

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 1987-1988 8672

4915 HRES HB 93 (FILE 1)

487

HB

93

(FILE 1)

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

FINAL STATS

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

17 TESTIFIED
0 UNABLE
10 OBSERVED
27 TOTAL

08:30-09:12 START/END TIME

DRAFT LETTER OF INTENT - HB 93

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

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

REPRESENTATIVE
SAM COTTEN
DISTRICT 15



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

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

M E M O R A N D U M

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

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

Affected acreage

The bill designates six recreation rivers in southcentral Alaska:

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

TOTAL ACREAGE 66,500 acres

Need for the bill

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

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

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

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

Management

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

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

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

Summary

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

SECTIONAL ANALYSIS
CSHB 93 (Fin)
Recreation Rivers

Title

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

Findings

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

Purposes (AS 41.23.200)

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

Compatible activities (AS 41.23.210)

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

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

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

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

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

General management (AS 41.23.220)

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

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

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

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

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

Management plan (AS 41.23.230)

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

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

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

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

Municipal lands (AS 41.23.240)

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

Land acquisition (AS 41.23.250)

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

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

Application of public land laws (AS 41.23.260)

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

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

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

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

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

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

Cooperative management agreements (AS 41.23.270)

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

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

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

Recreation river establishment (AS 41.23.280)

Only the Legislature may establish recreation rivers.

Designated rivers (AS 41.23.290)

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

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

Planning schedule

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

Effective date

The act is effective immediately.

STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE

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


LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY

MEMORANDUM

February 17, 1988

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

TO: Senator Arliss Sturgulewski
Chair, Senate Resources Committee

FROM: Richard A. Bradley 
Legislative Counsel

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

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

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

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

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

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

Senator Arliss Sturgulewski
Page 2
February 17, 1988

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

If I may be of further assistance, please advise.

RAB:bb
wkb2/112



ALASKA OUTDOOR COUNCIL, INC.

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

April 21, 1987

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

Regarding: HB 93

Dear Senator Sturgulewski:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

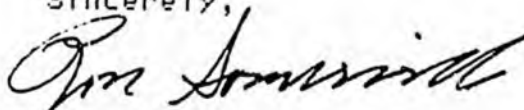
If these concerns cannot be accomodated in the management planning process, we would encourage fine tuning the legislation--as long as any proposed use is compatible with the basic intent of the designation. We certainly would work to improve the legislation rather than scuttling it altogether.

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

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

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

Sincerely,



Ron Somerville
Executive Director



NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
INCORPORATED 1871

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

RUPE ANDREWS
FIELD REPRESENTATIVE
ALASKA

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

March 7, 1987

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

Dear Representative Cotten:

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Rupe Andrews, Field Representative

Opinion

Rivers bill makes sense for Valley

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Resource Development Council

for Alaska, Inc.

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

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Paula P. Casley

March 24, 1987

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

re: Recreational River legislation

Dear Mayor Jones and Assemblymen:

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

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

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

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

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

done

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

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

Mayor Dorothy Jones
March 23, 1987
page 2

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

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

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

Sincerely,

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
for Alaska, Inc.



Michael K. Abbott
Projects Coordinator

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



ALASKAN MARINE DEALERS ASSOCIATION



April 21, 1987

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

Dear Senator Szymanski:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Thanks for your interest in our concerns.

Best regards,

Steve Morghaim
Executive Coordinator

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



cc HB 93
HB 18
SB 62

Alaska Sportfishing Association

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

February 9, 1987

Governor Steve Cowper
Pouch A
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Governor Cowper:

RE: LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

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

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

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

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

Governor Steve Cowper
Page 2
February 9, 1987

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

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

Sincerely,

Alaska Sportfishing Association
Legislative Committee

Bob Hunter

Robert L. Hunter, Chairman

Russ Redick

Russ Redick

Jeff Parker

Jeff Parker

Virginia Hilliker

Virginia Hilliker

Jim Richardson

Jim Richardson

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

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

Alaska State Legislature

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



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

Senate Community and Regional Affairs Committee

February 2, 1988

TO: Senate Community and Regional Affairs Committee Members

FROM: Senate C&RA Staff *NMA*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

management plan in consultation with the Mat-Su borough.

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

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

REPRESENTATIVE
SAM COTTEN
DISTRICT 15



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

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

M E M O R A N D U M

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

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

Affected acreage

The bill designates six recreation rivers in southcentral Alaska:

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

TOTAL ACREAGE 266,500 acres

Need for the bill

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

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

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

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

Management

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

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

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

Summary

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

SECTIONAL ANALYSIS
CSHB 93 (Fin)
Recreation Rivers

Title

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

Findings

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

Purposes (AS 41.23.200)

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

Compatible activities (AS 41.23.210)

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

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

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

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

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

General management (AS 41.23.220)

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

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

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

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

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

Management plan (AS 41.23.230)

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

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

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

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

Municipal lands (AS 41.23.240)

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

Land acquisition (AS 41.23.250)

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

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

Application of public land laws (AS 41.23.260)

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

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

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

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

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

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

Cooperative management agreements (AS 41.23.270)

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

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

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

Recreation river establishment (AS 41.23.280)

Only the Legislature may establish recreation rivers.

Designated rivers (AS 41.23.290)

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

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

Planning schedule

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

Effective date

The act is effective immediately.

February 11, 1987

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

Dear Representatives Herrmann and Cotten:

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

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

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

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

*This has been
done in the
house version
MCH*

Please let me know if we may provide additional information.

Sincerely,

Judith M. Brady
Commissioner

Enclosure: Maps

cc: Committee Members
Governor's Legislative Liaison

SIX RECREATION RIVER WORKSHOP III

Sponsored by

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH



November 21, 1987

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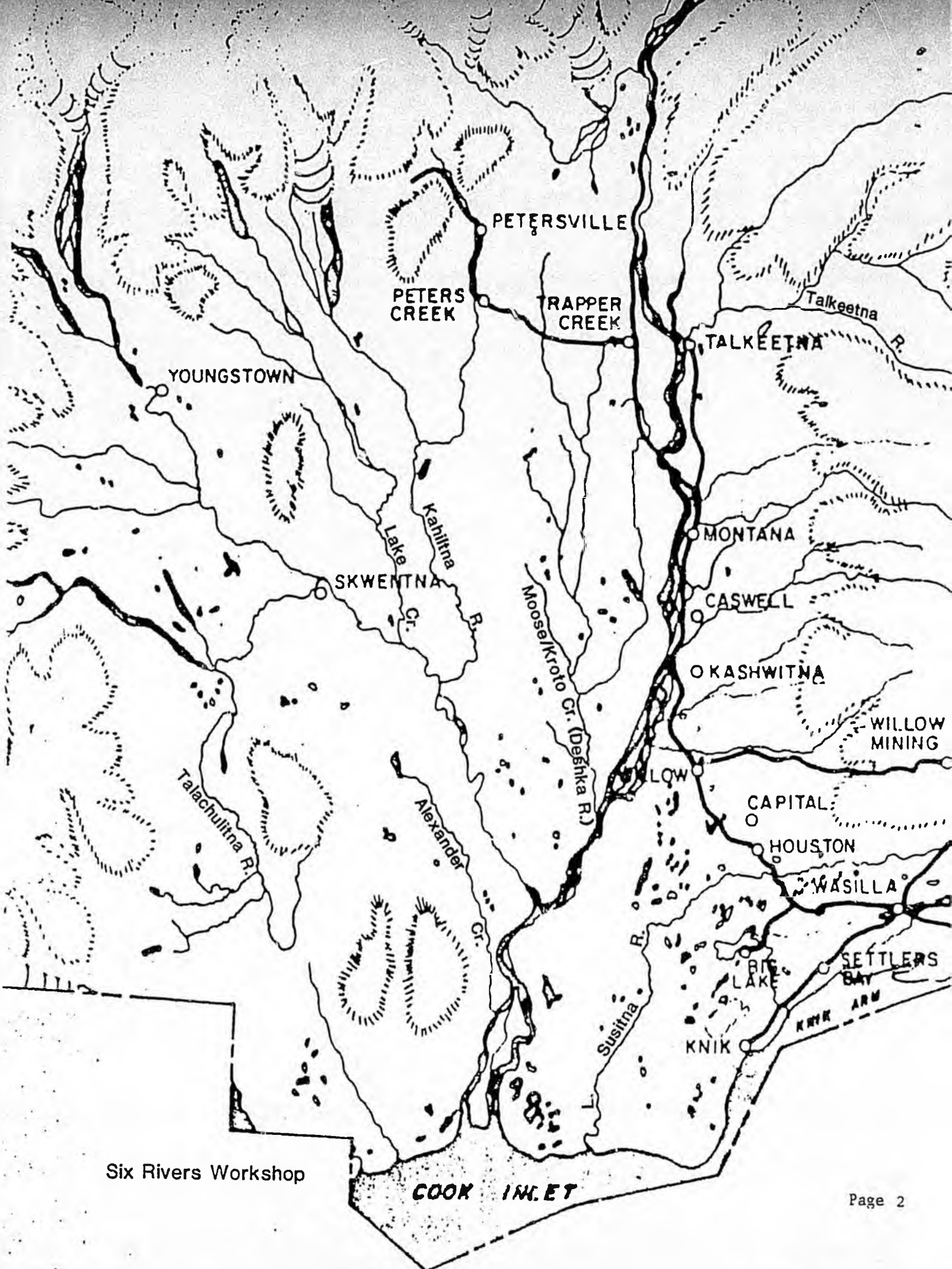
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SIX RECREATION RIVER WORKSHOP

NOVEMBER 21, 1987

AGENDA

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

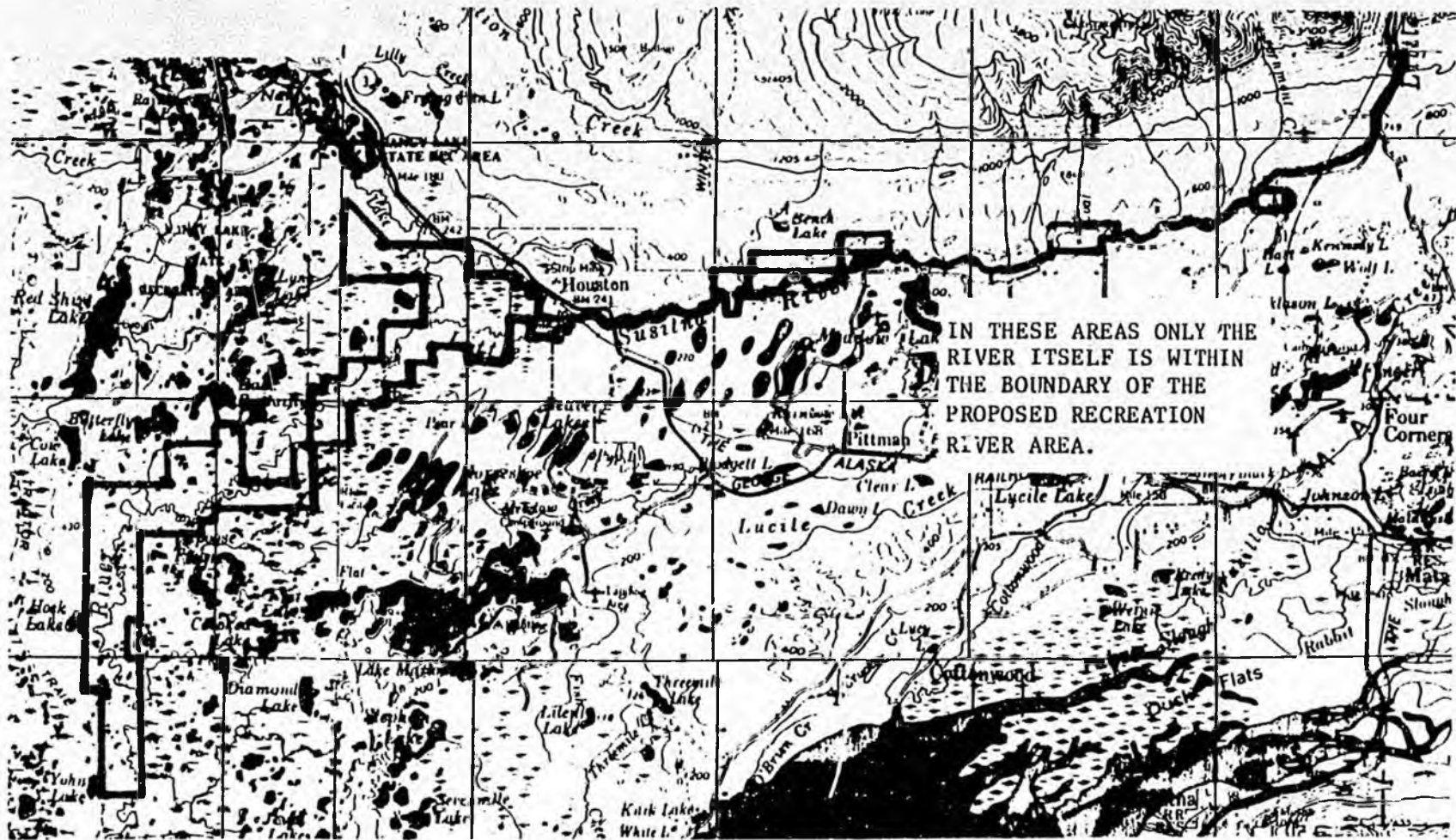


Six Rivers Workshop

COOK INLET

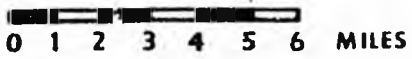
LITTLE SUSITNA RIVER

Proposed Recreational River Corridor



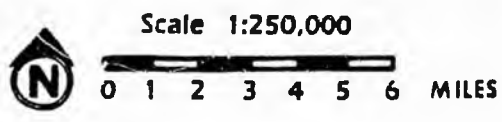
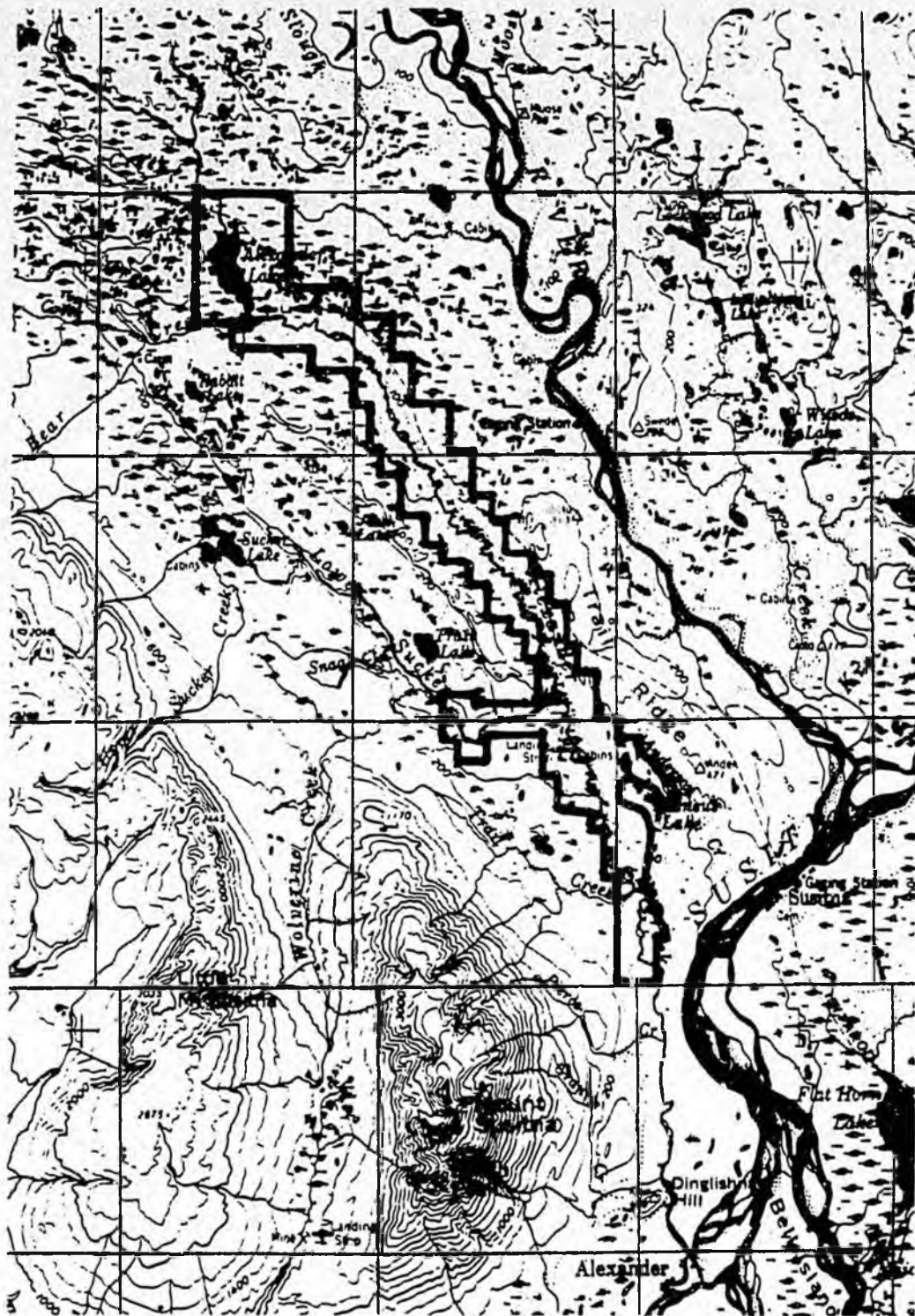
IN THESE AREAS ONLY THE RIVER ITSELF IS WITHIN THE BOUNDARY OF THE PROPOSED RECREATION RIVER AREA.

Scale 1:250,000



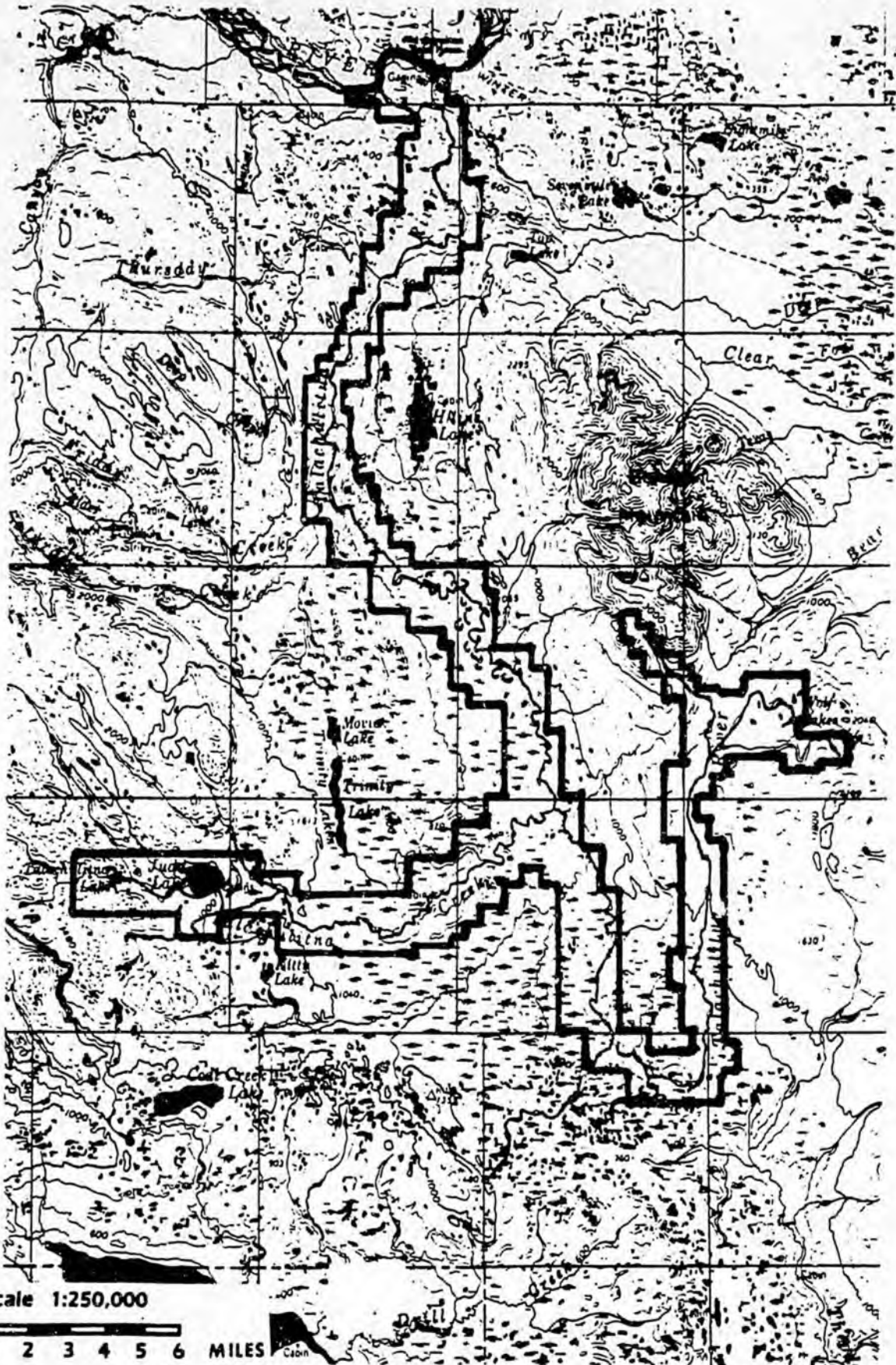
ALEXANDER CREEK

Proposed Recreational River Corridor



TALACHULITNA CREEK

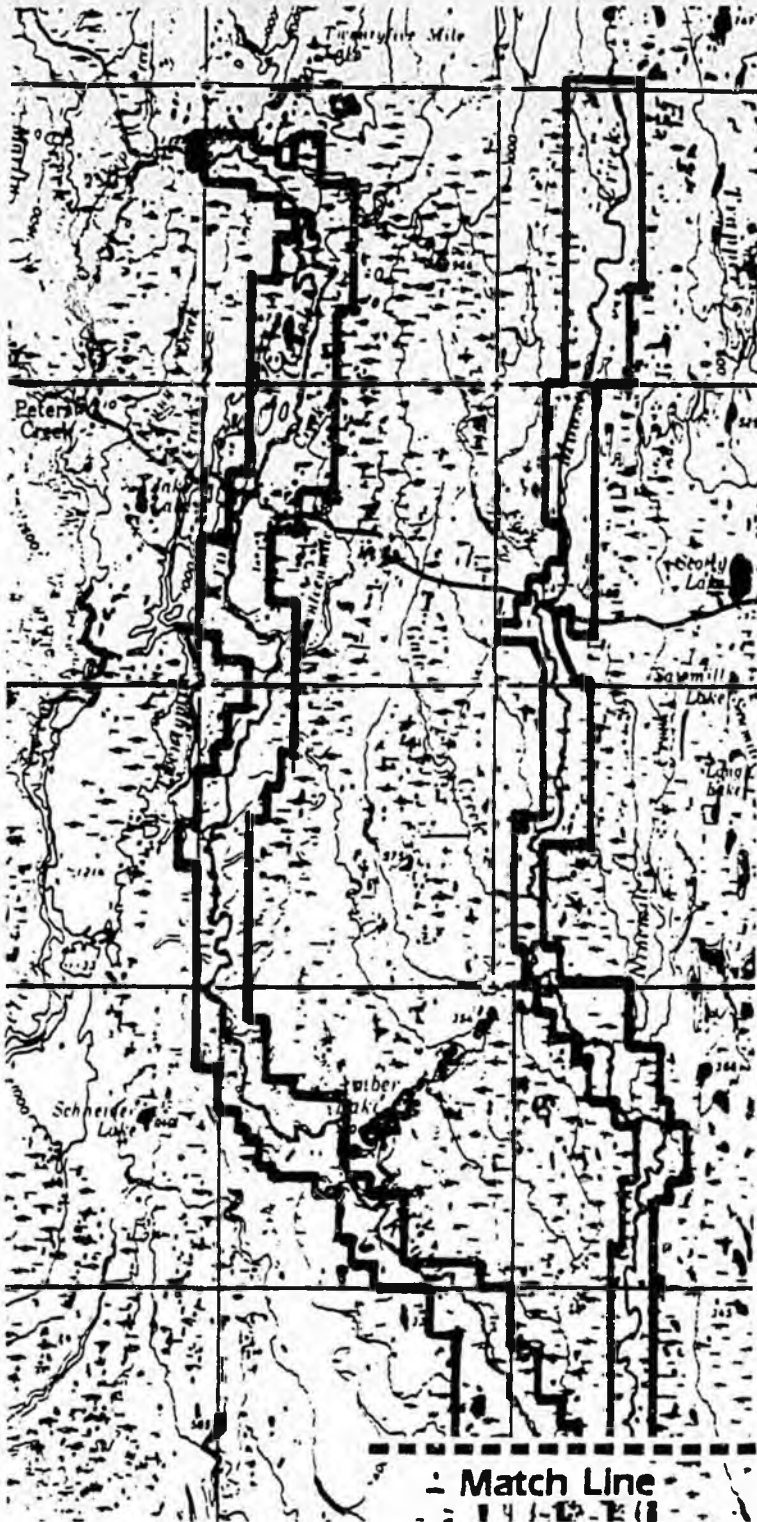
Proposed Recreational River Corridor



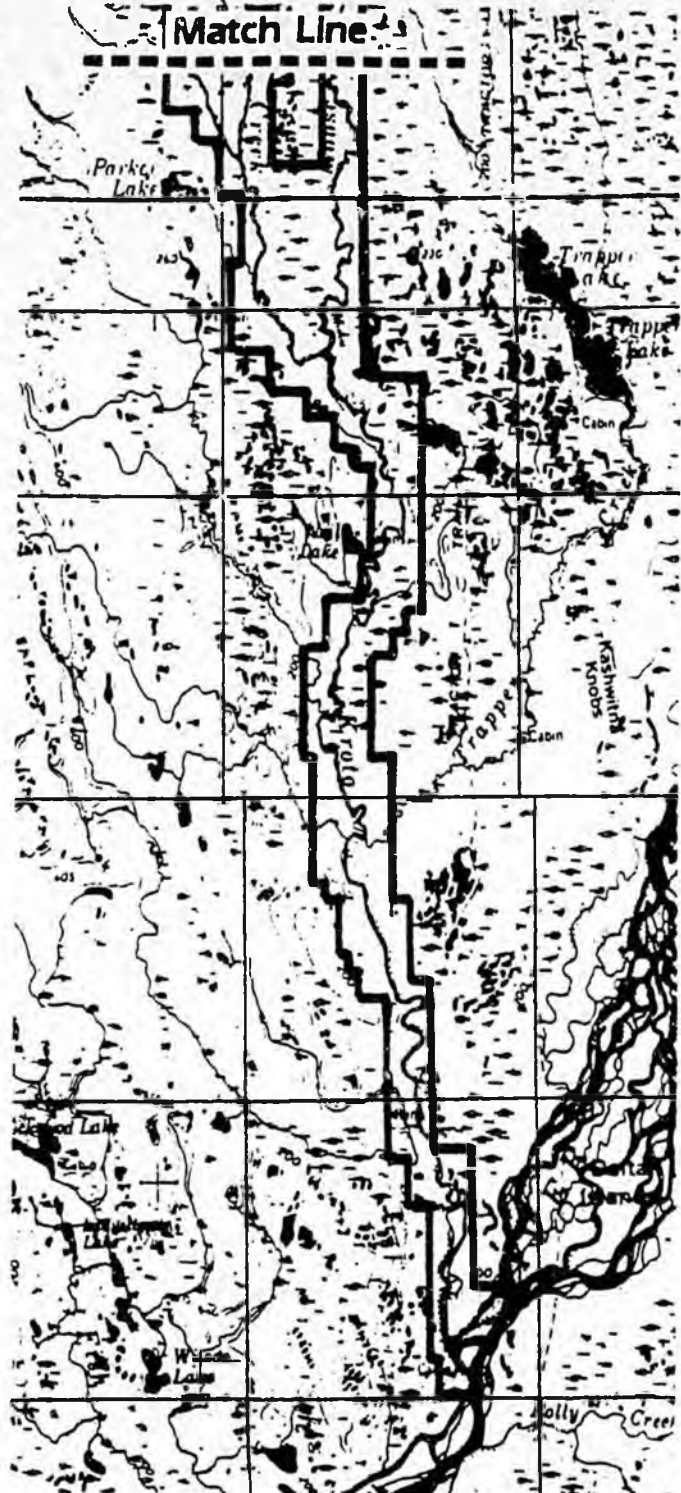
KROTO CREEK — MOOSE CREEK

Proposed Recreational River Corridor

North Half



South Half



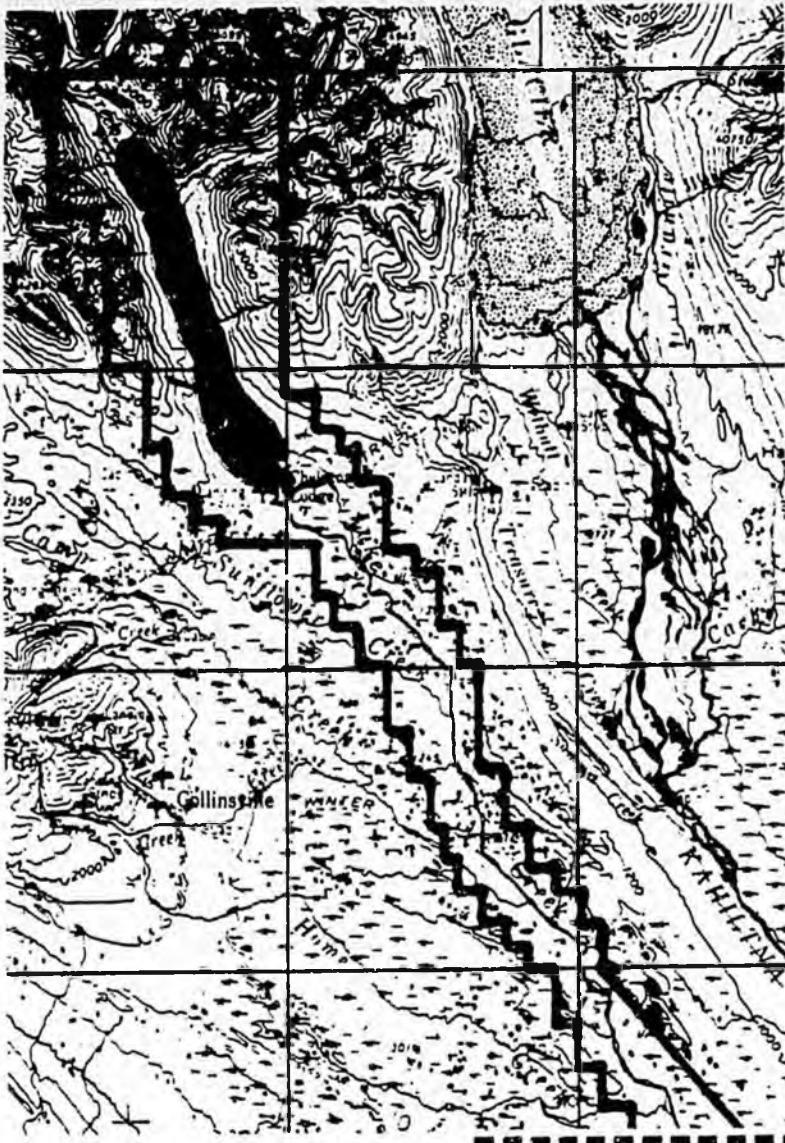
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LAKE CREEK

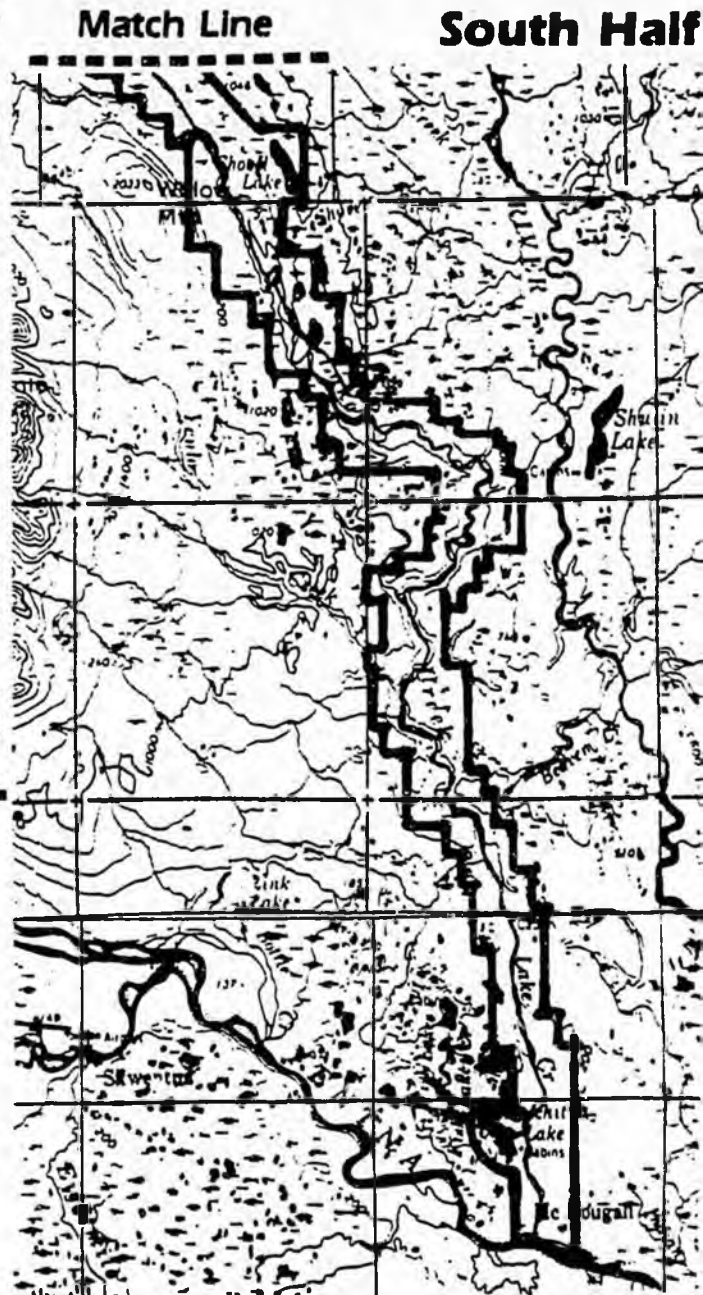
Proposed Recreational River Corridor

North Half



Match Line

South Half



Match Line

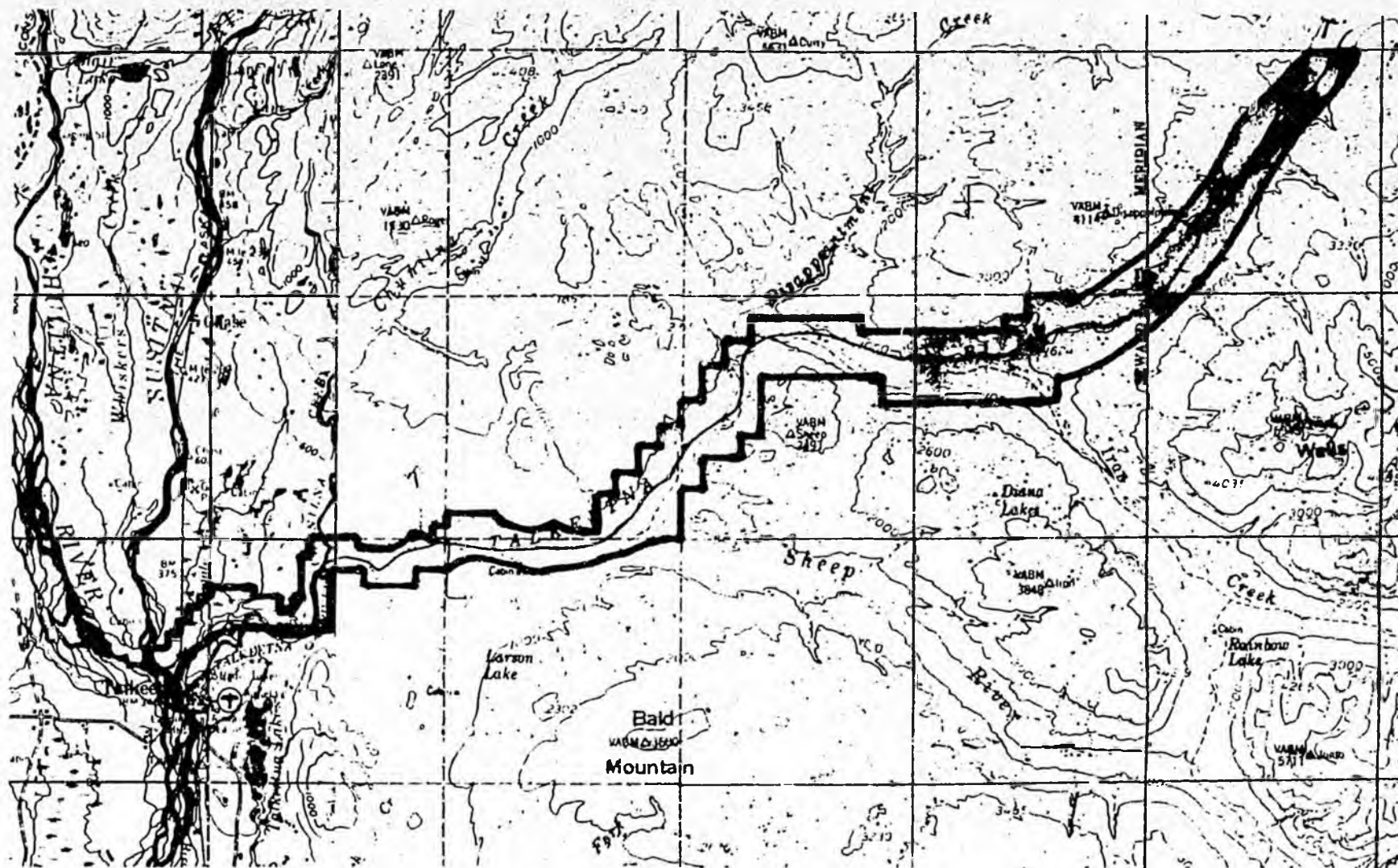
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0 1 2 3 4 5 6 MILES

TALKEETNA RIVER

Proposed Recreational River Corridor



Scale 1:250,000



0 1 2 3 4 5 6 MILES

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

DELIM ;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

18 ARTICLE 3. RECREATION RIVERS.

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

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

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

*See letters
commented
- issue by voice*

*Recreation:
Priority, need
of river access.*

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

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

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

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

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

15 (2) the harvest of wood products;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

29 (f) The commissioner of administration shall separately account

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

*not all right
parts*

*Only state
owned lands
affected.*

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

7 (1) Alexander Creek State Recreation River

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 Section 16

2 Section 17: N1/2, SE1/4

3 Section 20: E1/2

4 Section 21

5 Section 28: N1/2, SW1/4

6 Section 29: E1/2

7 Section 32: E1/2

8 Section 33: W1/2

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

10 Section 12: NE1/4

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

12 Section 32: S1/2SE1/4

13 Section 33: S1/2S1/2

14 (3) Lake Creek State Recreation River

15 (A) Township 21 North, Range 9 West, Seward Meridian

16 Section 3

17 Section 4: Excluding Tracts A, B, C and D

18 Section 9: N1/2 Excluding Tracts A and B

19 Section 10

20 Section 15

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

22 Section 4: NW1/4, S1/2

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

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

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

26 Section 15: W1/2

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

28 Section 21: E1/2

29 Section 22: W1/2

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 Section 25
 2 Section 26: SE1/4
 3 Section 31: S1/2
 4 Section 32: S1/2 exclusive of ASLS 79 - 149
 5 Section 33: S1/2S1/2 exclusive of ASLS 79 - 149
 6 Section 34: S1/2S1/2 exclusive of ASLS 79 - 149
 7 and ASLS 76 - 138
 8 Sections 35 - 36
 9 (G) Township 27 North, Range 4 West, Seward Meridian
 10 Section 36: S1/2SE1/4 exclusive of ASLS 74 - 77
 11 and ASLS 74 - 78
 12 (H) Township 27 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian
 13 Section 5: NW1/4
 14 Section 6
 15 (I) Township 28 North, Range 1 West, Seward Meridian
 16 Section 36: SE1/4SE1/4
 17 (J) Township 28 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian
 18 Section 2
 19 Section 3: SE1/4
 20 Section 9: SE1/4
 21 Section 10
 22 Section 11: NW1/4, W1/2NE1/4, W1/2SW1/4
 23 Section 15: N1/2, SW1/4
 24 Section 16: E1/2SW1/4
 25 Section 20: SE1/4
 26 Section 21
 27 Section 22: NW1/4
 28 Section 28: N1/2, SW1/4
 29 Section 29: E1/2, SW1/4, SE1/4NW1/4

1 Section 31: SW1/4, E1/2

2 Section 32

3 Section 33: NW1/4

4 ARTICLE 4. GENERAL PROVISIONS.

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

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

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

SIX RECREATION RIVER WORKSHOP II

PROCEEDINGS

Introduction

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

Historical Use

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

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

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

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

Borough Land Management Responsibilities

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

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

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

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

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

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

- outfitters
- dropoffs.

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

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

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

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

Management Options

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

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

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

Enforcement on Borough Lands

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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

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

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

Frank Langill

Larry Engel
Mike Bronson
Duane H. Lainy
Judy Bronson

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



MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

ASSEMBLY MEMORANDUM

No. _____

Meeting Date: April 7, 1987

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

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

Talkeetna

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Respectfully submitted:

Prepared by:

Tony Knowles
Tony Knowles
Mayor

Chip Dennerlein
Chip Dennerlein
Manager, Intergovernmental Affairs

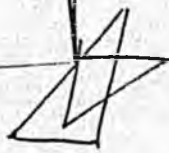
Relationship of Recreation River
Designation and Management to the
Alaska Coastal Management Program (ACMP)

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

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

bs87040801jmi

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



DRAFT

ALTERNATIVE HOUSE BILL 93 - RECREATION RIVERS

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

18 ARTICLE 3. RECREATION RIVERS.

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

DELETE-PROTECTION → 25

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

DELETE-CONSERVATION → 27

*THRU
AND*

→ 28

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

15 (2) the harvest of wood products;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

DD-(f)
IE ABOVE)

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

IE ABOVE →
DD)

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

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

LETE-IDEU-
FY THRU
SE; →

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

DELETE - MAY →
ADD - SHALL

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

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

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

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

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

CORRECTION

**THIS DOCUMENT
HAS BEEN REPHOTOGRAPHED
TO ASSURE LEGIBILITY**

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

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DELETE-MAY →
ADD-SHALL

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29 recreation river corridor by eminent domain.

Loris Reed

THE SUSITNA VALLEY ASSOCIATION

PURPOSE and PLATFORM

January 20, 1988

The PURPOSE of the Susitna Valley Association is:

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

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

The PLATFORM of the Susitna Valley Association is:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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