Meeds has recently announced his retirement from Congress, effective at the end of this Congress. There is much conjecture as to the effect the retirement will have on his D-2 activities and impact. So far, Meeds has continued to work hard on D-2. Whether his clout with fellow representatives will change remains to be seen.

On the Senate side, public hearings will be held in Washington, D. C., on January 19 and 20. Secretary Cecil Andrus has been scheduled to testify on the 19th, and the 20th has been reserved for state people and other witnesses. We are currently attempting to arrange an invitation for former senator Moss to testify on behalf of the Steering Council.

The D-2 bill will still be considered by the full Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. However, the picture is slightly muddled by the persistent rumors that Senator Metcalfe is not actively pushing his bill (S-499). Similarly, his health is reportedly

MONTHLY STATUS MEMORANDUM

TO: D-2 Steering Council
FROM: Ronald G. Birch, of BIRCH, HORTON, BITTNER & MONROE
DATE: January 9, 1978
PAGE: Three

deteriorating to the point where he may not be able to devote much time to the D-2 issue. Moreover, the continued inability of Senate and House energy conferees to reach a compromise makes all scheduling estimates very speculative.

Bureau of Mines FOIA Requests

Part of the story behind the Interior Department's mineral value coverup will be published January 13th in Jack Anderson's column, which appears in 972 newspapers nationwide. Staff members for the Alaska delegation have been briefed on the coverup and have received all of the supporting documents. It is now up to the Alaska delegation and other sympathetic legislators to keep the issue alive and to require the Administration and Congress to reconsider the D-2 controversy in a more balanced way.

:mh

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MEMORANDUM

To: Ronald G. Birch

Date: November 10, 1977

Subcommittee
on
General Oversight and Alaska Lands
November 1, 1977 Briefing

The staff counsel for the Subcommittee on General Oversight and Alaska Lands continued their briefing of the subcommittee on the staff committee draft of H.R. 39 and the Department of Interior's proposed amendments to H.R. 39. The proposed Lake Clark National Park and Preserve, and the Noatak Preserve were presented. Representatives Udall, Vento, Tsongas, Young, Seiberling, Meeds, Roncalio, McHugh, Santini and Rudd were all present at one time or another.

First, the staff counsel explained their recommendations for the Lake Clark National Park and Preserve, with boundaries for areas of ecological concern. Lake Clark is to be classified as a park and a wilderness area due to its scenic values and its potential for recreation opportunities. Air travel makes it relatively close to Anchorage and its three rivers, the Mulchatnik, Chilikadrodt, and the Tikakila offer recreation opportunities as wild and scenic rivers. The core area of Lake Clark will be classified as wilderness area to protect the biological microcosm of Alaskan wildlife and plant life found there. Biologists estimate that almost every species of the Alaskan plant community in coastal and interior regions in Alaska can be found in this particular area. While there are some native selections within the Lake Clark area, most are in the proposed preserve where sport hunting and subsistence hunting will be permitted.

Ronald G. Birch

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November 10, 1977

Alaska Lands - November 1, 1977 Briefing

The Park Service added its comments and also explained the rationale for areas of ecological concern. Under present law, Interior has no authority to enter into cooperative management agreements with adjacent land owners, and H.R. 39 will give Interior that authority. Congressman Young pointed out that where the adjacent land is owned by the Bureau of Land Management, cooperative management is limited because the adjoining land is subject to the same land use limits as that of the Park or Preserve. One of the major differences between the Carter proposal and the staff proposal is that under Carter's proposal, less of the lake area is wilderness.

The Cook Inlet Regional Corporation Land Exchange Agreement settled most of the conflicting claims and the Cook Inlet Regional Corporation exchanged its claims in the Northern part of the park for townsites on the Kenai Peninsula. Similarly, the State exchanged its land selections for land in Iliamna and other places.

Mineral potential is high South of the Cartabuno Lake. The only patented claim has an appraised value of \$800,000, but there are other unpatented claims in this mineral belt. Where the natives agreed to have their selections included in the park, Interior has promised to permit pre-existing operations and some recreational developments.

Bill Horn, minority counsel for the subcommittee, clarified the areas of disagreement which focus on mineral development. This region which is part of the BLM mineral belt has copper and iron deposits. Representative Seiberling repeated his promise to permit development access. However, he suggested that because the native corporations had drilled in the area and later exchanged this land for other selections, the commercial potential is low. However, Young responded that that was not the case at all, because the Cook Inlet Corporation chose land with oil and gas reserves rather than hardrock potential.

Ronald G. Birch

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November 10, 1977

Alaska Lands - November 1, 1977 Briefing

The Lake Clark Park proposal which includes state and native selections, raises the question of whether ANCSA precludes the State or natives from selecting d-2 lands. Seiberling believes that the Federal government has priority if the state or native selections are on d-2 lands. However, Young reads that same section to mean that the State and the native corporation can choose d-2 lands, but the final patent is delayed.

Next, the H.R. 39 draft for the Noatak Ecological Preserve was presented with Interior's recommendations. Interior proposes to place 5.9 million acres into an ecological preserve to protect the unusual environment caused by the high altitude and lack of water. It has been declared an international biosphere because of the unique wildlife and plantlife characteristic of the region.

Furthermore, this region is where the Eskimos first migrated from Russia and several archeological sites mark the ancient hunting sites. The Noatak Preserve also includes the largest undisturbed river system in the United States, 80% of which would be part of the preserve. Both sport and subsistence hunting would be permitted, with a preference for subsistence hunting if any species is endangered. The preserve is adjacent to Pet 4 and the Gates of the Arctic National Park, and includes part of the traditional caribou route. It is also a preferred recreation area where at least 10,000 tourists visit the area each year. The more adventurous souls take float trips also. Even though a large number visit each year, most go only for the day since most of the region is inaccessible.

The committee staff's recommendations are identical to the original H.R. 39, which classifies 7.6 million acres as a preserve. The key difference between Interior and the staff is that the latter classifies the Squirrel River drainage area as a wilderness, despite its high mineral potential. H.R. 39 draft does not provide for a transportation corridor along the river, and without one, further exploration into the adjacent areas will be very difficult. The proposed Noatak Preserve includes a mineral zone known as Red Dog, which contains barite, lead, and zinc in the lower end of a mineral belt.

Ronald G. Birch

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November 10, 1977

Alaska Lands - November 1, 1977 Briefing

The Interior staff explained that they excluded the Squirrel River drainage area because Noatak was first drafted by the Wildlife and Fisheries Division and the Bureau of Land Management, which did not designate national parks. The Red Dog area was excluded for its mineral potential. Seiberling favors inclusion because its scenic beauty should be preserved and further development is essentially prevented because access will not be permitted through the adjacent park and wilderness areas.

Minority Counsel, Bill Horn, presented criticisms of the staff draft for the Noatak Ecological Preserve. Representative Young prefers the Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission's Fifth System classification which would provide for cooperative management, due to the potential for fishing and mineral development and the need for a transportation corridor. The Squirrel River drainage area has been surveyed by the USGS and is believed to have a high potential for copper, lead, gold, zinc, and platinum.

However, an Interior staff member interrupted to say that a recent USGS review team in Alaska believes that the mineral belt is not regionally homogeneous. Thus, even though it is rich in the Bornak and Picnic Creek areas, it is mineral poor farther North, in the Noatak area. Since no drilling has been done, the results are inconclusive. In fact, the only core drilling has been offshore and there have been some Level Two studies in the Brooks range.

The staff pointed out that mineral development is not commercially feasible despite its high potential. In support of the staff's conclusion, Seiberling pointed out that the State had not made any selections in this area. However, Mr. LeResche of the State Division of Natural Resources stated that the State had had other reasons for withdrawing its site selections in the Noatak area.

Constance E. Brooks

Constance E. Brooks

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MEMORANDUM

To: d-2 Steering Council

Date: November 5, 1977

Current Status
of
d-2 Legislation

The House of Representatives recessed on November 4, leaving the d-2 lands legislation in a status that looks far more definite than it really is. On November 3, the Alaska Lands Subcommittee voted to adopt Committee Print #2 of H.R. 39, which is a revision of Committee Print #1 (the first revised H.R. 39), as the mark-up vehicle to be used when the Subcommittee enters into formal mark-up sessions. Subcommittee Chairman Seiberling announced, at the close of the meeting, that he intends mark-up to begin around November 29 and that it will continue until Congress adjourns for the year. It is noteworthy that full Committee Chairman Udall dominated the November 3 meeting.

On the surface, the events described above indicate that the mark-up vehicle and the mark-up schedule have been established and that the decisions are unfavorable to what many view as Alaska's best interests. In fact, both the vehicle and the schedule are subject to change. Congressman Lloyd Meeds (D-Wash.) has recently emerged as the leader of the compromise/middle ground forces in the Subcommittee.

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Status of d-2 Legislation

Meeds probably has three of four Subcommittee members lined up behind him in his efforts to hammer out a solution that both extreme positions can accept. He has set aside three full days on his own schedule, November 28, 29, and 30, to draft a d-2 lands bill that is intended to incorporate the best features of the Seiberling and Young positions. Meeds has invited input from the Administration, the State of Alaska, Seiberling's staff, and the FSLUPC to help construct his measure. The Steering Council has been specifically requested to submit its proposals to Meeds and his staff during the week of November 21. The Council has also been asked to be available to aid the Congressman in the actual drafting of his measure, if he so desires. We have already begun efforts towards drafting proposals for timely submission to Congressman Meeds and his staff.

It is, of course, always possible for Congressmen to put forth motions in mark-up that would substitute a new bill for the one that is being used as a mark-up vehicle. Significantly, during the November 3 session of the Seiberling Subcommittee, several specific references were made to the prospect of Congressman Meeds' forwarding his bill, when drafted, as a replacement for H.R. 39 Committee Print #2. Clearly, Meeds would not be making the effort that he has scheduled if he did not hold out some realistic hope that his bill would replace H.R. 39 as the foundation for reaching a final measure.

The mark-up schedule is far more uncertain than the mark-up vehicle. At present, the House of Representatives is scheduled to reconvene on November 29 for the purpose of approving the energy legislation that House-Senate conferees are now hammering out. As you all know, there is a world of difference between the House-passed energy bill, which is essentially the Carter energy plan, and the energy bills approved by the Senate. It is impossible to foresee whether the House will stay in session for more than a day or two in December or whether it will stay for several weeks. Furthermore, it is also difficult to assess whether House members will have either the time or inclination to deal with legislative matters other than energy. Finally, it is not certain that a sufficient number of Alaska Lands Subcommittee members will be available to satisfy quorum requirements. Therefore, we would conclude that there is about a 50-50 chance that no substantive mark-up of the d-2 lands bill will occur in December.

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Status of d-2 Legislation

If mark-up does not begin in December, the probability is that mark-up will start sometime between January 11 and January 23. Once it begins, it will continue until the Subcommittee reports its final bill to the full House Interior Committee. The general consensus is that mark-up of H.R. 39 or some other d-2 lands vehicle will be a time-consuming process which should last more than a month.

Joseph M. Chomski

TO: TARGET STATES
FROM: TLT
WILL COPY AK

August 7, 1978

THE MATTER OF HIGH PRIORITY MATTER

WASHINGTON, D.C., AUGUST 7. ALTHOUGH NOT THE FIRST TO OFFER THE FORECAST THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL IS, WELL, THE LEAST QUESTIONABLE. HE HAS PUT THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS ON NOTICE: THE U.S. "ECONOMY DEMANDS OVER FOUR BILLION TONS OF NEW MINERAL SUPPLIES EACH YEAR--ABOUT 4,000 POUNDS A PERSON. THIS AMOUNT (23 PERCENT OF WORLD DEMAND) IS GROWING BUT DOMESTIC PRODUCTION IS NOT KEEPING PACE."

IN 1976 THE U.S. IMPORTED 50-100 PERCENT OF ITS REQUIREMENTS FOR 23 OF 32 MAJOR MINERALS. THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT PREDICTS THE U.S. COULD DEPEND ON IMPORTS FOR ONE-HALF OF ALL BASIC RAW MATERIALS BY 1985.

"A MINERAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT IS A HIGH PRIORITY MATTER," THE COMPTROLLER CONCLUDES.

AS MORE THAN ONE-THIRD OF THE U.S. IS OWNED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, "FEDERAL LAND IS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE NATIONAL MINERAL BASE." THE UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY PLANS TO MAP MINERALS ON 893 MILLION FEDERAL ACRES, MOSTLY IN ALASKA AND 11 WESTERN STATES. USGS HOPES TO FINISH BY 2030 A.D.

INTERIOR AND AGRICULTURE'S FOREST SERVICE REFUSE TO WAIT. THEIR LAND USE PLANS, BASED ON "IGNORANCE" IN THE COMPTROLLER'S VIEW, "DO NOT CONSIDER MINERALS IMPORTANT ENOUGH IN RELATION TO OTHER LAND VALUES." WHAT INTERIOR AND AGRICULTURE DESCRIBE AS SUCCESSFULLY COMPETING LAND USES, "PARKS, WILDLIFE REFUGES, NATIONAL FORESTS AND WILDERNESS," AMERICAN MINING CONGRESS PRESIDENT J. ALLEN OVERTON, JR. DESCRIBES AS "ENVIRONMENTALISM RUN AMOK."

IF USGS STRIKES IT RICH, COUNTER THE AGENCIES, WE CAN REVERSE THESE DECISIONS. UNLIKELY, SAYS THE COMPTROLLER. "THEY WILL HAVE DIFFICULTY REVERSING LAND USE DECISIONS... BECAUSE LAWSUITS FROM ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS AND OTHERS COULD RESULT." FURTHER, IT WILL REQUIRE A SPECIAL ACT OF CONGRESS TO WIN A REVERSAL.

BY THEIR OWN RECKONING, SINCE 1975 THE FOREST SERVICE HAS WITHDRAWN OVER TWO MILLION ACRES "WITHOUT ADEQUATE MINERAL RESOURCE STUDIES". ANOTHER 62 MILLION ACRES IS PROPOSED FOR WILDERNESS DESIGNATION UNDER THE "RARE TWO" PROGRAM.

OVER AT INTERIOR, HOPES ARE HIGH THAT CONGRESS WILL AGREE TO A 100 MILLION ACRE-PLUS WITHDRAWAL IN ALASKA. ON THIS, INTERIOR WANTS A DECISION BEFORE CONGRESS ADJOURNS IN OCTOBER; ALTHOUGH USGS ADMITS IT WILL TAKE UNTIL 2015 TO FIND OUT WHAT'S THERE.



(d)/2
**OLYMPIC
RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT
INC.**

500 Wall Street
Seattle, Washington 98121
Suite ~~403~~ 415

206/682-7973 4260

April 25, 1978

Senator Mike Colletta
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Colletta:

As you know, on March 30, 1978, we presented a proposal for a political public relations campaign before the Steering Council for Alaska Lands meeting in Juneau.

After in depth conversation with many of the members of the Council and Sharon Long, Executive Director of the Council, we were asked to further specifically amplify one area. That area was the formation and operation of a complete News Bureau for the Steering Council.

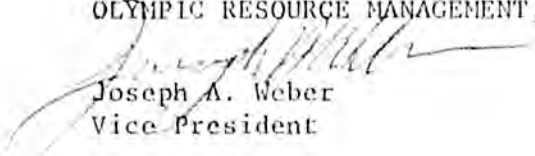
I had a two hour conference with Sharon Long in the Anchorage office on April 18 and discussed the mechanical aspects of the News Bureau and its benefits. She felt that further information would be beneficial to the Council. We have therefore prepared an additional three page synopsis and am enclosing same along with the information contained within the total proposal. Ms. Long indicated that this aspect of our proposal would be included in the agenda of the next meeting.

Also included is a copy of the contract which will be presented to the next Council meeting. If you have any suggestions or recommendations concerning changes in the contract, this may be accomplished at the meeting.

I want to express my thanks to the Council and its staff for the suggestions and opinions concerning our appearance before the Council and our subsequent conversations to date.

Sincerely yours,

OLYMPIC RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, INC.


Joseph A. Weber
Vice President

JAW/jh
Enclosures
cc: Sharon Long



**OLYMPIC
RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT
INC.**

500 Wall Street
Seattle, Washington 98121
Suite ~~402~~ 415

206/682-7075 4260

**COPY FOR YOUR
INFORMATION**

Letter of Agreement

This letter will serve as a contract between Olympic Resource Management, Inc., 500 Wall Street, Suite 415, Seattle, Washington 98121, Goodrich & Snyder, 500 Wall Street, Suite 402, Seattle, Washington 98121 and Communications West Corporation, 2316-2nd Avenue, Seattle, Washington 98121 (hereinafter known as the Consortium) and the Steering Council for Alaska Lands, 1016 West 6th Avenue, Suite B, Anchorage, Alaska 99501 (hereinafter known as the Council).

The Consortium agrees to provide to the Council for a period of _____ through _____ public relations consultation and professional services including but not limited to the formation and operation of a Council News Bureau with the following features:

A. To prepare and disseminate on a regular basis news releases, feature stories and appropriate graphic material to daily and weekly newspapers, to specialized newspapers and magazines and to appropriate house-organs, bulletins and newsletters in order to provide a continuing flow of news information about the D-2 issues.

B. To provide the necessary follow-up required to expedite and encourage use of the materials, including written, telephone and personal communication when necessary and appropriate.

C. To furnish the press throughout the U.S. with a single informational source about the D-2 campaign, a source which may be called 24-hours a day to respond to press inquiries, to furnish additional material and information and to prepare special material for special press requirements.

D. To perform such other services as outlined in the addendum to the original proposal (copy attached as exhibit A to this letter of agreement).

In addition the Consortium will provide trained news professionals including a researcher to supplement the Council's staff by researching regional information to further the goals of the Council. All personnel will be under the direction of a senior account executive.

All material prepared by the Consortium will be approved by the Executive Director of the Council or (his/her) designee.

Letter of Agreement
Page Two

It is understood and agreed that the Consortium will have the confidence, cooperation and support of the Council staff, leadership and other individuals and groups providing services to the Council.

As compensation for these services, the Council agrees to pay a monthly fee, in advance, of ten thousand two hundred fifty dollars (\$10,250.00) to the Consortium. This fee will cover the time of the Consortium personnel involved in conducting the Council News Bureau services.

Upon mutual agreement of the Consortium and the Council, additional services from the Consortium may be requested and the estimated cost of the services shall be stated in writing and agreed to in writing by the leadership of the Council.

It is understood and agreed that the Council will reimburse the Consortium for reasonable travel and out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the Consortium personnel in connection with services provided to the Council. Reimbursement shall be made upon the presentation to the Council of a written itemized list of such expenses in sufficient detail to inform the Council of their purpose and nature.

Also, it is understood and agreed that the Council will reimburse the Consortium for the costs incurred for delivery services, printed materials, postage, materials and supplies, long distance telephone calls and miscellaneous expenses necessary in the execution of services for the Council. No single item shall be contracted for by the Consortium that is in excess of the sum of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) without the written consent of the Council.

Payment for services and expenses shall be made by the Council to the Consortium upon receipt of statements. All checks should be payable to Olympic Resource Management, Inc. and mailed to 500 Wall Street, Suite 415, Seattle, Washington 98121.

It is understood and agreed that this letter of agreement may be cancelled upon thirty (30) days written notice of either party. Upon cancellation notice, written to Olympic Resource Management, Inc., 500 Wall Street, Suite 415, Seattle, Washington, 98121, the Council is obligated to pay fees for such thirty (30) day period beyond the date of notification.

It is further agreed that in the event that legislation is passed by the Congress of the United States which negates the need for services as outlined in this contract, the cancellation clause is hereby waived and this contract is void.

Any modification of this agreement shall be in writing and is valid only when executed by the signators below or their designated agents.

Letter of Agreement
Page Three

Your signature will indicate your approval of this agreement, as will the signature of the authorized representative of the Consortium.

Steve Cowper, Chairman
Steering Council for Alaska Lands

Date _____

The Consortium

Joseph A. Weber, Vice President
Olympic Resource Management, Inc.

Ed Snyder, President
Goodrich & Snyder

Robert Cogerty
Vice President/Marketing
Communications West Corporation

Attachment:
Exhibit A
Consortium/Council Agreement

Exhibit A
Consortium/Council Agreement

"D-2 NEWS CENTRAL" . . . how the news distribution process operates

The "nerve center" of the news distribution process is the computerized listing of over 22,000 printed publications including daily and weekly newspapers, magazines, periodicals and journals listed by classification, city, county, state and region and also including addresses, telephone numbers and individual names of editors and key news department officials.

This vast informational network is so comprehensive that it is literally possible to distribute a news release within minutes to publications serving over 60,000,000 readers, yet so flexible and selective that a single editor of a single publication in a single community anywhere in the U.S. may also be served.

The distribution process is accomplished in one of two ways. For urgent news items, the news may be fed into that portion of the system which involves the use of teletype machines installed in the newsrooms of all major American daily newspapers. For feature or backup news information, a specialized mailing system is utilized.

"D-2 News Central" would be linked to Anchorage headquarters by a telecopier system to permit the instant intercommunication of typewritten copy. "D-2 News Central" also would require installation of an inward/outward WATS telephone wire for the most efficient, least expensive method of two-way telephone communication.

"D-2 News Central" would operate on a round-the-clock basis, staffed by trained news professionals, including researchers, reporters, writers and editors.

Exhibit A
Consortium/Council Agreement (cont.)

"D-2 NEWS CENTRAL" . . . how the news distribution process is utilized

The media strategy decisions and the geo-political considerations are centered in and controlled by the Steering Council on Alaska Lands, (SCAL). The professional preparation and distribution of news and feature information about the issues are the functions of "D-2 News Central."

Here are some examples of how this joint operation can work:

1. SCAL determines that a sudden news development requires immediate distribution of a release. The "raw" information is fed by telecopier to "D-2 News Central" from Anchorage, or from anywhere in the U.S. Within a few minutes, the staff of "D-2 News Central" works up a suggested draft of a professionally-prepared news release and transmits it to SCAL headquarters for review and approval. Corrections, additions or deletions can be made instantly and, upon approval, the dispatch can be on its way to media centers in all or any part of the U.S.

2. SCAL strategy dictates that specially-prepared media news or feature material is urgently needed in the state of Arizona. "D-2 News Central" is assigned to research, write and distribute this information--customized to meet the geo-political requirements of the situation--and, upon approval, this news or feature information is strategically fed to the appropriate news media in that state.

3. Editors of major, influential news magazines or newspapers--Wall Street Journal, Time, Christian Science Monitor, New York Times, etc.--need to be provided with news and background information on the D-2 issue. SCAL assigns "D-2 News Central" to this task and specially-prepared information is furnished to appropriate editors, with follow-up telephone calls made to determine the acceptability and to encourage use of this information.

4. Through a review of its press clipping service, SCAL learns that a particular editor of a particular publication lacks complete information about the D-2 issue or is handicapped by misinformation. "D-2 News Central," alerted to the situation, can respond immediately, personally contact the editor or writer, offer additional information and make the editor aware of SCAL's position on the issues.

5. An editor or writer, preparing an article on D-2, calls "D-2 News Central" on the inward WATS line for further information. SCAL is notified at once, the proper response is determined, and the editor's needs are filled immediately.

6. SCAL decides that a spokesperson for D-2, scheduled to appear before a group, a legislative committee or other forum in Detroit, Michigan, requires a news release and backup materials. "D-2 News Central" provides this information, furnishes the person with names and addresses of key news media personnel in Detroit and, if appropriate, alerts the news media in advance.

Exhibit A

Consortium/Council Agreement (cont.)

"D-2 NEWS CENTRAL" . . . how the news distribution process is utilized

7. Since many national organizations--labor, for instance--have endorsed SCAL's position on the D-2 issue, it is determined that all local, state, regional and national publications reaching labor union members should be utilized for the dissemination of information about the D-2 proposals. "D-2 News Central" prepares customized news releases and background information, written specifically toward the interests of readers of organized labor publications, and distributes this information to the specialized periodicals.

Obviously, the above examples do not cover all of the possible uses of "D-2 News Central," but these should be sufficient to show the capabilities, the flexibility and effectiveness of the system.

"D-2 News Central" has similar lists of names, addresses, and telephone numbers of news directors and special program producers for all radio stations in the U.S. and of news directors, commentators, "talk show" producers and other key personnel of all TV stations in the U.S.

Also noteworthy is the fact that "D-2 News Central," if desirable and appropriate, can call upon the expert services of trained and professional public relations persons in over 60 U.S. cities to provide on-the-spot PR service and representation. This personalized, on-site service is available through our affiliation with an international PR network.

ESTABLISHMENT
AND OPERATION
OF NEWS BUREAU

Inherent in the press strategy/media contact assignments, is the need for establishing a D-2 News Bureau. The functions of the bureau would be three-fold:

1. To prepare and disseminate on a regular basis news releases, feature stories and appropriate graphic material to daily and weekly newspapers, to radio and TV stations, to specialized newspapers and magazines and to appropriate house-organs, bulletins and newsletters to provide a continuing flow of news information about the D-2 issues.

Special emphasis should be given to labor publications since they reach--through their own national magazines and through local newspapers--an estimated 17,000,000 members of organized labor.

Also, special attention must be directed to various key trade, professional and business publications. There are, for example, 11,000 specialized publications throughout the U.S. read by individuals in every conceivable kind of business, trade or profession.

The magnitude of the communications process also comes into focus in considering that there are 4300 radio stations and over 1100 TV stations within the U.S.

Together with the 12,000 daily and weekly newspapers in the U.S., this amounts to a total of over 22,000 newspapers and periodicals with a readership of over 125,000,000, virtually the entire adult population of the U.S.

2. To furnish the press throughout the U.S. with a single informational source about the D-2 campaign, a source which may be called 24-hours a day to answer questions, acquire additional information or to prepare special material which may be sought by each and every segment of the media.

3. To arrange for special press presentations in key regions of the U.S. and in national media centers, such as New York, Washington, D.C., Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, etc., so the D-2 story may be viewed on local, regional and national network TV programs, heard on radio programs and be quoted in important local, regional and national print publications.

This function would have to be located in an office of its own, with its own telephone, appropriate equipment and a full-time staff of several persons, including professional PR persons and secretarial/production personnel.

ESTABLISHMENT
AND OPERATION
OF NEWS BUREAU
(CONT.)

A special telephone line with a 24-hour answering service would be required and a (Telex or telecopier) set-up to link the office with headquarters in Alaska and other locations, would also be needed.

Some elements on the operation of this press bureau would include:

Professional service of press bureau personnel including full-time and part-time senior executives and supervisors.....

Full-time secretarial services.....

Telephone installation and monthly services.....

Telecommunications installation and monthly services.....

Office and equipment rentals.....

Postage.....

Long distance telephone calls.....

Travel and entertainment as required.....

Miscellaneous.....

PLEASE NOTE: THE FOLLOWING PAGES WERE TREATED
AS A UNIT IN THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT.

(D)(2)

Steering Council For Alaska Lands

REP. STEVE COWPER
CHAIRMAN
REP. ALVIN OSTERBACK
REP. JOE L. HAYES
SEN. CHANCY CROFT
SEN. MIKE COLLETTA
SEN. JOE ORSINI
WALTER PARKER
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1016 WEST 6TH AVENUE, SUITE B
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(907) 277-2415/16
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STATEMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE STEVE COWPER

Chairman
Steering Council for Alaska Lands

before the
Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries
Subcommittee on Fisheries and Wildlife
and the Environment
House of Representatives

SUBJECT: The Proposed "Alaska National Interest Lands
Conservation Act" - H.R. 39
April 6, 1978

Mr. Chairman: On behalf of the Steering Council for Alaska Lands, I want to thank you for the opportunity to present and discuss the policy and proposed amendments we have adopted concerning H.R. 39. Our testimony will focus on the segments of H.R. 39 over which your Committee has jurisdiction and we will attempt to address the issues specifically designated for discussion in the memorandum provided to us by your Subcommittee Counsel.

Before reaching the substance of my remarks, I would like to describe the Steering Council and its history.

In July, 1977, the Alaska Legislature created the Steering Council for Alaska Lands as a bi-partisan, nonpolitical body to determine and advocate the consensus position of the State of Alaska and the citizens of Alaska on the D-2 lands issue. Our eleven member Council is composed of three Democratic State Legislators, three Republican State Legislators, and representatives from the Governor's office, the Federal State Land Use Planning Commission, the Alaska Miners Association, the Alaskan environmental community, and the Alaska natives. As you can imagine, our meetings are often the scene of active debate.

As is its purpose, the Steering Council has attempted to put forth the interest of the majority of Alaskans consistent with the values important to all Americans. The Council has adopted a series of proposed amendments and resolutions encompassing the policies which it believes must be incorporated in any balanced D-2 legislation. We believe that the D-2 issue is not one simply of development versus the environment. It is a complex series of issues relating to preservation, land selection, land management and access which cannot be determined on a "for" or "against" basis. We have chosen not to oppose or support any specific piece of legislation but rather to focus our attention on the policy issues that are fundamental to this legislation.

In order to make policy choices, we feel that the Congress must have an accurate understanding of who Alaskans are, what they believe in, and how they treat their environment. Steering Council members who have come to Washington to visit with you and explain our concerns have been surprised by some of the misconceptions about Alaskans. There seems to be a sense that Alaskans don't care about their environment, don't care about their wildlife, and intend to rape their land and exploit resources whenever and wherever possible. Nothing could be further from the truth, and an objective assessment of our record proves this.

Our population fishes, hunts, camps, hikes and generally appreciates its outdoors and its natural beauties at least as much as the citizens of any State. I will match the record of our State leaders against those of any other State with regard to environmental and conservation issues. We have set aside nearly 6 million acres of State park and recreational lands - that is an area twice the size of Connecticut - which is quite an achievement when one considers that the State Legislature has had control over only less than 36 million acres of Alaska's lands. Our State has also been accused of being susceptible to industry exploitation pressures. Here the record is even more unim-

peachable. In order to protect fish, shellfish, and habitat, the State has recently cancelled all valid oil and gas leases in Kachemak Bay. This virtually unprecedented act occurred because we balanced the economic values versus the environmental values, and found the environment more important to conserve. I would also cite our oil and gas taxation levels, perhaps the highest oil and gas taxes imposed by any State in the nation, as another example of Alaska's resistance to industry pressures.

The Steering Council for Alaska Lands urges the Committee to adopt the series of proposed amendments that we have submitted with my testimony today. We have provided an explanation of our purposes and policies along with each of our proposals. We believe that each of these proposals would serve both the State and the nation's interest without degrading or threatening the environment of our State.

I would like to highlight a few of the most important amendments.

STATE LAND SELECTIONS

Perhaps the most emotional issue to Alaskans, and the issue that the greatest portion of Alaskans agree on, is the priority of State land selections over D-2 withdrawals. The Steering Council's position is that the 1958 Alaska Statehood Act is a compact between the citizens of the State of Alaska, who ratified it, and the United States Government. As a result, it is constitutionally ineligible for unilateral repeal by the United States Congress. It is the Council's position that the Alaska Statehood Act guarantees that the State should have land selected by it conveyed ahead of D-2 lands set aside by the Congress. While the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee is probably not the proper forum for determining the legal status of statehood acts, the Committee can determine rights, title, and use of land currently included within the Wildlife Refuge boundaries specified in H.R. 39.

The Council urges that the boundaries of the National Wildlife Refuges in H.R. 39 be redrawn in order to give the State title to all lands it has selected. If the Committee is unwilling to do so, our next best alternative is to convey certain top priority State selections to Alaska, while

retaining the other areas where State selections conflict with proposed Wildlife Refuge boundaries.

There are approximately 10 million acres where conflicts currently exist between State selections and proposed D-2 land withdrawals. The single most important area of conflict involves the proposed Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge. The conflict areas are specified as "Interest Area Nos. 43, 48, and 46" of the State selections. The selections conflict with the eastern and western portions of the Yukon Flats Refuge. If the State is allowed to select these lands, it proposes to use the eastern portion for agricultural development, a transportation corridor, forestry and some mineral development. The western portion is slated primarily for agricultural development by the State. Despite Alaska's size, only about 5% of the State has agriculture potential and 1/3 of these potential lands are in the Yukon Flats area. The Soil Conservation Service and the Cooperative Extension Service has branded these lands the most important crop lands in Alaska. We need them, we have a just claim to them, and we strongly urge you to consent to their conveyance.

The Steering Council has one final suggestion for your consideration. In the event that you decide against allowing the State to select these Yukon Flats areas, you should not forever preclude the possibility of future agricultural development on these lands. If the Committee chooses to reject both of the Steering Council's recommendations, it should, at the very least, initiate a joint study to be undertaken by the Secretary of the Interior and the State of Alaska to determine whether any or all of the uses contemplated by the State for these areas can be conducted without conflicting with the purposes of the Wildlife Refuge System. If the study finds that certain areas can sustain the uses proposed by the State without being incompatible with wildlife management, then the Secretary of the Interior should be empowered to provide special use permits to allow for said uses under environmental safeguards set out in these permits.

WILDERNESS

It is generally conceded that the imposition of a wilderness designation over a Wildlife Refuge can be either favorable or unfavorable to the wildlife populations within that refuge, depending on the individual conditions and characteristics of that Refuge and the prospects for enhance-

ment and management. Therefore, the instant wilderness overlays currently contained in H.R. 39 cannot be reconciled with the principal purposes of the National Wildlife Refuge System, namely, preservation of wildlife populations indigenous to those areas. In order to satisfy the purposes of the Wildlife Refuge Management System, studies must first be conducted to determine whether wilderness overlay will harm or help the wildlife population residing within the Refuges.

The Steering Council for Alaska Lands believes that development of adequate information on all of Alaska's lands is essential. Without it, sound land use planning is not possible. We therefore urge that wilderness overlays in wildlife refuges be limited to certain lands in the Alaska Maritime Wildlife Refuge and in the Kenai Wildlife Refuge that have been studied for wilderness designation. We recommend further that the Secretary of the Interior consider all other proposed D-2 lands in Alaska for designation as wilderness study areas and that once these studies are completed, a final decision can be made by Congress as to whether a wilderness overlay will comport with the purposes of the National Wildlife Refuge System.