

ALASKA LEGISLATURE SPECIAL COMMITTEE / SUBJECT FILES 86 / 2707

707. SCOM122: ALASKA LANDS FILE 1977-78

Literature Cited

Alaska Federation of Natives, 1979. Comments of the Alaska Federation of Natives on Alaska National Monuments; Several Management Regulations (draft document, unpublished, and used here without permission); Alaska Federation of Natives, 550 W. 8th Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska 99501.

NANA, 1974. Resources Harvested in the NANA Native Region, In; Subsistence Harvests in Five Native Regions; Anchorage, Alaska; the Joint Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission for Alaska, Resource Planning Team, pp. 9-13.

NANA, 1979. Personal communication. (Unpublished maps of seasonal subsistence use zones for each community as a result of NANA's 1972 subsistence survey.)

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



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

JOHN W. KATZ

Special Counsel to the Governor

Hall of the States
444 North Capitol Street, N.W.
Suite 345
Washington, D.C. 20001
(202) 624-5858

338 Denali Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
(907) 278-2506

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

TESTIMONY OF THE HONORABLE JAY S. HAMMOND
GOVERNOR OF ALASKA
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HEARINGS ON PROPOSED NATIONAL MONUMENT REGULATIONS
August 15, 1979

GOOD AFTERNOON: MY NAME IS JAY HAMMOND, GOVERNOR OF ALASKA. WITH ME TODAY IS JOHN KATZ, MY SPECIAL COUNSEL FOR ALASKA LANDS. I APPRECIATE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT THE STATE'S POSITION ON THE REGULATIONS RECENTLY PROPOSED BY THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT TO GOVERN THE FUTURE ADMINISTRATION OF THE NATIONAL MONUMENTS CREATED LAST YEAR BY PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION.

MY REMARKS TODAY WILL BE REASONABLY BRIEF. THE PROPOSED REGULATIONS REQUIRE A DETAILED LINE-BY-LINE ANALYSIS WHICH CANNOT READILY BE PRESENTED IN A FEW MINUTES OF ORAL TESTIMONY. ACCORDINGLY, WITHIN THE NEXT COUPLE OF WEEKS, MY ADMINISTRATION WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH OUR COMMENTS AND SUGGESTED CHANGES. THIS CRITIQUE WILL REFLECT THE INPUT OF A NUMBER OF STATE AGENCIES AND OF MANY ALASKANS WHO ARE CURRENTLY GIVING US THEIR SUGGESTIONS.

MY ADMINISTRATION IS ADAMANTLY OPPOSED TO THE CREATION OF NATIONAL MONUMENTS, WILDLIFE REFUGES, AND SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS BY UNILATERAL ACTION OF THE PRESIDENT OR THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR. WE VIEW SUCH ACTION AS A GROSS ABUSE OF FEDERAL POWER AND A USURPATION OF AUTHORITY VESTED IN THE CONGRESS UNDER THE U.S. CONSTITUTION. HOWEVER, GIVEN THE GREAT UNCERTAINTY ABOUT FUTURE LEGISLATIVE AND JUDICIAL RESOLUTIONS OF THE ALASKA LANDS ISSUE, IT WOULD BE IRRESPONSIBLE, IN MY OPINION, FOR US TO IGNORE THE MANY SUBSTANTIAL PROBLEMS WHICH

WE HAVE IDENTIFIED IN THE PROPOSED MONUMENT REGULATIONS. ACCORDINGLY, MY ADMINISTRATION WILL PARTICIPATE CONSTRUCTIVELY IN THE RULEMAKING PROCESS, AND WE APPRECIATE THE OPPORTUNITIES WHICH THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT IS PROVIDING SO THAT WE CAN ACCOMPLISH THIS RESULT. NEVERTHELESS, OUR PARTICIPATION AND MY REMARKS TODAY SHOULD NOT BE CONSTRUED IN ANY WAY AS CONCEDED OR COMPROMISING ANY POINT IN THE STATE'S LAWSUIT AGAINST THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OR OUR LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS RESPECTING THE (D)(2) LANDS.

WHILE WE HAVE MANY SERIOUS PROBLEMS WITH THE PROPOSED REGULATIONS, WE RECOGNIZE THAT IN CERTAIN IMPORTANT RESPECTS, THE REGULATIONS RELAX OR OTHERWISE BENEFICIALLY MODIFY FAR MORE STRINGENT RULES THAT WOULD OTHERWISE APPLY. IN THIS REGARD, IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT THERE HAS BEEN SHARP DEBATE WITHIN THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT ABOUT WHETHER TO APPLY EXISTING REGULATIONS WHICH WERE DEVELOPED IN OTHER CONTEXTS OR TO SEEK A SOLUTION TAILORED TO ALASKA'S UNIQUE SITUATION. WE ARE PLEASED THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAS AT LEAST STARTED DOWN THE LATTER ROAD, AND I ENCOURAGE YOU TO BUILD ON THIS BEGINNING BY REDOUBLING YOUR EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A SENSITIVE, NON-BUREAUCRATIC SOLUTION TO THE CHALLENGE PRESENTED BY THE MONUMENT DESIGNATIONS.

THE BASIS OF OUR WORK ON THE ALASKA LANDS ISSUE--OUR SO-CALLED "MARCHING ORDER"--IS A RESOLUTION ENACTED BY THE STATE LEGISLATURE EARLIER THIS YEAR. THIS RESOLUTION DIRECTS US TO WORK FOR A FAIR AND BALANCED LEGISLATIVE SOLUTION WHICH ADDRESSES ALASKA'S SOVEREIGN, SOCIAL, AND ECONOMIC CONCERNS. WHILE THE PURPOSE OF THE RESOLUTION IS TO GUIDE OUR LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS, CERTAIN OBJECTIVES STATED THEREIN RELATE GENERALLY TO

THE MANAGEMENT OF FEDERAL LANDS, AND THEREFORE APPLY WITH EQUAL FORCE TO THE DEPARTMENT'S PROPOSED RULEMAKING.

THE RESOLUTION ASKS FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ONLY THAT WHICH THE RESPONSIBLE REPRESENTATIVES OF ANY STATE WOULD REQUEST. IN BRIEF, WE ASK THAT ANY RESOLUTION OF THE ALASKA LANDS ISSUE CONTAIN PROVISIONS TO: (1) FULFILL ALASKA'S ENTITLEMENT UNDER THE STATEHOOD ACT; (2) PROVIDE NEEDED ACCESS ACROSS CONSERVATION SYSTEM UNITS; (3) INSURE CONTINUING STATE MANAGEMENT OF RESIDENT WILDLIFE AND FISH; (4) EXCLUDE HIGH-VALUE COMMODITY RESOURCES FROM THE BOUNDARIES OF OVERLY RESTRICTIVE CONSERVATION UNITS WITHIN WHICH EVEN THE MOST ENVIRONMENTALLY-RESPONSIBLE DEVELOPMENT WOULD BE PRECLUDED; (5) ASSURE TRADITIONAL ALASKAN USES AT EXISTING LEVELS; AND (6) REQUIRE ADMINISTRATIVE FOREBEARANCE FROM THE IMPOSITION OF ADDITIONAL CONSERVATION WITHDRAWALS.

UNFORTUNATELY, THE PRESIDENT'S UNILATERAL DESIGNATION OF NEW NATIONAL MONUMENTS HAS ALREADY THWARTED SOME OF THE OBJECTIVES JUST STATED. WE RECOGNIZE THAT THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR LACKS THE AUTHORITY TO RECTIFY THESE PROBLEMS. ONLY A FAIR LEGISLATIVE SETTLEMENT CAN FULLY ACHIEVE OUR DESIRED GOALS. HOWEVER, REASONABLE MONUMENT REGULATIONS CAN AT LEAST PARTIALLY ADDRESS SOME OF THE CONCERNS THAT WE HAVE EXPRESSED. IN PARTICULAR, SUCH REGULATIONS CAN INSURE NEEDED ACCESS ACROSS MONUMENT LAND, PROVIDE FOR CONTINUING STATE MANAGEMENT OF RESIDENT WILDLIFE AND FISH, AND PERMIT THE CONTINUATION OF TRADITIONAL ALASKAN LAND USES.

BEFORE ASSESSING THE PROPOSED REGULATIONS IN TERMS OF THOSE CONSENSUS POINTS WHICH ARE ACHIEVABLE BY ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION, I WANT TO TOUCH BRIEFLY ON CERTAIN GENERAL CONCERNS RAISED BY THE PROPOSED RULES.

THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT THAT THE PROPOSED REGULATIONS WOULD SIGNIFICANTLY EXPAND FEDERAL BUREAUCRACY AND CONTROL. WHEN THE MONUMENTS WERE ESTABLISHED LAST YEAR, THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY STATED THAT SUCH ACTION WAS NECESSARY TO PROVIDE INTERIM PROTECTION PENDING FINAL CONGRESSIONAL ACTION. WE STRONGLY DISAGREE THAT THE CREATION OF 56 MILLION ACRES OF NATIONAL MONUMENTS WAS NECESSARY FOR THIS PURPOSE. IN ANY EVENT, THE DECISION TO PROMULGATE FINAL RULES BELIES THE PRESIDENT'S STATED OBJECTIVE.

THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THAT THE EXISTING INTERIM REGULATIONS, PERHAPS AS AMENDED IN A FEW RESPECTS, DO NOT PROVIDE WHATEVER PROTECTION THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FELT NECESSARY. AND, THE INTERIM REGULATIONS ARE CERTAINLY FAR LESS ONEROUS AND RESTRICTIVE THAN THE PROPOSED RULES CURRENTLY UNDER CONSIDERATION. MOREOVER, IT IS WORTH NOTING THAT SOME OF THE DIRECTIVES CONTAINED IN THE PROPOSED REGULATIONS ARE INCONSISTENT WITH ANY OF THE PENDING (D)(2) BILLS. THEREFORE, SIGNIFICANT MODIFICATIONS IN ANY FINAL REGULATIONS WOULD BE NECESSARY TO COMPLY WITH DIRECTIVES CONTAINED IN ANY SUBSEQUENT LEGISLATION. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, IT IS DIFFICULT TO PERCEIVE WHY THE PUBLIC MUST BE SUBJECTED TO A POSSIBLE SEQUENCE OF RAPIDLY CHANGING ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGISLATIVE GUIDELINES, WITH THE CONCOMITANT CONFUSION AND RESENTMENT WHICH WILL INEVITABLY RESULT.

WHILE THE DEPARTMENT HAS MADE AN EFFORT TO AVOID THE INEVITABLE RESULT, I HAVE LITTLE DOUBT BUT THAT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSED REGULATIONS WOULD IMPOSE A "PERMIT" LIFESTYLE ON MANY RURAL ALASKANS AND OTHERS DESIRING TO USE MONUMENT LANDS. ADMITTEDLY, NOT ALL USES WOULD REQUIRE A PERMIT, BUT MANY IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES WOULD BE SUBJECT TO SUCH PRIOR APPROVAL. IN ADDITION, BUREAUCRATIC DETERMINATIONS, WITH THE ASSOCIATED PAPERWORK, WOULD BE REQUIRED IN CONNECTION WITH A NUMBER OF CRUCIAL DETERMINATIONS RESPECTING LAND USE AND INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBILITY FOR CERTAIN BENEFITS.

I FIND MOST OF THIS BUREAUCRATIC CONTROL TO BE UNFORTUNATE AND UNNECESSARY. THERE IS LITTLE TO SUGGEST THAT TRADITIONAL ALASKAN USE OF FEDERAL LAND HAS RESULTED IN SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL DISTURBANCE OR OTHER PROBLEMS NECESSITATING GREATLY INCREASED FEDERAL CONTROL. BEYOND THIS, MANY ALASKANS RESIDE IN RURAL AREAS PARTLY TO ESCAPE FROM THE BUREAUCRACY, AND MANY LACK THE EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE WHICH MAY BE NECESSARY TO PROTECT THEIR RIGHTS UNDER THE REGULATORY SCHEME CURRENTLY BEING PROPOSED. THUS, THE DEPARTMENT'S FAILURE TO DEVELOP REGULATIONS WHICH ARE TRULY SENSITIVE TO THESE CONSIDERATIONS COULD RESULT IN THE END OF A LIFESTYLE WHICH SHOULD BE PROTECTED AND FOSTERED IN THESE DAYS OF INCREASING CONFORMITY AND CENTRALIZATION.

WHILE THE PROPOSED REGULATIONS DO SEEK TO ADDRESS CERTAIN UNIQUE ASPECTS OF LIFE IN ALASKA, THE LITTLE PRINT OFTEN TAKES AWAY WHAT THE BIG PRINT PROVIDES. IN OTHER WORDS, THE SEEMING ALLOWANCE OF A PARTICULAR USE IS OFTEN BELIED BY THE TREMENDOUS DISCRETION GIVEN

TO SOME FEDERAL OFFICIAL TO DENY OR RESTRICT THAT USE. THUS, FOR EXAMPLE, THE ALLOWANCE OF CERTAIN LAND USES WITHIN NATIONAL MONUMENTS ADMINISTERED BY THE PARK SERVICE IS CONDITIONED UPON THE COMPATIBILITY OF SUCH USES WITH A LAUNDRY LIST OF OTHER CONCERNS, INCLUDING "AESTHETICS." SINCE AESTHETICS IS PURELY A SUBJECTIVE CONCEPT, HOW WILL AN AGGRIEVED PARTY SUCCESSFULLY CHALLENGE AN ADMINISTRATOR'S DETERMINATION THAT A PARTICULAR USE IS NOT AESTHETICALLY PLEASING? ACCORDINGLY, I THINK THAT THE LIST OF FACTORS WHICH CAN DEFEAT AN APPARENTLY ALLOWED USE SHOULD BE SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCED. AT LEAST AS IMPORTANT, WRITTEN FINDINGS, DIRECT CONSULTATION, AND OTHER PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS (NOT JUST RULEMAKING IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER) SHOULD BE REQUIRED, EVEN IN SITUATIONS WHERE A PERMIT IS NOT INVOLVED.

ANOTHER REGRETTABLE CONSEQUENCE OF THE PROPOSED REGULATIONS IS THAT THEY COULD HAVE THE EFFECT OF ALTERING THE TRADITIONAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE CITIZENS OF A STATE, ON THE ONE HAND, AND THEIR STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS, ON THE OTHER. UNDER THE PROPOSED REGULATIONS, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WOULD BECOME INTIMATELY INVOLVED IN DAY-TO-DAY DECISIONS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE USERS OF NATIONAL MONUMENTS. THIS AUTHORITY WOULD EXTEND TO AN AREA LARGER THAN THE COMBINED TOTAL ACREAGE OF MANY STATES.

THUS, WHILE THE PROPOSED REGULATIONS PURPORT TO DEAL WITH LAND MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION, THEIR SUBJECT MATTER IS SO COMPREHENSIVE AS TO IMPACT ON TRADITIONAL SPHERES OF GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY AND CONTROL. I DOUBT THAT THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT INTENDS TO ALTER THESE TRADITIONAL RELATIONSHIPS, BUT GREAT CARE MUST BE TAKEN TO AVOID UNINTENDED RESULTS.

ALASKANS FOUGHT TOO HARD FOR STATEHOOD TO SEE THEIR EFFORTS THWARTED BY ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION WHICH COULD SUBSTITUTE FEDERAL SOVEREIGNTY FOR STATE JURISDICTION, AND THEREBY MARK A PARTIAL RETURN TO TERRITORIAL DAYS.

I WILL NEXT TURN TO A BRIEF ANALYSIS OF THE PROPOSED REGULATIONS IN TERMS OF THE THREE CONSENSUS POINTS WHICH ARE RELEVANT TO THE CURRENT ADMINISTRATIVE PROPOSALS. IN EACH INSTANCE, OUR DETAILED WRITTEN COMMENTS WILL ELABORATE UPON OUR CONCERNS AND ACCEPTABLE SOLUTIONS THERETO.

TRADITIONAL MANAGEMENT OF RESIDENT WILDLIFE AND FISH

ONE OF THE CARDINAL TENETS RELATED TO THIS CONSENSUS POINT IS THAT THERE MUST BE NO DIRECT FEDERAL OVERSIGHT OR INVOLVEMENT IN THE STATE'S MANAGEMENT OF RESIDENT WILDLIFE AND FISH. THE MONUMENT REGULATIONS PROPOSED BY THE PARK SERVICE AND THE FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE REPRESENT A GIANT STEP BACKWARD IN THIS REGARD. IGNORING SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS MADE IN THE SUBSISTENCE TITLE OF THE BREAUX-DINGELL BILL AND IN S.9, NOW PENDING BEFORE THE SENATE ENERGY COMMITTEE, THE TWO REGULATORY PROPOSALS WOULD AUTHORIZE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL TO BECOME DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN STATE MANAGEMENT DECISIONS, INCLUDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SEASONS, BAG LIMITS, AND METHODS OF TAKE. FEW OF THE PROTECTIONS PROVIDED THE STATE IN BREAUX-DINGELL AND S.9 WOULD BE AFFORDED.

AS A CONSEQUENCE, THE STATE'S EFFORTS TO MANAGE SPECIES ON A COMPREHENSIVE BASIS WITHOUT REGARD TO LAND OWNERSHIP COULD BE JEOPARDIZED.

MOREOVER, OUR STRONG INTEREST IN MANAGING RESIDENT WILDLIFE AND FISH, WHICH WAS ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVES IN OUR FIGHT FOR STATEHOOD, COULD BE THWARTED.

ACCORDINGLY, WE SUGGEST THAT THE REGULATIONS INCLUDE A GENERAL CONFIRMATION OF THE STATE'S TRADITIONAL ROLE WITH RESPECT TO THE MANAGEMENT OF RESIDENT WILDLIFE AND FISH. IN ADDITION, THE REGULATION OF SUBSISTENCE USE SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT PURSUANT TO POLICIES AND PROCEDURES WHICH EXIST IN STATE LAW OR HAVE PREVIOUSLY BEEN SUPPORTED BY THE ALASKA CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION AND MY ADMINISTRATION. IN THIS REGARD, IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE STATE, BY STATUTE AND REGULATION, HAS ALREADY IMPLEMENTED A SUBSISTENCE REGULATORY PROGRAM WHICH WILL PROTECT AND FOSTER SUBSISTENCE USES. THEREFORE, THERE IS NO NEED FOR ANY ONEROUS FEDERAL OVERSIGHT AND CONTROL.

ANOTHER MATTER WHICH IS OF GREAT CONCERN TO US RELATES TO THOSE PORTIONS OF THE PARK SERVICE PROPOSALS WHICH WOULD ESTABLISH SUBSISTENCE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA BASED PARTLY ON ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE AND HISTORICAL USE. THE USE OF ECONOMIC CRITERIA WOULD CREATE ARBITRARY DISTINCTIONS AND WOULD APPEAR UNWORKABLE ON THE BASIS OF PAST EXPERIENCE. A REQUIREMENT OF HISTORICAL USE WOULD HAVE THE EFFECT OF CREATING A CLOSED CLASS OF SUBSISTENCE USERS, THUS DENYING ALASKANS OUR TRADITIONAL FREEDOM TO MOVE WITHOUT CONSTRAINTS FROM ONE PLACE TO ANOTHER.

I MUST ALSO OBJECT TO THAT PORTION OF THE PROPOSED RULEMAKING WHICH INDICATES THAT THE STATE HAS BEEN DILATORY IN ITS IDENTIFICATION OF SUBSISTENCE USERS. IN FACT, THE STATE HAS BEEN ABLE TO DEVELOP

INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS WHICH HAVE AVOIDED THE NECESSITY OF ESTABLISHING A BUREAUCRATIC REGIME LIKE THE ONE CURRENTLY PROPOSED BY THE PARK SERVICE. I AM HOPEFUL THAT WE WILL BE SUCCESSFUL IN ALTERING THIS PROPOSAL, BECAUSE THE STATE, THROUGH ITS OWN MANAGEMENT PROGRAM, WILL NOT IMPLEMENT AN ARBITRARY FEDERAL REGIME.

PROVIDE NEEDED ACCESS ACROSS CONSERVATION SYSTEM UNITS

THE ISSUE OF ACCESS ACROSS CONSERVATION UNITS IN TURN CAN BE BROKEN DOWN INTO AT LEAST THREE SUBISSUES. THE FIRST OF THESE CONCERNS ACCESS FOR TRANSPORTATION AND UTILITY PURPOSES. UNFORTUNATELY, DUE TO SERIOUS WEAKNESSES AND CONSTRAINTS IN EXISTING LAW, BOTH THE PARK SERVICE AND THE FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE ARE PRECLUDED FROM ADOPTING CERTAIN POLICIES AND PROCEDURES WHICH WOULD RESOLVE MANY OF THE PROBLEMS THAT WILL PROBABLY ARISE ON MONUMENT LANDS. TO RESOLVE THESE PROBLEMS, THE STATE HAS PROPOSED, AND OBTAINED THE INCLUSION IN CERTAIN (D)(2) BILLS OF, A TRANSPORTATION TITLE WHICH WOULD REPRESENT A TREMENDOUS IMPROVEMENT OVER EXISTING LAW.

THE SECOND SUBISSUE RELATES TO ACCESS TO STATE AND PRIVATE LANDS LOCATED WITHIN MONUMENT BOUNDARIES. WHILE THE PROPOSED REGULATIONS DO PROVIDE SOME ASSURANCE OF SUCH ACCESS, THE ASSOCIATED CONDITIONS AND PROVISOS DILUTE THE STRENGTH OF THIS ASSURANCE. ACCORDINGLY, WE WILL BE PROPOSING LANGUAGE BASED UPON SOME OF THE PROGRESS THAT WE HAVE MADE IN THE LEGISLATIVE ARENA.

THE THIRD SUBISSUE CONCERNS TRADITIONAL ACCESS BY SNOWMACHINE, AIRCRAFT, MOTORBOAT, AND OTHER MEANS. UNDER THE PROPOSED REGULATIONS, THE PROMISE OF SUCH ACCESS IS SERIOUSLY WEAKENED BY THE TREMENDOUS DISCRETION GIVEN

TO INTERIOR DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL TO CLOSE AN AREA OR OTHERWISE TO RESTRICT ACCESS IN THE FUTURE. THE ANOMOLOUS TREATMENT OF AIRCRAFT ACCESS IN THE PROPOSED PARK SERVICE REGULATIONS COULD ALSO CREATE FUTURE DIFFICULTIES. AS INDICATED PREVIOUSLY, WE BELIEVE THAT THE AMBIT OF ADMINISTRATIVE DISCRETION MUST BE SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCED AND PROTECTIVE PROCEDURES ADOPTED IF THE ACCESS-RELATED OBJECTIVES OF THE REGULATIONS ARE TO BE ACHIEVED.

ASSURE TRADITIONAL ALASKAN USES AT EXISTING LEVELS

THIS IS A COMPLICATED ISSUE WHICH CAN BE ADDRESSED ONLY SUPERFICIALLY IN THIS BRIEF TESTIMONY. OF COURSE, ONE VERY IMPORTANT TRADITIONAL USE--SPORT HUNTING--HAS ALREADY BEEN PRECLUDED BY THE PROCLAMATIONS ESTABLISHING MONUMENTS UNDER PARK SERVICE JURISDICTION. WE DISPUTE THE PARK SERVICE'S CLAIM THAT EXISTING STATUTES PROHIBIT SPORT HUNTING IN THE MONUMENTS UNDER ITS CONTROL, BUT WE RECOGNIZE THAT THIS ISSUE CANNOT BE RESOLVED IN THE PRESENT RULEMAKING.

WHILE THE PROPOSED REGULATIONS PURPORT TO ALLOW CERTAIN OTHER TRADITIONAL USES, THIS PROMISE IS WEAKENED BY THE FACTORS REFERRED TO PREVIOUSLY. MOREOVER, OTHER USES WHICH HAVE CAUSED VERY LITTLE ENVIRONMENTAL DISTURBANCE IN THE PAST--FOR EXAMPLE, THE CONSTRUCTION OF CABINS AND SHELTERS--ARE NOW PROHIBITED OR CONDITIONED UPON THE ACQUISITION OF A PERMIT. THE BASIC THRUST OF OUR SUGGESTIONS IN THESE AREAS WILL BE TO EXPAND THE NUMBER OF TRADITIONAL USES WHICH ARE ALLOWED, TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL PROCEDURAL PROTECTIONS, AND TO REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF PAPERWORK AND BUREAUCRACY ASSOCIATED WITH A REQUEST TO UTILIZE MONUMENT LANDS.

IN CLOSING, I WANT TO EXPRESS TO YOU THE TREMENDOUS FRUSTRATION AND MALAISE WHICH MOST ALASKANS FEEL WITH RESPECT TO THE CONTINUING SUCCESSION OF UNILATERAL FEDERAL ACTIONS AND PROPOSALS LEADING TO THE CREATION OF NEW NATIONAL MONUMENTS, WILDLIFE REFUGES, AND SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS. ONLY A SUCCESSFUL LEGISLATIVE OR JUDICIAL RESOLUTION OF THE ALASKA LANDS ISSUE WILL DISSIPATE THESE FRUSTRATIONS. MEANWHILE, THE PROMULGATION OF REGULATIONS WHICH TRULY ADDRESS OUR CONCERNS AND THE SENSITIVE ADMINISTRATION OF SUCH REGULATIONS COULD HELP REDUCE SOME OF THE ADVERSE CONSEQUENCES OF THE UNILATERAL FEDERAL ACTIONS WHICH WE SO OPPOSE. IN THIS WAY, CONFLICT AND HARDSHIP MIGHT BE REDUCED IN THE INTERIM PENDING A MORE SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION. ACCORDINGLY, I URGE THE DEPARTMENT'S CAREFUL ATTENTION TO THE CONCERNS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR CHANGE WHICH WILL BE EXPRESSED BY ALASKANS RELATIVE TO VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE PROPOSED REGULATIONS.

THANK YOU FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT THE GENERAL FRAMEWORK OF THE STATE'S MISSION.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF ALASKA

STATE OF ALASKA, et al,	)	
	)	
Plaintiffs,	)	
	)	
vs.	)	No. A78-291 Civil
	)	
JAMES EARL CARTER, President	)	
of the United States, et al,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	

AFFIDAVIT OF JOHN W. KATZ

I, JOHN W. KATZ, having been first duly sworn, on oath, depose and state that:

1. I am the special counsel (to the Governor of the State of Alaska) in charge of the State's (d)(2) office in Washington, D.C., and have been in that capacity since February 1, 1979;
2. I spend approximately one-half of my time in Washington, D.C., including most of the preceeding five weeks;
3. While in Washington, D.C., I have contacts, either directly or through lobbyists, with Alaska's Congressional delegation, leadership in both houses of the Congress, and the members of various committees, including the Senate Energy Committee;
4. At the present time, there is major legislation pending before the Congress when it returns from the summer recess. This legislation includes the Salt II Treaty, various energy proposals, and certain authorization and appropriation measures;
5. It is my belief that while a (d)(2) bill will probably be reported by the Senate Energy Committee, such legislation will not be brought to the floor of the Senate this year unless there is consent to a time agreement. Approval of such an agreement requires the unanimous consent of the Senate, and that is highly unlikely;

BIRCH, HORTON, BITTNER, MONROE,
PESTINGER AND ANDERSON
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
1127 WEST SEVENTH AVENUE
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501
TELEPHONE (907) 276-1550

7. The timing of any Congressional action on (d) (2) legislation next year is extremely difficult to predict. For one thing, it is likely that some of the energy and other measures now pending will be held over until next year. For another, at least one Senator has indicated his intention to attempt to block Senate passage of a (d) (2) bill. Finally, if the Senate passes a (d) (2) bill which is different than the measure previously passed by the House--and this is at least reasonably likely--a conference committee would be required to resolve the differences. This process of compromise could be quite lengthy, with no certainty that a resolution acceptable to both the House and Senate can be achieved.

John W. Katz

STATE OF ALASKA)
) ss.
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT)

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 9th day of August, 1979.

Darius G. Maughan
Notary Public in and for Alaska
My Commission Expires: 6-17-80

**BIRCH, HORTON, LITNER, MONROE,
PESTINGER AND ANDERSON**
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
1127 WEST SEVENTH AVENUE
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501
TELEPHONE (907) 276-1550

Myths and Facts About the Alaska Lands Legislation

July 26, 1979

The following statements have been taken directly from testimony presented by Congressmen Udall and Seiberling and from correspondence to Congress written by members of the Carter Administration. Not only are these statements extremely inaccurate and misleading in themselves, they contribute to a pattern of hyperbole and misperception which has pervaded the Alaska lands debate from the beginning.

Most of the statements have been advanced as arguments in support of the Udall-Anderson bill. In this context, the statements take on added significance, because they have become a misleading basis for an advocacy position. Since the statements discussed below deal with such important elements of the pending legislation, we feel compelled to set the record straight.

General Statements and Philosophy

1. Myth: "...The Udall-Anderson bill is the fair and balanced bill the House passed last year..." --Congressman Udall, testimony before the House Rules Committee, April 30, 1979.

Fact: The Udall-Anderson bill is not the bill that passed the House last year. There are many significant differences and omissions. For example, the Udall-Anderson bill increases the amount of wilderness acreage, particularly in the extremely sensitive region of Southeastern Alaska, omits important provisions relating to the conveyance of State lands, creates additional conflicts with commodity resources and State selection desires, and significantly increases the total amount of acreage that would be affected by Alaska lands legislation.

Moreover, it should be noted that some of the principal proponents of the Udall-Anderson bill claimed that the

*With certain exceptions not relevant here, the so-called Huckaby bill reported by the House Interior Committee is identical to S.9, which is now pending before (and was reported last year by) the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Therefore, statements and rebuttals addressed to *. House measure apply equally to S.9 and the Senate's consideration of that bill.

Senate would pass a weak Alaska lands bill, and that therefore it was necessary for the House to pass Udall-Anderson in order to establish a strong negotiating position in the conference committee. There has never been any evidence that the Senate would treat the Alaska lands legislation in the manner just indicated. In fact, the Senate Energy Committee reported a strong environmental bill last year.

2. Myth: "...In our approach we have been guided by two principles. One is save and preserve only the areas of true national significance. The other...is that we exclude areas of economic interests..." --Congressman Udall, testimony before the House Rules Committee, April 30, 1979.

Fact: Proponents of all the Alaska lands bills support these principles. The problem is that the Udall-Anderson bill does not apply them. For example, that proposal would include in wilderness areas two of Alaska's seven world-class mineral discoveries identified by the Stanford Research Institute. (Also see comments regarding the Arctic Wildlife Range and Southeast Alaska.)

3. Myth: "It is very clear that two-thirds of Alaska is wide open (for development)..." --Congressman Udall, testimony before the House Rules Committee, April 30, 1979.

Fact: This is not an acreage game. Resources, whether they be beautiful scenery, minerals, or wildlife habitat, are where you find them.

Moreover, the State has enacted stringent land use and environmental controls which apply to State and private lands. In addition, the State has created numerous State parks and critical habitat areas, including two of the largest State parks in the United States. Several Federal statutes regulate or prohibit activities on Federal lands which are unaffected by the D-2 legislation, and certain Federal environmental laws apply to all lands.

Energy

4. Myth: "...The most likely sources (of oil and gas) are offshore. Every single area is available. We mandate the Secretary to go ahead and start leasing this. Of the 149 million sedimentary basins onshore, all are made available except 2 million..." --Congressman Udall, testimony before the House Rules Committee, April 30, 1979.

Fact: Neither the Udall-Anderson bill nor any other pending Alaska lands measure deals with oil and gas development on the

Outer Continental Shelf. This matter was treated in legislation enacted by the Congress last year. Moreover, it should be recognized that oil development in Arctic Coastal areas poses environmental risks far exceeding those associated with upland development or OCS development elsewhere in the country.

With respect to the last sentence quoted above, the Udall-Anderson bill would prohibit oil and gas development in ten million acres of favorable onshore petroleum provinces, as identified by the United States Bureau of Mines. Portions of these provinces are included in national parks, park preserves, and wilderness areas located in national forests and wildlife refuges.

5. Myth: "...95% of the oil and gas potential, both the high and favorable, as well as the sedimentary basins, is open for development." --Congressman Seiberling, testimony before the House Rules Committee, April 30, 1979.

Fact: In addition to the response to Myth No. 4, petroleum experts make it clear that the existing data base will not support such assertions. One memorandum prepared by geologists for the State of Alaska concludes:

"Thus, a statement such as '95% of the energy resources of Alaska lie outside proposed D-2 boundaries' is inaccurate, misleading, incomplete, and incorrect, unless the author has some statistically correct means of concomitantly stating how sure, or how unsure, he is of his estimate. If he cannot make this important qualification, his statement is not only meaningless, but a distortion of the truth."

Moreover, Congressman Seiberling's statement presupposes the inclusion of an adequate title relating to the transportation of energy resources. The transportation title in the Udall-Anderson bill is not nearly as good as its counterpart in other pending measures, and therefore could discourage development located far from existing transportation facilities.

Finally, it should be noted that the Udall-Anderson bill would substantially alter the system for upland oil and gas leasing in certain areas. The net effect of these changes is to create a bifurcated approval process that would probably impede future leasing. The need for such changes is questionable, particularly since the existing Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 has worked reasonably well and has frequently been amended to address environmental and other concerns.

6. Myth: "...recently the USGS made tests right next to the (Arctic National Wildlife) Range and they find that the facts on which they had extrapolated are incorrect. They have downgraded their estimates to the point where it looks like it is not even an economically viable potential..." --Congressman Seiberling, testimony before the House Rules Committee, April 30, 1979.

Fact: There has been no new testing in the Arctic Wildlife Range. The USGS report referred to by Congressman Seiberling consisted of a re-evaluation of the existing data base. The report simply indicated that the physical conditions governing oil and gas potential in the Arctic Wildlife Range are probably somewhat different than those at Prudhoe Bay. Most petroleum experts still believe that the coastal plain of the Arctic Wildlife Range is the most promising unexplored upland petroleum province on the North American continent.

7. Myth: "...You could not get any more oil (out of) Alaska if you wanted to. You would have to build another pipeline..." --Congressman Udall, testimony before the House Rules Committee, April 30, 1979.

Fact: This is simply not true. The present oil pipeline is not operating at full capacity, and could receive additional through-puts. In addition, given the lead time required for exploration and development, it is likely that the Prudhoe Bay field be will declining about the time that new discoveries would come on line.

8. Myth: "The Bill (Udall-Anderson) will expedite leasing in this Reserve (National Petroleum Reserve - Alaska) and is preferable to any alternative before the House." --Secretary Schlesinger, correspondence to Congressman Ashley, dated May 4, 1979.

Fact: While the Udall-Anderson bill does contain provisions for expediting leasing in the National Petroleum Reserve - Alaska, those provisions are actually weaker than ones included in the Breaux-Dingell bill, which was pending at the time of Secretary Schlesinger's letter. For example, in contradistinction to Breaux-Dingell, the Udall measure, as it existed at the time of Secretary Schlesinger's letter, did not mandate a deadline for leasing. On the House floor, the Udall-Anderson bill was amended to include the stronger language from Breaux-Dingell.

9. Myth: "Although it is true that some of the areas in Alaska that will be foreclosed to development have favorable geological anomalies which are potentially important for oil and gas,

the total amount of possible oil and gas acreage in Alaska for which exploration and development would be prohibited is not great." --Secretary Schlesinger, correspondence to Congressman Ashley, dated May 4, 1979.

Fact: While this statement is true, its use to support the Udall-Anderson approach is quite misleading, especially in its inference that the exploration and development of important new energy sources in Alaska would not be adversely impacted by H.R. 39. Acres of land are not barrels of oil, and as mentioned above, the Udall-Anderson bill would foreclose exploration of the most significant upland petroleum prospect in Alaska. Moreover, the foreclosed acreage lies in close proximity to the recent discoveries near Point Thompson and to the existing Trans-Alaska Pipeline.

State Lands

10. Myth: "...Mr. Udall didn't mention that in addition to the 105 million that the State has been granted to select, and they have already selected 100 of those 105 million and the argument is only about the other 5 million which they want to select into parks and so forth. The natives have gotten 44 million acres granted to them so you have a total of 149 million acres that are going to go to the inhabitants of the State..." --Congressman Seiberling, testimony before the House Rules Committee, April 30, 1979.

Fact: Of the 103.5 million acres promised to the State of Alaska some 20 years ago in the Alaska Statehood Act, the State has received effective title (patent and tentative approval) to only 36 million acres. While the State has filed selections encompassing many more millions of acres of its entitlement, much of this acreage is presently under administrative or judicial challenge by the Federal Government. If the Federal Government is successful--and we will probably not have a final answer for several years--the State will fall far short of its total entitlement, but the deadline for selection (which is 1984) will have expired. Moreover, while the location of most Native selections is not fixed, less than 9 million acres of the total Native entitlement promised in 1971 has been conveyed.

11. Myth: "We do not support the expedited conveyance language in...this bill (Huckaby) and recommend that it be deleted from the bill. Substantial policy, procedural, and administrative changes have begun to make the existing conveyance process function as it should." --Secretary Andrus, correspondence to Congressman Udall, dated March 13, 1979.

Fact: The State conveyance language included in the Huckaby bill, S.9, and the version of H.R. 39 which passed the House last year, was developed during an intensive process which

involved the direct participation of the Department of the Interior. Despite important "administrative and procedural" changes which the Department has made since then, the existing conveyance process has not yet begun to "function as it should." In late 1978, Secretary Andrus announced that the State would receive conveyance to considerable acreage during 1979. Well over half the year has passed, and the State has yet to receive a single acre.

As a consequence of problems in the administrative processing of State selections and of certain factors beyond the control of the Interior Department, Alaska has received effective title to only about 36 million of the 103.5 million acres promised some twenty years ago at statehood. The conveyance title in Hucksby would streamline the land transfer process and would effect a number of needed changes in the Alaska Statehood Act. These changes are important, and cannot be made by administrative action.

Timber Harvesting and Mining in Southeast Alaska

12. Myth: "... (Regarding Admiralty Island in Southeast Alaska)... they chop it up and make it into something called the pulp bank so pulp can continue to be shipped..." --Congressman Udall, testimony to the House Rules Committee, dated April 30, 1979.

Fact: Everyone agrees that the existing annual cut and job levels in Southeast Alaska should be maintained. The principal conflict concerns the method for accomplishing this. Under the bill reported last year by the Senate Energy Committee, a portion of Admiralty Island would be designated as a special management area and managed as wilderness for a ten-year period. If, at the end of the ten-year period, studies show that the annual cut cannot be maintained, Congress could authorize timber harvesting. If Congressmen Udall and Anderson are correct that their approach to Southeast Alaska will not reduce the annual cut or existing job levels, Admiralty Island would never be harvested under any of the pending bills.

13. Myth: "... We can produce the same amount of timber as in the past 4 or 5 years and there would be room for growth. There will not be a single job in Alaska lost in the timbering industry and there will be room for growth..." --Congressman Seiberling, testimony before the House Rules Committee, April 30, 1979.

Fact: Given the wilderness designations in the Udall-Anderson bill, both additional federal funding and State and privately-owned timber would be required to maintain the existing level of harvest. There is no guarantee of either. In fact, there is every indication that adequate appropriations would not be forthcoming. Moreover, the ten-year average

harvest, which represents a more accurate picture of the timber industry in Southeast, is significantly higher than the four-or-five-year averages used as a basis for the Udall-Anderson bill.

14. Myth: "The Udall-Anderson compromise responds to the timbering, mining, fishing, and employment issues (affecting Southeast Alaska) raised during the development of this legislation." --Secretary Berglund, correspondence to Congressman Lungren, dated May 7, 1979.

Fact: Econometric studies by the U.S. Forest Service (page 27, final EIS, Tongass Land Use Management Plan) show that Southeast Alaska's timber industry could sustain a significant loss of jobs as a result of the land designations in the Udall bill. According to some projections, unemployment in the region could exceed thirty-five percent (35%). Of the three major mineral discoveries in Southeast Alaska which have been identified by the Stanford Research Institute, two are included within wilderness areas. Thus, the U.S. Borax molybdenum find at Quartz Hill, perhaps the largest deposit of its type in the world, is located within the proposed Misty Fjords wilderness. While wilderness designation theoretically does not preclude the development of valid mining claims, experience shows that further exploration and development are usually stifled. In summary, all proponents of Alaska lands legislation advocate the establishment of large wilderness areas in Southeastern, but the designations in the Udall-Anderson bill are so excessive as to belie Secretary Berglund's statement.

15. Myth: "the Administration is committed to maintaining the timber harvest level of 450 mmbf from the National Forests in Alaska, through an increased investment of up to \$12 million annually." --Secretary Berglund, correspondence to Congressman Lungren, dated May 7, 1979.

Fact: This statement, used as evidence of a guarantee for protection of existing jobs in Southeast Alaska's timber industry, is very misleading. The Congress must appropriate the funds to make it come true. Moreover, the Administration's budget recommendations for timber programs in the national forests actually showed a reduction this year from previous years. In light of this, it is difficult to believe that Congress would increase appropriations to Alaska, especially at the apparent expense of the other western states. This conclusion has already been substantiated by the statements of one subcommittee chairman who has jurisdiction over Forest Service programs.

Mining

16. Myth: "...Are we fair on mining?...We have given them 700 years of drilling at 1,000 acres per day to open up. We say drill in

those areas first..." --Congressman Udall, testimony before the House Rules Committee, April 30, 1979.

Fact: Under the Udall-Anderson bill, 70% of the acreage rated by the Bureau of Mines as highly favorable for hardrock minerals would be permanently withdrawn from development. The total amount of acreage available for mineral development is not the critical factor--it is the location of that acreage which is important.

17. Myth: "It (the Huckaby bill) mandates the President to recommend by 1981 a program for private mineral development on parks." --Secretary Andrus, correspondence to Congressman Udall, dated March 13, 1979.

Fact: The Huckaby bill merely directs the President to make recommendations on the advisability of opening areas to development. Like other elements of the study and reporting requirements, the objective is to compile resource and policy information for use by Congress in subsequent decision-making. In fact, under all pending bills, national parks, preserves, and national park monuments are closed to mineral development unless opened by subsequent Congressional action.

Transportation

18. Myth: "(The Huckaby bill) rewrites existing law on the subject (transportation access) for Alaska. We believe existing law is adequate and the entire transportation title is unnecessary and ought to be deleted from the bill." --Secretary Andrus, correspondence to Congressman Udall, dated March 13, 1979.

Fact: While proponents of various Alaska lands bills have disagreed about the mechanics of a transportation title, every bill which has been seriously considered by the Congress during the last three years has incorporated a comprehensive title dealing with transportation and access across conservation system units. The present transportation system in Alaska is embryonic, and the conservation units which would be established through the Alaska lands legislation are immense, often isolating State and Native lands, communities, and commodity resources. Most people who have considered the issue believe that Alaska's situation is unique and that a number of problems in existing law are exacerbated by the factors mentioned above.

Hunting

19. Myth: "...We say (Udall-Anderson) 90 percent of the whole area will be open for sport hunting..." --Congressman Udall, testimony before the House Rules Committee, April 30, 1979.

Fact: This figure is entirely erroneous, whether it applies to the total land mass of Alaska (375 million acres) or only to Federal lands in Alaska. With respect to the entire State, the following lands are now, or would be, closed to public sport hunting: 44 million acres of Native lands; several million acres of existing Federal reserves such as McKinley National Park; 30 million acres designated in the Udall-Anderson bill; and certain State and private lands. If one looks only at Federal lands, the combination of existing reserved lands, together with the additional areas closed by the Udall-Anderson bill, would exceed 10% of such lands. In addition, several important sport hunting areas open under pending bills are closed in the Udall-Anderson proposal. Finally, with hunting, as with other resource issues, percentages and numbers of acres open to a given use are not nearly so important as the location and quality of the resource.

Specific Geographic Areas

20. Myth: "(The Huckaby bill) does not provide refuge protection for all of the Alaska Peninsula refuge proposal." --Secretary Andrus, correspondence to Congressman Udall, dated March 13, 1979.

Fact: Under the Huckaby bill, the entire Bristol Bay Region, including the Federal lands on the Alaska Peninsula, would be designated as the Bristol Bay Cooperative Region. Following a three-year cooperative study between the Federal Government and the State, a plan would be presented to both Congress and the State Legislature. During the interim period of the study, all federal lands within the region would be managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as a refuge. If the plan is unacceptable to Congress, all of the federal lands on the Alaska Peninsula (and certain federal lands elsewhere in the region) would continue to be managed "as if they were included within a refuge established under Section 302 of this Act."

21. Myth: "It (the Huckaby bill) deletes key habitat from the existing Yukon Flats National Monument, an area that every year produces 2.1 million waterfowl." --Secretary Andrus, correspondence to Congressman Udall, dated March 13, 1979.

Fact: The area deleted from the Udall-Anderson proposal for Yukon Flats is geographically different from the Yukon Flats

proper, and the former area, designated as a national recreation area in the Huckaby bill, lies far beyond the prime waterfowl habitat as identified by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. In the important habitat area, the Huckaby boundary is identical to the boundary in the version of H.R. 39 which passed the House of Representatives last year and which was strongly endorsed by the Carter Administration.

Kuwait of the North?

22. Myth: "...Alaskans have the highest per capita income of any state. They are the Kuwait of the North..." --Congressman Seiberling, testimony before the House Rules Committee, April 30, 1979.

Fact: While it is true that Alaska has the highest per-capita income of any state, it also has the highest cost of living and unemployment rates of any state in the Nation. Unemployment currently averages about 12%, and is as high as 65% in some rural areas. Moreover, despite significant belt-tightening, State expenditures for necessary programs have exceeded revenues for several years.

Alaska Native Position

23. Myth: "...and it is no coincidence that the Natives, whose interest we have carefully tried to protect in this legislation, are supporting the Udall-Anderson bill." --Congressman Seiberling, testimony before the House Rules Committee, April 30, 1979.

Fact: Alaska Natives, like any other large group of people, do not speak with one voice on this extremely complex series of issues. Certain proponents of the Udall-Anderson bill asked several of the Native corporations to abandon their long-standing neutrality regarding support of any particular bill as a quid quo pro for inclusion in the Udall-Anderson bill of amendments of particular interest to each corporation. Some corporations wrote equivocal letters endorsing legislation containing their amendments; others refused to respond to this demand. The Alaska Federation of Natives, the official spokesman for most of the Native regional corporations, has refused to endorse any particular Alaska lands bill. The State of Alaska strongly supports the Native amendments included in the Udall-Anderson and other bills considered by the House.

Summary

24. Myth: "Existing laws designed to protect the public interest in Federal lands all over the country are waived or weakened. The bill flatly prohibits any future studies or withdrawals "except those authorized by this Act" for any purpose whatsoever; it opens 20 million acres of existing National Park System land to trophy and sport hunting; it opens the currently protected, extremely fragile Arctic National Wildlife Range to oil and gas exploration; it deletes key habitat from the existing Yukon Flats National Monument, an area that every year produces 2.1 million waterfowl; it omits refuge designation, adopted by the House in 1978, for the Togiak and highly productive Alaska Peninsula area; it makes unwarranted changes in existing law so as to permit roads, pipelines, coal slurry lines, railroads, etc. through national parks and wildlife refuges and wilderness areas; and it weakens wilderness protection by providing for a variety of incompatible uses. --Secretary Andrus, correspondence to Congressman Udall, dated March 13, 1979.

Fact: This is one of the most blatant examples of hyperbole and inaccuracy expressed by some participants in the process of developing Alaska lands legislation.

None of the pending Alaska lands bills purports to waive or amend existing environmental laws of general applicability, such as the Clean Air Act, the Water Pollution Control Act, or the Solid Waste Act. The Huckaby bill, though not S.9 with one exception, does obviate the need for certain withdrawals and studies because Congress is addressing these matters within the framework of a comprehensive, multi-million acre legislative solution.

With respect to Secretary Andrus' statement regarding hunting within units of the National Park System, it must be noted that no pending bill would open to hunting those lands which were closed prior to December 1, 1978. On that date, President Carter created 56 million acres of new national monuments, many of which are closed to sport hunting. At that time, the President indicated that his actions were intended to be interim in nature, pending a final Congressional resolution. If the people's elected representatives, after balancing all of the competing concerns, determine that certain adjustments in prior unilateral administrative actions should be made, it seems that such Congressional decision-making would represent a proper working of the Federal system, and would effectuate the Carter Administration's professed intentions.

With respect to the effect of the Huckaby bill on the Arctic Wildlife Range, it should be noted that this area is not currently designated as wilderness. Therefore, upon a finding of compatibility with refuge objectives, the Secretary of the Interior, under his existing authority,

could open this area to oil and gas leasing. Thus, it is the Udall-Anderson bill which would change the status quo. In contrast, certain other bills would authorize a carefully-controlled assessment of the oil and gas potential of the Arctic coastal plain, thus permitting the Congress to make an informed decision at a later date to open or close the Range to oil and gas development. In this way, the possibility of panicky and unplanned exploration during some future oil crisis can be avoided.

The "Yukon Flats National Monument" is one of the areas established last year pending Congressional action. Moreover, the key habitat areas are adequately protected in all the pending measures (see Myth No. 21, Yukon Flats, and Myth No. 20, Alaska Peninsula.)

With respect to the statement on access through conservation system units, none of the pending bills changes the substantive standards for approval of transportation and utility systems. In recognition of certain deficiencies in existing law and Alaska's unique geographic circumstances, most of the pending measures, including the Udall-Anderson bill, improve the process for considering and approving applications. No proposed bill would permit administrative approval of access through areas where Congressional action is required under existing law. (Also see Myth No. 18.)

Regarding Secretary Andrus' comments on wilderness, all pending bills contain provisions which make at least some modifications in the Wilderness Act in order to address the immense acreages involved and the unique nature of rural Alaskan lifestyle. Thus, for example, all bills would permit certain motorized activities in wilderness areas. The changes in wilderness management which are allowed by the various bills are in fact minor, in relationship to the objectives of the Wilderness Act and the magnitude of the acreage placed in Wilderness.

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

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

Alaska State and Local Government Relations
Post Office Box 360
Anchorage, Alaska 99510
Telephone 907 277 5637
Dave Harbour
Regional Director



November 19, 1979

To: Addressees

Subject: Outdoor Writers Tour

As you know, Atlantic Richfield has just completed a tour of Alaska for a second group of national outdoor writers.

Meanwhile . . . the first group of writers to visit us in July also continues to produce a great deal of material on the d-2 subject and I attach some of it for your information.

Sincerely yours,

ALASKA



ALASKA

MAG. AUTO LOAD- ER



Years of H&R know-how tamed the powerful magnum rim fire and successfully adapted it to an autoloader ...

The Model 700 carrying a 22-inch barrel and five power-packed 22 WMR cartridges in its detachable magazine.

For those who want the very best, there is the Model 700 Deluxe (shown). This handsome rifle has a select American walnut stock with rifle pad, Monte Carlo comb and cheek piece, and hand checkering on grip and fore-end. Each Model 700 Deluxe is supplied with H&R's Model 432 four-power scope as standard sighting equipment.

Standard model also available.

Send \$2. for new color catalog and H&R jacket patch. Write Dept. AH-11-79

**Harrington
& Richardson, Inc.**

Industrial Rowe
Gardner, Massachusetts 01440

HUNTER

A PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION

Harlon B. Carter, Executive Vice President

The NRA, the foremost guardian of the traditional American right to "keep and bear arms," believes that every law-abiding citizen is entitled to the ownership and legal use of firearms, and that every reputable gun owner should be an NRA Member.

Volume 7, No. 11

FEATURES

Alaska Lands	✓	George Martin	26
Where Goose Is Golden	✓	G. Howard Gillelan	30
The Real Alaska	✓	Tom Walker	32
Make Mine Winter Grouse	✓	Norman E. Johnson	44
Hunting The Whitetail Deer	✓	Tom Hayes	48
Kings Of Kodiak	✓	Col. Charles Askins	52
The Killer Baboons	✓	Peter Hathaway Capstick	56

REGULAR DEPARTMENTS

Editorial	✓		8
Hunting Guns	✓	Jim Woods	10
Gears, Gadgets And Goodies	✓		14
Hunting Vehicles	✓	Norm Nelson	18
Bowhunting	✓	Dave Staples	20
Hunting Firearms Evaluation	✓	Tim Irwin	22
Hunting — An American Tradition	✓	Clare Conley	24
Public Hunting Ground: Kodiak Chain	✓	Faith Smith	36
Wildlife Profiles — Moose	✓	Leonard Lee Rue III	40
Official Journal	✓	General Operations Staff	58
Handloading For Hunters	✓	Rick Jamison	66
Back Page	✓	Jack Douglas Mitchell	78

STATEMENTS IN BYLINE OR INITIALED TEXT SHOULD NOT BE REGARDED AS OFFICIAL NRA VIEWS, EXCEPT THE EDITORIAL AND THOSE BY NATIONAL OFFICERS IN THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL DEPARTMENT.

Mention of a product or service in advertisement or text does not necessarily mean that it has been tested or approved by the NRA.

TO CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS or to report a damaged or undelivered magazine, write Director, Membership Division. Do not return damaged copies. Change of address should include both new address and a mailing label bearing the old one. In case of duplication send both labels.

CAUTION: All technical data, especially for handloading, presented in NRA publications reflects the experience of individuals using specific equipment and components under specific circumstances. Such information is intended solely as a guide and should be used with caution. NRA accepts no responsibility for results obtained using these data.

NRA Hunter's Code of Ethics

1. I will consider myself an invited guest of the landowner, seeking his permission, and so conducting myself that I may be welcome in the future.
2. I will obey the rules of safe gun handling and will courteously but firmly insist that others who hunt with me do the same.
3. I will obey all game laws and regulations, and will insist that my companions do likewise.
4. I will do my best to acquire those marksmanship and hunting skills which assure clean, sportsmanlike kills.
5. I will support conservation efforts which can assure good hunting for future generations of America.
6. I will pass along to younger hunters the attitudes and skills essential to a true outdoor sportsman.

Better With Butler Creek



Poly + Maxi Patches



The modern black powder patch for round ball and mini maxi balls. Higher velocity. Better accuracy. Bags of 100: 36, 45, 50, 54, 58, Cal.

Quick Loader



One shot per loader. The quick loader holds up to 200 gr. powder, mini max. Round ball patch and cap. What every black powder shooter needs!

Supreme Scope Covers



World's best scope cover, protects your scope with push button opening. Life time guarantee. — Opens "quick as a wink."

Contact Your Dealer or:

Butler Creek Corp.
Jackson Hole, Wyo 83001



EDUCATION

Alaskans are a pretty hardy group of people. They are used to fighting cold, wilderness and the highest prices in the United States. Those battles are the expected part of the Alaskan life style. Now, they are faced with the biggest fight ever, the "Great Federal Land Grab," which is more properly titled d-2 legislation.



In this battle, the less than one-half-million Alaskans are in opposition to the White House, Congress, the Department of Interior, anti-hunters and preservationists. The odds are a little more than lopsided.

At stake is the federal take-over of millions of acres of Alaskan land — some of it among the finest hunting land in the world. The specifics of this issue are presented elsewhere in this special issue on the Alaskan lands controversy.

While the ultimate fate of these lands lies with Congress, President Carter has already closed 41 million acres to hunting by declaring 17 national monuments under the Antiquities Act. Hunting is prohibited on 14 of those "monuments."

Alaskans are fighting the presidential action. Under the leadership of the REAL Alaskan Coalition, "The Great Monument Trespass" has been organized. They simply urged Alaskans to hunt on the closed land.

Referring to their action as "Alaska's tea party," hundreds of Alaskans hunted on the monument lands in the hopes of being arrested by National Park Service rangers. At press time, with most of the hunting season over, only three hunters had been issued citations.

Ken Fanning, Executive Director of the REAL Alaskan Coalition, is hoping the arrests will give them a chance to test the legality of the Antiquities Act in court. When President Carter used the Act to create the monuments, the State of Alaska filed suit challenging the legality of that action and other land withdrawals. However, a federal judge has halted court proceedings until Congress settles the land issue.

Alaskans realize they cannot win this fight alone. Therefore, they have formed a new group called Fight Back, Alaska to take the battle to the lower forty-eight.

The Alaskans will be looking to Western states for their strongest support. They point out that 93.5 percent of the land controlled by the Federal government is located in 11 Western states and Alaska.

The so called federal land reforms in Alaska and many other states are being supported by preservationists under the guise of conservation. A forgotten part of conservation is that natural resources are to be protected from natural decay or ruin. The exclusion of hunting, fishing and trapping from such large sections of our most extensive wilderness is contrary to the rules of intelligent conservation and wildlife management.

People in the lower forty-eight — particularly those in the Eastern states — have a difficult time getting concerned about the Alaskan land problem. Most ask, "How can wilderness be bad?"

Most of those who ask this question have never seen Alaskan wilderness and cannot comprehend vast tracts of land that would take weeks to penetrate on foot. They cannot understand that even bird watchers and other non-consumptive users of the land will lose this wilderness because much of Alaska will be unreachable.

How can properly conducted hunting, fishing, trapping or even bird watching hurt wilderness?

Earl Shelsby



Alaska—There's No Excess of Access

By Norm Nelson



Alaska has only about one mile of road for every 130 square miles of terrain. Compare that to Texas which has about one mile of road for every 1.15 square miles, and it's easy to see that motor vehicle access for Alaskan sportsmen is practically nil.

A recent visitor to Alaska was taken salmon fishing by his hosts. The access road to this particular river was so full of cars and the limited stretch of river so lined with fishermen that the astonished visitor compared it to the Pentagon parking lot in Washington D.C.

"Is it always this crowded?" he asked.

"No," his host replied, "It's usually worse."

That true incident underlines something residents of the Lower 48 rarely realize. Enormous Alaska (seven times the size of Minnesota, about twice the size of Texas) is assumed to be a vast outdoor playground. Non-Alaskan hunters look at a map of it and have fantasies about hunting all over the huge expanse.

However, the fact is that most Alaskan outdoor recreation is confined to a relatively small area by the lack of access roads. Before you

can enjoy the great outdoors anywhere, you must get there. Getting into choice Alaskan hunting spots is usually impossible by normal surface transportation. Getting in by air is usually expensive.

Texas, a state that's far from being crowded, has 230,970 miles of public roads. That's about one mile of road for every 1.15 square miles of land in The Lone Star State. Alaska, double the size, has only about 4,500 miles of roads, about one mile of road for every 130 square miles of terrain.

The great debate about Alaska today involves "development" which is a word meaning many things to different people. The powerful preservationist lobby in the U.S. is striving hard to lock up much of Alaska in some form or other of permanent wilderness. That means very little, if any, outdoor recreation in such areas. The Carter Administration's move months ago to make "national

landscapes" is viewed by sportsmen as a whole bloc of possible recreationists — in this case, sport hunters — are barred from using these lands.

Sportsmen themselves often have mixed feelings about so-called wilderness set-asides. Many of us deplore the ecological changes that sometimes — not always — take place as a result of some forms of developmental land practices.

But never forget that the extreme alternative — no development at all — can and does mean that large areas of public domain will be locked up in a no-use status for the sheer lack of accessibility. In the case of Alaska, much of the problem is due to the zeal of the preservationists to stop hunting along with preventing any economic/ecological development. When anyone objects to this extremism, the preservationist bloc immediately smears him as being in favor of throwing open the lands in question to large-scale development.

As a sportsman for close to four decades and a journalist crusading much of that time for legitimate conservation, I, along with wiser men like Rep. John Dingell, believe there's a rational middle ground. This should include intelligent use of some outdoor recreation areas that can be utilized by the rank and file who cannot afford chartered aircraft or expensive pack trains. A rational approach to managing Alaskan wilderness as a natural resource should also include setting aside substantial areas as true, untouched wilderness because of unique ecological and esthetic values. But not the whole state!

Even with more development, Alaska is never going to be overdeveloped with too many roads penetrating pristine back-country. The formidable mountainous or boggy tundra terrain and the severe problems of permafrost engineering make both road building and maintenance amazingly expensive. But any road building that does take place cannot help but provide more recreational opportunities in this huge land where, presently, recreationists are overcrowded in the tiny fraction of the land they have access to.

Hunting— An American Tradition

As we began the decade of the 70s, Alaska was a state possessing a character and life style uniquely Alaskan. It was a dream destination for sportsmen or for anyone who wanted to visit our last frontier. It was a state in rapport with being itself.

Now, as we end the 70s, Alaska is in turmoil. Civil rebellion is a reality. Preservationists, more predatory than any gray wolf, scheme to lock out all who hunt and trap on vast millions of acres just because they use a renewable resource rather than "leave only footprints and take only photographs." Eskimos and Indians with their millions of acres and dollars assured to them wait restlessly and plan eagerly for the final division of the spoils. Empire-building federal bureaus seek control of enormous tracts of land, not because they can manage them better, but because more land means bigger budgets and greater power.

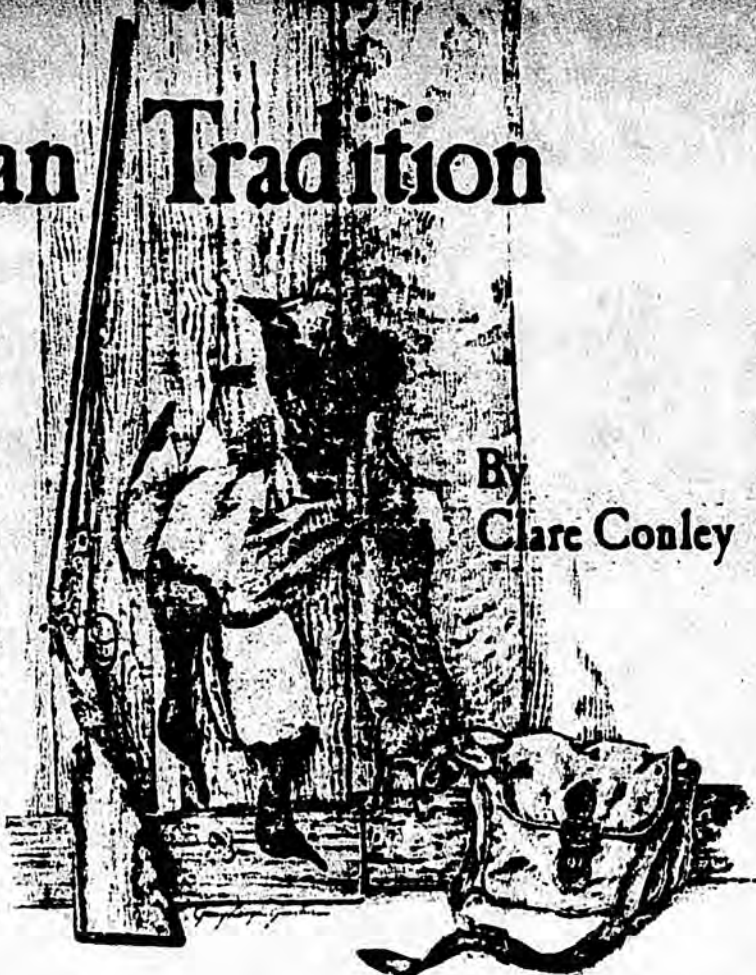
Oil companies face a lock up of petroleum and mineral lands at a time when the nation needs them. The state government fears that lost revenues of oil, minerals, timber and sportsmen will drive the state into increased unemployment and debt.

Alaska—What's Really At Stake?

But the most terrible of all is that the Alaskan life style, which is as worthwhile preserving as the wildlife, is being brutally killed off by a don't-touch administration policy that refuses to see that man is as much a part of the Alaskan ecosystem as is the caribou.

In the middle are 20 million American sportsmen as well as the entire non-sporting public. They are confused by claim and counter claim about what is best for Alaska. They do not understand the size of the land and the character of the people. They have been sold out by the national administration and betrayed by national organizations which claim to represent them. Now gut-reacting out of fear of losing everything, they feel forced to accept absolute lockups as being the only way to protect Alaskan land. Avowed anti-hunting, anti-trapping groups, such as Friends of Animals and Fund for Animals, have banded together with closet preservationist groups, such as the National Wildlife Federation and the Sierra Club, to restrict the use of the best pieces of Alaskan land to nature walks and backpacking. (The total acreage is about as much as in Wisconsin, or Illinois, or Iowa.) This is in spite of the fact that these "acceptable" activities don't occur to any significant degree on these acres because they are too remote, too hostile and too expensive to reach.

By 1970 the Alaska pot was beginning to boil, and the heat was coming from oil. Discovered on the North



By
Clare Conley

Slope in huge quantities, it could not be brought out by sea. An overland route was the only solution. Conservationists, including myself, testified in the U.S. Senate that the pipeline should not be built before the technology was fully researched.

But the real stopper turned out to be the claims of the Indians and Eskimos, known as the Native Claims. These Native Claims stemmed from an unresolved treaty dating back to the purchase of Alaska from Russia. They were a tangled assortment of claims by various tribes. These tribes overlapped each other and declared ownership of the whole state by virtue of ancient tribal land use. The U.S. Congress had never taken these claims seriously. About 99 percent of Alaska was owned then by the federal government and was well-managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The Natives used the land pretty much as they wanted. But the pipeline changed all that.

Clear title to the land along the route of the pipeline had to be established. Native Claims clouded that title. Suddenly in 1971 the pressure on the President, the Secretary of Interior and on Congress to settle the Native Claims grew intense. It came from the ever-powerful oil lobby, from the Natives and from the State of Alaska which wanted the wellhead oil tax money to start flowing. Before that time, it was known that the Natives would have settled at various times for 5 to 10 million acres, so it came as a rude surprise when

THE AMERICAN HUNTER

million acres and \$1 billion — all to 60,000 people. Obviously the payoff to the Natives was made ridiculously high to avoid a Supreme Court challenge which would delay the pipeline.

That act will come to be recognized as the most recklessly damaging piece of legislation ever perpetrated on Alaska or to the land holdings of the American people. It was rushed through Congress so fast that those of us who could write editorials and inform the people of the danger did not have time to get it into print. President Nixon signed the bill immediately. (Curiously now, the ANCSA is biting back the hands that brought it into being — namely the oil lobby. Because of the act, oil and mineral prospecting and development in Alaska has been brought to a halt.)

The Alaska Plan Was Never Meant To Be A Blueprint For Public Parks.

At this point, the land grab was on. The Natives had the right to take about half of their 44 million acres any place that was not already deeded or in monuments, parks or preserves. The authors of the bill saw the danger in giving the Natives unlimited first choice of land and included the d-2 section in the Act to protect key lands. This instructed the Secretary of Interior to set aside up to 80 million acres for placement into various conservation units by December 18, 1978. The Natives then drew up a plan of 116 million acres from which they wanted to select their land, and the State picked 77 million acres as granted in the Statehood Act.

The Department of Interior refused to recognize any land claims until it had made its selection, but eventually it did allow the state to select 41 million acres and gave title to 22 million of these acres. The Natives began receiving their money, but received title for the time being to only about 200,000 acres. The idea was to develop a land plan in the Department of Interior under the d-2 section which would retain in public ownership unique scenic areas and wildlife habitat. *It was not a blueprint for public parks.* But this is what preservationists have made it into. So while conservationists avoided having key lands fall into private Native ownership, preservationists seized the chance to lock up these lands in parks where no one can use them.

The Department of Interior land selection and land use plan under d-2 was supposed to become a law by being passed by Congress before the cutoff date — December, 1978. Otherwise, Native Claims could be registered. By 1978 had preservationist advice had become Carter Administration policy.

The first Administration attempt to push an Alaska Lands Bill through Congress occurred in 1978 — before the cutoff date. But instead of placing 80 million acres in conservation units, it set aside 123 million acres. A third of this, including much first-class game habitat, was to go into non-hunting park status. Because of this and other outstanding faults, the bill failed to pass Congress.

NOVEMBER 1979

have to be managed with it. So to prevent this and any more, President Carter set aside all the important land as a number of federal monuments, which essentially are parks and are managed by the Park Service. There are three exceptions which are managed by the Fish and Wildlife Service.

This year, 1979, another attempt is being made to pass an Administration Bill (the Udall Bill) through Congress. A combination of intense lobbying by the White House and preservationist-thinking groups such as the National Wildlife Federation, National Audubon Society, Isaac Walton League and the Sierra Club, allied with staunch anti-hunting groups, such as Friends of Animals and Fund for Animals, got the bill through the House.

The Administration's Alaska Land Bill has become the cause-of-all-causes for Tom Kimball who dictates policy at the National Wildlife Federation (NWF). Kimball almost never has risked his position at NWF by putting both feet at once in any conservation boat — unless it was firmly on solid ground. He has this time. And many of his grass roots state organizations do not support him. He had had to fight desperately and spend a lot of money to keep the campaign in line. Otherwise he risked a staggering blow to his own stature and to that of the NWF. By my own knowledge, Pennsylvania with 200,000 members in the NWF state affiliation, Michigan with 125,000 members and Illinois with 30,000 members voted not to support Kimball in his campaign for the Administration bill. It is a sizeable chunk of the NWF. And, I am told, many other states rebelled as well.

Now that bill is in the Senate Energy and Resources Committee headed by Sen. Henry Jackson (D-WA). Sen. Jackson also has his own bill on Alaska land before the same committee. Of the two, the Jackson Bill is by far the better. But both have faults.

Without question, the basic flaw in both bills is that they begin with the idea that vast amounts of land must be in parks. This is wrong. It fails to recognize traditional uses of the land, mostly hunting and trapping. It ignores the basic character of the people of Alaska, the frontier style of life. It will throw hundreds of guides and their helpers out of work, and it transfers the land from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to the National Park Service.

There is no reason to move the land management from one agency to another. The BLM has always managed Alaska land, and it knows how. The Park Service has never managed land in Alaska of this size and remoteness. The National Park Service has expertise in managing places like Yellowstone National Park, which has about 2,222,000 acres or Mt. McKinley National Park, with 1.9 million acres.

Suddenly the Park Service wants to create a park in the Wrangell Mountains that has 10 million acres and another park in the Brooks Range that has 8.2 million acres plus many other smaller parks. And even most of these smaller parks are larger than any it presently manages. The Park Service is not equipped for such management and should not be when we have an agency which is.

continued on pg. 77

Most citizens are not aware that it is possible to keep the land under the management of the BLM in conservation units called National Recreation Areas. They would still be owned by the federal government. They would be open to hunting and, most likely, trapping. They would allow guiding to continue. In summary, these areas would be places where people could go and take part in the traditional uses of the

land. Recreation areas would also permit state management of the game.

Although Alaskans hate the current monument status of their land, it is better to live with it another year so that, with greater understanding of the problems, legislators can sit down and design a land bill that will reflect the needs of the people of Alaska and of the United States.

ICES FOR HUNTERS

Your guide to Guides, Outfitters, Camps, Lodges, Hunting Preserves, Taxidermists, Gunsmiths and Kennels. If you are interested in advertising your services to hunters, write for details to: The American Hunter, Services for Hunters advertising, 1600 Rhode Island Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. North American Guides, Outfitters, Hunting Preserves and Taxidermists must have been accepted for inclusion in next year's Hunter's Directory.

Jack Atcheson & Sons, Inc.

INTERNATIONAL HUNTING, FISHING & PHOTOGRAPHY
CONSULTANTS & TAXIDERMISTS

3210 Ottawa St., Butte, Montana 59701
406-792-3498 or 406-792-3470 • CABLE ATCHSAFARI

AFRICA — ALASKA — CANADA — MONTANA
MONGOLIA — AUSTRALIA — SOUTH AMERICA — RUSSIA
90% CLIENT SUCCESS • CAN YOU DO AS WELL ON YOUR OWN?

Atcheson has hunted worldwide, guiding clients for 25 years, hunting for 40 years. He has handled African & American hunts for thousands of clients. Many top record trophies... CHECK THE BOOK! References include: John Jobson of Sports Afield, Jack O'Connor, Jim Bond, Warren Page, Jim Carmichael of Outdoor Life, Elmer Keith of Guns & Ammo, Bob Delany of NESP, John Amber of Gun Digest, Fred Huntington of RCBS Inc., Merlin Firearms Co., Tom Brakefields Co. ... So We Are Worth Considering! Everybody knows about the hunts we arrange in foreign countries, but we are also BIG in MONTANA... and Montana is a good place to hunt. 17,000 Bull Elk & Deer Permits available now through November. No Drawings. Antelope & Cow Elk deadline, June 15th.

No Drop Camps. Fully Guided Hunts Only.
Minimum Charge \$150 to \$225 per day. Minimum Antelope-Deer Hunt — 5 days;
Elk, Deer, Bear — 8 days.

NEW MEXICO Guided Hunts

ELK • MULE DEER • SHEEP ANTELOPE • BEAR • LION

- Remote Area... Low hunter pressure
 - No drawing for licenses
 - Furnished drop camps for elk, & mule deer.
 - Special Bow hunts for elk, mule deer & antelope.
 - Winter Lion hunts.
 - Spring & fall bear hunts.
- Call or write for references, brochure and complete information

ROBERT RAWLINS
P.O. Box 118, Bernalillo, N.M. 87004
Phone 505-867-5262

HOLLIS ATWOOD ELK 15 yrs. Outfitter LION Former Government Hunter COLORADO

Rifle & Archery Hunts.
Elk & Deer Combinations
DEER Hollis Atwood BEAR
2824 North Ave., Grand Junction, Colo. 81501
Ph. 303-243-0279

HUNT OLD MEXICO

WHITE WING DOVE • QUAIL
WATERFOWL • BLUE ROCK PIGEONS

Bi-lingual guides. Private ranches. Unbelievable Hunts. Birds picked up, cleaned and iced. No hassle with officials. Hot meals served in field. Beverage refreshments. Excellent bird dogs furnished. All papers processed prior to your arrival. Motel reservations. Fantastic restaurants. Unfamed night life! Season running from August 15 to February 28. For brochure and more information write:

Pan-American Outdoors
P.O. Box 533, Alamo, TX 78518
or call (512) 444-4384
NO GAME — NO PAY GUARANTEE

ANTELOPE • DEER • ELK SHEEP • SPECIALIST

We specialize in Trophy Antelope, Deer, Elk & Sheep. 100% antelope, 80% deer, 75 to 80% elk & sheep 1978 First class camps, guides, equipment. Everything furnished but personal gear. License deadline Jan. 31 Elk; Mar. 15 Deer, June 10 Antelope, sheep. Fair chase, Gun & Bow.

A Family Business
ULLERY BROS. & SONS, BICK ULLERY
Box 1218 Dept. Cooper, WY. 82002
Ph. 307-329-8463

- GOOSE
- DUCK
- DEER

MARYLAND'S FAMOUS EASTERN SHORE HUNTING

HUNT OVER 4,000 ACRES OF PRIME POND, MARSH AND FIELD. REFERENCES GIVEN. CALL FOR BOOKINGS AND INFO

EASTERN SHORE HUNTING SERVICE

BOX 171, QUEENSTOWN, MD. 21658
REGISTERED GUIDES
PETE HENRY 301-827-8971
WILLIAM HAMPTON 301-827-7903

WYOMING ANTELOPE, DEER, ELK and MOOSE HUNTS

Sept. 1-Nov. 15. The best hunting in Central Wyoming. We hunt all of the areas in Central Wyo. better than anywhere — and Trophy Hunts. Licenses by drawing. Deadlines: Antelope — Feb. 1, Deer — Feb. 1, Elk — Feb. 1, Moose — Mar. 15. Excellent Guides. Fine Accommodations Available. Summer Fishing Trips, Spring Bear Hunts, Wild seed share, applications & references upon request. 100% Success Most Years. 23 years' experience.

DICK PAGE, INC.

1625 Holly Cooper, Wyo. 82001
Phone: 307-327-7904
Experienced — Licensed — Outfitter & Guide

HUNT THE COLORADO FLATTOPS

DEER-ELK both rifle & archery. Both pack-in hunts and Lodge hunts. We use both horses & four wheel drives. All hunts fully guided & highly successful.

CINNAMON BEAR — 95% over bait, Spring & Summer. We guarantee the best in equipment, food, accommodations & guides. References furnished.

BUCKSKIN RANCH

Outfitters & Guides, Inc.
New Castle, CO 81647 Phone: 303-884-8215

BUD NELSON'S

Big Game Outfitters and Guides
P.O. Box 4054, Jackson, Wyoming 83001
PHONE 307-733-2843

Moose, Elk, Deer, Sheep, Antelope, Bear, Fishing, Pack Trips. We process all game applications for our clients. Contact us early for applications as all game animals are on a drawing and have deadline for submitting applications.



IBAND — MONTANA BIG GAME HUNTS

Trophy or Combination
Elk — Bear — Goat —
Felt or Spring Bear

One Hunter per Guide on Trophy Hunts;
Two Hunters per Guide on Regular Hunts.
Wilderness Pack Trips — Fishing, Sightseeing, Photography
Call: 406-648-3253

Bob Cries High Country Outfitters
Rt. 21, Box 98A-AH, Victor, Montana 59725

BUD GORDON Chandler Kennel, world's largest shooting dog kennel offers the sportsman the largest selection of Pointers, Setters, Retrievers. All dogs trained exclusively on wild birds under natural conditions. All dogs registered out of top bloodlines. Trial allowed on all breeds. The new train inside shooting dogs for the public. Send \$10.00 for price list or better call or come by Chandler Kennel's new headquarters.



CHANDLER KENNELS
P.O. Box 68, Menlo, TX 75647
Call 512-565-5501. Motion "Jr." Chandler, Owner



Alaska Lands...

By George Martin

According to Terry Miller, Lt. Governor of Alaska "The Alaska lands legislation is the most important issue to face the state since statehood."

Sound like a politician's grasp of the obvious? Well, take a look at the highlights of a 21-year, very complicated and involved subject, but every time the name Alaska appears, insert the name of your state. You won't like it and neither do the sportsmen of Alaska.

1958 — Alaska statehood bill passes both houses of Congress; allows new state to select 104 million acres of land within 25 years of statehood. Native aboriginal claims to be settled later. 99.8 percent of lands federally owned.

1959 — President Eisenhower proclaims Alaska the 49th state. Court of Claims rules Tlingit and Haida Indians are entitled to com-

pensation for lands taken from them by U.S.

1961 — First regional organization, Inupiat Paitot, organized out of concern to protect aboriginal rights.

1963 — Alaska Task Force, appointed by the Interior Secretary finds Organic Act lacking provisions for natives to obtain title. Natives oppose the task force's recommendations of granting individual land, small acreages for village growth and designation without ownership of lands for food gathering.

1966 — Land freeze imposed by Interior Secretary Stewart Udall until Congressional action upon native claims; suit is filed against Udall by the state.

1967 — First bills to settle native land claims are filed in Congress.

1968 — Alaska Land Claims Task Force recommends a 40 million acre land settlement; governmental study asserts native land claims to be valid.

1970 — U.S. Senate passes an Alaska native claims bill.

1971 — Native claims bills pass both houses and are routed to a conference committee. A compromise bill is passed by Congress. President Nixon signs Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act on Dec. 18, authorizing transfer of 44 million acres and awarding \$962.5 million compensation, to be handled by native corporations.

1972 — Gov. Egan and Interior Secretary Morton jointly announce an out-of-court settlement on 80 million acres selected by the state but challenged by the federal government. The state gives up 42 million acres of its selections; Egan declares it a victory in obtaining more desired lands and paving the way to negotiations. Leaves Congress until Dec. 17, 1978 to act.

1976 — Congress passes Federal Land-Use Policy Management Act (FLPMA) giving the Bureau of Land Management authority to manage federal lands, including power to establish land-use regulations.

1978 — Governor of Alaska signs

THE AMERICAN HUNTER



"We're Not Looking For Special Treatment; We're Looking For Equal Treatment."

J. S. Hammond Governor, STATE OF ALASKA

Municipal Land Selections Act, allowing 11 borough units to select about 860,000 acres.

1978 — Congressional "Ad Hoc" compromise bill on d-2 fails. Senate adjourns in October without action on Alaska lands bill.

1978 — Secretary of Interior withdraws 110 million acres for three years under "FLPMA" in November.

1978 — President Carter imposes 1906 Antiquities Act on December 1, designating 56 million acres as national monuments and ordering immediate study of an additional 39 million acres for possible withdrawal under FLPMA into the national wildlife refuge system.

1979 — In January, Senator Jackson (D-Wa) introduces S.9, which is pending action in the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

1979 — In May, House passes Udall-Anderson Version of HR. 39 which designates 127.5 million acres of park, preserve, refuge and forest.

Using the Antiquities Act of 1906, President Carter on December 1, 1978 created 17 national monuments in Alaska, totalling a little more than 56 million acres. The entire state contains 375 million acres of land, of which about one-third is considered good game habitat. Almost 93 percent of all U.S. national monument acreage is now in the State of Alaska. There is now more national monument land in Alaska, as the result of a sweep of the Presidential pen, than in 40 of the lower 48 states.

Locked-Up Land

Carter's action was taken after Sen. Mike Gravel, (D-Ak), prevented action on a measure in the waning hours of the 95th Congress that would have extended the Dec. 18, 1978 date specified in the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971 as the deadline for passage of lands legislation until Congress could consider the bill again this year. Administration Officials said the action was necessary to prevent

the land from lapsing into unclassified status. However, the national monuments are permanent. Only congressional action can change them now.

Thirteen of the monuments are managed by the National Park Service, two by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and two by the U.S. Forest Service. The National Park Service (NPS) and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), both divisions of the Interior Department, have issued interim regulations governing use of the new monuments and are currently writing permanent regulations. As a rule, NPS permits fishing, but prohibits sport hunting and trapping on 13 of the monuments. This action by the President has closed 41 million acres to hunting in Alaska that were open last year. The use of firearms is also prohibited in the monuments except for defense of life or as authorized for emergency use. Subsistence hunting, fishing, trapping and other consumptive uses are allowed



Carter's closures damaged the quality of hunting in Alaska. Example: 30% of the best caribou hunting areas were closed.

Photo by Leonard Lee III



This rack of salmon reflects the dependence of Alaskan Natives on wildlife, making subsistence hunting a major issue.

by "local rural residents" in all but one of the 13 NPS monuments, subject to state regulations. Subsistence uses are defined as "traditional uses of renewable resources for personal or family consumption as food, shelter, fuel, clothing, tools or transportation." Airplanes are not allowed in connection with subsistence uses. No new mining or timber development will be allowed on the monuments, and regulations also restrict the construction of roads.

How did things get into such a mess? Basically it is the result of "Foggy-Bottom" mentality attempting to cope with Mt. McKinley reality.

The Statehood Act entitled Alaska to select, within 25 years, 104 million acres for state ownership. The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) of 1971 promised 44 million acres and

selected 10 million acres for the Native corporations of Alaska. In return, the natives relinquished any aboriginal rights to other lands. Section 17 (d) (2) of the ANCSA (thus Alaska "d-2" lands) instructed the Secretary of Interior to set aside up to 80 million acres for Congress to consider for placement into various conservation units by December 18, 1978.

As of November 30, 1978, the state had received clear title to 22 million acres, tentative approval to 15 million acres and had selected 114 million acres. The natives, other than the Arctic Slope Regional Corp. had received title to less than 200,000 acres.

NRA Shifts Support

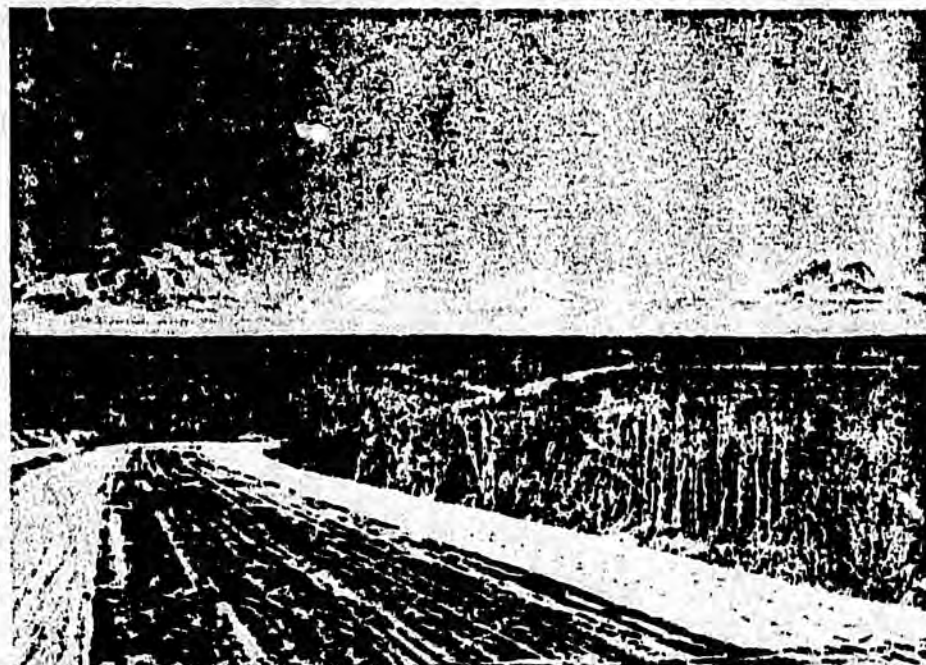
It is important to notice the relationship of the Alaska oil pipeline to all these goings on. As a practical matter what the d-2 legislation did was buy from the natives an agreement not to bring suit based on aboriginal land rights against the pipeline's right-of-way. At the same time, the preservationists saw a chance to gouge and jumped the 10 million acres they had been lobbying for preserves and refuges to 80 million acres. However, the Udall version of HR. 39, which was the version passed by the U.S. House of Representatives last spring and the version which heeded the anti-hunting, preservationist voices within the Carter

Administration, closed 27 million acres of Alaska lands into parks and refuges, including 27 million acres closed to hunting. In addition, it altered the traditional state management of fish and game on these lands with subsistence hunting provisions and placed nine million acres of state-selected lands under Federal control to be managed under slightly modified provisions of the 1984 Wilderness Act.

As was widely reported in the press, there was a major legislative battle over the Udall bill, with NRA supporting efforts to substitute either of two other versions which came closer to the Alaskan d-2 Lands resolution passed by the NRA Board of Directors in early 1978. By one vote, Udall's own committee substituted the Huckaby Version, which was the same as the "Ad Hoc Compromise" which almost passed last year. Then NRA shifted its support to the Breaux-Dingell version, which was introduced later by ardent conservationists John Breaux and John Dingell. Their bill was better from the NRA standpoint primarily because it placed control of more Federal Alaskan lands in the game refuges managed by the pro-hunting Fish and Wildlife Service rather than by the Park Service.

"Frankly, we were not in love with all the provisions of either of the substitutes, but we considered them to be superior to the Udall-Anderson bill," said Neal Knox,

The exploitation of our desperately needed natural resources — oil, minerals and timber — demands certain changes in wildlife habitat such as road-building. Hunter/conservationists are concerned that such changes have minimal impact on the environment.



...these were 300-page bills and extremely complex. Some claimed that we were supporting the wrong bill, but we were opposing the Udall bill and anti-hunter Cleveland Amory was supporting it. If Cleveland Amory had come down on our side of the controversy, we would have been concerned that our critics were correct; instead, he was on the same side as most of our critics."

In January, 1979, Senator Henry Jackson (D-Wa) introduced the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee bill, S.9. The scope and thrust of this bill is nearly as wide and far reaching as the Udall bill which passed the House. It affects 96.5 million acres in Alaska. The bill closes 20 million acres to hunting on lands designated as National Parks. Wildlife is considered a major resource but in a conservation manner rather than from a preservationist viewpoint.

Important Subsistence Problems

The issue of subsistence hunting is of prime importance to sportsmen because it will set a precedent in federal law. Ken Fanning, Executive Director of the REAL Alaska Coalition which represents over 40 Alaskan sportsman's groups, has said, "Alaska's right to manage its fishery and wildlife resources must be guaranteed. In any d-2 legislation, subsistence sections or other sections in the legislation must not infringe on any of the state's rights to manage its fish and game resources. Subsistence should likewise be a management prerogative of the state rather than the federal government. Any language which would nullify critical provisions of our statehood act or jeopardize all states' rights to manage their fish and game resources must be avoided."

Under the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, the management responsibilities for 10 marine mammals native to Alaska was removed from the Alaska Department of Fish & Game and placed partially under the Department of Interior and partially under the Department of Commerce. Neither

...the management were taken over, nine of the 10 mammals were banned from sport hunting and were placed under a moratorium period of no management. During this time, subsistence hunting was permitted without regard to former state laws affecting limits and seasons. Wasteful harvest practices grew and resulted in a larger kill than under state control, including a high percentage of sow and cub polar bears.

The broad implications of the Alaska National Interest Lands go far beyond the hunting issue. States rights versus federal control, energy versus the environment and executive action versus congressional authority, all enter into this complex legislation.

Results of three public opinion surveys suggest the general public is considerably more sophisticated in its view of the federal wilderness lands issue than had been recognized. The findings of the Cambridge Report 17 Survey, the Opinion Research Corporation Survey and the Yankelovich, Skelly & White Survey, all taken in late 1978, show that the public appears to understand in a general way that the wilderness lands issue is by no means an either/or proposition. The public shows little support of either total preservation of wilderness areas or full exploitation of natural resources. Similarly, hunters are justifiably concerned about exploitation of natural resources in a manner which would destroy game habitat, and ultimately the game itself, for that is the concern of every conservationist. But we hunters are also concerned that we would be locked out of millions of acres in the name of conservation.

The Alaska Oil Pipeline caused much concern during its construction regarding environmental degradation and possible disruption of wildlife. Atlantic Richfield Company (ARCO) convinced the noted naturalist Angus Gavin to come out of retirement and be its on-site wildlife and environmental consultant at Prudhoe Bay. After eight years of continuous study of the North Slope wildlife, Gavin has concluded that the wildlife, whether year-round residents or summer

visitors. These are the findings of scientific research and personal observations conducted by a man who doesn't need a job and who has devoted his life to the study and betterment of wildlife.

Minority Wins — Majority Loses

It is obvious and goes without saying that the developers have their own profit-motivated ax to grind — a grinding carried on among laws aplenty to keep them on the straight and narrow. In fact, a friend of mine who is an Alaskan guide, said he was annoyed by all the restrictions on mineral development with which the companies have agreed to comply in order to protect the environment.

To the sport hunter, whether resident or nonresident of Alaska, the bottom line to any Alaska lands legislation is the conservation "wise-use" of Alaska's resources. This management includes consumptive usage of wildlife resources as well as of oil, minerals and timber. All must be managed in such a way as to impact minimally on the environment. The answer is not a bill that provides for 27 million acres of prime hunting country to be locked-up with access and legitimate and traditional use denied to you and me and left to the very loosely restrained caprices of the (yet to be specifically defined) subsistence hunters.

Alaska Natives are pledged to nothing less than d-2 legislation which guarantees priority status to subsistence hunting not only on the

continued on p. 75

Considering the limited range of Dall's sheep, hunters can't afford to give up 60% of Alaska's best sheep hunting areas.



Photo by Tom Walker

44 million acres of land conveyed to them by the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act but on all federal land in Alaska.

Although state fish and game management policy places subsistence at the top of the list of priorities for use of the resources, rural residents believe practice has favored urban and sport users. Because of what they see as a hostile attitude toward subsistence users on the part of the state, natives will use d-2 to reinforce preferential subsistence rights by federal oversight. A spokesman for several sportsman's groups said in Anchorage that this will give priority use of fish and game to a selected few:

"With complete control on the 44 million acres plus priority use on all federal lands, leaving only small pockets of state land, the effect will be that the majority of Alaskans will be denied the use of our fish and game."

In response to a native leader's political attack on state wildlife management, Jim Rearden, outdoor writer and member of the Alaska Board of Game, replied that subsistence would not be a real issue in small villages without the work of "special interest groups in Barrow, Bethel and other places" and because of the Rural Community Action Program. He added that

Alaska has vast amounts of land, but the game concentrates in small pockets, many of which will be closed to sport hunters.



once is not an issue in their area.

"The people testifying for special subsistence privileges are almost all full-time, paid employees of special interest groups," Rearden said. "If you go to little villages and talk to the people instead of to their leaders, they think it's a bunch of baloney."

So what does all this mean? Without changes in current and proposed legislation, it means: 60% of Alaska's Dall's sheep range closed to sport hunting; 26% of Alaska's moose range closed to sport hunting; 31% of Alaska's brown bear range closed to sport hunting; 34% of Alaska's caribou range closed to sport hunting; 15% of Alaska's black bear range closed to sport hunting; 20% of Alaska's mountain goat range closed to sport hunting.

It means: loss of at least 133 active guide operations with displacement or loss of livelihood to over 4,000 guides, employees and family members; loss of revenues from guiding enterprises put out of business — estimated to be five to six million dollars annually; eventual loss of income from license revenues to the state reaching \$600,000 annually by 1981; loss of supplemental meat value to residents of over \$1,000,000; loss of revenues from users of air taxi, lodges, retail stores and other business who depend on the sport hunter's dollars.

It means: deterioration in the quality of hunting on remaining lands due to increased hunting pressures shifted from 'closed areas'; negation of the Statehood Act provision giving the state the right to manage resident fish and wildlife statewide; giving the Secretary of Interior the ultimate authority to regulate fish and wildlife uses on all federal lands; requiring the State to establish regional administrative and regulatory structure in fish and game management (unprecedented for any state); allowing an annual budget of \$5,000,000.

It means: requiring the state to finance complex and expensive subsistence programs even if federal monies are not available; giving overlapping jurisdiction to

creating chaos in subsistence research and management; taking away a significant portion of traditional state control of access on navigable waters and water appropriations; closing a good portion of state to trapping; defining subsistence to exclude commercial trapping. And finally, it means fifty million acres (1/7th of state) will be managed by the National Park Service.

Act Now!

As if the list is not frightening enough, take a look at some of the organizations which are actively supporting the Alaska lock-up: Animal Protection Institute; Defenders of Wildlife; Friends Of The Earth; Fund For Animals; National Audubon Society; Sierra Club; and the Wilderness Society, among others.

Whether or not circumstances ever allow you the wondrous experience of hunting in Alaska, it is important for you to be concerned about what is happening there. The precedents set in Alaska are the foundation on which your state, or the states in which you hunt, can be gobbled-up in Big Brother's insatiable appetite for federal authority.

Let your representatives know that any Alaska lands legislation must assure the following:

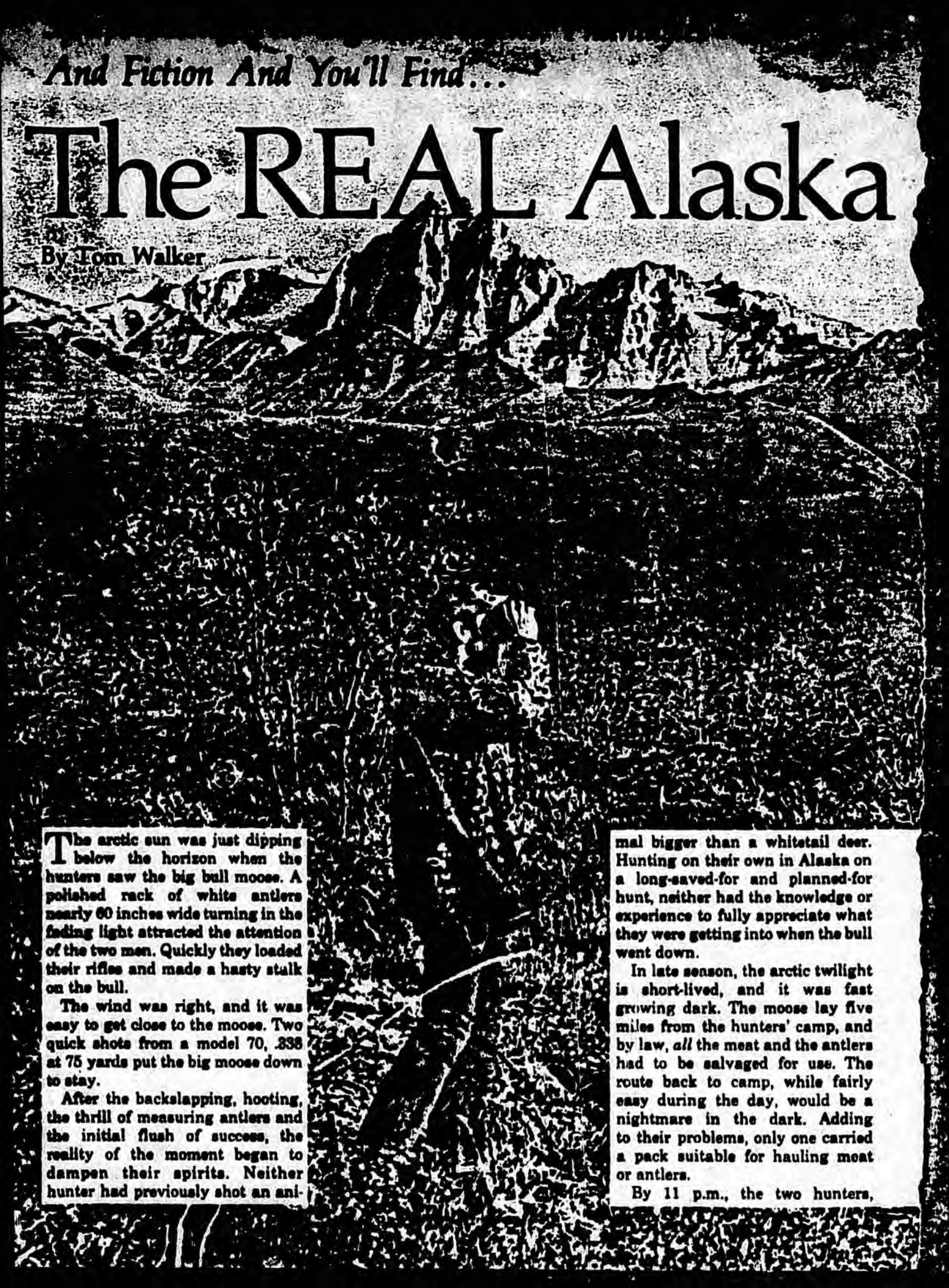
1. A guarantee of reasonable access and allowed-use of all public lands and waters in Alaska for traditional uses, especially hunting.
2. Alaska's right to manage its fishery and wildlife resources must be guaranteed in any d-2 legislation. Subsistence sections must not infringe on the state's right to manage fish and game. Subsistence should be managed by the state, not the federal government.
3. Acreage closed to hunting, trapping and fishing for sport and commercial purposes should be minimal. Management must allow continued use by sportsmen and other recreationists for access and use in these areas.

Remember, the Alaska hunting you save could be your own! ■

And Fiction And You'll Find...

The REAL Alaska

By Tom Walker



The arctic sun was just dipping below the horizon when the hunters saw the big bull moose. A polished rack of white antlers nearly 60 inches wide turning in the fading light attracted the attention of the two men. Quickly they loaded their rifles and made a hasty stalk on the bull.

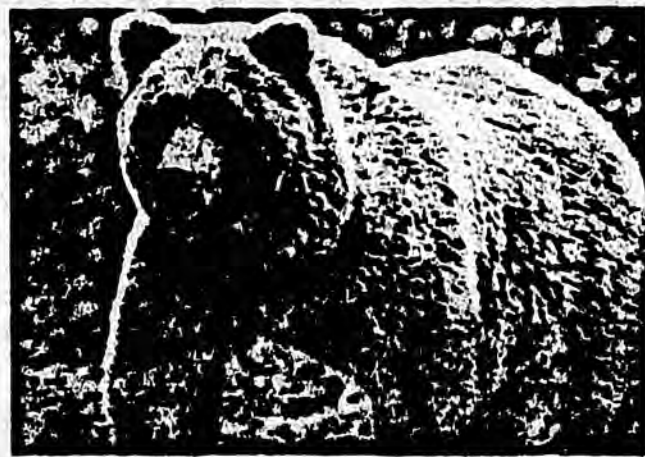
The wind was right, and it was easy to get close to the moose. Two quick shots from a model 70, .338 at 75 yards put the big moose down to stay.

After the backslapping, hooting, the thrill of measuring antlers and the initial flush of success, the reality of the moment began to dampen their spirits. Neither hunter had previously shot an ani-

mal bigger than a whitetail deer. Hunting on their own in Alaska on a long-saved-for and planned-for hunt, neither had the knowledge or experience to fully appreciate what they were getting into when the bull went down.

In late season, the arctic twilight is short-lived, and it was fast growing dark. The moose lay five miles from the hunters' camp, and by law, *all* the meat and the antlers had to be salvaged for use. The route back to camp, while fairly easy during the day, would be a nightmare in the dark. Adding to their problems, only one carried a pack suitable for hauling meat or antlers.

By 11 p.m., the two hunters,



sweat-soaked and covered with blood, had the moose butchered and spread out to cool. Without an ax or saw, it had been a struggle to get the animal gutted and quartered. Having only their knives to work with, they had been unable to remove the antlers from the skull or split the brisket.

Tired and much wiser, the two struggled back to camp, sharing the one load of meat. They arrived at camp about 2 a.m.

Late the next morning, the pair finished breakfast and set out in a light rain to begin the toil of packing the meat. It was apparent to them that each would have to make at least four or five trips across tundra and muskeg to bring

in the meat and horns. The chore would involve 40 or 50 miles of hiking, half of which would be under the burden of heavy packs.

"No wonder," one hunter commented, "the pilot said 'With moose hunting, the work begins when you pull the trigger.'"

Two days later, the men had managed to pack out most of the meat and the antlers but were forced to abandon the remainder when a grizzly sow and cub took possession of the kill.

Time had run out on the hunt, but as one hunter said later, "One moose was enough."

The shame of it all was, besides losing some of the meat to a bear, that on the first day of packing

meat they encountered two good bulls not half a mile from their camp. With a little patience, each could have scored without half the trouble. Other first-time hunters in Alaska, both resident and non-resident, do the same kinds of things. They are getting themselves needlessly into unpleasant and, at times, dangerous situations.

Those moose hunters were the unwitting victims of inexperience, and their hardships could have been avoided. Two factors were working against them — the country and the lack of experience in dealing with an animal the size of a moose.

For many hunters, Alaska is Shangri-La — the land of really big

Many hunters believe that all they have to do to have a successful hunt in Alaska is to hire a bush pilot to take them into remote areas. But most places that are easily accessible by air have been hunted hard. Good areas are jealously guarded secrets.

game — popularized and glamorized in hunting and adventure stories until it has become larger than life. Alaska! The land where a hunter with little experience can be overrun with herds of game, or so the tales go. But what is Alaskan hunting really like?

The scraping away of all the misconceptions and false impressions created and prompted over the years by scores of writers and tellers-of-tales can't be done in one magazine article. However, there are some common misconceptions shared by hunters visiting the 49th state for the first time that can be cleared up. Most suggestions are aimed at those residents and non-residents who seek Alaskan game on their own without the services of a guide. Guides are required for nonresidents seeking Dall's sheep and brown/grizzly bears. But nothing stops an out-of-stater from hunting deer, caribou, elk, bison, black bear, moose, mountain goat, walrus, wolf or wolverine on his own, and many do. A good guide will tell his clients before they arrive what to expect, but many of the points covered here may be of value to a guided hunter as well.

Alaska is real wilderness country, and there is no way around the fact that it's tough country to get around in. More than anything else, this one fact of Alaskan hunting life is most discounted or overlooked by hunters. Most hunting in Alaska takes place on the open tundra or in the mountains. The heavily timbered areas of the state go almost unhunted because of the difficulty in finding the game. Therefore, the actual hunting country is limited to



Photos by author

Alaskan hunters have to be prepared for rapid and severe weather changes. One day can be shirt-sleeve warm, the next bitter cold.

the more open areas. By the very nature of the topography of the hunting areas — tundra being semi-swamp and the mountains rugged and steep — it takes well-conditioned hunters to be mobile in that terrain. Being in shape to hunt in Alaska means being in top physical condition.

Alaskan law requires that all meat be brought out. Few first-time, nonresident hunters realize how difficult a task this can be when an animal like a moose — which can amount to nearly 800 pounds of meat — must be dressed, skinned, quartered and packed out.

low to high mountains with poor forest which creates a disheveled effect. Drainage is poor, and there's lots of standing water which promotes swampy and brushy conditions. Heavy brush thickets of willow and alder are common, and what from a distance looks like flat, open country in reality is high brush. The mountains, although steep, have relatively poor drainage, creating swampy conditions on some slopes. Don't underestimate the difficulty of the terrain.

Those moose hunters grossly underestimated the work involved in packing out an animal the size of an Alaskan moose. Even on good terrain, five miles is too far to pack a moose. In parts of Canada, the law doesn't require a hunter to bring out any meat, but in Alaska, the law requires a hunter to bring out *all* the meat. Most moose weigh around 1200-1400 pounds as adults. Any moose is a big animal, and until a hunter has helped backpack out a moose, it's hard to appreciate the labor involved. Studies have shown that as much as 55 percent of a big game animal's total body weight is useable meat. For a 1400-pound bull, that amounts to 770 pounds of meat. Added to that are the antlers and cape.

Alaska is a big state. In fact, it covers 586,400 square miles. That's equal to one-fifth the size of the continental U.S. That's larger than the combined areas of the states of Washington, Oregon, California, Idaho, Utah and Nevada. Any way you size it, Alaska is BIG.

Yet, as big as it is, Alaska is really *not* good game-producing



ing for the best, but some population numbering more total animals than all Alaska's big game species put together.

Game species in Alaska are found in pockets of concentration. Most first-time hunters to Alaska are disappointed at the numbers of animals encountered. Don't expect to see large herds of game like those common on the African veldt. Scenes of huge numbers of caribou migrating by are rapidly becoming a thing of the past in modern Alaska.

Even in good game country, a hunter has to hunt hard for a good trophy animal. Some novice hunters think all they have to do is get to Alaska, and they'll automatically bag their trophies. Don't believe it. Nothing in hunting is automatic. Experience, knowledge and luck play as much a part in hunting in Alaska as anywhere else, perhaps even more so when considering the size of the state.

Finding a good place to hunt is the single most important factor involved in a successful hunt. For most first-timers hunting on their own, it's next to impossible to find a good hunting spot without some good preliminary study, advice, scouting and a good contact. Many hunters believe that all they have to do is fly into the bush, and they'll be in good game country. Again, nothing is guaranteed in hunting, and flying into a remote area doesn't guarantee success.

Hiring a bush pilot to fly you into remote territory does give you a better chance than hunting from the road. You can at least get away from the majority of the other hunters. However, most places readily accessible by air have been hunted and hunted hard. Charter pilots can drop hunters into good areas, but really good game-producing areas are jealously guarded secret locations. Don't rely solely on the pilot to take you to a good location. It's better to get an idea beforehand where you could have a good hunt.

Be wary of charter firms that offer "good cabins in good game country" as part of a package. Although there are exceptions, such cabins are filled with hunters from

all over the world. It's better to sleep in a small tent in good game country than to stay in a cabin far from the nearest trophy.

Some air taxi firms limit the number of hunters they fly in to a particular location, and such outfits do have good camps in good country. Other large-volume operations couldn't care less about the numbers of hunters they handle or the effect they have on the game. When contacting a charter outfit, a hunter should closely question the firm on this point. In Alaska, like everywhere else, a hunter has to be in good game country to have a successful hunt. Flying in doesn't guarantee that's what he'll get.

Many hunters have read or heard tall tales about sportsmen taking moose, caribou, grizzly and sheep all on the same hunt. True, these hunts are possible, but they are the exception to the rule. Most 15-day hunts produce one, sometimes two, good trophies but seldom more. In fact, today, in this era of shortened seasons and lower bag limits, a four-species hunt is next to impossible except on 21 or 30-day excursions. Guided or unguided, on a week's hunt, depending on location, one good trophy is a good expectation. Plan a week's hunt for each trophy sought. Remember, weather could alter that, too.

Is Alaskan hunting really dangerous? The answer is an emphatic YES. Alaskan hunting, especially for the greenhorn is *very dangerous*, but not for the reasons many believe. Many hunters believe that going to Alaska means defying death by sharing the country with rut-crazed bull moose, packs of wolves and enraged grizzlies. In reality, danger from wildlife is the very least of a hunter's worries.

Bears can be dangerous, but most would rather be left alone and usually leave people alone. Even a wounded bear more often than not attempts to flee from a hunter rather than attack.

Alaskan hunting is dangerous, not because of ferocious wild beasts, but because of the country itself. Glaciers, swift rivers, quicksand, steep cliffs and mountains, heavy timber, bog, the flying and boating involved and the most unpredict-

able weather. As one hunter says, "If you don't like the weather, wait five minutes, and it'll change."

And it's true. One moment, or so it seems, it can be 70 degrees and the next it's zero and snowing. A snowfall on August 10, the opening day of hunting season, isn't rare, so be prepared. Hypothermia — exposure — is the number-one killer of outdoorsmen. Every hunter should recognize the symptoms and know what to do to avoid it.

To be safe, carry a pack with the following items in it: wooden matches in a waterproof container, a warm jacket (no matter what the weather when you start out, rain gear (take it even if there isn't a cloud in the sky). If it doesn't rain, the outfit can be used to cut the wind), a knife, extra rations and, if you wear them, extra eyeglasses. Wear or carry a hat or cap. These few simple items could save your life. The bush is terribly unforgiving of weakness, ineptitude and unpreparedness.

Alaska has some great hunting for some truly great game animals. But, like hunting anywhere, a hunter gets out of it what is put into it. Scrape away the myths and fiction, and the real Alaska emerges — an immense wilderness land of primitive beauty supporting widely scattered pockets of game. Alaskan hunting demands that hunters exert great effort to succeed. But in the end, the trophies taken make the hardship worthwhile. If a hunter comes prepared physically and is realistic in his expectations and desires, he won't go home disappointed. ■

Although tiring, wearing hip boots may be necessary in Alaska because some steep slopes are swampy because of poor drainage.

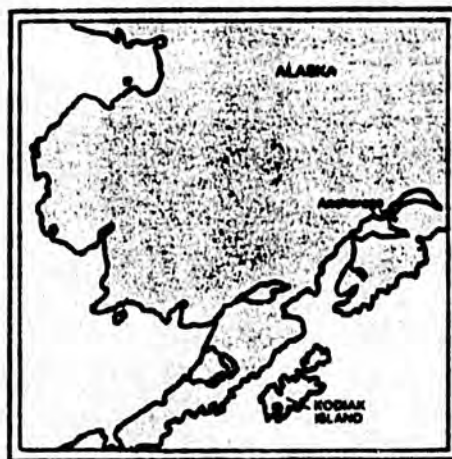


Kodiak Island Chain

OUTSIDE CARTER'S COUNTRY

*Despite The President's Antiquities Act
Lock Up, Determined Hunters Can
Still Find Some Good Alaskan Hunting.*

By Faith Smith





Even up north, where Alaska's hunting lands, there are still a few good public hunting grounds left. The island group of Kodiak, Afognak and Shuyak in southcentral Alaska is one of them. Here the hunter will find deer, brown bear, elk and mountain goat in good numbers. Also two species of ptarmigan, lots of snowshoe hare and great duck hunting can be found. These three islands are only about a 45-minute commercial airline flight from Alaska's largest city, Anchorage, and Wien Air flies into the town of Kodiak, 249 miles southwest of Anchorage, every day. The hunter then takes a light plane from a private charter such as Kodiak Western to the hunting area. Access by boat is also an excellent way to hunt since the brushy, mountainous terrain is hard walking.

To hunt in Alaska, a nonresident must purchase a \$60.00 hunting license and specific, metal, locking tags for each big game animal wanted. Tag fees for these island acres would be \$250.00 for brown bear; \$35.00 each for deer; \$125 each for goat and elk. These tags are attached to the animal as soon as it is taken. Harvest reports and tickets are also issued, to be filled out within 15 days of the taking of the game, which helps the Department of Fish and Game manage the animals. All this may be obtained from local sporting goods stores or by mail from the Licensing Section, Alaska Dept. of Revenue, 240 S. Franklin, Juneau, Ak. 99801.

A guide is not necessary, but is certainly helpful, on these islands for deer. The Sitka blacktails that inhabit virtually every area are masters of disguise in the mostly dense alder brush terrain. The hot spots for deer are the western side of Kodiak: Uganik Bay, Spiridon Bay and Uyak Bay. We had very good luck in Terror Bay last fall, bagging our limits of four deer each in less than a week. We saw deer every day



Right: Water routes often offer the easiest access to remote camps, but special attention should be paid to the tides.

Left: Elk can be hunted on both Raspberry Island and Afognak Island, with the season running through the month of October.



Perhaps the best place in the world to hunt brown bear — one of the largest land carnivores — is Kodiak Island. A special permit, issued by random drawing, is required to hunt them. Both residents and nonresidents must buy a \$250 tag before they hunt.

and were able to use a varmint call to lure them close.

During our stay, we saw boats and planes go by but never another hunter. The chance for a trophy buck is excellent. Deer season is open usually from August 1 to January 15, and either sex may be taken after September 15. Four deer is the limit in all areas. There is a small road system on Kodiak, and only one deer is allowed in this area.

Kodiak is not known for its good weather, and during our hunt, we experienced rain, snow, hail, fog, sun and more rain. Keeping dry wood cut for the fire was a problem, and keeping our scopes from fogging up was, too.

To fly the meat back home, we boned it all. Wien Air will allow meat onboard if it is wrapped watertight and boxed. Antlers were packed in our packs; hides were boxed.

Deer hunting is also good on Shuyak and Afognak. The terrain is more open on Shuyak, making it less strenuous climbing and more just packing. If a skiff is available, hunting the beaches from the water is a good way to go. Fox and otter are likely candidates to be seen on the beaches, too. The season on fox is early September, through mid-February, and two is the limit. Otter may not be shot.

Tops For Brown Bear

Kodiak is known for its big brown bears and excellent brown bear

hunting. Nonresidents must have a guide and purchase a tag. Residents, too, are required to buy a tag, and it expires on December 31 of the year purchased, so we usually buy one in the early spring to use for both spring and fall seasons. They run from about April 1 to May 31 and October 1 to November 30. One bear every four regulatory years is allowed by drawing or registration permit only. Either of these may be obtained from Roger Smith, game biologist, Dept. of Fish and Game, P.O. Box 686, Kodiak, Alaska, 99615. Registration hunts mean you merely go to the local office of Fish and Game and tell them where you will be hunting and then check back in after your hunt. The drawings are random drawing of names sent in for certain areas, and the recipients are notified at least a month or two in advance. This hunting is more of a wilderness experience because the hunter is usually alone in his area, with the game all to himself.

Applications for Kodiak brown bear hunts and others may be obtained from the Dept. of Fish & Game, 333 Raspberry Rd., Anchorage, Ak. 99502. The deadline to apply was July 31, 1979, for the fall season, and is January 24, 1980, for the spring hunt. The number of permits issued for spring hunting will be 209. The hunters drawn must appear in person at the Department of Fish and Game in Kodiak before going afield and then

hunt or leave after the conclusion of their hunt. A choice of areas is available this year, so if one is filled, another may be open. Hunting may be done with either rifle, bow or muzzle-loader.

There is a backbone ridge of mountains running about north and south on Kodiak Island, and it's here that mountain goat hunting is good. The areas open for this permit-only hunting are upper Uganik River, Upper Terror River, west of Ugak Bay, north of Ugak Bay to Center Mountain and Kizhuyak River. Participation in these hunts is limited to every other year. Permittees must notify Fish & Game at least 24 hours prior to entering the field, and access to the hunting areas is by float plane or boat.

This season's dates for goat are Sept. 1 to Oct. 30, but the season will be closed by field announcement when 15 goats have been taken. Application deadline is mid-June and the permit drawing date is mid-July. For this season, 31 permits were drawn. A guide or hunting companion is recommended, but of course it's up to the individual.

Trapped By Tide

Elk are hunted on Raspberry Island, just north of Kodiak Island between Kodiak and Afognak. Afognak is also known for its elk hunting. These two areas are open from about Oct. 1 to 31 by permit drawing only, but the number of permits drawn is large: 150 on Afognak and 50 on Raspberry this year. Application is made the same as for brown bear and deadlines for both areas are usually the last of July. Access to both places is by small plane or boat, although there is a logging road on Afognak now to Portage on the north end. Elk are certainly a trophy worth going after in Alaska.

Shuyak Island is the little one off the north end of Afognak. Besides it's excellent deer hunting, it also has brown bear, and no permit is needed. Often the hunter will run across a bear trail through the tall coastal grass or see one high up on a mountainside from a light plane. While hunting deer, we crossed a well-travelled, wide trail and followed it up the steep hillside to a

two deer that day, and it was late evening and getting quite dark before we were packed up and headed back to the tent. The only trail down that we knew for sure would lead to the right stretch of beach was that bear's. As we packed past his den, I had terrible visions of him smelling that delicious fresh deer dinner passing by his front door and coming charging out to claim it — and maybe me, too!

Hiking and packing on the coastal islands is quite a feat. One of the problems is that there are big changes in tide levels twice a day. A hunter may leave his camp at low tide and walk along miles of rocky beach to a spot that looks climbable before heading up where the game can be seen by spotting scope. But if he plans to return by the same route six hours later, when the tide has come in and covered up all of that large beach, he is going to be surprised. Several times this has happened to us when we've gotten carried away with the hunt and forgotten Mother Nature's tide table. It usually means staying on the mountain until the tide goes out enough to allow travel again. Otherwise, you might have to laboriously trek through dense willow growth, up and down ravines and steep little creeks, slide across grassy meadows slippery with rain or snow and try to figure out from one thousand feet elevation whether that lagoon was where the pilot let you off or whether that knoll is the one behind the tent!

A Close Call

One night, on a spring bear hunt, we left our cabin and walked about a mile on the beach to a grass flat, sat down near some dead spruce trees and proceeded to await the hoped-for arrival of a large bear we'd seen previously. They like to eat the new green grass shoots coming up in the early spring on these flats, usually found at the head of every little bay and lagoon. We sat silently for awhile, observed a family of otters bounding through the thick grass and an eagle silently circling by a close cliff. Soon it got too dark to see to shoot even if a bear did appear, so we headed back. We didn't have to go far to realize



If a hunter is fortunate enough to draw a mountain goat permit for Kodiak Island, he has two full months to fill his tag.

the water was now lapping at the base of the cliffs between us and the cabin. Cursing our luck, we built a fire and sat down to wait. The water level kept getting closer and closer to our little blaze until it was within a foot of us. We were backed right up against a rock cliff and had nowhere to go should this happen to be an extremely high tide. But within six inches of that yellow firelight, the water stopped, stayed level for awhile and then began to recede slowly, as if to say, "Aha! Almost got you that time!" It was several more hours before we could make our wet way home.

Another consideration about



There is excellent ptarmigan, snowshoe hare and waterfowl hunting available on all three islands of the Kodiak chain.

Each excursion must be carefully planned, with tide book in hand, so that the skiff doesn't go high and dry when the water disappears and hunting turns into boat-hauling.

There are old cabins on the islands that hunters may use, some of them with permission from the owners. These are usually very nice and comfortable. Somehow we always end up living in a wall tent, though, which isn't bad at all. Rigged with an adequate little wood stove, and provided it doesn't rain constantly making dry wood impossible to find, a canvas wall tent with a good rain fly makes an excellent base camp. We even do it this way in late November for deer hunting when one morning we might wake up to see the roof sagging precariously under a night-long load of wet snow. And another consideration concerning precipitation is to make sure you're prepared to stay past your designated departure date. Oftentimes the weather socks in, making flying or boating impossible for days at a time. Island weather is constantly changing.

For the small game hunter, these islands offer excellent snowshoe hare, ptarmigan and waterfowl hunting. The season for hare is open all year around, and there's no bag limit. Hunting them with a .22 handgun or rifle in the willows in winter when their black eyes stand out against the snow is usually profitable. Ptarmigan generally prefer higher elevations, and the season runs from early August to late April with a limit of 20 per day. Spring hunting for these fast birds, when they are in flocks, is good shotgunning. As for waterfowl, sea ducks are abundant, of course. The elder, scoter, harlequin and even emperor geese are popular, and the season is early September to early October and then opens again early November to mid-January. The limit on ducks is 20 per day; on geese it's six.

Almost every hunter can find what he or she wants on these southcentral Alaskan islands. The diversity of game, the low hunter density, the different types of weather and terrain, make this an excellent choice for your next hunt in our 'Last Frontier' state. ■



By Jack Douglas Mitchell

Somehow the term "State of Alaska" seems to connote a neat, properly defined segment of land that's far away, up in the northwest corner of the map. We probably all know that it's our largest state and that Texas had to give up first place when Alaska gained statehood in 1959. (My Texan friend now claims to live in the largest "frost-free" state in the Union.)

But do you know what it would look like if you superimposed Alaska over the rest of the United States? Attu Island, out on the tip of the American Aleutians, would touch Los Angeles, California, and the southeastern strip of Alaska would stretch clear across the map to Savannah, Georgia, on the Atlantic Ocean. The northernmost point in Alaska is Point Barrow. It would end up near Duluth, Minnesota. This is a fitting juxtaposition since Mark Twain once said that the coldest winter he ever spent was one summer in Duluth.

Just how big is this gigantic and magnificent chunk of America? Over half a million square miles — 586,000 to be exact — Alaska is equivalent in area to more than 20 percent of the entire continental United States. Truly, it matches the Aleut word "Alaska" which means "the great land."

Hardly crowded, in spite of the oil strikes, pipelines and a booming economy, the total population is 382,000. That works out to a population density of about six-tenths of a person per square mile. Theoretically, you'd have to cover two square miles to find enough "person" (1.2) to talk to. So, if you want to be alone for a while, far from the pressures of this modern world, Alaska is the place for you. But you can never be too much alone because even if you don't "love thy neighbor," in Alaska you'd better be, at least, good friends. When you live in the "bush" and your closest neighbor is about 10 miles away, there is a necessary and mutual dependence on each other in case of emergencies. You really get to know thy neighbor. That's a far cry from not even bothering to nod to the people next door in a big city apartment.

First-time visitors to Alaska who drive the Alcan

spinning wheel and getting on a fellow man's back the road who seems to be in trouble. You stop and try to help. Too bad it takes a frontier society to set an example for most of the rest of the world.

The immensity of Alaska is matched only by its beauty. A cautious acquaintance of mine told me on his return from this last frontier that "Alaska was very scenic." He would, no doubt, describe Paradise as being "very comfortable." Even when you are standing on the busy streets of Anchorage up to your chin in pizza huts, neon bars and the press of people, you have only to lift your eyes beyond the skyscrapers to see the silent, eternal and majestic snowcapped mountains.

It is said that "Anchorage is only 10 minutes from Alaska!" And it's true. Just beyond the city limits you are likely to see a moose feeding quietly in a meadow or a timber wolf high up on the side of a hill.

If you've read this far in *The American Hunter* this month, you've found out a lot about hunting in Alaska. Whether you're hunting with a shotgun or a rifle, there's a lot of territory to be covered. And it doesn't always take an expensive trip to do it either. A friend of mine had the greatest duck and goose hunting he ever experienced only a few miles outside Juneau. There is shotgun shooting galore along the coast during the fall waterfowl migration and ptarmigan and grouse in the interior. But the biggest attraction of all still seems to be Alaska's big game.

Truly "big," the Alaskan brown bears have to be seen to be believed. If you've been a once-in-a-while bear hunter and know a black bear track when you see one, you've got a real treat in store when you see your first big Alaskan brown bear track. One of the largest meat-eating animals in the world, this gigantic carnivore makes a track like the butt end of a telephone pole. The size and depth of the mark is guaranteed to make the hair stand up on the back of your neck.

As a friend of mine once said, "Looks like Godzilla just walked by!"

Since we seem to be dealing in large Alaskan dimensions, another big game species that must be listed is the Alaskan moose. Standing seven feet high — that's well over your head unless you are Wilt Chamberlain — these huge animals weigh more than three-fourths of a ton. The wide, flat antlers develop spreads of six feet or more. If you're a rabbit hunter, as I am, you should be impressed with the fact that it often takes two strong men to load the antlers, skull and cape on a pack-horse. Makes my sacroiliac ache just to think of it. But what a trophy! I wonder how one would go with my stuffed pheasant?

I met my first genuine parka-clad Eskimo on my one and only trip to the Arctic Circle several years ago. It was on a remote island fishing camp far out in the Amundsen Gulf, and I was so impressed with meeting this aboriginal native there in the Arctic Ocean that I was, believe it or not, at a loss for words. But the smiling Eskimo handled it well by pointing to a big red and white plastic button on his parka. It said, "Hello, my name is Nick from Great Bear Lodge."

Civilization had beaten me to it. So better plan on going to Alaska before it changes much more. ■



OUTDOORS . . .

By BUD LEAVITT

PRUDHOE BAY, Alaska — Only yesterday, or maybe the day before, it seems, the main issue of the Alaska day centered around the 800-mile pipeline project and the expected environmental damage predicted for the hard countryside.

Practically under the base of this traveling typewriter, smack on the edge of the ice-choked Arctic Ocean is the Prudhoe Bay oil field, the largest ever discovered in North America.

If I walked 75 or so yards from this word mill, I could touch the pipeline, a 48-inch shoot tunneling 1.4 million gallons each 24-hour day to Valdez, Alaska, 800 miles south where it is piped aboard tankers and sent off to where only God knows.

No longer is the pipeline Alaska's foremost conversation nor conservation issue, only a part of ALI's enormously-complex matter descreetly called the Alaska Lands Issue.

THE USE of the 1906 Antiquities Act by President Jimmy Carter and Secretary of Interior Cecil Andrus has Alaskans furious.

In an atmosphere reminiscent of the days before the American Revolution, more than 2,500 Cantwell, Alaskans recently demonstrated against Carter's setting aside 56 million acres for national monuments.

The 2,500 Alaskans converged on the edge of Mount McKinley National Park in a civil disobedience protest, purposely breaking certain regulations, such as the rule dogs be on leashes, and daring rangers to arrest

them. An estimated 1,500 men, women and children, many dressed in parkas and mukluks, pressed through soft, knee-deep snow two miles into the monument, a trek that took an hour and a half. At the rendezvous point they built a bonfire and held a rally, chanting and shouting their disapproval of the Carter Administration.

AT BETTLES, no fewer than six residents declared they do not want the National Park Service to establish a headquarters in their community, claiming the presence of park service employees would "represent the loss of our freedoms."

Bettles is 20 miles southwest of the southern boorder of the Gats of the Arctic National Monument, one of the 17 national monuments in Alaska created by nearly a year ago by President Carter.

Forty-eight residents signed a letter mailed to the Park Service listing reasons they oppose establishing a headquarters at Bettles. The reasons cited: 1. "an unjust lockup of our land;" 2. "constitutional and human rights to use these lands are being taken away;" 3. park employees would represent the loss of freedoms on the lands and would not be welcomed or fit into the community; 4. miners, trappers, guides and hunters will not tolerate park service employees in Bettles "making their living by preventing us from making our;" 5. residents "lack faith in the integrity of the Park Service;" and 6. Bettles residents petitioned they don't want Park Service employees competing on "our limited local

lands for their own recreation, hunting, trapping, fishing, gold prospecting when we are in turn banned from these activities on national monument lands."

ALASKANS, much like old-line State of Mainers, delight in welcoming you into their homes.

I was extended this courtesy, along with Jim Schneider of Evansville, Ind., and Gun Week magazine, and we visited with Bettles residents Andy Greenblatt, Mr. and Mrs. Ron Costello and the couple's two-year old son, Justin.

Greenblatt and Costello are pilots, guides and long-time residents of Bettles.

"I left San Francisco when I finished high school and 17 years old," said Greenblatt. "I didn't wait around long enough to attend my own graduation. I headed for Alaska. They mailed my high school diploma and it was air-dropped to me from the mail plane. That was ten years ago."

Ron Costello, before moving to Alaska, lived in Butte, Montana. He entered the University of Montana with political science intentions.

"That wasn't for me, I soon learned. I got out of there fast and moved to Bettles. Now 'they' want to take it from me."

COSTELLO and his part-Eskimo wife, Naomi, feel their lifestyle is being snuffed-out by the Lower Forty Eight.

"The people in Washington are making rules and laws that threaten to cut the legs out from under us. If the land all-around us is forever locked-up, I no longer can subsistence hunt, guide or make a living. My associates, Steve Alleman and Rudy Gray, we're Alaskans and by working our tails off, have managed to earn a living by outfitting dog sled trips, backpacking, canoe and aft trips, photographic hunts, mountain, andra, Arctic coast birding forays. Actually, I'm being asked to forsake all this and accept food stamps. It'll be a cold day in

hell before I'll bend to those demands being imposed on me in Washington, D.C."

You hear much of subsistence hunting.

RESIDENTS of Bettles explain subsistence hunting—living off the land—and through a visit to their earthen cellars.

"For winter, we have our food. I killed a moose, a caribou and a Dall sheep. We only hunt and kill for the table," asserts Costello.

Greenblatt said Alaskans are not asking for wide open use of federal lands.

"I am quite aware of the misuse of the lands which has occurred in the United States and world-wide. We are willing to accept controlled use and are in favor of a reasonable expansion of the federal Park, Refuge and Forest system. But we also treasure a lifestyle that involves wise use of our lands. As a suggestion, smaller core parks surrounded by less restrictive conservation units would allow for continuation of the unique Alaska lifestyle without endangering our wilderness legacy."

ON THIS pitch, having seen Alaska in the first days of winter, we leave Prudhoe Bay and head toward Seattle.

A resident navigator says we have viewed more of Alaska in a single week than has been his fortune in 28 years, determining the mileage at 5,362 miles, Seattle to Seattle.

The time has come to complete our memory book, i.e., flying across the brow of Mt. McKinley, gasping in awe as we scaled the mountaintops of Mt. Elias, Alaska and Brooks ranges, goose-pimpling excitement on the fishing waters, the caribou migrations, oh, ever so many happenings that make this abundantly-rich state a natural resources and raw beauty what it is, simply Alaska.

It's time to go home, L'll Alaska, the blot on the map way up in the corner of northwest America. Maine does and will always look good, but promise yourself, see mighty Alaska before winter comes down hard, and takes charge.

Promise yourself this one lifetime experience.

ALASKA -

THE IMPOSSIBLE

DREAM



(Editor's Note: The following article was written by Robert Soldwedel, a fisheries biologist with the New Jersey Division of Fish & Game after we learned of his recent visits to Alaska and approached him to tell our readers about his fishing adventures there).

I'll come right to the point: If you want to spend a week in Alaska to enjoy some great fishing, figure it will cost you in the neighborhood of \$2,500. Seven hundred of this will be for roundtrip airfare from Newark to Anchorage. A good lodge will run you another \$1,700 and the balance should be enough for a good night on the town in Anchorage. You could probably find some cheaper lodges, but cheaper prices mean less quality and since this should be something you will always want to remember, you might just as well go first class.

The first step in planning an Alaska fishing adventure is to select a reputable lodge with which to entrust your vacation. The lump sum you fork over to the lodge should cover everything except your fishing license, tackle and booze. I've found a "home" at Ray Loesche's Rainbow King Lodge on Iliamna Lake. The \$1,600 fee covers rooms, comparable to those found in better motels, daily fly-in fishing from the lodge, and the finest meals that you could find anywhere.

For example, the breakfast menu includes everything from corn flakes to Eggs Benedict while the hors d'oeuvres set out for dinner included devil eggs, king crab meat, Swedish meatballs, etc.

The area fished covers a wide variety of fishing. Ray flies over the streams to see where fish concentrations are before he takes you out to be sure you have good fishing. To give you some idea of the quality experience you can enjoy on a trip such as mine, I've written in detail some of the most memorable ones I've been on.

My first exposure to salmon fishing in Alaska was also my most memorable one. Now, four years later, the vision of the Amakdedori is as clear to my mind's eye as if I had been there only last weekend. The Amakdedori is about the size of the South Branch of the Raritan above Ken Lockwood Gorge. It runs into Cook Inlet during the month of August and hosts a fine run of humpback and coho salmon.

Flying over the stream it was easy to see it was full of fish. The question in my mind was where the heck were we going to land the plane. This particular aircraft was a wheeled variety and I was still wondering about this when we hit the beach with the incoming tide two feet to the left of us and a huge pile of driftwood on the right side of the plane. I then began to wonder how he would be able to land at high tide and was to find the answer to this later ... you just don't land at high tide. We bailed out of the plane in fast order so he could get out of there before his landing strip went under water. The stream was on the opposite side of the first dune.

We were into fishing immediately, the riffles were well to wait with humpbacks and it was physically impossible to draw a lure through this area without snagging a fish. No one goes to Alaska to snag salmon so I moved upstream to a long, deep pool. It was like fishing in a hatchery raceway except instead of 9 to 12 inch trout, this pool was full of 9 to 12 pound salmon. At first, I was eager to catch anything, but as the morning wore on I started to become selective, fishing for the less numerous but larger and gamier silver (coho) salmon. It got to the point where we would yank the spinner out of the water so a humpback wouldn't get it.

The tide went out and our plane came in again. Ray had scouted the rest of the creek and found a large concentration of fish about a mile upstream. A doctor from Oklahoma and I decided to fly up there and give it a try.

When we reached the spot, we found the water black with Arctic Char which were feeding behind spawning salmon. Again it was a fish on every cast situation. We became so engrossed with fishing that we hardly noticed the fog coming in. When we got back to our pickup location however, you couldn't help but notice it for it had settled in within ten feet of the ground.

How were we going to get out of here. The beach was only a mile away but the path we would have to cover was virtually impassable and was inhabited by hungry brown bear. We heard Ray buzz our location twice failing to find an opening but on his third try he found an opening in the fog bank and slipped in to pick us up. We scurried aboard to get out of the area before the fog could close back in on us and flew back to the beach strip.

At the beach, we faced still another problem. We had one pilot, five fishermen, two guides and one girl (on leave from household duty back at the lodge), one small airplane with time for only one trip out because the tide was coming in.

Ray took out the two oldest anglers and the rest of us were left marooned for the night. Fortunately, Ray had set up a small tent as an outpost camp and we had enough sleeping bags for the lot of us. Lacking anything else to do, we went back to fishing. With all the salmon about, supper was no problem.

It was then we noticed the bear. We all had cameras so it was picture time. The bear was rooting around for salmon and was not making much of a subject for photography. Someone had the bright idea to shout at him to attract his attention. We hooted and hollared and we certainly did get his attention. He reared right up and charged across the stream. I was the oldest in the group and wearing chesthigh waders, but I was the first to break away and could have broken the record for the 100 yard dash even with waders on. Our female companion was knocked over by one of the guides (her brother) and trampled by her boyfriend as he passed by. The situation was so absurd, we were laughing our tails off all the time. Here I was a 20th century man from New Jersey about to be eaten by an Alaskan brown bear? Fortunately for all concerned, the bear did not follow up, having been satisfied with running us off his fishing hole. He went back to chewing on salmon. Dinner that night was baked salmon eaten under the stars. We slept in our wet clothes in nice damp sleeping bags with an entire layer of canvas between us and the bear. When we awoke, we found his tracks all around our tent.

Back at the lodge the next day, the girl told anyone who would listen about our heroics. Well, women wanted to be treated as equals, didn't they? The happy ending came later when we found the cook had saved us the previous night's serving of king crab legs and served them up with steak. These two days may not have been the most productive fishing I've ever encountered but the memories of it will certainly last a lifetime.

I got a chance to fish the Koktuli River on the last day of my third trip to Alaska. Groups fishing here earlier in the week had been taking up to one hundred rainbows (averaging 12 lbs each) per angler



A young brown bear, my friend from the McNeil River.



Our guide with a "small" king salmon.

so I packed up my king salmon gear and broke out my rainbow trout tackle (6-lb test line and No. 2 Mepps spinners.)

The weather had been ridiculously beautiful all week with temperatures reaching in the 80's but it didn't hold out and the day dawned cold and wet. There was an advantage to this as the mosquitos wouldn't get airborne on such a day. My partner decided he would rather fish for kings so I had the canoe and guide all to myself. However, it quickly became obvious the weather was holding down, not only the bugs but the rainbows as well.

The guide described my first rainbow as the smallest he had ever seen taken in the river. Some distinction! After the first hour I began to wonder if the runt rainbow, a couple of pike and a few grayling to my credit would be all I would get for the day for it certainly appeared I would not maintain the 110-trout a day camp average.

Then all hell broke loose. At about 9

a.m. I hit what must have been one of Alaska's largest rainbow trout. At 9:30, I finally landed that fish and it turned out to be a 25 pound king salmon. Suddenly it seemed like every pool we came to would produce king salmon. They had moved into the river to spawn the night before and I was in the right place at the right time; but with the wrong gear. King

salmon in the 10 to 25 pound class I could handle but I repeatedly tied into something upwards to 30 pounds and six pound test line doesn't cut it with this size fish in a fast flowing river full of snags. The hooks on a No 2 Mepps weren't meant to hold a fish of this size either and I straightened out at least a half a dozen.

Pure frustration followed: hook a monster, fight him on foot, jump in the canoe and follow him to the next pool, fight him some more, back in the canoe and so on. The more it happened, the more intoxicating it became and I found myself pulling the spinner away from 3 to 4 pound rainbows so that they wouldn't waste my time. I actually beached a 40 pound king twice only to have him turn around and go back into the current and snag his way to freedom. I never did land a really big king but what a day for memories.

At the lower end of the Koktuli where it meets with the Mulchatna, I met a party of twelve anglers who were marooned on an island. Their pick-up plane couldn't get through the Aleutian Mountain Range because of the weather. Weather dictates all movement in Alaska, fortunately this time I was on the right side of the mountains and our plane was able to pick us up. Lord only knows when the "dirty dozen" got out.

Any picture you've ever seen of an Alaskan brown bear most likely was taken at McNeil River. This place is a wildlife photographer's dream. It has the largest concentration of brown bear in the world and the scenic beauty is really great with the river rapids and leaping salmon making a perfect setting for taking pictures.

Page 3 of 3 "Alaska--The Impossible Dream" by R. Soldwedel

I had the distinct privilege to fish the McNeil River on three occasions during my second trip to Alaska in September 1977. Although fishing was excellent on all three occasions, the third day of my visit there was also the most memorable. I got out on an early light out of camp and was dropped off at their McNeil camp where I checked in with our two guides. Since by now I was a McNeil River veteran, I told them I would talk to the fishing area myself. Rounding a bend to the first pool where I had taken silver salmon on my two previous visits, I came eyeball to eyeball with a young, but very large, brown bear. Having spent the first two days here in close proximity with brown bear, this encounter didn't shake me up the way it would have on my earlier visits.

I first made sure the bear I knew I was there. Bear hate to be surprised. I then started to fish a respectable distance from him. The bear acknowledged my presence and swam across the river. Young bear are very respectful. They're at the bottom of the bear's peckin order and move out of your way out of habit. So, the bear went to fishing on one side of the river while I fished the other. Both of us would look at the other once in a while to see how the other was doing. As far as the bear was concerned, I was just another fisherman just like himself.

Alone on the river with just a bear and salmon in the middle of Alaska, you cannot help but feel yourself a part of the environment and in perfect harmony with the land. This is where the gulf in understanding exists between the anti-hunters, protectionists, et. al. and the hunters, trappers and fishermen. In our pursuit of game we become a part of the ecosystem, not merely observers. It's the same difference between watching a football game and actually playing the game.

The serenity of the scene was broken by the sound of an outboard motor



bringing the rest of my party. I had taken five silvers in the pool, all of which ran about twelve pounds each, in about an hour and was ready for a change of scenery so I jumped aboard as they moved upstream.

Having fished here two days earlier, I knew right where to stand. It was ridiculously simple; cast across the rapids, let the current carry the spinner in a sweeping arc and set the hook. Fish hit at every cast, actually knocking each other off on occasion. If you could get past the 3 and 4 pound Arctic Char, you could almost always tie into a 12 to 15 pound silver salmon. During the day, I took at least 20 silvers and lost an equal number. I also caught at least fifty good size char.

Meanwhile the bear were all around us and putting on a real good show. Many fish were lost while the angler was pre-occupied watching the antics of the bear. Bear would pass within 10 or 15 feet of us but the only time things got sticky was when a sow came down with her cub. The first thing she did was to chase off the other bear. The problem was she chased him directly at me. Fortunately the other bear decided to face her down and they both stood there on their hind legs sizing each other up and bluffing. After several minutes of this they both backed down and calmed

down. The rapids started to become rather crowded as our plane brought in a pair of "newly" weds. We decide to split up into two groups, one staying at the rapids while the other moves on to new waters. Who do I draw as a fishing partner but the female half of the newly weds: nubby wants to stay behind to photograph bear. By now I'm content to play coach and show how adept I am at catching fish so we pass a very pleasant afternoon. However, here he comes, my old friend the bear from the morning. Obviously he just wants to see how I'm doing. It's now "hero" time as I interject myself between the girl and the bear and "chase" him off. We've certainly come a long way since my "scared rabbit" performance at the Amakdedon.

On my third trip to Alaska, I was very sorry to learn that our trip to the McNeil was probably one of the last legal fishing trips that will ever be made there. The government has closed down the river and no longer allows fishing here, leaving the river to the exclusive use of the bear and photographers. I was fortunate to have had the experiences I had at the McNeil. Had I put off the trip, I would have saved money, but would have also been much poorer for it.

The McNeil closure is symptomatic of what's happening in Alaska. Its true wilderness is being preserved, but for who? Obviously, not for those who wish to become a part of it because we are barred from it. This is one of many reasons why you should make up your mind to go to Alaska now while there still is some relative degree of freedom.

It seems our options grow fewer with every day and it would seem a shame to contend ourselves with looking at pictures of the land. This amounts to falling in love with Playboy's centerfold. Alaska is the last great wilderness show left in town, don't miss it! Make your impossible dream come true, or at least keep the options open for it.



Guests were catching up to 100 rainbow trout per day, some going up to ten or twelve pounds.

"Alaska--The Impossible Dream"

By R. Soldwedel



Boat load of male silver salmon, averaging about 12 pounds, taken on the McNeil River.



OUTDOORS

By BUD LEAVITT

BETTLES, Alaska — One cannot leave Kulik Lodge and its attendant lake and river without first telling of a one lasting memory. Never mind how many rainbow trout arched their backs to take the fly in ice-cold water. The count would only tend to make you angry, quite possibly annoyed that you were not standing in the stream next to us.

On the flight from Bettles to King Salmon, where our flying machine was in dire need of a drink, I continued my probing of Jim Repine's knowledge of Alaska fishing and hunting.

"The fish we took at Kulik are what I call 'Lower Forty Eight' rainbows," he said without moving an eyelid. "The big 'bows have gone upstream. But I have stood in the same spot where you were earlier in the year and landed a half dozen 'bows weighing 15 to 20 pounds. There were a bunch of fish in the river yesterday, but

honest, the heavy 'bows have moved on upstream."

DURING the flight from King Salmon, Alaska, a tiny community that advertises itself on ramschackied building of aerial junction stop (King Salmon, Inc., world wide distributor of moose poop, Alaska's natural resource, sheet form, pellets, bulk. No order too big, too small. Government in spected), I got to day-dreaming of a single rainbow's stream performance.

Thirty-five yards of fly line and 50 yards of backing were gone in a flash. Then this ballerina of a 'bow made three gorgeously choreographed leaps of superb elevation and the next time I saw her she was 40 yards downstream and I followed her along the brown bear path that conveniently gave us a trail to regain line. I will long remember this particular fish. I thought I

might have to revive her, but once I cupped my hands under her belly and nosed her out into the water, she took off the moment she sensed swimming depth.

THE FLIGHT from King Salmon to Bettles offered another mountaintop look at the incredible country below.

You no doubt have read Alaska statistics until your earmuffs refuse another. All the same, each time I hear them recited, I find the numbers staggering. Overwhelming.

While we're pushing this iron-winged bird through a nasty snowstorm to the next stop, Bettles, I made some marks in my handy, dandy notebook.

Alaska's area measures 586,412 square miles; the largest city, Juneau, spreads to 3,108 square miles; Mt. McKinley at 29,320 feet, rates as North America's tallest point; the largest lake, Iliamna, 1,000 square miles; tidal shoreline, 33,904 miles; breadth, east to west, 2,400 miles, north-south, 1,420 miles; largest glacier, Malaspina, 2,937 square miles; Tongass National Forest, 16 million acres, the nation's largest; and this land beneath my airplane seat has over three million larger than one acre ponds and lakes.

THAT LAST one, three-million lakes over one acre, blows the mind, as funny-pipe

smokers are wont to blurt, particularly when our good State o' Maine flexes its ample muscles over having 2,695 within its boundaries. So much for state-by-state comparisons.

We have landed in Bettles, a community of some 60 residents, residents who meet you in an ugly, angry mood. Bettles people tell you in no uncertain language their life and lifestyle has been endangered through Washington's direction that means: 1. Federal land lockups; 2. 44 million acres going into private native lands; 3. preferential subsistence priority on the remaining lands.

You may have heard that the Alaska D-2 land legislation died in the Senate last year, but at this moment, it remains as the most controversial legislation in Alaska's history, even the acceptance of statehood back in 1958. The D-2 legislation has caused bitterness and divided Alaskans and nothing Washington bureaucrats can do, short of washing its hands of the entire matter, will extinguish the ever-raging verbal fire.

RON COSTELLO, a young bush pilot, guide, trapper and outdoorsman, has invited me to a cup of tea.

Costello has been an Alaskan the last 12 years of his life. Costello married a lovely

part Eskimo, part Caucasian, and her name is Naomi. The couple have a dynamite son, two-year old, Justin.

The Costellos and their friend and neighbor, Andy Greenblatt, who came to Bettles from San Francisco ten years ago at the age of 17, want someone from the Lower Forty Eight to listen.

The Costellos' home is a snug, lovely log cabin. It sits on a knoll facing the great range of mountains to the west. The house is neat and clean and warm and on the wall, a giant hide from a 400-pound grizzly bear that mistakenly entered the couple's dooryard while Ron was digging a foundation for his cabin.

"I hated to kill the bear for the sake of killing," apologized Costello, "but I thought it would be best not to have a grizzly getting too friendly where I was going to build our house."

We sat around the round table, beneath a stairway leading to the sleeping loft, and alternately, Ron Costello and his friend, Andy Greenblatt, told what it means to suddenly have government interference crowding and pushing at their adopted lifestyle.

Tomorrow, I shall give you their thoughts and views, dissecting notes from a crammed notepad on a flight through a driving snowstorm to Prudhoe Bay.



OUTDOORS

By BUD LEVINE

KULIK RIVER, Alaska — The map puts several thousand air miles between Alaskans and Mainers, but really, we're close neighbors.

It's nearly impossible to take on a case of homesickness. Alaskans light up when they're told you live in the State of Maine. I guess probably it is the brought on by the reticent dead of fishers and fowlers.

The flight from Boston-to-Seattle was like a ferry trip from Lincolnville to Islesboro. One found himself among neighbors.

A Freepoint traveler came by and said he was going west to hunt waterfowl.

"Get to find some birds somehow," he said. "Merrymeeting Bay has been terrible. I saw where your colleague, Gene Letourneau, claimed duck hunting was the worst he'd experienced in 40 years."

ABOARD and riding through the friendly skies aboard United's Flight 379 to Seattle were Southwest Harbor acquaintances, Lewis and Mrs. Moore, Jarvis and Mrs. Newman. They're boatmakers and they were headed to a boat show in Seattle.

"Before I go home though," winked Jarvis Newman. "I intend to be cutting across your tracks with a visit to Alaska. The gunnin' up there right now ought to be pretty fair."

The first hand I shook in Juneau before flying southwest to the Kulik River, belonged to Jim Rearden of Homer, Alaska, the outdoors editor of Alaska Magazine, Outdoor Life's resident genius and a member of the Alaska Board of Game.

It marked the first time I'd laid eyes on Rearden since leaving the University of Maine, way back in the dark ages of 1960.

REARDEN moved to Alaska through the help of Dr. Howard Mendell, the retired and much-respected University of Maine waterfowl authority.

"Howard got me introduced at the University of Alaska. I got my start teaching wildlife biology. I taught a couple of years and decided to resign and take up free-lance writing. I've been free-lancing the last 22 years, so you might say, I've more or less settled into that art form."

After a pleasant evening in Rearden's company, including a dinner of moose, Dall sheep, Alaskan crab, sourdough bread and buffalo, the next stop was lunch with Gov. Jay Hammond at the governor's mansion.

"You're from Maine, huh?" inquired this nice-looking young bureaucrat in unusual Alaskan dress, a three-piece suit.

"Would you happen to know Rand Stowell Jr.?" he asked.

THE YOUNG man seated across from me at lunch was one Robert E. LeResche, Alaska's commissioner, Department of Natural Resources.

LeResche and Stowell, a prominent Dixfield lumbering and land-investor, attended Dartmouth College together and were roommates.

"I've skied Sugarloaf with Randy," said LeResche. "so I'm quite familiar with Maine and know a few people from there."

That same day, after flying from Juneau to Anchorage, there was a lovely wild game dinner at the elegant home of Jan and Bert Bomhoff. Munching on smoked silver

salmon, caribou and moose sausage, plus the occasional six-inch long slice of Alaskan crab. I met up with Anchorage Times Outdoor Editor Bill Blessington.

"My neighbor, a bush pilot, Edgar Lamb, came from Bangor," reported Blessington.

BLESSINGTON, who stands about the height of a 6-10 alpine, married a Massachusetts girl and several years ago spent honeymoon time waterfowl hunting off Lubec and Eastport.

"I'm going back to Maine one of these days. I really loved my hunting experience on sea birds off Lubec and Eastport."

The next day's flight to the Kulik River was alongside one of Alaska's living legends, Jim Repine.

I doubt that there is an Alaskan alive who does not claim kinship or a long-distance relationship with Repine. In this world, and let no one tell you that in early winter Alaska is not a world in itself, Repine comes close as man and wife to being a genuine folk hero.

REPINE, if you're among the still uninitiated, is a professional guide, network television personality, newspaper columnist and has working offices in Alaska and Japan. Twice each year, at least, Jim flies to Japan and spends a working period familiarizing angling-made Japanese with the latest fish-catching methods.

Skimming the mountaintops and riding through the valleys with frightening peaks seemingly touching the wingtips on both sides of the airplane, in Repine's company is like having a talking encyclopedia seated at your side. He softly fills our mental vacuum with expert, on-the-scene knowledge of incidents, anecdotes, local color and history.

JIM REPINE says he longs to again visit Maine.

"I have met some wonderful Maine folk. The late Euclid Ouellette of Van Buren was a wonderful friend. I traveled to Van Buren from Anchorage one summer and visited him," said Repine.

Repine said he'd known other Maine folk. I might possibly know.

"The Crooks of Orrington, Josephine and Jack. Would you know either one?" he asked.

"Yes," I laughed. "I know Jack Crook and his wife, Josephine. She works with me at the Bangor Daily News."

"Small world when you think about it, isn't it?" responded Repine, the quiet, terribly-efficient-Alaskan wilderness Rembrandt.

Like I said, the map puts 4,500 miles between Bangor and Alaska's Kulik Lodge, yet the cross-country ties are remarkably close.

If you don't mind, though outside it is blowing a gale and one's nose is certain to be colder than wine on ice, I shall join Repine and fetch a rainbow trout. It's long-john underwear inside L.L. Bean wool trousers or freeze your bottom.

Why is it scientists can tell you the minute when something is going to happen 17 miles away, but none of them has ever been smart enough to tell you what day to put on your heavy underwear?



DUFFIE BRYANT

Local man chosen to study Alaska

Duffie Bryant of Batesville, veteran sportsman and big game hunter who has conducted the KBTA Hunting and Fishing Club of the Air for 26 years, has been chosen as one of 20 sports writers, fishermen, hunters and wildlife authorities in the lower 48 states to study the Alaskan wilderness.

Bryant will leave by plane early Sunday from Memphis for Seattle, and will fly from Seattle at 1:30 p.m. for Juneau, Alaska.

The group of sportsmen has been invited to Alaska by the Atlantic Richfield Co. for first-hand observation of wilderness areas and to meet residents of Alaska to get their opinions on conservation and development.

Bryant said he was informed by the company that not much time was expected to be spent in examination of the oil industry's position on development, although visits have been scheduled to petroleum facilities at Prudhoe Bay and Valdez.

"Atlantic Richfield's position, which is probably characteristic of the industry, is that the public will be badly served by either total development or total preservation," he said.

"We want to make a close study of the places and people involved, including both developed and virgin lands," he continued.

The party will be guests of Gov. Jay Hammond for lunch Monday and will fly to Anchorage, Fairbanks, Ketchikan, Prudhoe Bay and Valdez as bases for visits to remote mountainous areas,

as weather permits. The tour is expected to be completed Oct. 28.

"I have been interested in wildlife, wildlife habitat and game preservation for years," he said, "and I welcome this opportunity to go to Alaska."

Bryant, general manager of the Bryant Lumber Co., has been a member of the Outdoor Writers Association of America for 20 years, and as a former vice president of the Arkansas Wildlife Association cooperating with the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, he has promoted conservation and restoration of wildlife and improvements in hunting and fishing in Arkansas.

In the 1960s, he wrote an outdoor column regularly for the Arkansas Democrat.

Since 1946 he has made annual trips to Wyoming, Montana and Colorado to hunt moose, bear, elk, deer and antelope.

Bryant is a past president of the Arkansas Lumber Dealers Association, past president of the Batesville Shrine Club, a past president of the Batesville Kiwanis Club and past district governor for the Mo-Ark District of Kiwanis International. He is one of three lifetime members of the Batesville club.

His 30-minute Hunting and Fishing Club of the Air, which includes hunting and fishing news, reports of record fish, discussions of hunting and fishing laws, game problems and community news and announcements, has been heard daily except Sunday since 1964.

Local man describes Alaska trip

Environmentalists and developers have squared off for a fight over using the natural resources of Alaska and powerful forces are on each side, Duffie Bryant, who returned Monday from a week in the state, reported to the Batesville Lions Club Tuesday.

Bryant and 19 other sportsmen, outdoor writers and editors, mostly from the East, were guests of the Atlantic Richfield Co. on a 7-day tour to see development and wilderness areas.

The background of the controversy is pending legislation in Congress which would lock much of Alaska's 375 million acres into national parks and monuments and close the door for development of oil, timber, mineral, hunting and fishing resources.

The legislation has passed the U.S. House of Representatives, Bryant said, and action by the Senate is pending.

"I found that 98 percent of the

people in Alaska, excluding the Indians and Eskimos, are opposed to the national park bill," Bryant said. "If it is passed, it will cause a lot of business to shut down and will prevent development of a newly discovered oil field."

"When Alaska was created as a state, the 26,000 natives — Indians and Eskimos — got 44 million acres of land," he said, "and their rights to hunt and fish for subsistence purposes are guaranteed, but other people won't be allowed to hunt or fish, and this has really got the people stirred up."

President Carter closed the Alaskan wilderness to developers while the legislation is pending, and his action is very unpopular, Bryant stated.

The people of Alaska are also less than enthusiastic about Sen. Kennedy because he favors gun control, he said.

Bryant's trip took him to the oil fields of Prudhoe Bay and a flight over the 800 miles of the

Alaskan pipeline to Valdez.

"The oil fields are clean," Bryant emphasized. "Environmentalists are there to tell the oil companies how to protect wildlife and its habitat, and the companies have built safeguards into every phase of their operation."

"From what I saw, the oil companies have proved they can conduct their business without destruction of the environment," he said. "The pipeline has had little or no effect on the animal life."

"I have been a hunter and fisherman all my life," he continued, "and I have promoted conservation of game and fish and will continue to do so, but I think some of the ecologists have gone too far in pushing for total preservation."

"If you don't hunt the animals, they overpopulate and died of starvation and disease," he said.

"We need oil and other resources of Alaska, and I don't think it is wise to lock up the whole state in a national park," he stated. "I think it is to the country's best interest to develop some areas and preserve some others."

—Clyde McGinnis

A Walk In The Wild

By JAY S. WARBURTON



Arctic grayling — now there, my friends, is an exciting fish to do battle with — and — to do so within sight of the Arctic Ocean adds that much more flavor to the adventure. As most of you know, I had the grand opportunity to visit our largest state and to explore its vast grandeur in a first class style. Even though, as a guest of Atlantic Richfield Company, the trip was suppose to be directed toward researching the Federal land grab situation, I did manage to find time to dangle a line in the clear waters.

The entire trip left a constant impression on my mind's eye — but — I have to say the excursion to Prudhoe Bay was a mind stopper. The trip was a constant buzz of activity but when we landed at Deadhorse, five miles out of Prudhoe, I knew I would have to take some time of my own to get a true feel for this land. That evening our group was scheduled for some Arctic Char fishing. I was planning on going but just before we were to leave I overheard some local fellas talking about how poor the char fishing was — in that same eavesdropping conversation one of the fellas stated that he had found a special honey hole for Arctic grayling some eight miles out of camp — I spent too much time getting ready and missed the char trip — darn! Now, I had to do my best into talking one of those two fellas into taking me to their special grayling hole.

Before I go on let me explain more on the situation. This was truly the land of the midnight sun and I was going to do everything I could to find a place to fish all night long — it was already 10:30 that night so I had a good start.

At any rate, by eleven I was on my way to an Arctic grayling fishing experience of a lifetime. I talked one of the fellas into taking me and we headed out of camp on the Haul Road (the Haul Road is the only road out of Prudhoe Bay and the North Slope oil fields and it follows the Alaskan Pipeline all the way to Valdez).

We went about eight miles before stopping along the banks of the Sag river which flows into the Arctic back at Prudhoe. The river's water was perfectly clear only it seemed clouded because of its gray color from the glacier water that flows down it.

In this country they have what they call \$100 holes. The way it works up there is, you go; who ever you are fishing with \$100 if you DON'T catch a fish on your first cast — and they mean it. Well sir, not many folks have had to pay that fee — Iunker grayling fell for my silver number 2 Mepps with EVERY cast. I don't know how many grayling I caught for sure but you wouldn't believe the number if I'd kept tabs anyway. All I will say is you would have to have been there before you would have believed it.

Almost more exciting than the grayling fishing was a special surprise that came completely unexpectedly. To help set the scene I should explain that the entire night was socked in by a knife cutting fog. While we fished the banks of the Sag I just happened to catch a movement to my right. 100 yards away stood three of the largest double-shovel caribou you could ever imagine. With the Arctic Ocean 250 yards behind us and the Sag in front we had the majestic animals more-or-less trapped. As they kept coming I took a slug of pictures with the camera that always accompanies me. Now for the real shocker — those three bulls were just leading a herd of over 3,000 animals that eventually passed by and forged across the Sag right in front of my eyes — a sight more beautiful than I could ever truly describe.

With the passing of the caribou my time faded also — I arrived back at the base camp at 4:30 the next morning with a memory of the Arctic I will never forget.

THINGS YOU MAY NOT KNOW: The American Sportsman is an endangered species.

Alaska Lockout Curbs Recreation, Resources

By BEN CALLAWAY

It is, indeed, more than 4,000 miles away from most of us. But considering the gas station lines we endured and the precedent-setting lockout of such an enormous expanse, the Alaska Lands issue strikes home for all mobile outdoors enthusiasts.

Passage in the House of H.R. 39, the Udall bill, then President Carter's use of the Antiquities Act to declare new national monuments after the Senate balked at the legislation, has led to withdrawal of some 120 million acres.

This has been declared by some a "conservation" victory. Since "conservation" is, really, defined as "wise use," it more rightly should be called a triumph for "preservationists."

The issue for most Alaskans and the multitude of outdoor participants — recreation vehicle users, fishermen, hunters, boaters, backpackers, etc. — concerns access.

What good are these new national monuments, some of them millions of acres large, if they can't be enjoyed — whether consumptive (oil, minerals, timber, fish and game) or otherwise (camping, hiking, even photographing or merely observing)? And why should we be captive to OPEC whims, declaring a kind of national bankruptcy, when we have such wealth in our pockets (in our own American ground)?

The REAL Alaska Coalition, Citizens for AlaskaLand and many



The controversial Alaska Lands issue affects RVers. The legislature lockout removes a source of easing fuel supplies and puts much of a major camping destination off limits for recreation.

other organizations are fighting the Washington bureaucracy on several issues — their own states rights and for the economic hardships being thrust upon the suffering nation as a whole.

The interests of RV enthusiasts and all in the outdoor participant community — many millions of us — are receiving low priority. But isn't a lifestyle with healthful recreation more than a mere luxury? And isn't

the livelihood derived by everyone from those who build RVs to those who pump gas essential, too, in reality a nitty-gritty consideration of subsistence?

Ken Fanning, REAL Alaska Coalition director, is one of many who has pushed hard for the alternative Breaux-Dingell bill, which would have created "54 million acres of instant wilderness. No one who hunts, traps or is pro-fish and wildlife is for the

Udall bill," says Fanning.

Dan Poole, Wildlife Management Institute chief, adds "They have given Americans more parks, but have removed them from use."

Alaska, which has single glaciers larger than the entire state of Rhode Island, is the ultimate destination for the mobile sportsman and outdoor-loving tourist.

With fuel limitations, getting there has become a headache which exceeds Excedrin proportions. And once you get there, denial of access to so many millions of acres for viewing or more consumptive enjoyment because of this gigantic lockout would be a dead-end for such a dream trip anyway.

In a recent trip to Alaska, I was treated to sportfishing for halibut at Homer, salmon near Valdez and grayling up near the Arctic Ocean. At the latter location, I inspected the upper end of the Alyeska pipeline which daily sends more than 12 million barrels of oil south. This gigantic facility, a tribute to American energy and ingenuity, is a unique example of progress in harmony with nature.

The pipeline's 800 miles from Prudhoe Bay on the North Slope to Port Valdez transports oil from the recoverable reserves of some 96 billion barrels in the Prudhoe field.

It follows a route which crosses plains, three rugged mountain ranges

Please turn to page 22

Distant Alaska Lands Issue Strikes Close to Home

Continued from page 21
and several large rivers through the most demanding terrain. Much of it is elevated so as not to interfere with migrations of wildlife — bear, caribou, moose and others.

The net result will be nearly 10 billion barrels to help fuel America at \$15 billion cost in construction, maintenance and human wages before the field is closed.

Dick Swainbank, a geologist at

Fairbanks, told me. "What we have here is vital to the U.S. Eighty-three percent of Alaska's minerals are locked up in the withdrawal. It is an awful cost (to the nation) to have \$215 billion in minerals locked up in the ground."

As we flew over the wondrous Wrangell Mountains, guide Bill Ellis asked me, "How are people possibly gonna enjoy — even see — all of this?"

The \$1.5 billion pipeline terminus has been a boon to beautiful Valdez, where mountains and glaciers meet the sea at an ice-free, deep port.

"Every Alaskan is an environmentalist," said Valdez Mayor Mac MacDonald. "We are enjoying our best pink salmon fishing ever. And these fish were spawned during construction and pipeline industry. Oil can blend with fishing."

He had harsh words for the bureaucrats in Washington: "This is absentee management — by others who have never stepped foot on our land."

In Juneau, Alaska's Governor Jay Hammond said, "We only ask for equal, not special treatment."

Hammond said Alaskans, and all Americans, must not be deprived either of the recreational enjoyment or the essential riches which abound in our largest state.

Bud Roddy, former mayor of Juneau and now president of the Territorial Sportsmen, said "Oil development is good and must continue. Back in 1947, we studied the problem and decided we could have both fish and oil. Now, more than 30 years later, oil still flows and fish still run."

Is the U.S. killing its last frontier? Can we afford the loss of such rich resources? It is agreed that alternate energy sources must eventually be developed. But in the one, two or more decades during such a transition, how can we lock up oil in the ground — and lock out traveling Americans from their ultimate destination?

This is America's biggest single conservation issue — past, present and future. And, for all the miles, it is one which strikes all of us close to home.

SPORTSMEN'S NEWS

ALASKA -

OCTOBER, 1979

THE IMPOSSIBLE DREAM

Last month we told you about our recent visit to Alaska and of Federal attempts being made to close off millions of acres of Alaska lands as "instant" wilderness areas. The move was being pushed by some national environmental and preservation groups under the guise of wanting to preserve the land for future generations.

We know how hard it is to become interested in something happening far from home, so remote from the problems close at hand that you cannot get overly excited about it. You probably feel

your chances of ever getting to enjoy a hunting or fishing adventure in Alaska are so slim that we should not waste our time talking about it and should direct our energies to more pressing subjects such as gas shortages, loss of job opportunities and the ever increasing rise in the high cost of living, all of which have a great impact on our recreational activities closer to home.

Gas shortages, loss of job opportunities, high costs of living and many of the problems confronting us today are all tied in together in some way and the

situation in Alaska will play a very important role in our future recreational activities as well as in the well-being of our Nation.

It is probably true your chances of ever getting to hunt or fish in Alaska is nothing more than an impossible dream today. However, dreams have a way of coming true. We can remember when most New Jersey hunters were content to dream about getting a chance to hunt in far off Pennsylvania or try the pleasures of fishing and hunting in the pristine areas of upper New York State. We were avid readers and devoured any story on hunting and fishing in exotic places. Our impossible dream was to get to Maine and we never dared imagine getting a chance at hunting or fishing in Canada. Laugh if you want but those were the days of hard times; money wasn't easy to come by if you had one good gun you were extremely lucky and long distance travel was an almost impossible chore.

Hunting and fishing trips to Pennsylvania, New York, New Hampshire, Maine and even to Canada are commonplace among New Jersey sportsmen today. Michigan, Minnesota and the far west are popular with our traveling outdoorsmen. Even as I write this article some friends are on their way to bow hunt deer in Georgia. Times, a changing economy and improved travel conditions made many of our impossible dreams come true and today, New Jersey has gained the rather dubious distinction of being ranked among the leaders having the greatest numbers of

by Steve Tczap

traveling sportsmen in the country.

We hope you see your impossible dream of reaching Alaska might someday come true. However, if the extremist groups are successful in closing off America's last frontier, your chances





of ever getting there will not exist at all.

In efforts to stop hunting, some extremist elements have resorted to painting the outdoor hunter in the vilest of terms, using as examples abuses of wildlife resources done during the early development stages of our Nation to get at us. Today they are trying to use the same brush to discredit industry by citing abuses of natural resources done during the same development period of America as reasons for closing up some of the most valuable natural resource areas of Alaska.

I do not want to appear that I am a lackey for industry but all of us depend on industry and their technology to provide for us in one way or another. Our salaries pay for the food on the table, clothes on our backs, schools for our children and for most, the necessities of life. We cannot turn off the economic pattern of our Nation by closing off areas where the natural resources we need exist without having a major impact on our welfare and way of life.

We suspect the intentions of the extremist elements who are supporting the move in Alaska to preserve the land for future generations. Its no secret that many of them are outstanding advocates against hunting. There is a method to their madness, so to speak. They are tired of losing court cases and battles to stop hunting in areas where local and state officials are more responsive to the sportsmen than they are to preservationists. The move to Washington is a very calculated one. The know sportsmen will not get off their

butts unless someone steps on their toes and are hoping the remoteness of the issue will keep its importance clouded until it is too late for the sportsmen to react to the problem. It also takes the issue out of the local area and places the problem of solving it on the heads of legislators who do not have to answer to the people who are affected by their decisions.

So while we sit back and discuss our local problems, delighted at having won some little battles against the extremist elements, they are off in Washington

putting on a show of strength which could win the war.

We believe existing laws and regulations can provide for the wise use and proper management of our natural resources. You can help protect your interests by writing to your Senator and Congressman. Tell them you want to see Alaska stay free. Free to produce the material needed for national independence and economic security as well as to provide recreational opportunity for the people of our Nation.



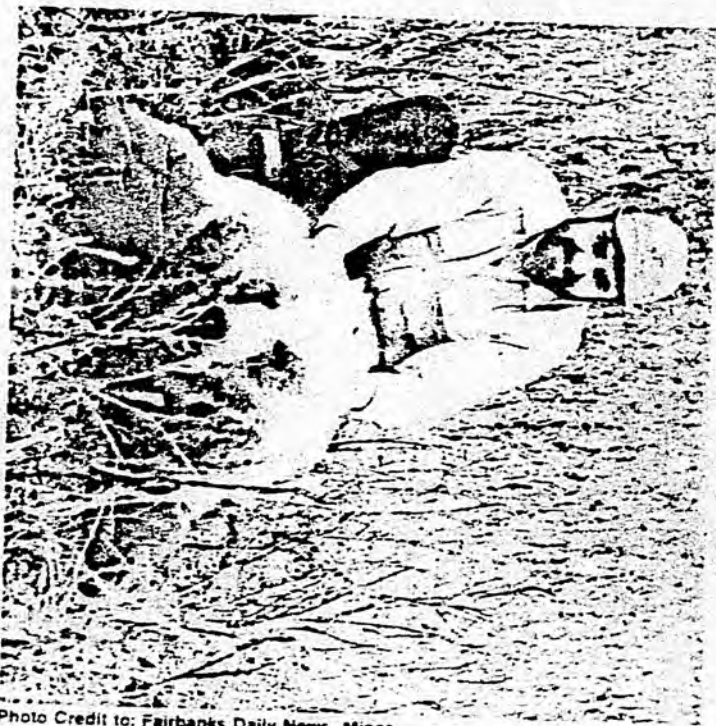


Photo Credit to: Fairbanks Daily News- Miner

SOUND OFF!

WON reserves the right to edit material published in "Sound Off". Every effort will be made to preserve the meaning and content of letters. All letters reflect the views of the author, and not those of Western Outdoors Publishing or its staff. Submissions should not exceed 250 words in length.

DFG COMMENTS

Editor:

A couple of comments on items in your issues of August 24 and 31:

1. In your excellent editorial on August 24 regarding new regulations on the Klamath and Trinity Rivers you ended by urging anyone witnessing the illegal take or sale of fish from these rivers to report it to Larry Wills of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Portland, Oregon. This is good advice, but your readers should know that the information may also be reported to the nearest office of the California Department of Fish and Game. There are state laws regulating the fishery on the Klamath and Trinity Rivers, and enforcement is a state as well as federal responsibility. Over the years the DFG has a record of many arrests and successful prosecutions in that area. So violations may be reported to either the DFG or FWS with the assurance that the information will be acted on promptly.

2. In the Sound Off section of your August 31 issue, a reader inquired, "How do I get to hear Cheryl's voice?" He referred to his recent futile efforts to get trout plant information by dialing (213) 435-2200 for a recording taped weekly by Inland Fisheries secretary Cheryl (Sherry) Avants. Unfortunately, this system is temporarily out of service until the equipment is repaired. Meanwhile, we recommend that people check their favorite newspaper for the weekly trout plant listings. They are usually printed on Thursdays and Fridays.

Simon Nathenson
DFG Information Officer

ALASKA

Editor:

Are you, or are you not for conservation? There is an article in your August 31, 1979, Western Outdoor News, where you appear to be against the conservation of our Alaska wilderness. You cannot stand for both at the same time.

I am for the preservation of our Alaskan wilderness. Man has to let nature alone once in a while.

Gary C. Boesch
Turlock

EDITOR'S NOTE—WON contacted Ray Lightbody, and he responded in this manner:

citizens of Alaska, it is obvious that they are in favor of conservation, but conservation in a sense that is both reasonable. The current land-grab scheme will make the situation intolerable. Over 70,000 square miles are already closed off to you and me forever. Another hundred million acres are about to be lost as well. True conservation is not accomplished by locking people out. It is accomplished by proper management of the land and resources. This year's game counts show that Caribou management has succeeded in substantially raising the number of animals, while Valdez has reported the biggest salmon run in over 7 years. Again, management was the key to preservation and propagation. Conservation, yes! But a poorly planned, politically-contrived lockup, no!"

THANKS FOR SUPPORT

Editor:

On behalf of all the members of SCMA and the boating industry in general, thank you for your outstanding editorial "In Defense of Boating".

The image of the large motor yacht and as you put it, the "mar-

tinitoting stock broker" is one that is most difficult to change so when we see an editorial such as this one you had in your September 7th issue it is very helpful.

Again, many thanks from all of us in SCMA.

Southern California
Marine Association
E.P. Nichols
General Manager

'FISHERMANS DREAM'

Editor:

I have been fishing this Calif. coast and sportfishing landings up and down the coast for 35 years.

On the 26th and the 27th of August 1979, I partook in a two day fishing trip aboard the Californian, out of Queen's Wharf, Long Beach, Calif., I have never been on a better fishing trip.

I have not seen better chow on any boat. Joyce and Jeri the gally crew, out did themselves. The deck hands, Lerry, Pete, and Kenney were always there when they were needed, and very courteous. And last but not least, Jim the skipper and Bud the second ticket aboard the Californian, they got us fish, and a lot of fish.

Dick Vernon
Azusa

CTI. Second article Sep 7-14, 1979

A Walk In The Wild

By JAY S. WARBURTON



Alaska — the last frontier? — the land of enchantment? — the land of opportunity? — the dreamland for the outdoorsman? Well sir, it is every one of these plus much more for than can ever be expressed in words or photographs. Alaska has to be experienced to be believed and I truly mean that! For one solid round-robin week I sincerely experienced Alaska. I was able to actually feel like I became, in a very small way, an Alaskan. And, let me tell you, that is a very unique, beautiful at times, a sad feeling. The unique and beautiful are the parts I will speak to you about today — the sad. I will discuss in the near future for it is the most important aspect of my trip that I was able to bring back to you — and — one that I truly hope you will take to heart and act upon.

Alaska! The last Frontier? That term needs capitalization here for it is very proper in its place. As a quest I, along with eighteen of my fellow outdoor journalists, journeyed close to 3800 miles insided the unbelievably huge state with out ever once leaving its boundaries! The vastness of Alaska has to be personally experienced to be realized — there is no way to describe it. For example, you could take the entire Rocky Mountain range that lies within the boundaries of Colorado and lose them by dropping them in just the Brooks Range of Alaska, alone. I overheard the statement that 70% of Alaska has never had a man's foot placed on it and after my flight, I believe that!

Since I returned from this land of the midnight sun I have been asked what impressed me the most about Alaska. A tough question and one that I have a hard time answering. As I think about it I guess it isn't as difficult as I thought — the people. Yes sir, the folks of Alaska are a wonder to behold. Our largest state with the least population. But, numbers do not represent the love and devotion they hold in their hearts for their Alaska. I only feel sorry that their style of devotion to the land isn't in the hearts of more Coloradans — if it were, our state would be far healthier than it is now. Alaskans wouldn't allow a 'brown cloud' hovering over their capitol like we have. This is not to say Alaskans are not a progressive sort — not true — the difference lies in their love for their environment. If the Alaskans are only allowed their Constitutional rights I sincerely feel that this last Frontier would be in very competent hands. Alaskans are truly concerned about their 'rights' and rightly so — in my opinion, no United States citizens have been more unconstitutionally abused by the Federal government than our Alaskan neighbors to the north. And, if we, as compassionate fellow citizens need to take a stand against Uncle it is our obligation to do so now and support the Alaskans in their fight to withdraw the Federal stranglehold that is and has been placed upon them. Right now, they need your help in defeating the D-2 Federal land blunder that is presently being pushed through Congress. If you believe in state's rights and that our land should be governed by the people NOT THE GOVERNMENT it is in your best interest to write your Senators and Representatives requesting the defeat of the Alaskan D-2 land proposals. (A note to the President wouldn't hurt either) If the D-2 proposal passes as it is now structured I truly feel sorry, not only for the Alaskan citizens but for our society as a whole for allowing OUR Federal bureaucracy to control the future of one of our states so strongly. I believe in our country and for what it stands for — for the people and by the people... — D-2 reads — ...for the Government, by the Government — and that, my friends, is not a Democracy! If you look the term up in the dictionary that describes that phrase, it should scare hell out of you. If it doesn't, you, my friend, scare hell out of me! Write your representatives now and let them know how you feel — and — don't ask them to vote against D-2 — tell them!

THINGS YOU MAY NOT KNOW: The American Sportsman is losing the battle with anti-hunters and unless he takes a firm stand now he will be but a memory.

Monuments or Tombstones for Alaska?

By JAMES A.O. CROWE
News Staff Writer

Like many Alaskans, Joe Rytchetnik, a former state policeman, is growing impatient with the struggle against President Carter's tying up of nearly one-sixth of the state in national monuments.



Crowe

"I'd like to go down to Washington and show them what I think of them... like I used to show the Russians," he said.

He then told of when he was the only policeman along the Seward Peninsula. His winter patrols by dogsled on the ice of the Bering Strait took him right to the Russian border. To show his contempt, he would run his sled just over the border, relieve himself, then scoot back over the border as Russian Arctic troops sped after him.

If you spend any time at all in Alaska, you will quickly learn that almost all Alaskans are consumed with plans — some of which are extreme — to overturn, or at least modify, the designation of 54 million acres in the state as untouchable reserves under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service. You would also gradually come to realize that we, sitting comfortably here in Michigan, have a vital stake in this controversy.

THE EXTREMISTS ARE talking about secession from the Union, doing a lot of rabble rousing, and distributing literature that is frequently intemperate, including some obscene bumper stickers.

"I think most of us are more restrained than that," said Dick Bishop, a wildlife biologist of the Alaska department of game and fish.

"The best monument is no monument," his T-shirt read.

Vernon R. Wiggins, executive director of Citizens for Management of Alaska Lands (CMAL), said his broad-based organization is campaigning for the "multiple use" principle under which all Alaska lands would be used for the greatest good of the most people, and not be locked away as in a museum.

Wiggins, now of Anchorage, but formerly a resident of Waterford Township west of Pontiac, laughed when I went slightly berserk on seeing trout rising in streams right alongside the road between community of Valdez and the tanker-loading complex which is the terminal point of the famed Alaska pipeline.

"Holy smoke!" I pleaded. "Let me out!"

"Can't do it. Got a schedule to keep," Wiggins said, "but I think this is the only place in the world where there is danger of trout being run over by cars and trucks."

At Valdez, I wound up a flight covering the length of the 800-mile pipeline and was impressed by a statement from Mayor "Mac" MacDonald of Valdez:

"Every Alaskan is an environmentalist. We have managed our environment well. We don't need the Washington bureaucracy 7,000 miles away to tell us what to do."

The elaborate environmental protection measures imposed by Alaska at Valdez to prevent oil spills, even in the event of an earthquake, appear to bear him out.

The entire length of the pipeline, more than half of which is elevated to avoid damage to the

permafrost, slips like a tlay thread through hundreds of thousands of acres of mountains, forests, and muskeg, all without a visible sign of environmental degradation.

WHILE FLYING to Prudhoe Bay, site of the huge oil field from which 1.29 million barrels of crude oil are pumped daily into the pipeline, it quickly became apparent I was a greenhorn in Alaska, land of the midnight sun.

"It's getting late," I said at about 7:30 p.m. "Can we land safely? What time does it get dark at Prudhoe Bay?"

"Oh, in about a month," said Tom Brennan of Anchorage who was along to show us around the great installation.

This huge operation, on the marsh shore of the Arctic Ocean, is impressively clean. Despite oil wellheads, roads, pumping stations, living quarters, and all the other installations at a major oil field, I saw caribou feeding peacefully among the pipes, I saw an Arctic fox sunning itself beside its den in the shadow of some storage buildings, and I never saw less litter, clutter, or debris around an industrial site.

Rigid state environmental protection laws, and, presumably, the glare of public concern about damage to the Arctic can be credited with the cleanliness of all the oil installations observed in Alaska.

The Alaskans insist they can be trusted to impose the same rigid protections on their lands if the federal government would just give them the opportunity.

It is not that Alaskans don't want any national parks at all. It is that Alaskans don't want such vast areas as the proposed monuments taken out of circulation, subject not even to explorations for oil, strategic metals or coal, and even closed to most recreational purposes. The Gates of the Arctic Monument, encompassing a big chunk of the

hypnotically beautiful and game-and-mineral rich Brooks Range, is, for example, four times the size of Yellowstone.

Some of the extreme opponents and others who are not so extreme say they are planning to organize massive trespasses by walking, idling, and flying over and though the monuments this fall. If they are arrested, this could bring a court test of the President's authority to create the monuments.

ANOTHER TEST is coming from the Anaconda Copper Co., which has discovered a major vein of rich copper ore that seems to extend well into the Gates of the Arctic Monument. Creation of the monument has not only stopped plans to explore farther into the mountains but has also cut off the company's access to claims it has already staked outside the monument. Anaconda has also filed suit challenging the President's authority.

Gov. Jay Hammond, sitting in his state capital office in Juneau, is at the epicenter of all this turmoil. On one hand he is under attack from some Alaskans who charge him with not fighting hard enough against Washington. On the other hand, the Washington officials, backed strongly by preservationist forces, charge that he is being an obstructionist in his effort to modify the scope and restrictiveness of the monuments.



NEWS MAP/MORRIS LEROW

The governor was in Denver when some of us who are interested in this great debate visited Juneau. By telephone he told us that what he really wants is a cooperative planning program set up between the federal government and the state. Under his plan, the land would be evaluated, acre by acre. Wherever lies the "greatest good for the greatest number of people," the governor said, would be the place to preserve a sensitive environment as a wilderness area.

Where an area would best serve the nation and development of Alaska's economy by extracting oil, copper, coal, and timber, or where the greatest value would be hunting, fishing, hiking, and like recreation, then those activities would be permitted.

"Both the extremist conservationists and extremist developers shoot at this plan," he said. "We have to work toward a resolution of this issue, but we're not going to satisfy the extremists."

"WE ARE OPPOSED to any encroachment on the state's right to manage fish and game," he added.

And that's where we in Michigan should be sitting up and taking notice. Traditionally, the states have been very protective of their prerogatives which give them control over fish and game regulations, even on federal land within their boundaries. And we have not been shy in letting Congress know that.

If the federal government can take that prerogative away in Alaska, how long can Michigan insist that we can continue to govern the harvest of deer, bear, salmon, trout, and all the rest of the bounty of the vast federal lands within our borders?



Mt. McKinley National Park in Alaska

ALASKA - The "Lost" Frontier...??

Page 1 of 2

by Steve Tczap

When someone mentions Alaska, it usually brings visions of frontier towns, prospecting for gold, hunting and fishing paradises. The last chance for Americans looking for a new frontier or new horizons. The desire to be free, live off the land, away from the hustle and bustle of city life. Alaska has held the heartbeat and dreams of adventurous people - people searching for independence, fame, fortune or just a new way of life in what could be their last frontier.

I recently had an opportunity to visit Alaska along with a small group of outdoor writers. Our task was to get a view of the land, talk to the people and witness the effect Federal land grabs has had upon the State. We talked to Governor Hammond, former Governor William Egan, Alaska legislators, town mayors and city councilmen, Alaskan environmentalists, hunters, fishermen, trappers, guides, native representatives and citizens from all sectors of various communities. I cannot profess to have become an expert on Alaska during my short visit but I would like to pass on some of my observations to you.

Alaska is a fascinating place with its picture postcard settings, from lush rain forests in the southern panhandle to the great polar desert above the Arctic Circle with many fertile valleys and massive mountain ranges in between. Alaska is so vast it staggers the imagination and boggles the mind with its greatness. Its size is approximately 367 million acres, about one third the size of the continental United States. It can best be described by a sign in a Fairbanks saloon which states: "If you explore a thousand acres each day, it would take over a thousand years to see all of Alaska, so take your time." We didn't have all that time, so we spent most of our short visit flying throughout the State.

It appears the trouble with the lands issue started shortly after Statehood. Several interest groups seeking a slice of the Alaska land pie focused their attention on a Native land claims settlement. Natives wanted protection of land rights. The State of Alaska wanted lands it was entitled to under the Statehood Act. Business and mining interests wanted more land conveyed into private ownership while oil interests wanted a share for exploration, drilling and a pipeline.

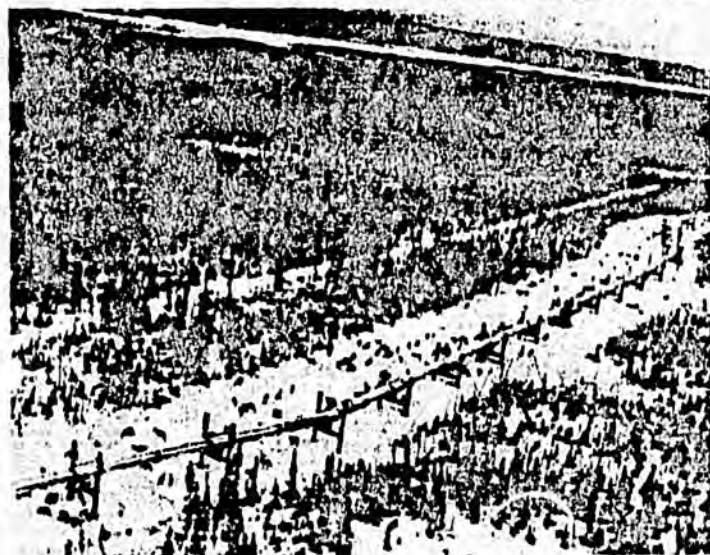
When it became apparent that the land was up for grabs, a group of Alaskan conservationists joined in the free-for-all and began to push to include in any land claims settlement, a provision that would preserve vast acreages of land "in the national interest." Passage of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971 set the stage for this movement, by promising 44 million acres and over \$960 million in cash to natives and native organizations. It also gave the Federal government, under section 17(d)-2, preemptive rights in selection of 80 million acres of national interest lands which would be considered for national parks, wildlife refuges, national forests and national reserve lands.

Emotions ran sky high in Alaska. It was felt the Act was being used to promote legislation which would lock-up over 100 million acres of public land as "instant" wilderness areas. Can you imagine closing up land equal to more than the



Up to 80% of Dall Sheep habitat in the United States is being placed into restricted access categories. Wildlife viewing and photography could be curtailed. Hunting will be eliminated in most of these areas, under Park Service control.

(photo by - Leonard Lee Rue III)



Among the many animals found along the trans Alaska pipeline route are the Caribou. (photo by - Alyeska Pipeline Service Co.)

combined acreage which makes up the States of New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania.

People who supported the "instant" wilderness status spoke to us of the need to "reserve the land for future generations" and how it was time "to strive more for spiritual riches — riches that come from harmony with our fellow man and with our environment." To this, some

opposing Alaskans quipped "Out of work and hungry? Eat an environmentalist."

Most Alaskans we spoke to, whether it was at dinners, meetings, on the streets, in the wilderness or wherever we chanced to meet them, spoke harshly against President Carter for recently placing 56 million acres of Alaska lands into National Monuments through the use of the 1906 Antiquities Act. Of these 56 million acres, 41 million are managed by the National Park Service and are now closed to sport hunting, mineral and oil exploration, timber harvesting and an array of other activities.

The strong armed use of the Antiquities Act has infuriated Alaskans creating a hostile attitude toward the lower "48" States. Many feel the lands use issue has become a very phony, very cheap "environmental" vote. It gives members of Congress an excellent

opportunity to prove what great environmentalist they are by voting to turn someone else's state into a checker-board of wilderness areas, national parks and wildlife refuges. Many Alaska residents we met expressed the feeling bureaucrats in Washington not only removed from "use" the very finest and potentially productive parts of their land but they have also reduced the freedom of access to the point where it no longer exists.

In speaking to people who service the hunting and fishing sportsmen: the guides, plane operators and outfitters were adamantly against d-2 legislation which they felt would prevent access to areas, depriving them of their livelihood by denying non-resident sportsmen the privilege to hunt on the questioned public lands.

The Real Alaska Coalition, which represents most of the sportsmen and sportsmen organizations in the State, stress three major points must be covered in any Alaska land legislation to protect sportsman interests.

1. A guarantee of reasonable access to all public lands and waters in Alaska for traditional use, yet to be recognized uses, wilderness use, and resource management must be assured.

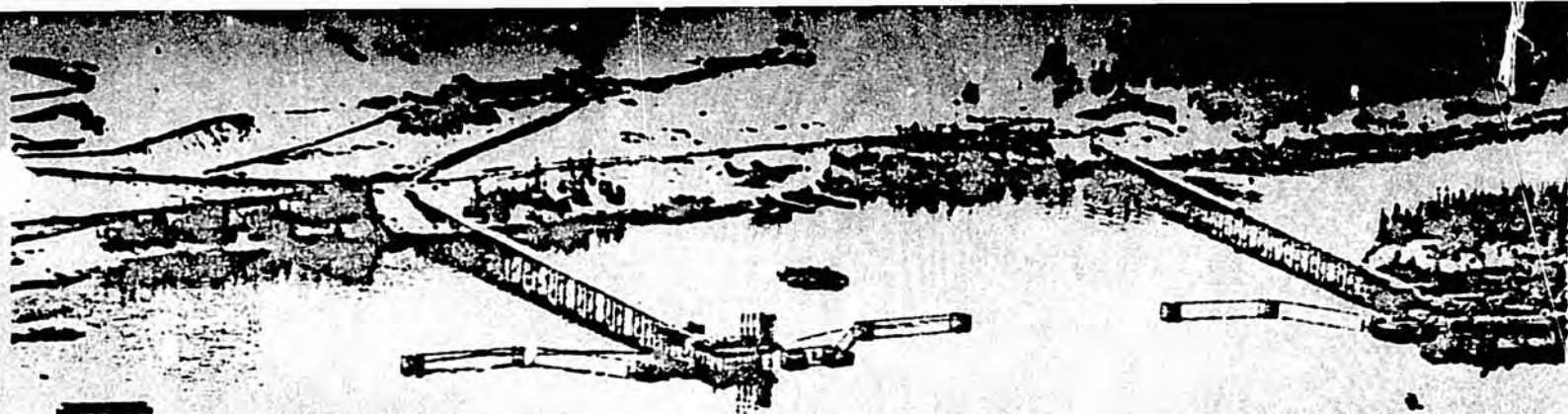
2. Alaska's right to manage its fishery and wildlife resources must be guaranteed. In any d-2 legislation, subsistence sections or other sections in the legislation must not infringe on any of the State's right to manage its fish and game resources. Subsistence should be a management prerogative of the State rather than the federal government. Any language which would nullify critical provisions of their statehood act or jeopardize all states' rights to manage their fish and game resources must be avoided.

3. Proposed acreage closed to hunting, trapping, fishing and other recreational pursuits have been unreasonable, excessive and must be reduced. Continued use by hunters, trappers, fishermen, sportsmen and other recreational users must be assured.

The Real Alaska Coalition is looking to America's sportsmen to support their stand. They point to anti-hunting groups such as: Defenders of Wildlife, Friends of Earth, the Animal Protection Institute and Cleveland Amory's Fund for Animals are leading the charge to lock-up Alaska. Groups supporting the sportsmen include the National Rifle Association, the Safari Club International, the Alaska Board of Fisheries & Game, and the Alaska Wildlife Federation & Sports Council.

The loss of recreational hunting and fishing is only the tip of the iceberg. The lockup of valuable gas, oil and mineral resources will not only have a great impact on Alaskan economy but on the rest of the Nation as well. A statement from a book "Living With Our Environment" put out by the Department of the Interior seems to make an excellent point for the "anti's" by saying: "A mature Nation like the United States, so dependent upon its natural resources, cannot turn off its economic pattern of development without a major impact upon its welfare and way of life."

Alaskans, we met, are not asking for wide-open use of Federal lands. They are well aware of abuses which occurred during early development of the Nation. They feel we have come a long way since those early days and the lessons learned provide the experience for proper economic growth, recreational activity and for reasonable environmental protection without bowing to extremist elements. Many Alaskans fear if exploration and development are locked-up until a crisis strikes, the national emergency could very well over-ride even the highest environmental standards and their frontier would truly be "LOST."



An oil tanker approaches Valdez terminal of the trans-Alaska pipeline, which handles more than 1.2 million barrels per day. Alaskans have found that oil and fish do mix.

Photo by B. Callaway

by BEN CALLAWAY

"Keep Out! No fishing!"

An all too familiar sign of the times, isn't it?

As Pennsylvania sportsmen ponder such problems close to home, they should be aware of the biggest land grab ever perpetrated — and perhaps the least understood.

Our 49th state, Alaska, is by far the largest — twice the size of the next biggest, Texas. It represents the ultimate destination for the fisherman, the things of which back-country, big-fish dreams are made. It conjures up thoughts of rugged individualism, of the American seeking solitude and perhaps finding fortune through the riches of soil and

water.

Legislation in Washington, hailed as a "victory for environmentalists," is viewed by multiple-use conservationists and sportsmen as, instead, the biggest "lock-out" of all time, anywhere. H.R. 39, Congressman Morris Udall's bill which has passed the House and now awaits further action in the Senate, has caused a terrible furor in Alaska, among all segments.

Ken Fanning, sportsman, guide and part-time trapper, is a director of the REAL Alaska Coalition. I spent a week with Fanning recently in Alaska as he and other concerned citizens of that glorious state showed me much of Alaska's mountains, lakes, streams and tidal waters.

"H.R. 39 indeed does 'lock out' industry and development," says Fanning. It also 'locks out' you and I, hunters, fishermen, trappers,

canoeists, backpackers and mountain climbers, from extremely vast areas of Alaska's glorious wilderness.

With legislation still pending, the Carter administration withdrew 180 acres of Alaska land under the 1906 Antiquities Act. The administration's action is being challenged in the courts.

But this is not just an Alaskan concern. What will it mean to all of us Americans? The lock-out goes beyond the grim mathematics of all those millions of acres. It concerns access, too, going from one open parcel of land to another.

It doesn't just concern the fisherman, dreaming some day of a drive-to, or fly-in angling adventure of a lifetime. It concerns all of us who have seated out lines at the gasoline pumps, because this lock-out also involves oil and other mineral riches.

A transplanted Pennsylvanian is Al

Reyerson, who now calls Slane his home. Reyerson lived in Philadelphia's Germantown section where he first worked for Food Fair and later for Sun Oil out of Marcus Hook. Now in construction, he says "Here in Alaska we live with the environment, and protect it. These are OUR game and fish. We do not delve in theories." He said of exploitation in Alaska: "This is a vast land, and the scars are insignificant." His wife, Joan, is from Irvington, N.J., and finds the northland life a big change. "We know it's getting spring when the temperature gets above zero. We have such short seasons on our salmon and moose. The only thing up here that is long is our winter."

Bill Egan, three-time Governor of Alaska, asks that sportsmen in the Lower 48 "digest fact, not fiction." He says we have been fed too much emotional untruth, stereotyping the Alaskans who truly love their land as having "bulldozers and pick-axes at the ready." Opposing the Federal legislation which would lock all of us out from so much of Alaska, Egan insists "there already are plenty of national laws to safeguard the environment."

Fanning, whose Coalition joined other sportsmen's groups in supporting the alternative Breau-Dingell bill, said that would have provided "54 million acres of instant wilderness." Fanning laments that "there is a wounded grizzly running around in Congress and finding a lot of support among politicians."

At Prudhoe Bay on the Arctic Ocean, where the 800-mile pipe line to Valdez begins, we found grayling everywhere, arctic char abundant later in the summer, and caribou roaming free around the installation. This vast northern slope expanse of tundra had just one air strip 10 years ago. Today, it supplies more than 1.2 million barrels of oil per day with even greater potential. One wonders why operations up there are being curtailed by government legislation, while the nation becomes captive of OPEC oil import escalation. It is like declaring bankruptcy and at the same time refusing to dig into bulging pockets.

But it isn't just the oil, mining and timber interests which are so alarmed. If you think the non-consumptive element favors the Udall lock-out, guess again.

Doug Buchanan, of the Alaskan Alpine Club at Fairbanks, told me, "We had (past tense) the last free mountains in the world. I'm from Washington state, where we had two or three of what we have thousands of here. There is no reason for these new government regulations."



Setting of Juneau, the capital city, shows a little of what Alaska has so much of — productive waters and majestic mountains.

Bill Waugaman came to Alaska from Dubois, Pa. 25 years ago. He's been guiding big-game hunting parties ever since. It's a different life style, indeed, from working the refineries at Pt. Breeze, 28th and Passyunk, in Philadelphia. He charges that access impossibilities will destroy opportunities for sportsmen and the livelihood of those who guide them.

In Fairbanks, I talked with another sportsman, Lloyd Hoppner. "What they (the federal government) want to do with us (Alaskans) is criminal. It seems those outside don't give a damn. We have a very dear lifestyle here and we are about to lose it."

Dick Swainbank, a geologist, said "We can not do without minerals. Eighty-three percent of Alaska's minerals are locked up in this withdrawal. It's an awful cost to have \$215 billion in minerals locked up in the ground."

Flying from Fairbanks to Valdez, the lower terminus for the pipeline, we viewed the Wrangell Mountains, prime terrain for hunting and mountain climbing. Nine million acres of this would be inaccessible to sportsmen. Guide Bill Ellis asked me, "How are people gonna see all of this?"

Valdez Mayor Mac MacDonald, an ardent angler, said "Every Alaskan is an environmentalist. This year, we had our best pink salmon fishing ever. They were spawned during construction and pipeline industry times. I think it proves oil can blend with fishing. And without the taxes we enjoy from the oil people, our salmon rearing station would never have been." MacDonald has unkind words

and thoughts for the Washington (D.C.) politicians and their "absentee management. Few of them have ever stepped on our land."

Governor Jay Hammond, a career trapper before taking the reins at Juneau, knows of subsistence. "None can define the word, perhaps, but we know it when we see it. It is that which sustains body and soul." He feels that "If we can amend H.R. 39 (Senate 9), we might have a bill we can live with. We just are asking for equal, not special, treatment."

Bud Boddy, former mayor of Juneau, is president of the Territorial Sportsmen. He said, "Alaska was really 'discovered' in World War II. In 1947, at Kenai, we had to decide, fish or oil? The decision was that we could have both. Oil still flows and fish still run."

Ron Skoog, Commissioner of Alaska's Dept. of Fish and Game, said "Alaska is unique. It attracts a unique individual, one who loves adventure and the outdoors. This land issue is of great importance to all of us. In no other state do people have such a direct relationship to resources. Our most stable basis is our fish and wildlife, and now (with the legislative changes) we are not going to have that freedom."

If the Alaska land lock-out is finalized, all of us Americans will lose freedom and sorely-need resources. Not just oil to shorten the lines at the gas pumps and minerals to revive a sagging economy, but the outdoor recreation which, to many of us, is as essential to life as food and shelter. It is too much of a good thing to surrender.

I wrote this Aug 31, 1979

The Great Alaska Land Grab

By RAY LIGHTBODY

Special Report to Western Outdoor News

Our 49th State is now finding that many of the great promises made to it are promises and nothing more. If Secretary of the Interior Andrus and President Carter have their way they will never be delivered.

When Alaska voted to become a state in 1959 it was told it would be allowed to choose 103 million acres as State Lands after the Native's Settlement Act gave 44 million acres and nearly a billion dollars to the Natives, and Substance Hunting Rights throughout most of Alaska. Twenty years later, neither of the promises have been lived up to; only 35 million acres have been given to Alaska by the federal government.

When H.R. 39 bill was being considered in Congress it had so many limitations added to it that it didn't live up to the original promises, and in spite of a lot of arm-bending by a number of so-called conservationists, it didn't pass in the 1978 Congress. Secretary Andrus became worried that it might never pass without some reasonable modifications, so he recommended to President Carter that he use his executive power to achieve, by himself, what the Congress had refused to do. He imposed what is called the Antiquities Act, The Wild Rivers Act, The National Monument and Wild Life Refuge Act, etc. If he could have dreamed it up, we might have had a Save the Peanut Act, too.

What this all accomplished was to be The Straw That Has Almost Broken Alaska's Back, as it has taken all of the areas that have been identified as containing vast amounts of minerals, oils, lumber, wild game, and fish and made them unavailable for use by the Alaska People and the rest of our country. It's hard to believe that Alaska, which has to import 80% of its food, even had large areas of land locked up so it can't farm them, and they call that conservation. No roads may be built, motor driven boats to be allowed into it, or airplanes, to fly over certain areas, and no exploration allowed for oil or minerals.

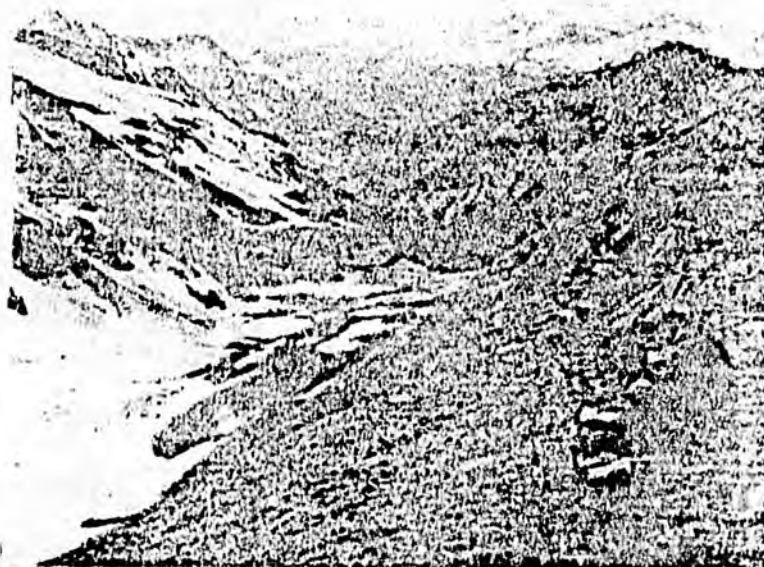
Many of the Alaskans are people who earn much of their living by

acting as guides and providing equipment, as well as other services, to people from the lower 49 states. They also supplement their income during the extreme winter time by hunting and fishing for game, to feed their families, and also many are very dependent upon fur trapping, even though it isn't a very profitable venture for the majority of those who work at it. Under these new restrictions many of these people will lose most of their employment opportunities. Some of the better organized guides who built up their homes and businesses for a period of 30 years will be totally blocked out of their normal work areas.

This Lock-Up of existing hunting and fishing areas will force many people who used to be allowed into huge areas to concentrate in small

areas that don't have the potential to support that many users, so in all probability, it will soon deplete the animal life that is there at this time.

97% of all National Park Monuments are now designated in Alaska. When you stop to think that over 70,000 square miles are already locked up and they are trying to lock up another hundred million acres it should make us all afraid that Individual States Rights are rapidly disappearing. It is happening in many other states but little publicity is being given to it for some reason. Now is the time to sit down with your 15c letter and let your Senators know what you think of The Alaskan Land Grab. They are now trying to pass H.R. 39-D-2 to make Carter's action into law.



SPORTSMEN STAND TO LOSE millions of acres of recreation land that sports excellent hunting and fishing in Alaska. President Carter's Antiquities Act will lock this land up and away from use forever!

New Jersey State Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs

STATE AFFILIATE NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION



SUBSIDIARIES

New Jersey Wildlife Council
Junior Sportsmen of America

STEVEN P. TCZAP
528 Clifton Avenue
Clifton, New Jersey 07011

August 26, 1979

Dear Editor

I'll bet that you, just as I, have been deluged with material from the sportsmen of Alaska and from the National Wildlife Federation concerning their difference of opinion about setting wilderness areas in that state.

To be truthful with you, I didn't have the time to digest all the material sent to me and because of the volume of it, I sort of just let it slide. However, our State Federation did go on record of supporting the Alaskan sportsmen but we did so primarily because they were brother sportsmen and not because we understood the problem they were having.

I recently had an opportunity to visit Alaska where I met with Ken Fanning of the Real Alaska Coalition; Mr. Thomas Scarborough, Executive Director of the Alaska Wildlife Federation & Sportsmen's Council; and a host of sportsmen, outdoor writers and Alaska citizens. I did not become an expert on Alaska during my short visit but I did prepare an article for the N. J. Federated Sportsmen News and have enclosed a copy for your review.

If you would like to use the article in your publication, please feel free to do so with my permission. I am sure the sportsmen of Alaska would appreciate any help you could give them to prevent the loss of our last and largest frontier to our nation's sportsmen.

Yours in Conservation

Steven Tczap, Editor
N. J. Federated Sportsmen News

ps: If you use the article, please send me a copy of your publication

ASSOCIATE MEMBER CLUBS

N. J. State Field Archers Assoc. - N. J. Gun Dealers Assoc. - N. J. Game Breeders Assoc. - N. J. Federation of Camping Assoc.
N. J. Citizens Committee for Firearms Legislation - N. J. Trapper's Assoc.

MARTINS OUTDOOR CENTER

THURSDAY MORNING

SEPTEMBER 27th, 1979

HAMILTON FIRST NATIONAL BANK

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

SEPTEMBER 28th, 1979

.....ALASKAN LAND-GRAB.....

THERE IS A BIG HASSLE IN WASHINGTON, D. C. OVER THE PROPERTY RIGHTS IN THE STATE OF ALASKA -- HOW MUCH OF IT WILL BE ADMINISTERED BY THE STATE GOVERNMENT AND HOW MUCH WILL BE UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE FEDERAL BUREAUCRATS...AND THE FEDS ARE WINNING!

WHEN WE THINK OF ALASKA, WE PICTURE IT AS A VAST FROZEN, SNOW-COVERED AREA WITH LOTS OF HIGH MOUNTAINS, SWIFT RIVERS, AND ENDLESS MILES OF EMPTY SPACE. WE THINK OF ESKIMOS, INDIANS, GOLD RUSH DAYS, STEAMBOATS RUNNING SWIFT RAPIDS, PRIMITIVE LOG CABINS, BUSH PILOTS, AND A LOT OF WILDLIFE LIKE CARIBOU, REINDEER, MOUNTAIN SHEEP, BEARS AND WOLVES. WE'VE HEARD THE GROUND IS FROZEN ALMOST ALL YEAR 'ROUND BUT THAT DURING THE SUMMER, ALASKANS CAN GROW FANTASTICALLY LARGE VEGETABLES BECAUSE THE SUN SHINES ALMOST 24-HOURS A DAY.

ALL OF THIS IS CORRECT, BUT IT'S LIKE AN ESKIMO FLYING INTO NASHVILLE, ATTENDING THE GRAND OL' OPREY, FLYING BACK TO FAIRBANKS AND TELLING EVERYONE ALL ABOUT THE STATE OF TENNESSEE AND THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE THERE. FRANKLY, WE ARE BEING TOLD JUST EXACTLY WHAT THE POLITICIANS WANT US TO KNOW! WHY? BECAUSE THE PRESERVATIONISTS WANT TO KEEP VAST AREAS OF ALASKA JUST EXACTLY AS IT IS BY PUTTING EVERYTHING POSSIBLE UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, A DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR. THIS STOPS ALL USE OF THE LAND, TIMBER, MINERALS, OIL, NATURAL RESOURCES,.....E. EVERYTHING.... FOR EVERYBODY....ALMOST! INTERIOR WANTS TO PUT OVER 80,000 SQUARE MILES OF ALASKA INTO NATIONAL PARKS -- COMPARED TO ABOUT 20,000 SQUARE MILES DOWN HERE IN "THE LOWER 48 STATES".

AT A TIME WHEN OUR NATION IS FRANTICALLY TRYING TO FIND NEW SOURCES OF ENERGY, THE ENVIRONMENTALISTS ARE USING EVERY LOBBYING FORCE AVAILABLE TO PUT ALASKA IN A "DEEP FREEZER" AND KEEP IT EXACTLY AS IT IS. WHILE PEOPLE SIMPLY CANNOT AFFORD TO BUY MATERIAL TO BUILD A DECENT HOUSE, BILLIONS OF FEET OF MATURE TIMBER IS FALLING TO THE GROUND AND GOING TO WASTE ON GOVERNMENT LAND.

WE WERE TOLD THE ALASKAN PIPELINE FROM PRUDHOE BAY TO THE GULF OF ALASKA WOULD DESTROY THE MIGRATION ROUTE OF THE CARIBOU FROM SUMMER TO WINTER PASTURES. NOT SO!.... THE FACT IS, THE CARIBOU LIKE THE PIPELINE AND GONGREGATE AROUND IT, THEY STAND IN ITS SHADE WHEN THE SUN BOTHERS THEM....YES, IT DOES GET HOT IN ALASKA DURING THE SUMMER.

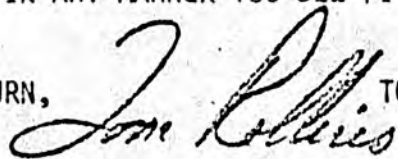
MY COLLEAGUE, V. H. "DOC" JERNIGAN, RECENTLY VISITED THE OIL FIELDS AT PRUDHOE BAY AND WAS SURPRISED TO SEE VERY FEW WELLS. HE LEARNED THAT A LARGE NUMBER OF SHAFTS ARE DRILLED FROM THE SAME WELLHEAD AND FANNED OUT TO UNDERGROUND DEPOSITS AS MUCH AS TWO MILES AWAY. IT'S NOTHING LIKE THE PICTURES WE SEE OF OIL DERRICKS IN OKLAHOMA IN THE GOOD DAYS!

THE MORE I LEARN ABOUT ALASKA TODAY, ABOUT THE "ENERGY PROBLEM", ABOUT NUCLEAR ENERGY USE, AND ABOUT GETTING ENERGY FROM COAL, AND WOOD, ETC....AND ABOUT POLITICAL HANKY-PANKY THE MORE I REALIZE WE ORDINARY PEOPLE ARE GETTING ONE OF THE WORST "SNOW-JOBS" FROM WASHINGTON SINCE "THE WINNING OF THE WEST!"

#

DOC, THIS SCRIPT WAS BROADCAST TWICE OVER WYSH RADIO AM/FM STEREO, CLINTON, TN. 37716 JAMES F. STAIR, STATION MANAGER. IT WAS MY REGULARLY SCHEDULED BROADCAST WITH MUCH OF THE INFORMATION PICKED UP FROM OUR CONVERSATIONS AND MAP-SCANNING WHEN I VISITED YOU FOLKS ABOUT A MONTH AGO. YOU ARE FREE TO USE THIS SCRIPT, MY NAME, AND ANYTHING ELSE YOU SEE FIT PERTAINING TO MY BROADCASTS IN ANY MANNER YOU SEE FIT.

YOURN,



TOM ROLLINS

Outdoors

By V. M. (Doc) JERNIGAN

Alaskans are seriously perturbed that residents of the lower 48 states are not pitching it to help them control some bit of their land and future. They are worried about the mad rush from the "masters" in Washington 4000 miles away, to control and restrict the use of the land in their state.

"Subsistence hunting definition should be a state decision," stated Gov. Jay Hammond of Alaska. "The habitat should be controlled by the state — a state prerogative instead of the federal government imposing its will on the state."

This is generally recognized in the lower 48 states and there would be a great outcry from these states if they suddenly found the Feds trying to run their wildlife programs. However, this does happen to some extent, especially on migratory wildlife. On this score we must agree with the governor that Alaska is being treated rather shabbily.

"Some think if we threaten the government the D-2 bill will just go away," the governor continued. "Some want no federal intervention. Others want the entire state locked up, but you can be sure of one thing there will be a D-2 bill. We can only try to lessen the impact of the present withdrawals. President Carter abused his powers in designating 17 instant National Monuments containing 56 million acres.

"Until a solution is decided on and a bill passed by Congress that we can live with, we will have high unemployment, restricted income, restricted usage of our lands. Guides will ignore the regulations and continue to use as they have historically. Hunters will continue to hunt on the Monuments."

The governor's plan, which has gained considerable backing, is a cooperative deal substituting some planning in an effort to satisfy most of the residents. This would replace the numerous parks, state, private and native lands, refuges, Monuments, wilderness areas that now riddle the state. This does not do everything for either side, consequently they refuse to agree on anything. The governor did support the Breaux-Dingell bill in Congress. It was also supported by the International Game & Fish association.

Although the issue is not settled and there is some possibility it won't be this year, some interesting proposals are already being made. On the Misty Fjords National Monument, near Ketchikan, the U. S. Forest Service has recommended a resort be built on a bay there. It is presently earmarked for management by the Forest Service and will permit hunting, fishing, trapping, subsistence use, along with airplanes, motorboats, snowmobiles and recreational cabins. Firewood could be cut, but no commercial sales of timber and no mining.

Under the bill passed recently by the House of Representatives Misty Fjords would be a wilderness area and none of the above would be permitted in the 2.2 million acres. It also contains the largest known molybdenum deposit in the world.

The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service is scheduled to manage the Yukon Flats National Monument. They have proposed a ban on taking motion pictures in the 10 million-acre Monument which is larger than the entire two states of Vermont and Connecticut. The Sierra Club which has fought for preserving the lands is fond of the philosophy "take only pictures, leave only footprints."

It is a fact that few footprints will ever be left in such a wild, inaccessible land, but "no pictures" poor Sierra Club, it seems they have lobbied themselves right out of the picture.

* * *

A hurry-up piece of legislation through both houses of Congress can put the state in a situation of no return. Once the massive patchwork design is made law there is no return except through expensive and time-consuming legislative repeal action. Our country needs those natural resources the preservationists want to preserve. Alaska needs the economic benefits. They want the issues settled.

Now for one more solution. Alaska wants, and should get, the opportunity to select those 104 million acres of state lands promised when they became a state. They should have control the state's game and fish. The Eskimos, Indians and Aleuts have already received most of their allotted 44 million acres plus portions of the 1 billion dollars cash agreed on.

They should be permitted to complete their selections, with certain oversight on both by the federal government to retain those important natural features such as Mt. McKinley, portions of the Wrangell mountains, glaciers and wild streams. It would be a safe bet none of these would be chosen anyway since there would be little possibility of development there under any ownership.

The next move would be for the federal government to allocate reasonable amounts of land in unique places for parks, monuments, wildlife refuges and wilderness on the 225 million acres remaining under its ownership and control. This piece of real estate, larger than Texas, Tennessee and Kentucky combined, could be left open to include the hot issue of subsistence hunting and fishing for the natives. The entire 80,000 of them would hardly be noticed in that great mass of upheaved mountains, snow covered peaks and sub-surface frozen tundra scrub.

The solution is really quite simple, but everyone concerned is afraid the other side will get an advantage. There is little faith or trust among the opposing groups, every move is suspect and possibly justified. This includes the federal and state governments, the citizens, the natives, the preservationists, the conservationists and the industrialists.

Outdoors

By V. M. (Dad) JERNIGAN

After flying several thousand miles back and forth across Alaska, it felt good to hop on a pontoon-equipped plane in Ketchikan and fly some 50 miles inland to Yes Bay Lodge for some real down-to-earth fishing. The Lodge is located on a point at the mouth of a small river on a salt water inlet. A mecca in the heart of some of Alaska's wilderness country.

The river runs out of a lake up in the mountains behind the lodge and is a salmon-spawning stream with hundreds of big salmon swimming, surging and jumping upstream against a strong current when the tide is out. I stood beside the stream several hours, casting lures in the swift waters, slightly provoked that none of those giant, leaping salmon would even condescend to investigate my offerings. Salmon on spawning runs seldom feed and supposedly strike lures from anger or irritation.

Yes, some of the smaller fish and even a few trout did take the lure, but I was after bigger stuff. For most of three days some of our group were guests of Art and Marlys Hack, owners of Yes Bay Lodge and Jim Repine, publisher of Alaska Outdoors. Tyee Air Service carried us in and out. There are no roads to the lodge and the nearest other lodge or building of any kind that I saw must have been at least 10 miles away. They have no use for an automobile, but a float plane and boats are a necessity.

Taking off from the back door of the Lodge is a small path, rambling up through the mountain alongside the river. There is fine fishing along the tumbling stream and one of our group of writers caught an eight-pound salmon in that rough and turbulent water on a four-pound test leader. The lake in the mountain is about two miles back and up and few pilgrims ever reach it. I did find big, juicy, ripe wild blueberries growing in profusion alongside the trail.

The Hacks were quick to advise us not to travel the trail alone and preferably with one of their employes carrying a big gun. The migrating salmon in the stream attracts hungry bear and those Alaskan bear are big, like the state. A big brown bear with cubs takes a dim view of anything getting too close to the youngsters.

I looked up at an eye-opening mounted specimen in Fairbanks and the monstrous size left me a bit awe-stricken though I have seen many bear. Its head, alone, would have been difficult to encircle with both arms and it towered several feet above me. It left me with no desire to meet one in the wilderness, unarmed.

We fished the Bay for the big king salmon, but I only caught one around 20 inches in length where the size limit is 23 inches. Lots of bald eagles were seen flying or loafing along the multitude of inlets and islands. They, too, like a feast of salmon. In fact, the poor fish falls prey to every predator, including man.

It spends its life in danger, from the freshly hatched fry working back down the stream, into the ocean where it matures and then struggles against all odds to return from the salt water up the stream of its birth to spawn. Here the cycle starts all over again, but the poor salmon has spent its last strength to return there to lay its eggs. Beaten, bruised shattered and torn it expires after spawning and starting the new cycle.

This coastal area of Alaska is rain country. It rained portions of every day we were there, but to natives and visitors that is a way of life. They go fishing or do whatever they have planned regardless of the rain, fog, and drizzles. Yes Bay Lodge handles that problem by maintaining a big rack of various sizes of rain gear, waders and rubber boots for customers to use.

Costs to visit the busy lodge are expensive when compared to our local standards and costs for similar services. But the services are deluxe for a wilderness spot and staying a few days at such a place is a lifetime exhilarating experience.