

ALASKA

LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE

FILES

1991-1992

8672

7141

HOUSE

RESOURCES

ALASKA ENVIRONMENTAL MATRIX

	Oil and Gas	Mining	Timber	Parks/Refuge Protection	Local Land Use	Wildlife Protection	Oceans/Fisheries	Waste Reduction	Toxics	Air Quality	Water Quality	Environmental Education	Organizational Assistance	Lands Acquisition	Science/Research	Peace and Social Justice	Electoral
Activist Organizations																	
AK Center for the Environment	x	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					
AK Conservation Foundation													X				
AK Environmental Assembly													X				
AK Environmental Lobby	x	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X						X
AK Environmental PAC																	X
AK Friends of the Earth	x	X		X		X	X					X					
AK Health Project								X	X	X	X						
AK Indigenous Council for the Environment	x	X	X	X		X											
AK Land Act Coordinating Committee	x	X	X	X									X				
AK Military Toxics Network								X	X		X						
AK Pacific University Environmental Club								X				X					
AK Reform			X			X											
AK Society American Forest Dwellers			X		X												
AK Survival			X	X	X	X			X								
AK Wildlife Alliance	x		X	X		X	X										
Alaskans for Juneau		X			X				X		X						
Alaskans for Fair Chase						X											

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Activist Organizations																	
Kachemak Bay Citizen's Coalition			X	X													
Lynn Canal Conservation		X	X	X	X				X		X						
Narrows Conservation Coalition			X		X	X											
Natl Audubon Society AK Regional Office	x	X	X	X		X	X					X					
Natl Audubon Society Anchorage Chapter				X	X	X	X					X					
Natl Audubon Society Arctic Chapter		X		X	X	X						X					
Natl Audubon Society Juneau Chapter		X	X	X	X	X	X					X					
Natl Audubon Society Kenai Chapter	x			X	X	X						X					
Natl Audubon Society Kodiak Chapter		X		X	X	X	X					X					
Natl Parks & Conservation Assoc. AK Office	x	X	X	X													
Natl Wildlife Federation, AK Field Office	x	X	X	X		X	X										
Natl Wildlife Refuge Assoc.	x			X		X											
Northern AK Environmental Center	x	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					
Nunam Kitiulsisti	x	X			X	X	X		X		X						
Oil Reform Alliance	x						X		X		X						

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Activist Organizations																	
Pelican Forestry Council			X		X												
Prince William Sound Conservation Alliance	X		X		X		X		X		X						
Public Awareness Committee for the Environment	X				X			X	X	X	X						
Salmon Bay Protection Association			X								X						
Saving the Wildlife						X											
Science and Law Limiting Toxics	X	X						X	X	X	X						
Sierra Club, AK Field Office	X	X	X	X		X	X										
Sierra Club, AK Chapter	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X
Sierra Club Legal Defense Club	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X		X				
Sitka Conservation Society			X		X			X	X	X	X						
Southeast AK Conservation Council		X	X	X		X	X				X				X		
Southeast AK Natural Resources Center			X										X				
Susitna Valley Association			X		X						X						
Taku Conservation Society					X		X					X					
Tongass Conservation Society		X	X		X		X										
Trustees for AK	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X				
The Wilderness Society, AK Field Office	X	X	X	X			X				X						
Wildlife Federation of AK	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X					

Educational, Research or Lands Acquisition Organizations	Oil and Gas	Mining	Timber	Parks/Refuge Protection	Local Land Use	Wildlife Protection	Oceans/Fisheries	Waste Reduction	Toxics	Air Quality	Water Quality	Environmental Education	Organizational Assistance	Lands Acquisition	Science/ Research	Peace and Social Justice	Electoral
AK Bioregional Network												X					
AK Natural Heritage Program													X		X		
AK Natural History Assoc.												X					
AK Natural Resource & Outdoor Ed. Association												X	X				
AK Raptor Rehabilitation Center												X			X		
Anchorage Committee for Resource Education												X	X				
Anchorage Recycling Center								X				X					
Center for AK Coastal Studies				X	X		X					X					
Central Peninsula Community Recycling								X				X					
Denali Foundation				X								X			X		
Ecological Economics of AK												X	X				
Energy Resource & Information Center												X	X		X		
Friends of Chugach State Park					X							X					
Friends of Kennicott				X										X			
Kachemak Heritage Land Trust					X							X		X			
Nature Conservancy, AK Office				X	X								X	X			
Prince William Sound Users Association							X					X			X		

Educational, Research or Land Acquisition Organizations	Oil and Gas	Mining	Timber	Parks/Refuge Protection	Local Land Use	Wildlife Protection	Oceans/Fisheries	Waste Reduction	Toxics	Air Quality	Water Quality	Environmental Education	Organizational Assistance	Lands Acquisition	Science/ Research	Peace and Social Justice	Electoral
Prince William Sound Science Center							X					X			X		
Re-Group								X				X					
Sound Renewal Project						X	X					X				X	
Wolf Song of Alaska						X						X					

PUBLICATIONS

AUDUBON magazine, published six times a year, contains superb wildlife photography, thoughtful commentary, conservation news, and in-depth reports about important environmental issues. Members receive AUDUBON as part of their membership benefits; many libraries and government agencies receive the magazine by subscription.

American Birds, an ornithological journal, reports on the distribution, natural history, and abundance of all North American birds. Available five times a year by subscription only, *American Birds* features the results of the annual Christmas Bird Count, the world's oldest and largest cooperative bird census.

Audubon Activist, a bimonthly newsjournal, provides in-depth reporting on current environmental issues, legislation updates, and ideas for taking action and affecting the political process. Subscribers to the *Audubon Activist* are also part of the Activist Network, a nationwide team of committed individuals who actively work toward the preservation and protection of wildlife and wild areas.

Participants in the Activist Network receive periodic *Action Alerts* from our Washington, D.C., office. These bulletins advise them on pending legislation in need of public support. Audubon also produces a variety of monographs, reports, and brochures on important environmental and wildlife topics.

The annual *Audubon Wildlife Report*, begun in 1985, is a comprehensive series on wildlife management in the United States. It examines in detail federal and state agencies responsible for the management of natural areas and wildlife and focuses on the natural history and management of specific species. The *Wildlife Report* has become a standard reference for professional wildlife managers, biologists, conservation agency staff, and concerned citizens.

REGIONAL OFFICES

We maintain nine regional offices and five state offices, each staffed by professional conservationists who coordinate Audubon activities in their areas. Regional staff members supervise the operation of Audubon nature centers and camps, assist Audubon chapters with legal, administrative, and educational matters, and testify on conservation issues before state, local, and federal legislative and judicial bodies.

CHAPTERS

More than two-thirds of our members belong to local chapters, which provide their communities with opportunities to enjoy and learn about nature. Chapters also initiate environmental activism. Members pay a national membership fee that entitles them to membership in both the national organization and their local chapter. All chapters host public meetings, field trips, and other activities in addition to publishing local newsletters.

MEMBERSHIP

Audubon is a nonprofit organization supported by membership dues and individual, corporate, and foundation contributions and bequests. Benefits of membership in National Audubon Society include a subscription to AUDUBON magazine, membership in a local chapter, and free entry into some of our sanctuaries. Most importantly, members have the satisfaction of knowing that their dues are working to preserve the Earth's natural heritage through Audubon's far-reaching environmental conservation programs.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

Fact Sheet



NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY is a conservation organization of more than 500,000 members working at international, national, regional, state, and local levels toward the preservation and wise use of our natural heritage.

For over three-quarters of a century, NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY has provided leadership in scientific research, wildlife protection, conservation education, and environmental action. The first Audubon group was organized more than 100 years ago, in 1886. Our nationwide sanctuary system protects 250,000 acres of unique natural habitat for birds, wildlife, and plants. We operate education centers, workshops, and ecology camps, and a government policy office in Washington, D.C. Our conservation efforts are supported by 510 chapters and 14 regional and state offices located throughout the United States. Our publications, most notably *Audubon* magazine, and our television programs reach millions of people with our conservation message. By participating in a number of international organizations, including the International Council for Bird Preservation, Audubon helps foster a better understanding and resolution of global environmental issues.



GOALS

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY is dedicated to: long-term protection and the wise use of wildlife, land, water, and other natural resources; the promotion of rational strategies for energy development and use; the protection of life from pollution, radiation, and toxic substances; and the solution of global problems caused by overpopulation and the depletion of natural resources. We recognize that all forms of life are interdependent and that the diversity of nature is essential to the economic and environmental well-being of all peoples.

WILDLIFE SANCTUARIES

We protect wildlife and natural areas by managing a system of 80 sanctuaries, ranging in size from 12 acres surrounding Theodore Roosevelt's grave in New York State to 26,000 acres of coastal marsh in Louisiana. Many of Audubon's sanctuaries are staffed by resident wardens, who also patrol adjacent natural areas for other private and public organizations.

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

We maintain a dialogue with federal agencies, testify before Congress on legislative proposals, pursue environmental litigation, and cooperate with other conservation organizations through our Washington, D.C., national capital office. We encourage our members to influence their elected representatives on environmental issues. Regional staff throughout the country are active in many issues involving state governments.

Drawings by Charles W. Schwartz
Courtesy Missouri Dept. of Conservation



EDUCATION

We provide members and the general public with information about environmental issues and wildlife in response to thousands of inquiries each month. Our staff assists private and public agencies in developing the educational potential of natural areas under their jurisdiction. We produce *Audubon Television Specials*, which broadcast on cable and public television stations.

Audubon operates six education centers in Connecticut, California, Ohio, New Mexico, and Wisconsin, where professional naturalists and volunteers conduct outdoor classes, community outreach programs, and teacher-training workshops. Our three summer ecology camps, in Maine, Connecticut, and Wyoming, offer intense natural history study sessions for adults, with optional college credit. The Maine camp also offers sessions for children ages 10 through 15. The Audubon Expedition Institute offers travel-study programs in the United States for high school and college students interested in examining firsthand the natural and social issues affecting our country. Field seminars focusing on specific skills and issues are held year-round.

Our youth education program, *Audubon Adventures*, is available for children in grades three through six. Students in classes enrolled in the program receive the bimonthly publication *Audubon Adventures*, membership cards, and club decals. Teachers receive an accompanying "Leader's Guide," with background information and ideas for field and classroom activities that suggest how the material in *Adventures* can be expanded and integrated into the classroom curriculum. The program reaches about 240,000 children in 8,000 youth clubs.

SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES

We conduct comprehensive studies of ecosystems and field research on wading birds, seabirds, the California condor, and other species. Our permanent staff of scientists is augmented by outside experts to ensure that our positions on energy, toxic chemicals, land use, water, and population issues are based on complete, up-to-date facts. Grassroots involvement is also an important component of our research. More than 40,000 birders participate each year in the Christmas Bird Count, gathering important data on distribution and abundance of North America's avifauna. Audubon's Citizens Acid Rain Monitoring Network coordinates the acid rain measurements of 215 monitors around the country, alerting the nation to this serious problem. We convene conferences, workshops, and seminars to discuss and disseminate the results of our research, and we publish scientific journals and papers.

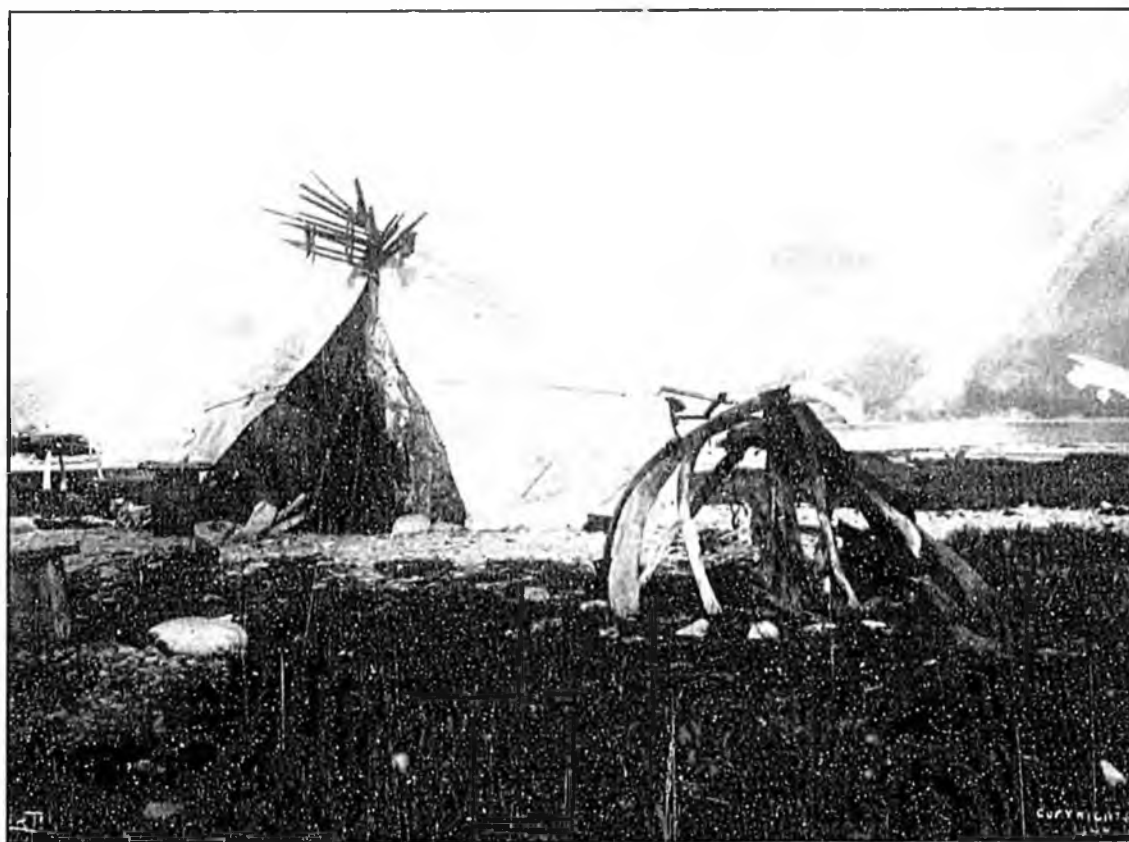


Beringia Conservation Program

National Audubon Society Alaska-Hawaii Regional Office

Progress Report

January 1992



© Edward S. Curtis

The rich cultural heritage of Chukotka as seen by the Harriman Alaska Expedition in 1899.



US Fish and Wildlife Service

Musk ox graze the tundra grasslands of Beringia.

The Beringia Conservation Program



More than 12,000 years ago, a great ice age gripped the land. So much water was locked into glaciers that the shallow sea normally separating Asia from North America became a grassland. Humans stepped into the New World across that bridge of land. We call the bridge, together with lands on either side of it, Beringia.

As the glaciers melted, the oceans rose, separating the continents once again.

But the face of the earth was forever changed.

The Bering Land Bridge had a profound effect on the natural heritage of two continents by allowing the interchange of flora and fauna as well as the migration of humans. Today, Beringia is a busy international crossroads for wildlife. This unique ecosystem serves as a critical migratory path for birds, whales, walrus, sea lions, fish and even polar bears.

From the Ice Age until recent times, the cycle of life in Beringia changed only with the seasons. Today we have the disturbing ability to profoundly alter nature's balance by intent or by oversight.

The National Audubon Society has launched a Beringia Conservation Program to protect our shared natural and cultural heritage of Beringia. The project is a cooperative effort among Native peoples, government officials, scientists, and conservationists on both sides of the Bering Strait.

The goals of the Beringia Conservation Program are three-pronged; wildlife conservation, environmental protection, and sustainable development. The wisdom of the long-time residents — the Native peoples of Beringia — will be incorporated in meeting these goals. Their traditional way of life is dependent on sustaining Beringia's resources.

The objectives of the Beringia Conservation Program include:

- Support establishment of the Beringian Heritage International Park and World Heritage Site;
- Create a Beringia International Marine Biosphere Reserve;
- Promote education, including publishing multi-lingual materials, training local teachers in environmental education, and involving children in environmental protection;
- Support agreements that provide local residents with jobs in natural resource management and nature-oriented tourism compatible with local cultures;
- Encourage cooperative research; and,
- Identify projects to promote sustainable development.


This report summarizes the progress made in protecting the shared cultural and natural heritage of Beringia.

The breakup of the Soviet Union poses a new threat to wildlife conservation and environmental protection. The new members of the Commonwealth of Independent States must find ways to strengthen their economies. Multinational forces are ready to exploit their vast natural resources. Now more than ever, the National Audubon Society needs your help to protect our shared natural and cultural heritage in Beringia.

*David R. Cline
Regional Vice-President*

Audubon Travels to Chukotka

by Dave Chae

 While news on the downfall of communism and breakup of the Soviet Union captured headlines around the world, Audubon launched a historic expedition to Chukotka in the Russian Republic.

Audubon President Peter Berle and his son Robert, Graham Cox and I, along with interpreter John Tichotsky, made up the Audubon team. Guided by Native marine mammal hunters, we got a first hand look at the areas proposed for inclusion in the Beringian Heritage International Park.

Traveling in twenty-five foot open whaleboats, we explored 150 miles of the Chukotsk Peninsula coast. The expedition stopped at ancient Eskimo village sites, marine mammal and bird colonies, and Native villages and hunting camps. We listened to the concerns and advice of Native residents about the proposed park.

We learned a lot about the ancient cultures of Chukotka, present day environmental issues, and political concerns. Our friendly and generous Chukchi and Eskimo hosts treated us to traditional Native foods such as reindeer stew, fish head soup, and walrus liver. Muktuk, or whale blubber, was also on the menu. Delicious dark Russian bread, buckwheat mash and tea were everyday staples. Meanwhile, our



AV Kreschmar

Snowy owl and owlets on Wrangell Island, a northern remnant of the vanished land bridge.

hosts enjoyed the American foods we shared at mealtimes -- cheese, sausage, noodles, peanut butter, spices and candy.

At Brigade Number Two reindeer herding camp we found the Chukchi herders still living in traditional tents called *yurangas*. They rely on dog teams for transportation.

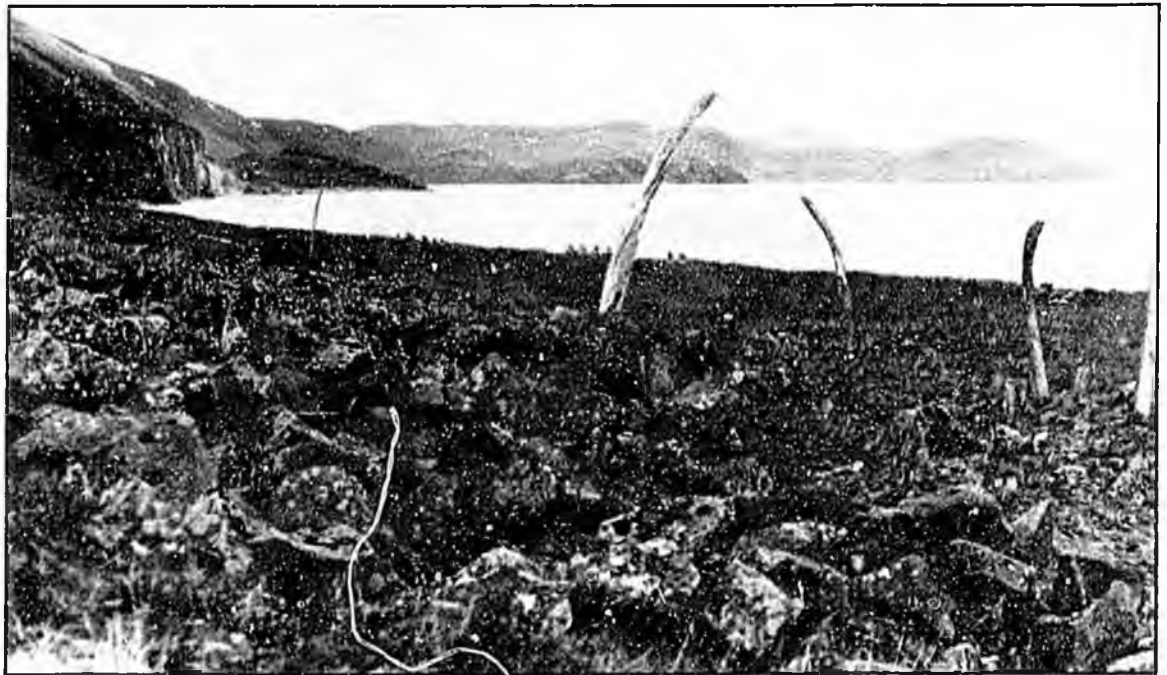
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Nikoli Konykbov

Chukchi and Naukan Eskimos guide the Audubon team through the area proposed for an international park.





Archaeological sites near the coast date back as much as 12,500 years.

AV Andrew

Audubon Travels to Chukotka

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At the Dawn of Communism Fox Farm in Yanrakinnot, it disturbed us to find walrus, seals and grey whales being used to feed several thousand foxes. The largest walrus haulout in the world is on nearby Arakachechin Island. Walrus inspector Anatoly Gawsky described the poaching taking place to feed the foxes. He is deeply troubled. Gawsky said without a patrol boat and firearms, it is impossible to enforce his country's marine mammal protection laws. If the current level of poaching continues, he predicts a serious decline in the walrus population.

Despite the magnificent wild beauty of Chukotka's landscapes and seascapes, evidence of environmental damage is widespread. Thousands of rusting oil barrels litter beaches and tundra hills. The tundra is rutted from the passage of steel-track personnel carriers. Wolves and bears are severely reduced in number by reindeer herders. Military personnel reportedly decimated predators, along with caribou and snow sheep, by using them for target practice from helicopters.

One of the greatest ironies of our trip was witnessing the Russian nuclear-powered ice-breaker *Soviet Union* taking on western passengers in Provideniya Bay. The ship is under contract to Lindblad, one of the world's major tourism companies. For \$30,000 each, passengers visit the North Pole. Onboard helicopters are used to ferry passengers on sight-seeing trips to coastal wildlife concentration areas and ancient village sites.

Near Provideniya, the Soviet "Gateway to the Arctic", abandoned military roads, buildings, equipment, gun positions, and fox holes scar the landscape in every direction. More than 60,000 troops stationed there during the Cold War were the first line of defense in the event of an American invasion from the east.

Soot from coal-fired power plants blanket villages and towns. Untreated sewage pumps directly into bays and estuaries.

The Russian people are well aware of these environmental problems and want to see them corrected. Without hard currency, the best available technology will be impossible to acquire. They need help from western nations. In Provideniya most local residents earn from \$10 to \$25 US per month. They worry that there will not be enough food to get them through the winter.

After our coastal expedition, the Audubon team attended a Russian sponsored conference on "Ecological, Socio-economic and Legal Aspects of a Beringian Heritage International Park" in Provideniya on August 14, 1991. Alaska representative Mary Core joined us at the conference.

Despite the many uncertainties facing the Russian people, in Chukotka we discovered a strong interest in cleaning up the environment, and in establishing the international park. They are looking to new-found American friends, including those at Audubon, to join them as partners in protecting the natural world we all share.



Despite the magnificent wild beauty of Chukotka's landscapes and seascapes, evidence of environmental damage is widespread.

Beringia's Benefactors

by Dave Cline

Major private conservation initiatives, such as Audubon's Beringia Conservation Program, need substantial sums of money to be effective.

We are grateful for initial program funding from the Trust for Mutual Understanding, Ford Motor Company Foundation, and World Wildlife Fund. Our Beringia program is successful because of the generous support from these institutions. Without them our efforts would have been impossible.

We are indebted to long-time friends of Audubon, and of Alaska, Donal O'Brien, Marian Haskell and James Leape for their help in securing major contributions. Mr. O'Brien provided the leadership essential to obtain two grants from the Trust for Mutual Understanding. Meanwhile, Audubon national board member Marion Haskell went to bat for Beringia with Ford. Jim Leape and other friends at World Wildlife Fund significantly contributed to our Beringia efforts.

Especially gratifying this past year was the support we received from the Chicago Audubon Society. The chapter's 1991 Birdathon awarded us \$1,787! Thanks to all our friends in the Windy City for their wonderful help, particularly President Austin "Bud" Wyman, Jr.

We are indebted to Kim Elliman of Manhattan, who undertook his first Birdathon with the guidance of NAS board member John Beinecke. Kim donated his Birdathon proceeds

of \$4,200 to the Beringia Program and did all his birding on Manhattan! People like Kim inspire us to work even harder.

The strong support of dedicated people and institutions enables Audubon to be at the cutting edge of historic change in remote and beautiful Beringia. We will increasingly rely on individual donors throughout the country to maintain our momentum and improve on our effectiveness in the future. Please help us — be a part of the Beringia success story.



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

The ice-covered ocean is home to the polar bear.

Contemporary Pioneers

A special group of people helped establish the National Audubon Society as a leader in Russian Far East environmental issues. The Alaska-Hawaii regional office offers our thanks to this pioneering group.

Jim Allaway researched natural history of the area and initiated the first agreement between Magadan Goscompriroda (All Nature Protection Agency) and Audubon. Elaine Rhode researched and wrote the slide show that was developed by Dennis Hellawell and subsequently produced by Bill Baker and Pamela Lemmings. Elaine also worked with Lori Tschinkel to research and produce the *Beringia Conservation Program: Opportunities for International Cooperation* booklet. These special people enriched our efforts.

We also thank Greg Streveler and Judy Brakel for their continuing work on natural history for the the Beringia Conservation Program.

Interpreters/Translators

The success of our work with our Russian Commonwealth neighbors depends on the abilities of our translators. This is a heartfelt thank-you to John Tichotsky, Gleb Raygorodetsky, Steven Neilson, Norma Adona, Molly Davenport, Anton Timikov, and Kate Solovjova.





Fox/AV Kevchout

Park Politics

by Graham Cox

Two laws, one Russian, one American, are moving through their respective legislative processes to create the Beringian Heritage International Park, encompassing lands on both sides of the Bering Strait.

In Russia, enabling legislation to set up natural and ethnic parks is being considered by parliamentary natural resources committees.

The Russian legislation is not expected to move quickly. Alexander Barsukov, chairman of the subcommittee of protected territories, said economic development was the prime concern for the Russian government right now. "Of the 100 laws passed in recent weeks, only one was passed concerning the environment," he said.

But he confirmed that the Russian government will uphold all international agreements signed with the United States. Presidents Bush and Gorbachev signed an agreement to create the Beringian Heritage International Park two years ago.

The Russians propose protecting 60,000 square kilometers (35,000 square miles) of the Chukotsk Peninsula — the farthest extremity of Russia on the Arctic Circle. A 60 mile-wide

marine area in the Bering Strait and Bering and Chukchi seas is also included. The plan would protect the peninsula's unique birds and other wildlife as well as the Siberian Eskimo and Chukchi subsistence cultures.

Audubon President Peter A.A. Berle stated his support for the Russian proposal in Provideniya last August.

"The Russian government is proposing a very different concept for their contribution to the Beringian Heritage International Park. It not only protects the environment but also protects and restores the traditional way of life of marine mammal hunters and reindeer herders," Berle said.

Audubon's Dave Cline believes, "The Russian park proposal makes the most sense ecologically, culturally and economically."

The US already has in place the 2.7 million acre Bering Land Bridge National Preserve on Alaska's Seward Peninsula. Established in the Alaska Lands Act of 1980, the preserve is the US contribution to the international park.

The National Park Service is taking the lead for the federal government in designating these lands as part of the international park. The law would allow for joint research and easy exchange of people and equipment to make the park work. It would also set up a twelve person International Park Advisory Commission to give advice to the US and Russian governments on the management of the park's natural and cultural heritage.

Graham Cox is Vice President for Public Affairs with National Audubon Society in New York.

"Of the 100 laws passed in recent weeks, only one was passed concerning the environment."

*Peoples Deputy
Alexander Barsukov*



Emperor geese, Martin Warren

Beringia Slide Show Goes Russian

Thanks to the efforts of visiting Magadan college students Anton Timikov, Victoria Akhanova and Katchya Nydenov, the Audubon slide show will be available in a new format. "Beringia ... the Crossroads at the Top of the World" is ready for taping in Russian and converting to a Russian system video tape. The tapes will be ready for distribution in June.



Traditional Eskimo dances dramatize ties between people and the land.

Dave Cline

Audubon Sponsors Native Cultural Exchange

by Dave Cline

The traditional songs and dances of Uelen dramatize the age-old ties between Eskimo people and the land and its wildlife.

A project sponsored in part by Audubon brought Eskimo dancers and singers from Uelen to the Alaska villages of Wales and Shishmaref. Uelen is the easternmost settlement of the Russian Republic. The Uelen visitors taught dances and songs to Alaska friends and relatives.

Audubon helped sponsor the exchange as part of our goal to conserve both the natural and cultural heritage of Beringia.

Audubon's donation was used to help defray transportation costs for visiting Russian Natives, and to pay a small stipend to the teachers. Project coordinator Helen Pootoogooluk of Shishmaref says, "Sponsoring this cultural exchange is a good example of how Audubon can promote the conservation of our Native cultural heritage." The exchange took place in December, 1961.



Successful Seward Field Trip

Anchorage Audubon Society's Ernie Whitney, field trip chairman, organized a field trip to Seward for the Russian ornithologists attending the "Avian Resources of Beringia" conference. Local Audubon bird enthusiasts Thede Tobish, David Sonneborn, Chris Maack and George Matz acted as guides.

The US Fish and Wildlife Service provided vans and drivers Mary Cody and Dennis Marts. John Pearce of USFWS and Alexander Badyave, a graduate student at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, translated.

Thanks to the hospitality of the Seward Senior Center, the group had a warm location to

enjoy box lunches provided by Red Apple Market. They also liked the snacks purchased with a Carr's gift certificate.

The birds did their part too. At Portage, bald eagles and a dipper were close enough to entertain the camera-laden scientists. In Seward, our guests saw a variety of birds, including three species of cormorant. Harbor seals, sea lions and sea otters put in appearances also.

We are grateful to all participants, especially Ernie, for organizing this memorable event.

Environmental Protection and the People's Deputies

by Dave Cline



The new members of the Commonwealth of Independent States desperately seek hard currency to strengthen their faltering economies. Will exploiting their vast natural resources save them?

Development interests throughout the world — including the United States — are entering into joint venture agreements with the Russian Republic. These agreements are likely



Russian Deputies Dr. Alexander Barsukov (left), Zoya Kornilova, and Fedor Ivanov. Russian deputies of the Supreme Soviet are the equivalent of US senators.

to involve large scale exploitation of oil and gas, mineral, timber, fish and wildlife, and tourism resources.

"Sustainable Use of Natural Resources", an Audubon workshop, highlighted a visit to Alaska by three Deputies from the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Republic. The deputies, along with other high ranking government officials, want to learn as much as they can from Alaskans. They need to know how to design conservation legislation and government contracts for the protection, rational use, and development of natural resources in their country. They wish to achieve maximum financial return to their country while minimizing damage to the environment.

Peoples Deputy Alexander Danilovitch Barsukov stated that Audubon helped him and his colleagues view resource development through different eyes. "You taught us that not only must we watch Russian developers, but the foreign investors as well," concluded Deputy Barsukov.

Dr. Barsukov, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Protected Reserves, attended the work-

shop with two other deputies of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Republic government. Fedor Fedorovich Ivanov is Chairman of the Subcommittee for Wildlife, and Zoya Afanasevna Kornilova is Chairman of the Committee on Autonomous Regions and Native Affairs.

Three other political and scientific leaders also participated in the workshop; Lyudmila Bogoslovskaya, Mikhail Bidikov, and Sergei Talanov.

The workshop was lead by three outstanding Audubon friends, Lew Pamplin, Carl Yanagawa and Al Ott. All three share a wealth of experience monitoring and regulating small- and large-scale resource development in Alaska, including the Trans-Alaska Pipeline, North Slope oil fields, clearcut logging of the Tongass National Forest and the Red Dog mine.

There were lively discussions on a wide range of topics during the workshop. These included the effectiveness of US environmental protection and wildlife conservation laws; licensing, permitting, monitoring and regulating resource development activities; and Native land rights and subsistence concerns. Designing legislation for the proposed Beringian Heritage International Park also generated considerable discussion.

The deputies were so pleased with the exchange that they invited Audubon to Moscow. Moscow workshops would be presented to key legislative committees and government agencies involved in natural resource protection and allocation.

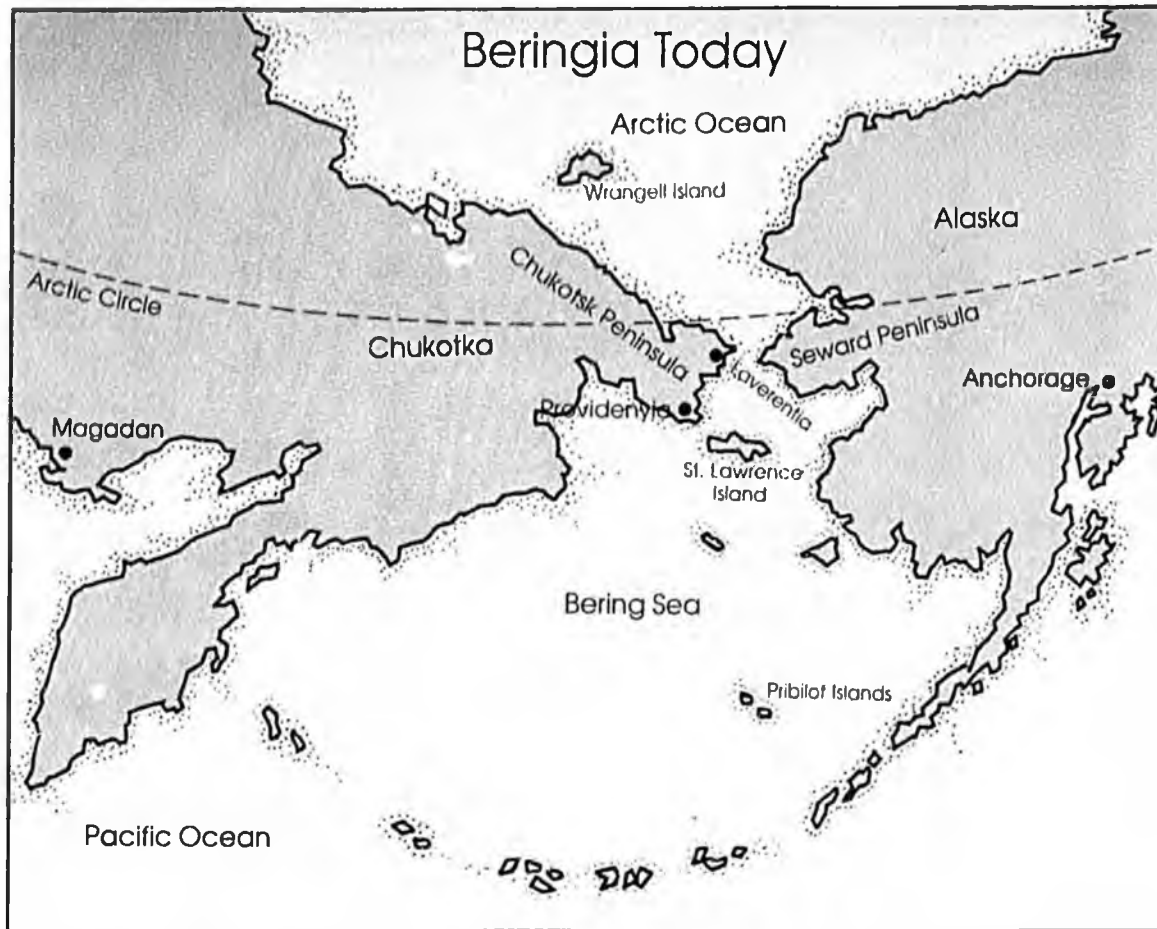
We need to take advantage of this extraordinary opportunity. The Russian people face a painful but promising transition. Multinational development forces are poised on the doorstep. Development will occur. It should happen with the best environmental standards possible.

Spasibo

We want to thank the hard-working people who donated time to aid our work in the Anchorage office. Owen Hughes, Marlena Mooring, Jane Stammen, Alexandra Zitzmann, Carl Yanagawa, Fran Bennis, and Virginia Allen are current and valuable volunteers.

"You taught us that not only must we watch Russian developers, but the foreign investors as well."

Peoples Deputy
Alexander Barsukov



Audubon's Russian Office

by Asylbek A. Aidaraliev

The Institute of Biological Problems of the North in Magadan is providing the Alaska-Hawaii regional office a three room office in our new building. This space comes free of charge in appreciation for all that Audubon has done in cooperation with the institute. The office provides an excellent opportunity for Audubon volunteers, graduate students, interns, consultants and staff to set up shop in close association with Russian colleagues.

Molly Davenport is working in Magadan at the Institute of Biological Problems of the

North and the International Scientific Center "Arktika" for a six month internship. The institute is providing her with housing and a stipend. The Alaska-Hawaii regional office provided Molly's transportation to Magadan. We are happy to have Molly as a visiting associate.

Asylbek A. Aidaraliev is Vice President of the Academy of Sciences, Soviet Far East and Director of the International Scientific Center "Arktika". He lives in Magadan.

Vital Statistics of Native People

Russian and American researchers exchanged vital health statistics for rural northern settlements, examining the problems of health delivery, violent death and the raising of the Native average life expectancy. The exchange, at the UAA Institute of Social and Economic Research, was the first significant comparison of data for Chukotka and Alaska.

The two week workshop was an important step in understanding the conditions of Native rural villages, which suffer similar cul-

tural disruption whether the influence is American or Russian.

Russian participants included a six-person delegation -- three researchers, and three Native leaders. National Audubon Society sponsored travel for the Russians living and/or working within the proposed Beringian Heritage International Park. The head of the Russian delegation, sociologist Alexander Pika, was a member of the Audubon Chukotka expedition last August.





Dave Cline

Native rangers would help protect the proposed park.

Chegitun Expedition

by Dave Cline

The Russian Academy of Sciences invited Audubon to join a joint USSR-US ecological expedition to the Chegitun River Basin, Chukotka. Greg Streveler of Icy Straits Environmental Services represented Audubon as a consultant on this expedition. Based on their findings, the international scientific team strongly recommends inclusion of the biologically rich Chegitun Valley in the Beringian International Heritage Park as a special protected area. The Russian park planning team accepted this recommendation.



Northern phalarope: AV Kreschmar

Native Rangers

by Dave Cline

Involving local indigenous peoples in protection and management is essential in order to achieve park purposes. Audubon is exploring the opportunity to grant the Naukan and Chaika Native cooperatives funds for employing Native rangers in nature protection.

With just \$1,000 Audubon can hire up to ten Native rangers for a year because of the value of US dollars to Russian rubles.

Native rangers from the Russian coastal communities of Laverentia and Sereniki will serve as guards and interpreters along the coast of the proposed international park. They will help protect marine bird and mammal colonies and world-famous archaeological sites, recording sightings and movements of whales and other wildlife, and make recommendations for managing the international park to satisfy Native concerns.

Audubon is working in cooperation with the Alaska North Slope Borough's science program in exploring this opportunity.

National Park Service Sponsors Soviet Delegation

Visits to Seward Peninsula, Denali National Park, Kenai Fjords National Park and the NPS Denver Service Center highlighted a visit by eight Russian delegates sponsored by the National Park Service. Some members of the delegation were park planners responsible for designing the Russian portion of the Beringian Heritage International Park. The others live in the Chukotka Autonomous Region.

The Audubon Alaska staff met with the delegation and held a three hour seminar, discussing the role of non-government organizations in the international park. Professional contacts made in April in Anchorage expanded into solid friendships when members of the same delegation met Audubon's expedition in Providentia for a symposium on park planning.

We appreciate the courtesy extended by the Alaska Regional Office of the National Park Service in allowing us several hours of the busy delegation's time.



© Edward S. Curtis

A Chukotka village visited by the Harriman Alaska Expedition in 1899.

Park Service Involves Chukotka Natives

by Dave Cline

The people most directly affected by the proposed Beringian Heritage International Park will be those living within or adjacent to its boundaries. It is essential to inform and involve them from the start.

The National Park Service is developing a Working Protocol with Chukotka Natives in accordance with the "Joint Soviet-American Agreement on Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Protection".

A six-member delegation representing Native people of the Russian Far East visited Alaska from October 27 to November 2, 1991 to work on the protocol. U.M. Etylen, Chairman of the Chukotka Autonomous District and a strong park advocate, led the delegation.

The working protocol seeks to: involve Native peoples in establishment of the international park; organize Native group exchanges between Alaska and Chukotka; and, develop special programs to teach children basic skills in environmental protection.

Audubon is complementing these efforts by providing information to, and seeking advice and involvement from Native peoples. We are proceeding in accordance with our February 12, 1991 Protocol of Understanding with the Regional Organization of Eskimos of Chukotka and Kolyma.

During the coming year, Audubon plans to conduct workshops on the international park in key villages in northwest Alaska and Chukotka. We will also introduce a variety of bilingual educational materials on the park, environmental protection, and wildlife conservation to village schools. Audubon will also continue meeting with Native leaders both in Alaska and Chukotka. We seek their guidance for effective involvement in conserving a shared natural and cultural heritage in Beringia.

NPS Hosts Deputies

by Mary Core

The Alaska Regional Office of the National Park Service hosted the Russian Deputies on a visit to Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and for two days of orientation at the regional office. We appreciate the positive working relationship with the regional office staff. Special thanks to Paul Haertel, Dale Taylor, Bill Welch, Jeanne Schaaf, and Kate Solovjova.



Audubon's International Agreements

by Carl Yanagawa

Seven protocols have been signed to date with Russian and Native partners. Deputies in the Russian Republic assure us that all agreements entered into by the USSR will be honored by the Russian Republic. The agreements are as follows:

1. *Preliminary Memorandum of Understanding between the Magadan Nature Conservation Committee and the Alaska-Hawaii Regional Office of the National Audubon Society (December 4, 1989).*



Greater scaup / AV Kochimae

This preliminary agreement allows for cooperation in an attempt to organize an international park for Beringia.

2. *Memorandum of Agreement between Magadan Nature Conservation Committee and the Alaska-Hawaii Regional Office of the National Audubon Society (June 1, 1991).*

This memorandum proposes cooperation in the establishment of a Beringia International Marine Biosphere Reserve.

3. *Protocol Between Far Eastern Branch of the Academy of Sciences, USSR and Alaska-Hawaii Regional Office of the National Audubon Society (January 25, 1991).*

This protocol proposes cooperation in developing programs in environmental protection, wildlife conservation and sustainable development; establishing the Beringian Heritage International Park, Bering Land Bridge World Heritage Site, and Beringia International Marine Biosphere Reserve; cosponsoring scientific expeditions to Beringia; and publishing bilingual educational materials.

4. *Protocol of Understanding between the International Trust-Center for Human Ecology; Association of Indigenous Peoples of Chukotka and Kolyma; The Regional Organization of Eskimos of Chukotka; and, the Alaska-Hawaii Regional Office, National Audubon Society (February 12, 1991).*

This protocol pledges the groups to cooperate closely in protecting the Arctic environment, conserving Arctic wildlife, preserving the rich natural heritage of Native peoples of the Arctic, and providing continued opportunities for subsistence uses of living and non-living resources by Native peoples of the Arctic.

5. *Agreement on joint ecological research and popularization of findings of the ecological sciences and environmental conservation on the territory of Alaska and the Northeast USSR (Beringia) between the National Audubon Society and the Institute of Biological Problems of the North (1991).*

This agreement proposed joint scientific expeditions in the summer of 1991 on the territory of the future Beringian Heritage International Park; joint scientific expeditions in the summer of 1992 to the Mt. McKinley region of Alaska and the Koryak Highland in the USSR; publishing bilingual booklets entitled "The Natural History of Beringia"; cooperation in ecological and scientific expeditions in the US; cooperation in organizing joint conferences; and, preparing joint publications and articles about Beringia.

6. *Cooperative Agreement between the Joint Research Center of the Far Eastern Branch of the Academy of Sciences USSR and the University of Alaska and Alaska-Hawaii Regional Office of the National Audubon Society (July 30, 1991).*

This cooperative agreement grants Audubon 72 square meters in the Joint Center's new international research center building for the Audubon Far East office; Audubon will equip the office, which will be used for the purpose of coordinating research and educational programs.

7. *Protocol of Understanding - The International Clearinghouse for Ecological Programmes, Moscow, and the Alaska-Hawaii Regional Office of the National Audubon Society, Anchorage, Alaska recognizes the historic opportunities now before us to cooperate in protecting the Arctic environment (November 1, 1991).*

This protocol proposes that the parties cooperate to maintain regular verbal and written communication; exchange information of mutual interest and concern; coordinate international travel between the two countries; identify and pursue joint venture opportunities related to ecological research and public education; and explore fundraising opportunities to achieve program objectives.

Carl Yanagawa is an Alaska biologist helping with Audubon's Beringia program.





Walrus/AVAndrey



"Today we must work not so much for the comforts of the current generation, but rather for the next generation's survival."

*E. Logunov
Goscompriroda
Magadan*

Dr. Bogoslovskaya Goes to Washington

by Mary Core

Dr. Lyudmila Bogoslovskaya, Russian scientific co-advisor for the Beringian Heritage International Park, attended "Celebrate Wild Alaska" at the invitation of the Alaska-Hawaii regional office. The celebration marked the ten year anniversary for the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act. Dr. Bogoslovskaya enjoyed meeting the many environmental activists who attended the celebration and looks forward to working with them in the future.

While in Washington, D.C., Dr. Bogoslovskaya met with key individuals working on the Beringian Heritage International Park. At the National Park Service, Denny Galvin, Leslie Hart and Ric Cook not only met with our delegation, but arranged for a visit to Appalachian National Park to observe operations in an

intensively-used park. We also appreciated the opportunity to meet with Dr. Lynne Corn, Congressional Research Service; Dr. Jerry Brown, formerly with National Science Foundation; Dr. Bill Fitzhugh and Dr. Robert Hoffman of the Smithsonian Institute; Bill Freeman of the US Environmental Protection Agency; Steve Kohl of the US Fish and Wildlife Service; Dinah Bear of the Council on Environmental Quality; and Raymond Arnaudo and Elizabeth Leighton of the US Department of State.

We would especially like to thank Fran Spivey-Weber, Director of International Affairs; National Audubon Society, and Eliza Klose, Director of the Institute of Soviet-American Relations, for organizing a presentation of the Beringia slide show.

Homer Visit

In the midst of a heavy Thanksgiving snowstorm the Russian Deputy delegation visited Homer. The delegation appreciated the trip, and join us in thanking all those who ensured the success of the visit.

While waiting for snowplows to clear the road they enjoyed lunch at the Four Seasons Restaurant in Soldotna.

In Homer, they stayed at Lentfer's Beach House B&B, enjoying a full schedule of activities organized by Jan Peyton. John Martin, Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge Manager, gave up part of a Saturday afternoon to answer

questions on refuge management. That evening, Phil and Rochelle Morris hosted a dinner party featuring Russian cuisine.

Sunday morning, Jessy and Tanya Strebel gave the delegation a boat tour of Kachemak Bay. They stopped at McBride's Kachemak Wilderness Lodge and had a boardwalk tour of Halibut Cove with Marian Beck and her llama. The delegation concluded the visit of the bay with a tour of the Pratt Museum. The deputies invited the museum's staff to bring the travelling oil spill show to Moscow.

Goscompriroda Exchange

by Mary Core



In October, the Alaska-Hawaii regional office received guests Tatiana Alexandrovna Djakenova and Yana Yrezema Ryanskaya as part of an agreement between National Audubon Society and Goscompriroda Magadan. Goscompriroda is the agency primarily responsible for enforcing environmental protection laws.

Tatiana's mission was to learn about computer geographic information systems. She received four weeks of training at the Center for Information and Technology at the University of Alaska. The Alaska-Hawaii regional office staff thanks Doug Franklin, Information Resource Coordinator at the center, for guiding Tatiana through the "who's who" of the Anchorage computer world. Tatiana was especially grateful to Dr. Lin Bauer and Mike Searcy at the UAA Architectural and Engineering Technology Department; Dave Douglas at USFWS; Jean Tam at the Department of Natural Resources; Representative Kay Brown; Kevin Redmond at Aeromap US, Inc.; Thoras Wood and Gary Williams at the Municipality of Anchorage; George Dickison at ComRim Systems; Ray Norman at AEIDC; and Julie Michaelson at the Alaska Heritage Program.

Initially Gayle and Helen Nienhauser agreed to host Tatiana for a week. The former chemist, now computer specialist for Goscompriroda, spent four weeks with the

Nienhausers and became an extended family member.

When Dave Cline presented Tatiana with her favorite computer manual as a going away present, her eyes lit up as she exclaimed, "This is my dream fulfilled!"

Tatiana returned to Magadan determined to make her office more proficient in storing and processing data essential to helping solve serious soil, air and water pollution problems in the Russian Far East.

Tatiana escorted Yana Ryanskaya, a sixteen year-old high school student who was chosen to visit Alaska because of her environmental activism. Yana organized efforts to clean up Anchorage's sister city of Magadan and its streams. She also led successful picketing of a Magadan department store whose trash was littering a children's playground.

The original intent was for Yana to attend an environmental camp but her arrival was delayed from July to October. While in Anchorage she attended several high schools. Yana loved Homer, where she was hosted by Charles, Patricia and Katy Jay.

Yana appreciated staying with three families during her stay in Anchorage. Special thanks to Carol, Bill and Katie Everett; Vickie and Rosy Malone; and Marissa Protassel for hosting her. And thank you to the staff and administration of East High, West High, and Steller Alternative High School.

Homes for Russian Ornithologists and Other Visiting Scientists

Friends of Audubon outdid themselves providing housing and transportation for thirty Russian scientists attending the November Bird Conference. The Alaska-Hawaii regional office successfully involved more Russian scientists because of the support from the community. Our appreciation and thanks to: Vera and Clyde Kaneshiro; Victor Fisher and Jane Angvik; Dale and Shirley Taylor; Conrad and Mary Lee Plumb-Mentjes; Sherry King; Leslie Kerr; Sarah Culhane; Jim, Alexi and Dallas Hill; Serena Huddle; Ruth Schmidt; Judy Brakel; Molly and Ron Crenshaw; Dr. Colby and Christine Parks; Phil and Carolyn Kline; Kent and Priscilla Wohl;



Short-billed Dowitcher / AV Kreshmar

Vivian Mendenhall; George and Rose Jermain; Steve and Mary Ann McNabb; Bill Clark; Karen Laing; Claire Waddoup; Peter and Jane Stammen; Tom and Elaine Reale; and, Jackie Warren.



Golden Plover

Arctic Science

by Dave Cline

The National Audubon Society is included as a lead group in a government agreement furthering studies related to the "structure, function and preservation of Arctic and Subarctic ecosystems in the Bering region." Our involvement is a result of our scientifically-based Beringia Conservation Program.

The purpose of this project is to plan a long-term scientific program for the Beringia region between the Kolyma River (Russian Far East) and the Yukon (Alaska). The project will implement specific studies on the present and past biota, people and landscapes bordering the Bering and Chukchi seas.

The project is proceeding in accordance with Area X of the US-USSR Agreement on Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Protection. The agreement is to be updated and re-ratified in 1992.

Avis-Rent-A-Car Saves the Day

Audubon extends a big thank you to Gary Zimmerman at Avis Rent-A-Car for supplying transportation to three botanists from the Institute of Biological Problems of the North. Fran Bennis drove Dr. Alexander Gallanin, Ana Belkovich and Natasha Proskurina to Fairbanks to meet with Greg Streveler, Audubon consultant, and Dr. David Murray, curator of the University of Alaska, Fairbanks herbarium. They discussed plans for the 1992 botanical field season in Chukotka.

Seabird Populations Declining

by Graham Cox

Beringia is one of the world's richest bird habitats. Some 100 million seabirds migrate there in summer from all over the world.

In a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service sponsored conference on shared bird resources of Beringia, scientists described declining populations of birds and wildlife. Overfishing, overhunting, pollution, and high seas driftnets threaten the area.

Russian ornithologist Alexander Golovkin is studying seabirds of the Pribilof Islands in the Bering Sea. He said seabirds there are drastically declining because of overfishing of their prime food source, pollock. The birds range over about one-third of the Bering Sea for food.

Golovkin showed graphs of declining seabird populations that looked more like medical test results. "If the Pribilofs are the heart of the Bering Sea and these graphs are an electrocardiogram, they would show that the patient is having a heart attack because of overfishing," he said.

Kenton Wohl, chief of seabird management studies for the Alaska regional office of the USFWS, said that the US is considering setting up an international wildlife refuge to protect the Bering Straits seabird population.

The US and Russia signed an agreement earlier this year to examine ways to protect international marine habitat. They also agreed to form a joint Alaska-Russia Far East seabird working group. Audubon's Dave Cline will serve on this group.



Wolverine / AV Krechmar



Beringia Progress Report

Produced by the Alaska-
Hawaii Regional Office of
the National Audubon
Society

Staff

David Cline
Regional Vice President
Mary Core
Alaska Representative
Bucky Dennerlein
Office Manager

For further information
please write to us at the
address below.

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Margie Ann Gibson,
Shooting Star Artworks.

Printed on recycled paper.



Snow geese/© Art Wolfe

Beringia Information Available

by Bucky Dennerlein

For more detailed information on Audubon's Beringia work, the following educational materials are available:

- English/Russian booklet: *Beringia Conservation Program: Opportunities for International Cooperation, Wildlife Conservation, Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development* (\$5.00).
- Report: *Use and Allocation of Natural Resources in the Chukotka Autonomous District* by John Tichotsky (\$20.00).
- Slide program: "Beringia, Crossroads at the Top of the World" (available on loan).
- Report: *Ecological Expedition to the Chegitun River Basin, Chukotka* by Greg Streveler (\$3.00).

The following materials are in production and will be available by June 1, 1992:

- *Guide to Socially and Ecologically Responsible Travel in Beringia*
- *Beringia, an Introduction*
- *Animals of Beringia*

- *Plants of Beringia*
- *Geology of Beringia*
- *Natural History of Beringia Notebook Series*. A set of six descriptions of individual species. Categories include mammals, birds and plants.
- Checklist of the "Birds of Chukotka"
- *Environmental Profile of Beringia*. Describes key environmental issues and the steps needed to resolve them.
- Beringia poster. Shows bird and marine mammal migration patterns.

A set of all of the printed materials described above may be purchased for \$50.00 after June 1, 1992.

Please make checks payable to the National Audubon Society. Send orders to the address below.

Alaska-Hawaii Regional Office • National Audubon Society
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Friends of McNeil River (FOMR), Anchorage
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SOUTHEAST ALASKA CONSERVATION COUNCIL

Summer 1991

Vol. 15, No. 2

SEACC wins national award!

SEACC recently received national recognition for our achievements! In its National Conservation Achievement Award ceremony this spring, the National Wildlife Federation (NWF) gave SEACC the Organization award, an award usually given to national groups. "It was a proud day for SEACC and one I shall always remember," said SEACC president Jackie Canterbury, who travelled to Memphis, Tennessee to accept the award on behalf of SEACC.

"It was one of the most incredible experiences," she said. "I sat on a stage with Denis Hayes, the founder of Earth Day, and Jack Ward Thomas, the voice of the spotted owl."

"I met people from all over the world who were committed to the same goal -- making the world a better place, protecting our natural environment. It was amazing to have people like Bulgarian Youli Kanev, a vital spark in the environmental movement of Eastern Europe, be familiar with the work of SEACC. He lives on the other side of the world, yet he knew," Jackie said.

Though the organization award



SEACC president Jackie Canterbury receives award from National Wildlife Federation chairman George Hulseley (left) and president Jay Hair (right).

Natural Resources Defenses Council, Izaak Walton League of America, the Nature Conservancy, and the Wildlife Society.

tux and tie. I was relieved when I posed for a picture with [NWF president] Jay Hair that I did not have on my rubber boots!"

FS mismanagement SEACC reports Honker debacle

by BUCK LINDEKUGEL

SEACC recently published "The Honker Divide Debacle," a case report on Forest Service mismanagement of the Honker Divide area on the Tongass National Forest. That report explains how the Forest Service acted to accelerate road building and clearcutting in this unique, undeveloped recreation and wildlife habitat area before the ink was even dry on the Tongass Timber Reform Act.

The Forest Service manipulated their own planning process to expedite logging, then denied requests by SEACC, American Rivers, Inc., and the Association of Forest Service Employees for Environmental Ethics (AFSEE) to cooperate to seek alternatives to logging Honker Divide immediately.

"The decision exposes the Forest Service's continued indifference towards forest resource users other than the timber industry. The agency seems deaf to Congress' call for a

...met people from all over the world who were committed to the same goal -- making the world a better place, protecting our natural environment. It was amazing to have people like Bulgarian Youli Kanev, a vital spark in the environmental movement of Eastern Europe, be familiar with the work of SEACC. He lives on the other side of the world, yet he knew," Jackie said.

Though the organization award has been presented since 1965, SEACC is one of only a couple regional conservation organizations to ever receive the award. SEACC joins big-league company: past recipients have included national groups like the

Forest Service releases Kensington draft EIS

Miners want toxic dump in Lynn Canal fishery

by ERIC HOLLE

The Chilkat and Chilkoot Rivers near Haines produce the finest run of wild sockeye in Southeast Alaska, as well as runs of coho, chum, chinook, and pink salmon. Before these fish return to spawn, they face threats from wild predators, high seas driftnets, and other hazards.

If the Forest Service approves the huge Kensington gold project as it is now proposed, juvenile and returning adult salmon may

SEACC president Jackie Canterbury receives award from National Wildlife Federation chairman George Hulse (left) and president Jay Hair.

Natural Resources Defenses Council, Izaak Walton League of America, the Nature Conservancy, and the Wildlife Society.

Jackie had this to add: "Finally I wanted to tell everyone I wore a dress, yes, a real dress. Bart told me to 'just wear my rubber boots and forget it.' But my better judgement prevailed and I bought a real dress. The ceremony was all

tux and tie. I was relieved when I posed for a picture with [NWF president] Jay Hair that I did not have on my rubber boots!"

Hey Everybody --
SEACC has a new
mailing address!

It is:
419 Sixth St. #328
Juneau, AK 99801

denied requests by SEACC, American Rivers, Inc., and the Association of Forest Service Employees for Environmental Ethics (AFSEE) to cooperate to seek alternatives to logging Honker Divide immediately.

"The decision exposes the Forest Service's continued indifference towards forest resource users other than the timber industry. The agency seems deaf to Congress' call for a careful balance among the many uses and resources of the Tongass," said John Sisk, SEACC's executive director. "In the Tongass Timber Reform Act, Congress directed the Forest Service to change how--and for what purposes--the resources of the Tongass are managed.

continued on page 12

face another threat: a mixture of cyanide and heavy metal-laden wastewater which Kensington wants to dump into a "mixing zone" in Lynn Canal near Pt. Sherman. Pt. Sherman is the site of a major gillnet fishery.

EIS presents 'best case'

The Forest Service's recently released draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the

continued on page 15

Inside:

- * * Forest Service timber blitzkrieg * *
- draft 10-year schedule released
- SEE pages 8-9
- * * New Tongass plan due out soon * *
- * * Marbled murrelet * *
- * * DNR allowing logging in buffer strips * *
- * * Glacier Bay: pages 10-11 * *
- * * Mental Health settlement pending * *
- * * Leask Lake land grab? * *

Thanks ACF!

SEACC thanks the Alaska Conservation Foundation for its generous support. This help was critical in our successful battle to pass Tongass reform legislation, and is vital as we chart a new course. ACF is a community foundation which provides support to Alaska's conservation groups.

Southeast Alaska Conservation Council (SEACC)

419 6th St. #328, Juneau AK 99801
(907) 586-0942

SEACC, a non-profit corporation, is a coalition of 13 Alaskan conservation groups. Since 1969, SEACC has been dedicated to ensuring maximum protection for the unique environment of Southeast Alaska. The values found in old-growth forests, wildlife, water quality, fisheries, recreation opportunities, and solitude are essential for perpetuating the Southeast Alaskan way of life.

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In fond memory

Dick Erman: stalwart friend to Southeast wildlands & people

Conservationists and many other Alaskans mourn Dick Erman, who passed away recently after a prolonged illness. Dick was one of Alaska's truly dedicated conservationists. He was active in the Juneau Audubon organization, and served for many years on the board of directors of the Alaska Environmental Lobby. Dick was also a steadfast supporter of the Southeast Alaska Conservation Council.

Dick Erman's generosity and

commitment were inspirational. As owner of the Franklin Building he helped many organizations, including the Discovery Foundation and the Oil Spill Information Center, find affordable office space. Dick's ability to sell fund-raising raffle tickets for environmental groups was legendary--he set records that will not be broken in our lifetimes!

Dick Erman is remembered by friends across Alaska and beyond as one outstanding individual. In May of this year the Mendenhall Glacier Visitor's Center was filled beyond capacity for one of the most "inspirational" memorials anyone can remember. One after another Dick's friends extolled his optimism, his perseverance, and the positive example he set. One speaker quoted Dick's answer to the question: "What is life all about?" Dick's words: "The good, the true, and the beautiful."

In Dick's honor, the Alaska Conservation Foundation has established a Dick Erman Endowment Fund, the earnings of



Dick Erman

which will help support the Alaska Environmental Lobby volunteer program. This tremendous program makes it possible for volunteer conservationists from all across Alaska to travel to Juneau each winter to address legislators on crucial environmental issues of local and statewide importance. Contributions to the Dick Erman Endowment Fund can be sent to the Alaska Conservation Foundation, 430 West 7th Avenue # 215, Anchorage, AK 99501.

SEACC raffle coming soon!

Hey everybody, it's almost raffle time again! Tickets will be available in the end of August. We are still accepting prizes if anyone wants to make a donation...let us know! Get ready to take part in the great SEACC RAFFLE, sell or buy tickets. It's fun and it helps keep us going!

From the Executive Director

Upcoming Tongass plan: a chance to chart new course

by JOHN SISK

Upon passage of the Tongass Timber Reform Act, Congressman George Miller commented on "the overwhelming sense of Congress that the Forest Service has mismanaged the Tongass," and stated that "the era of preferential treatment for a single commodity, timber, is over." Congressman Bruce Vento specified that "the Forest Service is to manage these national forest lands for the full spectrum of uses and with appropriate balance among all the renewable resources--timber, fish and wildlife, recreation, and others."

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Sierra Club, Juneau Group
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Sitka Conservation Society
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From the Executive Director

Upcoming Tongass plan: a chance to chart new course

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The Forest Service didn't get the message. Before the ink was even dry on the Reform Act the FS accelerated plans to log pristine old-growth wildlife habitat in Honker Divide on Prince of Wales Island. This spring the Forest Service also announced plans to log the eastern part of Kuiu Island, Upper Tenakee Inlet, Ushk Bay, and Port Houghton--all areas that the U.S. House of Representatives twice voted to preserve as wilderness. The agency also indicated the new Tongass Land Management Plan (TLMP) Revision will authorize logging in many key wildlife and recreation areas, such as the Mansfield Peninsula, Windham Bay, Cape Fanshaw, and nearly all of the Cleveland Peninsula.

Is there an alternative to perpetual conflict over Tongass management? There is. The Forest Service must do two things. First, they must postpone logging the most critical unprotected habitat, subsistence, and recreation areas and supply timber from less controversial areas. This would mean a less contested timber supply, more resource protection, and much-needed time for the public to consider management options for sensitive areas. Second, the Forest Service must start listening to all Tongass users, quit forcing their own pro-timber bias on the public, quit catering to the Ketchikan and Sitka pulp mills. If those mills continue to high-grade the best timber, and the best wildlife habitat, out of the Tongass we will find ourselves without prime timber and with decimated wildlife populations, fish habitat loss, and little tourism appeal--and probably no pulp mills. A bust.

The Forest Service will not voluntarily change this short-sighted course of action. But in the midst of an avalanche of logging proposals we must remember what will set the long-term direction for Tongass management: the Revision of the Tongass Land Management Plan, due out for public comment this August or September.

A sustainable future for the Tongass requires an alternative vision--the TLMP Revision is the forum for advocating that vision. For example, any sustainable timber industry must focus on lower volume timber, second growth timber, and timber in areas already accessible. Smaller mills making diverse, higher value products could mean greater economic and employment benefits per volume of timber logged. That in turn could allow more protection of fish and wildlife habitat. Fish and wildlife should be cornerstones of future Tongass management.

The reason is simple. As private forest land is logged bare, the Tongass will be the supplier of venison, fish, & recreation for local communities and visitors, wildlife viewing opportunities, and subsistence resources. These uses should be featured in Tongass management so we can strike a balance among resources across different land ownerships over the long haul. The opportunity to chart a new, better course for the Tongass is before us--let's seize it!

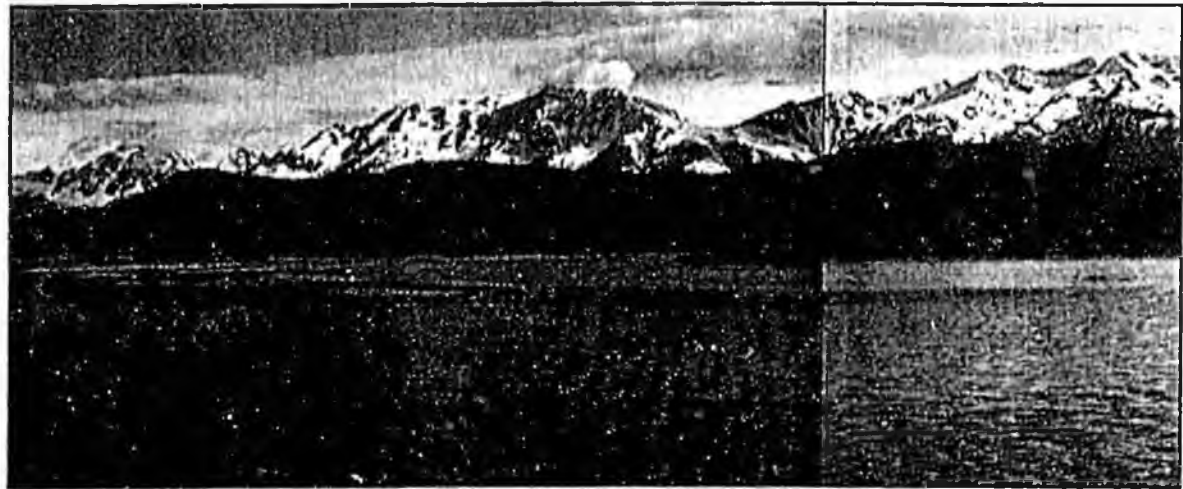
*Other key lands also affected***Mental Health deal threatens Haines forest**

by KATYA KIRSCH

If approved by a Fairbanks judge and a coalition of mental health litigants, hundreds of thousands of acres of state lands will be put back into a Mental Health Lands Trust charged with managing the land for maximum economic return. That's the plan of a settlement of Mental Health Lands Trust litigation, pushed through the Legislature in the last few days of the session. The deal has been called the biggest development bill ever, and represents a major victory for Governor Wally Hickel's resource development philosophy.

The settlement would bring to a close ten years of litigation that began after the Legislature illegally dissolved the Mental Health Lands Trust in 1978. The Trust consisted of one million acres conveyed from federal lands before statehood as a means of funding Alaska's mental health programs.

If the settlement is approved, approximately 81,000 acres of the Haines State Forest would go back into the Trust. This includes the 10-mile long Chilkat Ridge and valley lands adjacent to the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve. The Ridge is the scenic backdrop for the Eagle Preserve, and studies show that eagles roost in trees on the Ridge during

*Chilkat river, Chilkat ridge in background*

has been managed by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for "multiple-use."

As part of the Trust, however, the land would have the same status as private lands and could be used for single-use purposes, including logging, with no public review. In a highly charged and often divisive process, citizens from Haines and around the state worked long and hard over the last 15 years to hammer out a land use plan for the Haines State Forest. If the lands are made part of the trust, however, the plan will no longer apply.

Under the proposed settlement, approximately 30,000 acres of the Tanana Valley State Forest, near

Trust.

Land from the Haines State Forest and the Tanana Valley State Forest was in the original Trust and is simply being put back in. Other lands, which have been conveyed from the state to private owners or have been legislatively-designated as parks or refuges will be traded for lands of comparable value. However, the usual public review process for land exchanges will be dumped, in favor of an expedited 30-day public notice period.

In addition, DNR has come up with a secret list of "hypothecated lands" which will be held in escrow in case the Legislature or DNR defaults on any portion of

hypothecated lands has not been released, but is rumored to include acreage in the Susitna Valley and other controversial management areas in the state.

The settlement legislation was crafted by attorneys for the Governor and the mental health plaintiffs. It is solely a lands-based settlement, without any cash from the state after 12 years. Some plaintiffs don't like the deal, because they want a steady stream of income for mental health programs, and they don't want to become managers of lands of dubious income value.

The settlement now awaits approval from the Mental Health plaintiffs and from Fairbanks

Health Lands Trust in 1978. The Trust consisted of one million acres conveyed from federal lands before statehood as a means of funding Alaska's mental health programs.

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AEL finishes busy year

Alaska legislative wrap-up

by SUSAN PHILLIPS

Under sunny skies at its recent board meeting at Birchwood, near Wasilla, the Alaska Environmental Lobby (AEL) concluded a busy year. Executive director Marna Schwartz, who will lead the charge again next session, and volunteers from all across the state worked tirelessly to make environmental voices heard in the Legislature.

Hey! Only one volunteer, Meg Cartwright from Ketchikan, represented Southeast at AEL this year. If you've ever wanted to learn about the legislative process hands-on and to do something for the environment, think about volunteering next year. AEL provides transportation, housing, and a stipend, you provide one month of your time between January and May next year.

The following are updates on several bills of potential interest to *Ravencall* readers.

Recycling. Anchorage lawmakers Kay Brown and David Finkelstein managed to get two recycling bills, HB-139 and HB-140, through the Legislature by the session's end. Brown's HB-139 sets up an awards program for schools which have established recycling programs. Under the

(DNR) for "multiple-use." As part of the Trust, however, the land would have the same status as private lands and could be used for single-use purposes, including logging, with no public review. In a highly charged and often divisive process, citizens from Haines and around the state worked long and hard over the last 15 years to hammer out a land use plan for the Haines State Forest. If the lands are made part of the trust, however, the plan will no longer apply.

Under the proposed settlement, approximately 30,000 acres of the Tanana Valley State Forest, near Fairbanks, would also go into the

program. DEC would also "recognize" individuals, businesses, and government agencies for their efforts. Finkelstein's bill allows garbage utilities to figure in recycling costs when setting rates.

Hunter harassment. The legendary "hunter harassment" bill has once again passed the Legislature. A similar bill passed a number of years ago, but was vetoed by then-Gov. Bill Sheffield. In its original form, SB-38 would've only provided protection from harassment to hunters, fishermen, and trappers. However, the House amended the bill to also protect wildlife viewers from obstruction or hindrance.

Citizens' Oversight Council. The Citizens' Oversight Council, created last year to oversee regulation of oil and hazardous substances in the state, held onto its base funding (\$240,900) for next year.

Mining reclamation. Legislative action on mining this session focused on reviewing the Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) draft regulations to implement last year's mining reclamation bill. The regs (due out soon) are expected to be extremely favorable to the mining industry.

forest and the Tanana Valley State Forest was in the original Trust and is simply being put back in. Other lands, which have been conveyed from the state to private owners or have been legislatively-designated as parks or refuges will be traded for lands of comparable value. However, the usual public review process for land exchanges will be dumped, in favor of an expedited 30-day public notice period.

In addition, DNR has come up with a secret list of "hypothecated lands" which will be held in escrow in case the Legislature or DNR defaults on any portion of the settlement. This list of



However, DNR commissioner Harold Heinze is showing apparent reluctance to implement the regulations, once finalized. Though DNR's budget this year includes two new staff positions for reclamation, Heinze has stated that due to a lack of funding, he will not attempt to regulate mining activities on private lands or on sand and gravel operations this year, ignoring an important compromise feature of the new reclamation statute.

To comment or receive a copy of the regs, contact the Division of Mining, P.O. Box 107016, Anchorage, AK 99510-7016; (907) 762-2163. A public hearing will be held in Juneau.

include acreage in the Susitna Valley and other controversial management areas in the state.

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The settlement now awaits approval from the Mental Health plaintiffs and from Fairbanks Superior Court Judge Meg Greene.

Join SEACC

Yes! I want to join Southeast Alaska's most effective environmental voice.

SEACC will keep me informed through *the RAVENCALL*, its quarterly newsletter, and will alert me with special flyers when action is needed on critical issues.

Enclosed is my tax-deductible check for a one year membership.

Sign me up as:

Feeling the pinch	\$15
Individual	\$25
Family	\$35
Donor	\$50-\$100
Friend of SEACC	\$125
More!	\$ _____

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City _____

State _____

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419 6th St, Juneau, AK 99801

Species is threatened in WA, OR, CA**Alaska: last bastion of the marbled murrelet**

by PETER BRANSON

Southeast Alaska is the center of the world population of the marbled murrelet. This small auk breeds exclusively in old growth of very mature coastal forest throughout most of its range, nesting on moss-covered limbs of coniferous trees. Numbers have been severely reduced in other Pacific Coast states due to logging of old-growth forest. The murrelet requires 500-acre or larger blocks of uncut old growth for habitat.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recently proposed that the murrelet be listed as a threatened species in California, Oregon and



Breeding plumage

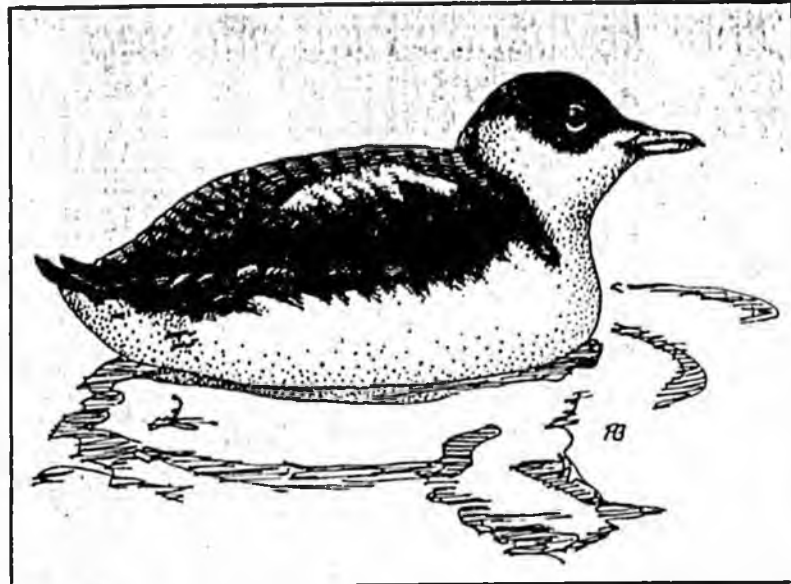
Washington under the Endangered Species Act. The agency attributes the greatly reduced populations in these states largely to loss of forest habitat. The murrelet would not be listed in Alaska.

In April, the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund (SCLDF) and several Pacific Northwest conservation groups sued Secretary of the Interior Manuel Lujan and the Fish and Wildlife Service.

"The marbled murrelet is yet another example of a species driven to the brink of extinction by the uncontrolled exploitation of our forest lands," said Adam Berger, a SCLDF attorney who is representing the plaintiffs.

The U.S. Forest Service recently rejected a murrelet protection plan developed by the Pacific Seabird Group, a team of state and federal biologists. The report proposed setting aside a minimum of 330 acres of suitable habitat around each marbled murrelet site. Instead, the agency will use areas set aside for the spotted owl to protect the murrelet.

Biologists, however, say there is no evidence that the owl



Marbled murrelet in winter plumage

Peter Branson

reserves will protect the murrelet, because they are too far apart and distant from the ocean. Meanwhile, in Washington and Oregon, 53 of 91 known nest sites are slated for logging.

Here in Southeast, the Pacific Seabird Group recommended that the marbled murrelet be included as one of the "management indicator species" that the Forest Service uses for planning in the Tongass, since the species presently used as indicators do not reflect the murrelet's specific requirements. They also recommended that surveys for

marbled murrelet activity be carried out in specific old growth stands before final designation of the stand for logging, and that sufficient suitable habitat be preserved.

The Forest Service in Southeast Alaska, however, claims that no special measures are needed to protect the marbled murrelet.

For more information, contact Marc Liverman, Portland Audubon, 5151 N.W. Cornell Rd., Portland, OR 97210; or Vic Sher, Adam Berger, SCLDF, 216 First Ave. South, #330, Seattle WA 98104.

Welcome, New Members!

Our membership drive was a great success! It is a privilege to welcome our 138+ new members, adding them to the family of concerned people who get the Ravencall, stay on top of issues, help us chart a successful course, and join us in our dedication to Southeast Alaska!

We also heartily thank the Alaska Conservation Foundation for its generosity in offering matching funds for each new member!

Many thanks to you new members, and to all of you who helped to recruit new members, for investing in SEACC's future, Southeast Alaska's future and your own future as a person who cares about our home.

Board Foot Forests

The Forests we knew were magical lands
A gift of creation's long ranging plans.
There were rivers with rapids, brooklets and springs,
Clear sparkling waters, water that sings.

And o'er hillside and valley grew towering trees
Their roots in the soil and tops in the breeze,
And under the canopy the wildlife below
Found shelter and food in winter's deep snow.



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Newshorts

The Alaska Department of Natural Resources is in the process of preparing an area land use plan for Yakataga. For more information, call Nancy Pease, DNR's project coordinator in Juneau.

Up to 30 large factory trawlers, which are foreign-owned, could continue to fish in Alaskan waters, because of an April 30th decision by U.S. District Court Judge Garratt-Penn. Governor Hickel is urging U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Skinner to protect Alaska fisheries from them; they waste large numbers of halibut, crab, salmon, and herring in their search for groundfish.

Did you know?

America's annual trash bill is about \$15 billion -- landfills contain 70% of the 180 million tons of things discarded each year. Paper makes up 50% of landfill material, construction and demolition materials 15%, plastics 10%, polystyrene foam 1%, and disposable diapers 0.8% (1.5 million tons per year).

Compact fluorescent light bulbs give the same quality of light as incandescent bulbs but use 80% less energy; one bulb will save utilities about 528 pounds of coal, a ton of carbon dioxide, and 21 pounds of sulfur dioxide, 1.3 barrels of oil, or 25 mg of plutonium waste over its 10,000-hour life. A 15-watt fluorescent bulb costs about \$15 but replaces a 75-watt incandescent, saving about \$48 in the cost of electricity and \$7 in replacement costs. Audubon, May 1991.

Board Foot Forests

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There were rivers with rapids, brooklets and springs,
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And o'er hillside and valley grew towering trees
Their roots in the soil and tops in the breeze,
And under the canopy the wildlife below
Found shelter and food in winter's deep snow.

But, alas there are those whom I've happened to meet
Who can't see the forest because of board feet.
They sit at their desks in the smoggy mill town
And cry at the waste if they can't cut it down.
They can't see pure water or fish in the stream.
"We can't stop the cutting", is all they will scream.

They can't see wild creatures, the large or the small
Whose homes they destroy when the trees start to fall.
They care naught for people who live on the land
Whose lives they now threaten and won't understand.
They did not see beauty in lands that are lost.
Where there's dollar blindness, there's no other cost.

"Now we don't deal with living things", the strident voices said.
"We only deal with trees as logs, and logs you know are dead."
Now logs you'd think mean houses, to build for you or me,
Or two by fours, hemlock floors, fine products from the tree.
But this is wishful thinking and our forests still are lost
And we will have no lumber though we have to bear the cost.

The Forest Service and the Mills
Decreed that they'd clear-cut the hills
and under guise of a Management Plan
Ship all of our logs to dear old Japan.

Trees have no standing, they're meant for the saw.
At least that's the way they interpret the law.
And no matter how flagrant the forest abuse
It's easily justified as Multiple Use.

They will gladly give us rock and ice, the snowy mountain top
But they must have the forest, the chainsaws cannot stop.
Though we mourn each passing forest, our goal we still must meet
To save somewhere some forest land not measured in board feet.

--Dixie Baade



TLMP Revision update -- big, bad, and back (soon)

Clearcutting likely in key Tongass roadless areas

by JOHN SISK

Preliminary Forest Service maps indicate that the agency's new plan for the future of the Tongass National Forest--the Tongass Land Management Plan Revision (TLMP Revision) authorizes clearcutting in nearly every unprotected old-growth forest watershed on the Tongass. Many areas allocated to "LUD II," or roadless no-logging management, will be on the chopping block this time around.

For example, it appears the Forest Service will allow logging Sarkar Lakes on Prince of Wales Island. A similar fate is mapped

out for LUD II areas Seal Bay and Long Bay in Tenakee Inlet.

The latest version of the TLMP Revision, scheduled for public comment this August through autumn, will pose a big challenge to conservationists, fishermen, and local communities across Southeast.

Alaskans will all have to live the decisions made in this critical plan for the next 10-15 years and beyond. The new Tongass plan will set a logging schedule and an "annual cut" for the entire Tongass. Key issues, including land allocation, fish and wildlife habitat protection, Wild and Scenic Rivers, Native subsistence use of

fish and wildlife resources, and management of Wilderness areas and legislative roadless areas will be addressed in the TLMP Revision. The Congressionally directed study of the Kadashan River watershed will also be included in the TLMP Revision.

The TLMP Revision is the first revision of a forest plan in the nation--it presents a tremendous opportunity to lead the quest for reform of the entire National Forest system. **STAY TUNED TO SEACC FOR DETAILS ON THE TLMP REVISION!**



Port Camden, Kuiu Island on the chopping block

Tenakee/Hoonah lawsuit update

Court lifts, then reinstates, logging ban

Stop, start, stop, and talk. That's what Southeast loggers are doing as SEACC's challenge to logging on Chichagof and Kuiu Islands wends its way through the court system. At stake are old-growth forests on Upper Game Creek near Hoonah, at the head of Port Frederick, and on Kuiu Island -- all of which are important for subsistence deer hunting and all of which are scheduled for immediate logging.

Together with subsistence

Then, on May 24, Judge James A. von der Heydt granted summary judgment to the Forest Service and lifted the ban on logging. Loggers and equipment moved in; lawyers filed emergency motions for another injunction. On June 4, the District Court halted logging activities for ten days. On June 13, the Court of Appeals extended the injunction until June 21.

The Hickel administration supported the timber industry in



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Together with subsistence hunters and fishers from Tenakee Springs, Hoonah, Angoon, and Kake, SEACC filed suit to stop Forest Service-authorized logging and roadbuilding in areas near these villages. Until late May, an injunction issued by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals protected those areas, pending final rulings in Federal District Court.

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The Hickel administration supported the timber industry in the case. Lawyers for the state filed a "friend-of-the-court" brief that slights logging's effect on subsistence and emphasizes the timber industry's economic and social importance.

Late breaking news: On June 25th the Court of Appeals extended the temporary logging prohibition and set an expedited timetable for reviewing the merits of the case.



Alaska Pulp Corporation logging road near Hoonah

What about those "Wild & Scenic" rivers?

In 1968 Congress passed the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, including outstanding rivers, and segments of rivers, in a national system of rivers to be managed to protect their "outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreation, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values".

Free-flowing rivers are:

Wild river areas -- free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trail, with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive and water unpolluted.

Scenic river areas -- impoundments, with shorelines, or watersheds still largely primitive and shorelines largely undeveloped, but accessible in places by roads.

Recreation river areas -- readily accessible by road or railroad, that may have some development along their shorelines, and that may have undergone some

impoundment or diversion in the past.

Adjacent lands within 1/4 mile of the bank of a Congressionally designated river are also included in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers system.

The TLMP Revision is considering several Southeast rivers as potential additions to the system. River protection is a big issue in the new Tongass plan. Unfortunately, the Forest Service in the Tongass has traditionally used the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act as a political football -- one that gets tossed out whenever they want to road and log along a wild river.

Nonetheless, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act is one of the strongest tools that Alaskan conservationists have in our tool kit. The key is for citizen conservationists to participate in the public comment period on the next draft of the Tongass Land Management Plan Revision, which will probably take place this August through November. Support wild and scenic rivers on the Tongass, propose important local streams for designation, and look to SEACC for information!

Superkudo Corner!!

Thanks again and always to our wonderful volunteers! We've seen a lot of work move through their hands since the last Ravencall, including countless thank you notes and the membership drive mailing -- over 3,500 letters to fold, stuff, lick and get out!

Medals for bravery are due to Danelle McCarthy, Joan Hurbage, Cathy MacKinnon, Sue Warner, Curt Terrell,

Donna Perrin and Rosie Peterson, and Tony Präter. Special thanks to Susan Phillips and Maria Finch for all of their help on this issue of the Ravencall. Many thanks to all!

Most of these brave SEACC champions are off on adventures for the summer, and we will miss them sorely! If you would like to join the ranks of the supremely wonderful SEACC volunteers, call or stop by the office... we really can use the help!! --especially at the booth we will have at the Southeast Alaska State Fair in Haines. Discount passes may be available. Call Jane (596-6942) for information.



SEACC volunteers Curt Terrell and Donna Perrin

Membergroup News

Juneau Group of the Sierra Club

The Juneau Group of the Sierra Club is still working on drafting a position paper on Glacier Bay National Park. A survey has been sent out to members and we're presently analyzing the data from the response. By the time of the next *Ravencall* we should have finalized our position.

In April our group (along with SEACC) helped sponsor the Friends of Recycling's banquet with guest speaker Dennis Hayes. Dennis Hayes is co-founder of Earth Day, and is truly an inspirational speaker. We feel fortunate to have been able to take part in bringing him to Juneau.

--Patty Kirchhoff

Friends of Berners Bay

With plans moving ahead at both the Kensington and Jualin mines, FOBD is looking at a busy summer. We will be contacting members to let them know about deadlines for commenting on the just released Kensington Draft EIS and on Placer Dome's plans for helicopter use near the Lion's Head mountain goat population. Summer is a better time to be out enjoying the natural world instead of defending it, but it looks as though the Forest Service is giving us no other choice.

--Dana Owen

Lynn Canal Conservation

The end of the legislative session was a busy time for us in Haines. The Mental Health Lands fiasco was spit out at the eleventh hour, catching us all by surprise. More than a third of the Haines State Forest was put back into the Trust, supposedly to be used for highest fiscal return, which could be interpreted as unrestricted logging and milling of areas that have previously been protected in the Haines State Forest Management Plan. We are opposed to any settlement that would remove lands from the public process.

Kensington Venture, a branch of Echo Bay Mines, is forging ahead with plans to open a gold mine north of Berners Bay. Despite outcry from the public and concern from fishermen regarding their outfall pipe, which would spew thousands of gallons of untreated toxic mine waste into Lynn Canal, they have not revised their plan. With gold prices so low and a depressed metals market, they are taking as many shortcuts as they can get away with. With the Forest Service overseeing the project, anything is possible. The draft EIS is out, and comments are due by August 1. Southeast Gillnetter! If you want to fish at Point Sherman in the future, just say no to the MIXING ZONE! We need to squelch this idea of legalized pollution zones!

We are waiting for the Canadian Government's decision on what to do about Windy Craggy. International fervor is escalating regarding Gaden Resources' plans to develop North America's largest open pit copper mine in the heart of one of the greatest wilderness tracts in the world. Magazine and television crews are booking river trips this summer, to document this magnificent country, and expose British Columbia's history of ravaging their natural resources.

For more information on these issues, or to get involved, write Lynn Canal Conservation Inc., PO Box 984, Haines,



Taku Conservation Society News

TCS has just signed two agreements with the USDA Forest Service for joint projects. 1) The Eagle Glacier Cabin will be a cost sharing project with work scheduled on the foundation, water system, outhouse and woodshed this summer, and the cabin structure raised in September. Interested volunteers call 880-2470 or 780-7640. 2) The Breadline Bluff to the Shrine of St. Theresa Trail will be under construction in August by the group's volunteers and the City and Borough of Juneau's Parks and Recreation Department Trails Crew. Volunteers for this project please call 880-2470 or 780-7640.

A newly planked access trail to Thunder Mountain was built this spring by Bill Glude and Judy Cooper. Passing through "world class" mud and skunk cabbages, this trail offers the best way yet to traverse the great swamps of Jordan Creek. When the Aquatic Education Trail on Jordan Creek is completed this summer, a bridge over the creek will service both of these trails, which can be reached at the end of Jennifer Avenue near Glacier Valley School.

--Judy Cooper

Wrangell Resource Council Report

As the planetary ecosystem suffers a greater rate of extinction and loss of diversity than that of the late Cretaceous era 65 million years ago, which witnessed the mass extinction of the dinosaurs, various environmental groups and government agencies are focusing on several local species endangered through logging of old-growth forests.

The Forest Service is studying the Spotted Frog in the Stikine River area (no relation to the Spotted Owl). Numbers of Spotted Frogs have declined in the lower 48. Similarly, the Marbled Murrelet is locally common but threatened with extinction in the rest of its range. A rare subspecies of the Northern Goshawk found only on the Cleveland Peninsula and few other areas is being scrutinized while the Forest Service gears up to log the Frosty Bay timber sale, located on the Cleveland.

The Forest Service has unveiled its "kinder, gentler" forestry in their plans to log 45 million board feet on 1720 acres of North Etolin. Dubbed the "Starfish Timber Sale", it implements several principles discussed in the Forest Service's "New Perspectives" conference in Petersburg last year, mainly emphasizing large clear-cuts to reduce edge effect and habitat fragmentation. However the benefits gained will be short-lived as nearly all of the commercial forest lands will be harvested by the end of the planned 100 year rotation.

Wrangell Resource Council strongly supports buffer strips along salmon streams. We do not understand why the logging industry objects to protecting salmon stream. Too many salmon streams have been lost to poor logging practices in the past and we must protect this wonderful natural resource.

In up-coming group activities, the Wrangell Resource Council plans to sell smoked King Salmon on bagels with

Narrows Conservation Council

The draft EIS for the Bohemia Mountain Timber sale on the north end of Kupreanof Island was released in late May. In addition to locating and designing a timber sale for an independent purchaser, the environmental assessment evaluates the suitability of Duncan Salt Chuck Creek for possible inclusion in the Wild and Scenic River System.

Five alternatives were discussed in the draft. Alternative 5A was chosen as the preferred alternative. It will harvest the second largest volume (34.8 mmbf) and build the second largest road (19-22.2 miles) among the alternatives. Timber harvest volume in the preferred alternative was increased dramatically from a similar sale offered in 1981 which failed to sell. The common perception is that this increase is in response to pressure the current but outgoing Forest Supervisor has received for failing to meet timber targets in the past.

Several aspects of road location are particularly worrisome for this sale. High hazard soils are encountered at 2 possible road locations which border a class I salmon stream. Soils have been classed as "especially hazardous", but are still considered feasible, areas expected to recover "relatively quickly". An obvious assumption, this says nothing of the Class I stream which would be directly affected.

The possibility of a road connection crossing LUD II land between Kake and Portage Bay and inching its way closer to the communities of Kupreanof and Petersburg is also controversial. If this road connection is built it would link Kake to within 12 miles of these communities, although the Forest Service has continually denied any interest in such a link and termed it "beyond the scope of the project" continual references are made to the topic in the DEIS. Residents of Kupreanof, Petersburg, and many in Kake are already on record as opposing such a connection. Regardless of whether the connection is built, the extended road will come close enough to the LUD II area to justify a

Kensington Venture, a branch of Echo Bay Mines, is forging ahead with plans to open a gold mine north of Berner's Bay. Despite outcry from the public and concern from fishermen regarding their outfall pipe, which would spew thousands of gallons of untreated toxic mine waste into Lynn Canal, they have not revised their plan. With gold prices so low and a depressed metals market, they are taking as many shortcuts as they can get away with. With the Forest Service overseeing the project, anything is possible. The draft EIS is out, and comments are due by August 1. Southeast Gillnetters! If you want to fish at Point Sherman in the future, just say no to the MIXING ZONE! We need to squelch this idea of legalized pollution zones!

We are waiting for the Canadian Government's decision on what to do about Windy Craggy. International fervor is escalating regarding Caddis Resources' plans to develop North America's largest open pit copper mine in the heart of one of the greatest wilderness tracts in the world. Magazine and television crews are booking river trips this summer, to document this magnificent country, and expose British Columbia's history of ravaging their natural resources.

For more information on these issues, or to get involved, write Lynn Canal Conservation Inc., PO Box 964, Haines, AK 99827. Phone 607-766-2869.

Nature Bats Last!

--Thom Ely



Numbers of Spotted Eagle have declined in this area. Similarly, the Marbled Murrelet is locally common but threatened with extinction in the rest of its range. A rare subspecies of the Northern Goshawk found only on the Cleveland Peninsula and few other areas is being scrutinized while the Forest Service gears up to log the Frosty Bay timber sale, located on the Cleveland.

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In up-coming group activities, the Wrangell Resource Council plans to sell smoked King Salmon on bagels with cream cheese this 4th of July.

--Peter Dranson & Marlene Clark

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The proposed road intersects with the Portage/Petersburg Lake/Duncan Salt Chuck Loop Trail, significantly undermining recreational values and opening the Wilderness Area to impact from logging activity.

Although Duncan Salt Chuck Creek "meets the guidelines for wild classification for all 12 miles of stream" the Forest Service chose to downgrade the portion needed to access timber to a scenic designation, allowing road crossings. The determination on whether to recommend Duncan Salt Chuck Creek for inclusion as a Wild and Scenic River should have been evaluated independent of a timber sale which depends on the designation going a certain way. It would normally have appeared in the Forest Plan Revision.

The Bohemia Mountain sale infringes on highly productive fish and wildlife habitat. Logging in the area has already hit deer winter range hard and it will be further reduced as a consequence of harvest, and increased poaching due to the road opening up the area. Also impacted will be important nesting, resting and feeding habitat for bird species such as the Canada Goose. The road corridor infringes on several small inland lakes and ponds important to these birds.

Finally, the sale on the north end of Kupreanof is along a highly scenic route for boat travelers. The state ferry, several cruise ships, commercial fishermen, and private boaters alike will be affected by this highly visible sale.

The comment period for this sale ends July 16, 1991. Written comments sent to the US Forest Service, PO Box 309, Petersburg, AK, 99833, attention: Tamara S. Malone. The final EIS is scheduled to be completed by September 1, 1991.

--Bucky Knight

Alaskan Society of American Forest Dwellers

The Alaskan Society of American Forest Dwellers (ASAF) has recently joined Alaskans for Responsible Resource Management (ARRM) in appealing the USFS North Sea Otter Sound Final EIS. The US Forest Service has sunk to new depths by showing that the agency is unable to change with the times, or act in an environmentally sound manner; this latest EIS is beyond belief.

The USFS has changed the old timber "volume class designations", into a new system called "land base percentages". For example, 74% of old growth on West Kooklusko has been logged, according to the new "land base percentages" only 37% of the land base has been logged. The USFS offered no table of comparisons between the old and new system. Instead they throw in a slope level formula that all but obscures any truth or reality about what they are talking about. This is a direct effort to obstruct the Tongass Timber Reform Act (TTRA). Also in this fatalistic document, the USFS states that 50 foot buffer zones will be used, not 100 foot buffer zones as mandated by the TTRA. Like hell.

The EIS plainly states that due to over-clearcut logging of the islands, all wildlife populations can be expected to decline. Deer, bear, land otter and others can be expected to disappear as their last habitat is logged off. This is not an acceptable price for Alaskans to be expected to pay to provide Oregon loggers with a temporary job. There is much much more, but on to other things.

Since our victory with the TTRA this writer has made a serious effort to visit all areas within reach of our 42' fishing boat. It is with great pleasure that I inform all of you who have worked so hard, for so many years, that the wilderness has prevailed to the tune of one million acres.

We visited South Kulu Wilderness and Port Beauclerc Day while dragging along SEACC's ex-legal counsel, Steve Kallick. What a magic place! While we only got 60,000 acres there, the great expanses of water and mountains stretch the total space into something more. Also visible was majestic Mount Calder, like a massive stone eagle, with timbered wings, ready to soar off into a time that is beyond our ken. The Shakan Peninsula (part of Calder-Holbrook LUD II area, 84,000 acres) also stood in timbered glory, excellent wildlife habitat and a real prize for all people lucky enough to step foot on its now protected ground.

The Outside Islands, or King Salmon Capes (75,000 acres)... it's difficult to describe such a spectacular place, so wild on the edge of the stormy coast, with words. But for the hearts of the many wayward fishermen (of all gear types) who call this area home in the summer, it is as though the family farm was saved from the bankers for all time. Noyes, Baker and Lulu Islands have many secrets to unfold to a poor traveler who passes this way but once, plus they provide many fishermen with snug harbors and abundant fishing grounds. The Outside Islands are a dream come true.

So, the fight was long and hard, often doubtful, but the reward will light many, many lifetimes beyond our own. The TLMP Revision battle is ahead, if you care, get to work now, and be prepared to force the USFS to protect even more of fantastic Southeast Alaska.

--Joe Sebastian



Tongass Conservation Society

The past few months have seen TCS very busy -- as usual, trying to get our organization running smoothly, and trying to raise funds to pay for our staff and projects. We held our annual board meeting, which was attended by John Suk and Chris Finch, who brought their usual inspiration and insight. TCS now has over 100 members, and is continuing to grow. We hosted SEACC's May board meeting. We received a grant from the Alaska Conservation Foundation to help support work on establishing a state park in the Leuk Lakes area north of Ketchikan, avoiding the proposed land trade between Cape Fox Corporation and the state which has slated the area to be heavily clearcut. We have been closely involved in monitoring the Forest Service's actions in Honker Divide, and will continue to be. We are monitoring the tank logging on the Unuk and Chickamin Rivers, and have been instrumental in efforts to save Herring Bay, a local wetland, from filling. We are also awaiting the Shelter Cove timber sale FEIS.

TCS has appealed the North Sea Otter Sound FEIS and ROD. This atrocious document contains virtually no real environmental analysis while proposing a 35 million board feet timber sale in which 23 of 29 units are high volume timber, thus continuing the high grading of the Tongass in the wake of TTRA. Its wildlife conservation strategy in part seeks to provide for the needs of "second-growth dependent species" (there is no such thing). The document begged for an appeal, and we have obliged.

In a recent success, TCS played a prominent role in efforts to save a local estuarine wetland from filling in order to provide additional upland log storage for a sawmill that owned the wetland. The state's Department of Governmental Coordination sought to support this project, which many individuals, including state and federal agency personnel, thought should never have been proposed. In a very positive outcome, after failing to convince both the Planning Commission and the Borough Assembly that there was a significant public need to fill the wetland, the sawmill will now try to trade the wetland to the state in return for title to some adjacent state-owned uplands the mill is

Sitka Conservation Society Report

Of the many issues with which the Sitka Conservation Society is concerned, the air and water quality problems brought on by the operation of the Alaska Pulp Corporation mill lead the list.

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) recently issued a very weak Air Operating Permit to the APC mill which amounts, in many ways, to a relaxation of the regulations of their old permit. The new permit does, however, contain a Consent Order, and a new timetable for required improvements which will bring APC closer to compliance.

There is an on-going EPA criminal investigation concerning Alaska Pulp Corporation's dumping of dioxin-laden boiler fly-ash into Silver Bay, from March to June of 1990. Dioxin is a known cancer-causing chemical compound, and was the main toxic ingredient in Agent-Orange, the herbicide used in Viet Nam which caused many health problems and heartache for both the Vietnamese and US soldiers. We are expecting the results of this investigation soon.

The EPA and ADEC conducted extensive sampling of areas all over Sitka, as part of a "multi-media" dioxin analysis. This testing was done in order to find the extent of the dioxin contamination. The results of this analysis have not yet been released. A separate dioxin analysis of Silver Bay bottom sediments, released by ADEC, shows the presence of significant levels of 2378 TCDD dioxin (the most toxic variety) in the bottom sediments. Many Sitkans are worried that this will result in irreversible contamination of the marine food chain. Alaska Pulp officials have admitted that the dumping took place, and that they were aware of the presence of high levels of dioxin in the ash. APC deposits tons of high dioxin content fly ash in Sitka's municipal landfill each day.

The next big issue we will have to face is the proposed logging of the Keip Bay area, by Alaska Pulp. Keip Bay is

areas there, one great promise is that the timber stretch the total space into something more. Also visible was majestic Mount Calder, like a massive stone eagle, with timbered wings, ready to soar off into a time that is beyond our ken. The Shakar Peninsula (part of Calder-Holbrook LUD II area, 84,000 acres) also stood in timbered glory, excellent wildlife habitat and a real prize for all people lucky enough to step foot on its now protected ground.

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So, the fight was long and hard, often doubtful, but the reward will light many, many lifetimes beyond our own. The TMAP Revision battle is ahead, if you care, get to work now, and be prepared to force the USFS to protect even more of fantastic Southeast Alaska.

--Joe Sebastian

False Island-Kook Lake Council

There's been good news and bad news for the plaintiffs in a long running suit against the Forest Service. The City of Tanaka Springs, Kake and Angoon Tribal Associations, numerous individuals, SEACC, and two other conservation groups are represented by the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund (SCLDF), and want the Forest Service to address the long term effects of clearcutting and road construction on fish and wildlife habitat and subsistence.

The bad news -- District Court Judge Von der Haydt ruled against the plaintiffs in the last week of May. SCLDF will appeal that decision. The good news -- the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals reinstated the temporary logging prohibition and set an expedited timetable for reviewing the merits of the case.

--Molly Kemp

Rivers, and have been constructed in Herring Bay, a local wetland, from filling. We are also awaiting the Skelter Cove timber sale FEIS.

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In a recent success, TCS played a prominent role in efforts to save a local estuarine wetland from filling in order to provide additional upland log storage for a sawmill that owned the wetland. The state's Department of Governmental Coordination sought to support this project, which many individuals, including state and federal agency personnel, thought should never have been proposed. In a very positive outcome, after failing to convince both the Planning Commission and the Borough Assembly that there was a significant public need to fill the wetland, the sawmill will now try to trade the wetland to the state in return for title to some adjacent state-owned uplands the mill is currently using. TCS supports this solution, as do the local residents and the borough planning department. It will consolidate the wetland in public ownership for conservation purposes, and consolidate the adjacent industrially zoned uplands under the mill's ownership. This looks to us like environmentally acceptable economic development.

By next November, TCS will have moved into a new office in a former house of ill repute on Ketchikan's Creek Street. "The Star" will now house a health food restaurant, some retail stores, an art gallery or two, and TCS. Kind of takes your breath away. Times have changed.

--Dave Kats

Alaska Pulp Corporation's dumping of chlorine-bleached waste fly-ash into Silver Bay, from March to June of 1980. Dioxin is a known cancer-causing chemical compound, and was the main toxic ingredient in Agent-Orange, the herbicide used in Viet Nam which caused many health problems and heartache for both the Vietnamese and US soldiers. We are expecting the results of this investigation soon.

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The next big issue we will have to face is the proposed logging of the Kelp Bay area, by Alaska Pulp. Kelp Bay is located on the northern end of Heronof Island, near the point where Peell Strait joins Chatham Strait. This is one of the areas that the USFS has designated to be clearcut to provide pulp and saw logs for the APC 50 year contract. The USFS Environmental Impact Statement is due to come out soon; concerned Sitkans will provide a detailed response.

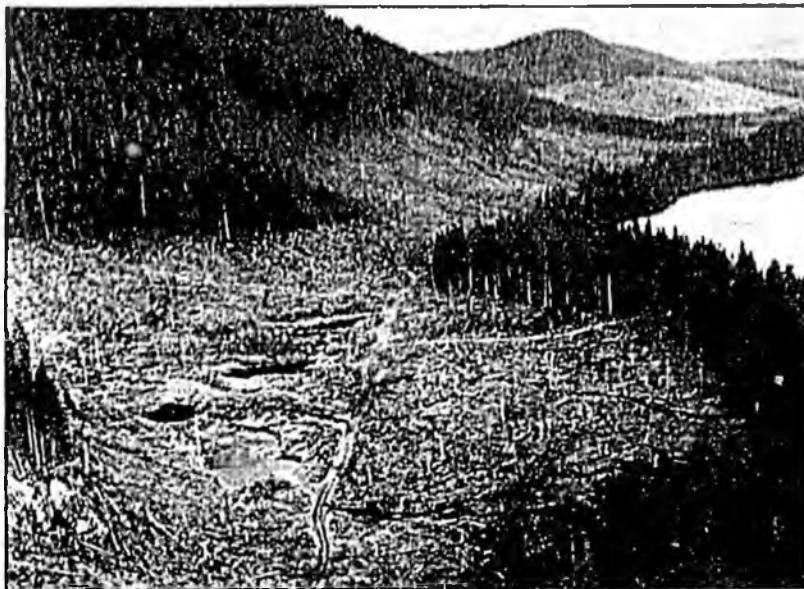
"Greenpeace" magazine, and "The Anchorage Times" sent teams of reporters to Sitka in the last few months. They focused on Sitka's air and water pollution problems, and did a good job of interviewing Sitkans from all walks of life. It seems that Sitka will receive a lot of media attention this summer. Keep your eyes peeled for their articles!

Last, but not least, members of the Sitka Conservation Society are heavily into the garbage recycling effort in Sitka. Largely due to the efforts of these people, the city of Sitka has sent out notification that there will be a city-wide policy to start curbside pickup of recyclable garbage. Much progress has taken place in one short year.

--Pat Sever



Forest Service launches a barrage of new timber sales!



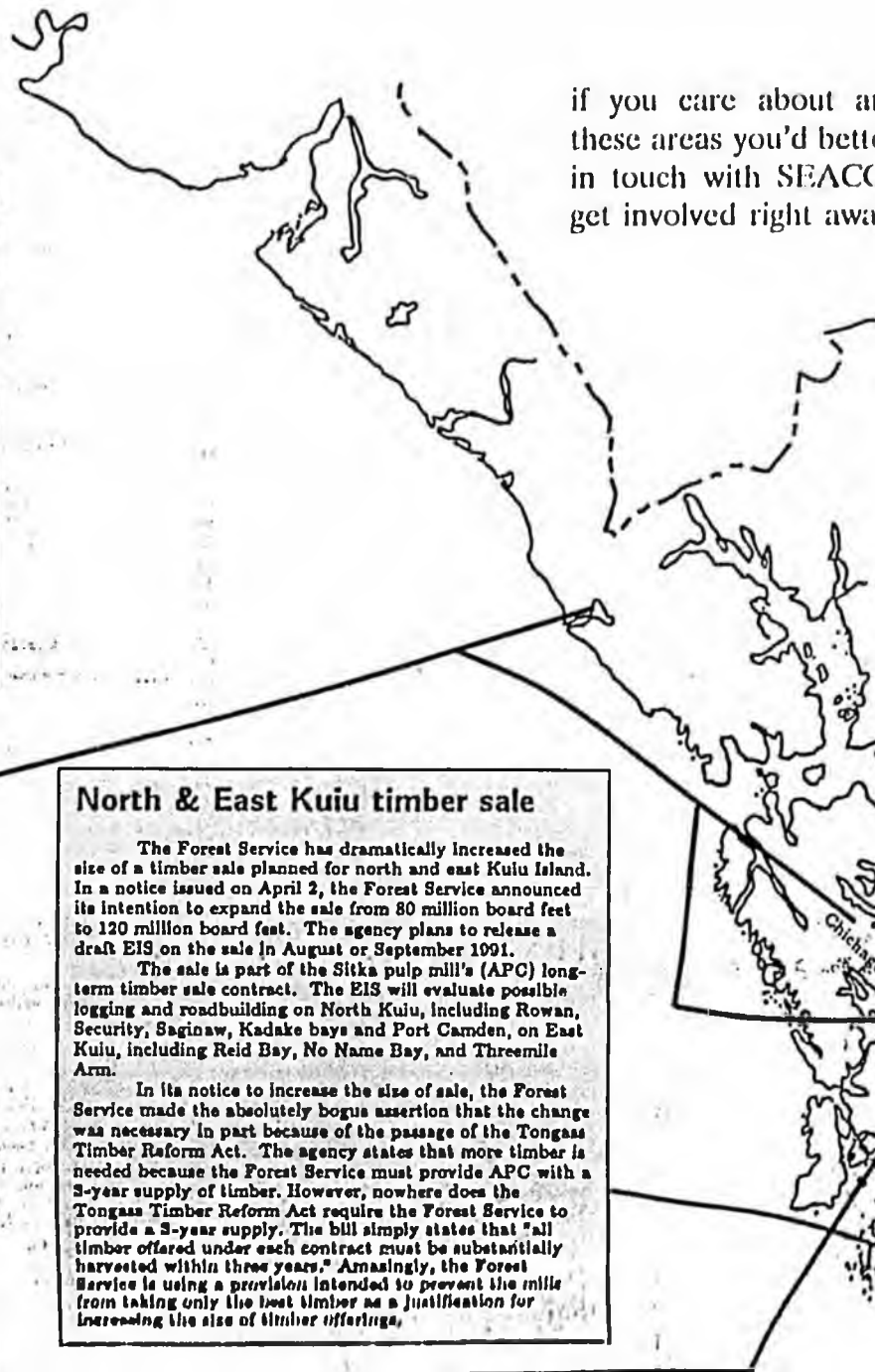
Southeast Chichagof timber sale

This is the third timber sale in line for the ever-hungry Sitka mill. The Forest Service is in the process of preparing an EIS for this 100 million board foot timber sale, due out in February 1992. It will evaluate logging and roadbuilding along the south side of Tenakee Inlet, including Saltery Bay, Crab Bay, and others, and south along Chatham and Peril Straits.

Kelp Bay timber sale

The Kelp Bay area, a traditional Angoon subsistence area on the northeast side of Baranof Island, is getting close to the top of Alaska Pulp Corporation's "hit" list. The Forest Service has just released a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) on its plans for a major timber sale for the pulp mill in the beautiful area including Appleton Cove, Sawk Bay, Kelp Bay, and Catherine Island.

Under the planned 130-million board foot timber sale along Kelp Bay, APC would harvest nearly 8000 acres of



if you care about all these areas you'd better get in touch with SEACC get involved right away

North & East Kuiu timber sale

The Forest Service has dramatically increased the size of a timber sale planned for north and east Kuiu Island. In a notice issued on April 2, the Forest Service announced its intention to expand the sale from 80 million board feet to 120 million board feet. The agency plans to release a draft EIS on the sale in August or September 1991.

The sale is part of the Sitka pulp mill's (APC) long-term timber sale contract. The EIS will evaluate possible logging and roadbuilding on North Kuiu, including Rowan, Security, Saginaw, Kadake bays and Port Camden, on East Kuiu, including Reid Bay, No Name Bay, and Threemile Arm.

In its notice to increase the size of sale, the Forest Service made the absolutely bogus assertion that the change was necessary in part because of the passage of the Tongass Timber Reform Act. The agency states that more timber is needed because the Forest Service must provide APC with a 3-year supply of timber. However, nowhere does the Tongass Timber Reform Act require the Forest Service to provide a 3-year supply. The bill simply states that "all timber offered under each contract must be substantially harvested within three years." Amazingly, the Forest Service is using a provision intended to prevent the mills from taking only the best timber as a justification for increasing the size of timber offerings.

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Under the planned 120-million board foot timber sale along Peril Straits, APC would clearcut nearly 5000 acres of old growth forest and build over 70 miles of new road. Though some logging occurred in the area in the 1960s and '70s, the planned timber sale would greatly expand existing clearcuts and roads.

Angoon's Decitan and Anqakitan Tlingit clans have traditionally used the Kelp Bay area for subsistence hunting and fishing. Sitkans have also long used the area. In more recent years, Kelp Bay has become increasingly popular with sportsmen from outlying communities, including Petersburg, Kake, and even Ketchikan. The area provides excellent habitat for Sitka black-tailed deer, waterfowl, brown bear, mountain goat, salmon, steelhead, crab, and other species.

The Forest Service's "preferred alternative" would focus logging along Saook, Appleton and Peril Straits, and stay out of Kelp Bay proper and southern Catherine Island.

Kelp Bay is the Forest Service's first major offering of timber to one of the two pulp mills since the Tongass Timber Reform Act was passed last November. It will set an important precedent for how the Forest Service implements the sweeping changes which the reform act made in the mills' long term contracts. SEACC will be watching closely to see that the Forest Service meets the intent of the new law!

The Forest Service will be holding hearings on the sale in Sitka and Angoon in August. Watch your mail for more information on Kelp Bay. DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS IS AUGUST 28.

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North Sea Otter Sound timber sale

Nearly five years after the project was first proposed, acting Forest Supervisor Steve Ambrose recently approved a large timber sale in north Sea Otter Sound. This timber sale plans the clearcutting of approximately 34 million board feet (mmbf) from the Marble, Orr, El Capitan, and Tuxekan Islands, and the southwest portion of Kocjusko Island.

Sylvia Geraghty, a SEACC board member and the head of Alaskans for Responsible Resource Management, and the Tongass Conservation Society have filed separate appeals of this decision to Regional Forester Mike Barton. Specific concerns with this EIS include: failure of the Forest Service to adequately field check proposed units; identify salmon streams, or display accurate timber volume information; inadequate analysis of cumulative impacts; failure to explain the need for this size of sale for the Small Business Administration's set-aside program; elimination of 40-50% of the habitat for important wildlife species; excessive number of A-frame units; and, the destruction of important beach fringe habitat.

Ketchikan Area sales - Second Level Little Coal Ck Spacious Hatchery Noel Granite Neets Bay Waterfall Bay Winter North Dall Fire Cove Polk Inlet N. Saddle Heceta S. McKenzie W. McKenzie Red Bay Salmon Bay Whale Pass Sea

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away!



Former SEACC director Bart Koehler glares down at ugly clearcut

Starfish timber sale

In late March the Forest Service released a draft EIS for a major independent timber sale on Etolin Island. The proposed Starfish Timber sale would involve 45-50 million board feet of clearcutting on approximately 1700 acres of land. The EIS evaluates logging in or near Anita Bay, Fishtrap Creek, Logjam Creek, Burnett and Mosman inlets.

The Forest Service's "preferred alternative" incorporates several features of the agency's so-called "New Perspectives," including a 500' no-cut buffer area along the shore and minimal "fragmentation" of high value wildlife habitat. However, the EIS fails utterly to assess the basic need and demand for the timber sale, presents only a cursory analysis of subsistence impacts, and does not disclose how much "high volume" timber will be cut.

The comment period ended in May. The Forest Service now expects to release a final EIS in 1-2 months.

Bohemia Mountain timber sale

The draft EIS for the Bohemia Mountain Timber sale on the north end of Kupreanof Island was released in late May. The "preferred alternative" would mean clearcutting 34 million board feet of old growth and construction of about 20 miles of road. Timber harvest volume in the preferred alternative was increased dramatically from a similar sale offered in 1981 which failed to sell. The common perception is that this increase is in response to pressure the current but outgoing Forest Supervisor has received for failing to meet timber targets in the past.

Of particular concern, the sale would extend the Kake road system, increasing the possibility of a future road link across a roadless "LUD II" area between Kake and Portage Bay, and inching toward a road connection between Kupreanof/Petersburg and Kake. The proposed road would also intersect the Portage Bay/ Petersburg Lake/ Duncan Salt Chuck Loop Trail, significantly undermining recreational values. Though the Forest Service acknowledges that Duncan Salt Chuck Creek qualifies for "wild" classification under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the Forest Service has administratively downgraded part of the river to "scenic" so that the road can be built.

Road construction would cost \$160,000 - \$190,000 per mile, leading to a timber sale in which it is estimated that federal costs would exceed revenues by over \$2 million.

The sale would infringe on highly productive fish and wildlife habitat, and have a major visual impact on the heavily travelled vessel corridor off northern Kupreanof.

The comment period for this sale ends July 15, 1991. Written comments sent to the US Forest Service, PO Box 309, Petersburg, AK, 99833, attention: Tamara S. Malone. The final EIS is scheduled for by September 1, 1991.

Ketchikan area timber sales

Grab your wheel-barrel: the Ketchikan Area plans



Stikine Area sales - Totem Cape Fanshaw Ten Mile Mad Bay Hoya Canal W Browns Cove Chichagof Mad Creek Nesbitt Reef Overlook Kauken Dry Bay Bl

land. The EIS evaluates logging in or near Anlia Bay, Fishtrap Creek, Logjam Creek, Burnett and Mosman Inlets. The Forest Service's "preferred alternative" incorporates several features of the agency's so-called "New Perspectives," including a 800' no-cut buffer area along the shore and minimal "fragmentation" of high value wildlife habitat. However, the EIS falls utterly to assess the basic need and demand for the timber sale, presents only a cursory analysis of subsistence impacts, and does not disclose how much "high volume" timber will be cut. The comment period ended in May. The Forest Service now expects to release a final EIS in 1-3 months.

The sale would infringe on highly productive fish and wildlife habitat, and have a major visual impact on the heavily travelled vessel corridor off northern Kupreanof. The comment period for this sale ends July 16, 1991. Written comments sent to the US Forest Service, PO Box 809, Petersburg, AK, 99833, attention: Tamara S. Malone. The final EIS is scheduled for by September 1, 1991.

Ketchikan area timber sales

Grab your wheel-barrel; the Ketchikan Area plans on burying us in paper! The Ketchikan pulp mill (KPC) is presently logging timber that was approved in its five-year 1989-94 timber plan, but we can expect as many as 8 environmental impact statements by 1996 that will provide KPC with timber totalling over a billion board feet.

The Forest Service plans on 3 EISs for operations on Prince of Wales Island, 2 EISs for operations on Revilla Island, and 1 EIS for the Cleveland Peninsula. The size of these proposed timber offerings will range from 50 mmbf to 200 mmbf, and the total will be 875 mmbf. In addition, the Forest Service plans on preparing 2 EISs for timber sales on South Prince of Wales Island, totalling 150 mmbf.

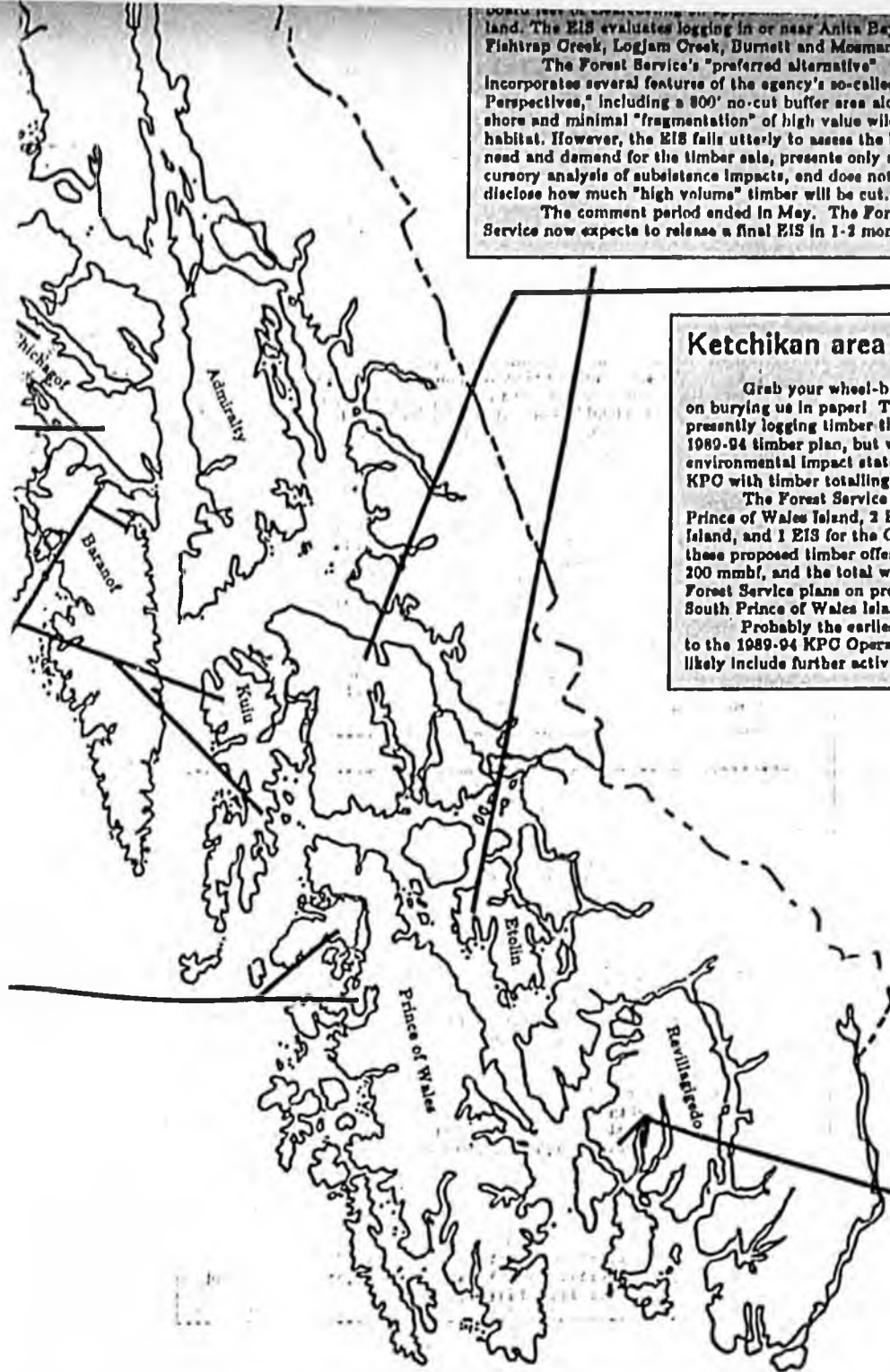
Probably the earliest of these will be the Supplement to the 1989-94 KPC Operating Plan. This supplement will likely include further activities in Honker Divide.

Shelter Cove timber sale

The Forest Service has just released a final EIS and decision to approve the Shelter Cove timber sale on Revillagigedo Island, about 18 miles northeast of Ketchikan. The Forest Service's decision authorizes a 65 million board foot independent sale timber sale in and around Shelter Cove and George Inlet.

The good thing about this logging plan is that it makes some allowance for wildlife by leaving a large block of uncut old-growth habitat that provides a wildlife travel corridor joining the Naha roadless area with the George Inlet saltchuck. The bad thing is that the sale includes road construction and timber harvest within the main wildlife old growth block, thus beginning the block's fragmentation.

The state's Department of Governmental Coordination and the Ketchikan borough planning department claim the road meets "vital recreational needs," although no road link to Ketchikan is included in the project.



le Mad Bay Hoya Canal Woronkoski South Zarembo Groundhog Upper Valley Whaletail Port Houghton
 perlook Kauken Dry Bay Blake Burnett Whiskey King George Big Foot GreenRocks High Valley Critter

Harbor Red Bay Margaret Turn Creek Union Bay Devil Lake Snail Pt Naukati #2 Shrimp Bay Port Alice Logjam Luck Lake
 a Level Ck Beaver Creek Marble Island Naukati Staney Sweetwater Calder Indian Creek Upper Salt. Ck Control Lake Ratz.



Glacier Bay History
told by Susie James

The name of it is Gathéeni
that land of ours
Gathéeni,
the bay where the glacier was.
It was where people lived.
salmon of all kinds ran there.
That's why the people lived
there;

they made it a village.
Many kinds of salmon are there.
Good salmon ran there.
It was while people were still
living there,
the houses:
maybe as many as five houses
stood there,
the houses:
the Kaagwaantaan
and the Wooshkeetaan
and the Eechhittaan
and us, those of us who are
Chookaneidi,
all of us were there.
We were living there...

(Haa Shuka, Our Ancestors
Tlingit Oral Narratives, p 245)

My purpose was to explore the bay, cross the coast range, and strike the upper waters of Chilkat. On the shores of the bay we found hospitality with a band of Hoonahs. Leaving the crew with our large canoe under the charge of Myers at this place, I took a smaller one and went with Cocheen, the chief of the band, northwesterly up the bay. After about forty miles' travel, we came to a small village of Asonques [Hugh Miller Inlet?]. They received us with great hospitality, and as our canoe had been too



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(Lieutenant Charles Erskine Scott Wood, passing through Glacier Bay on an expedition to Mt. St. Elias in 1877)



Vessels in the bay, the NPS plan

Glacier Bay and its bordering lands were designated as a National Monument in 1925 because of their unique interest to scientists studying glaciation and the processes of ecological succession. The original boundaries of the monument were later expanded to include more than 3 million acres of marine and terrestrial wilderness when Congress created the Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve in 1980.

In 1970 only four large ships (over 100 tons gross) entered Glacier Bay. By 1977 the number of large ship entries had grown to 103 and was accompanied by a similar increase in the entries of smaller tour boats, charter and private vessels. Biologists became concerned that increasing vessel traffic was stressing humpback whales, an endangered species, in the bay.

Concern for the welfare of humpback whales prompted the NPS to consult formally with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Following NMFS' recommendations in a 1970 Biological Opinion, the park instituted temporary regulations limiting the number of vessels entering the bay each summer and prohibiting vessels from approaching closer than .25 nautical miles to a whale. Not surprisingly, these regulations were extremely controversial. To help resolve this controversy and determine the probable cause of the whales' departure the NPS initiated a multi-disciplinary study of the behavior, prey availability, and acoustic

environment of humpback whales in Glacier Bay and the adjacent waters of southeastern Alaska.

Based on preliminary results of the acoustic, behavioral, and prey studies NMFS issued a second Biological Opinion in 1983 which stated in part: "We reiterate the conclusion in our 1970 Biological Opinion that if the amount of vessel use were allowed to increase without limits in Glacier Bay ... the associated disturbance would be likely to jeopardize the continued existence of the Southeast Alaska humpback whale stock."

Why a Vessel Plan?

Based on the 1983 Biological Opinion issued by the NMFS, the NPS established permanent whale regulations in 1985 which provided for up to a 20% increase in vessel traffic over 1976 use levels. The intent was that after a 20% increase in use, a reexamination of the whale regulations would be undertaken. In addition, the NPS cites the need to broaden the considerations involved in the park's management of vessel traffic in Glacier Bay. These considerations include special sensitivities for other species of wildlife, solitude, wilderness waters, vessel stack emissions and others that may be identified during the planning process.

The draft vessel management plan will be released during the fall of 1991

(Text from National Park Service)

employed by the caucus as part of the rough draft Glacier Bay management proposal developed by caucus participants.

Until the formation of the Citizens Caucus, local communities and interest groups that evolved around, and are dependent upon Glacier Bay National Park waters had never met face to face to determine their level of agreement on Park marine management. The Glacier Bay Citizens Caucus is an attempt to do that, to see if a consensus is reachable among Icy Strait interests. It is a first step in what could be a long process.

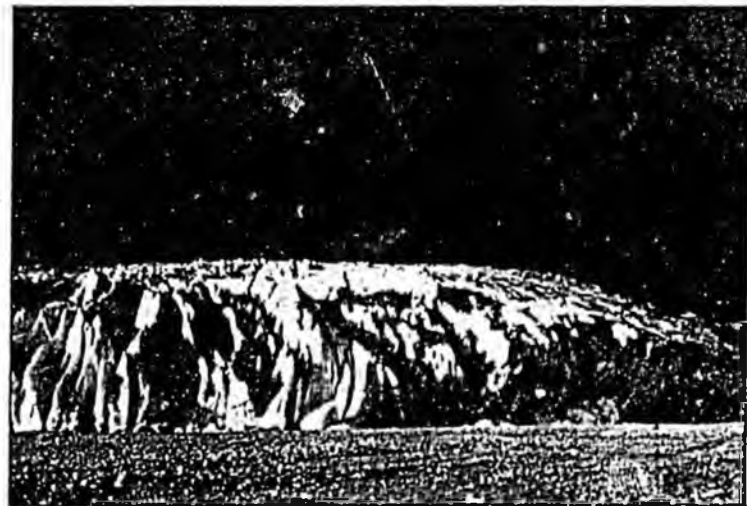
The Citizens Caucus working group reached agreement on two guiding principles. First, Glacier Bay National Park & Preserve shall be managed in such a manner that will leave its resources unimpaired (but not necessarily unused) for present and future generations. Key park resource values that should be maintained include the opportunity for solitude in a wilderness environment and the ecological wholeness of Glacier Bay. Second, within this mandate, historical customary and traditional uses by local citizens could be allowed.

A rough draft working group management proposal presents several suggestions. First, the rough draft proposes that the outer Gulf of Alaska coast and Icy Strait be open in perpetuity to traditional forms of commercial

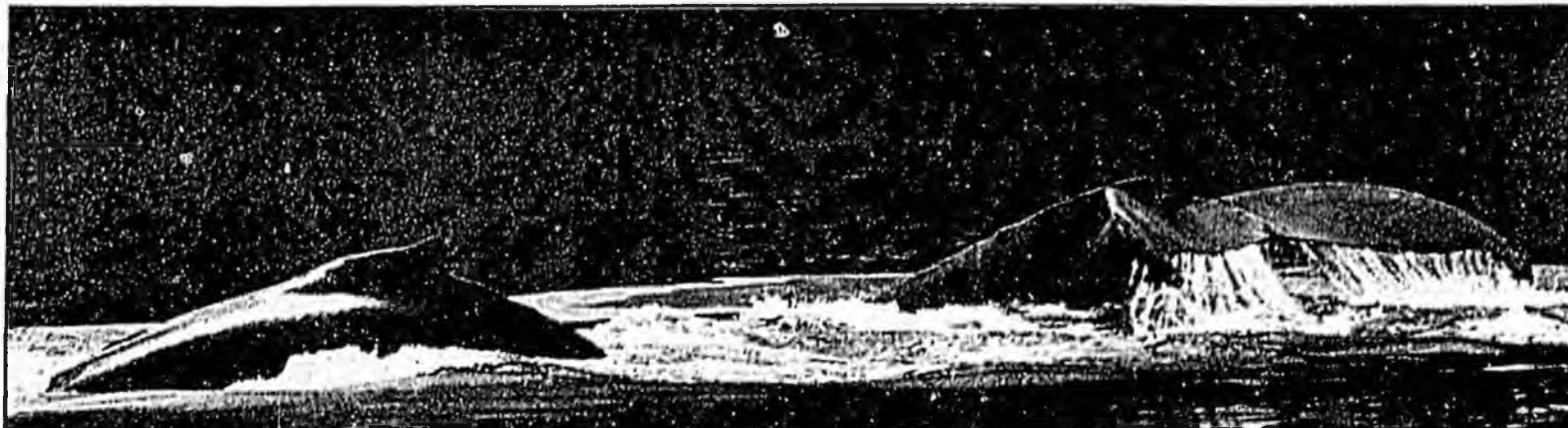
boundary considerations. Two special management areas were considered: upper Dundas and the Beardslee Islands.

The caucus rough draft proposal recommended that a comprehensive study be undertaken to address the commercial fishing issue in the remainder of the waters in Glacier Bay proper, as well as in Lituya Bay on the outside coast. That study should be headed up by an expert independent authority, such as the National Academy of Sciences, according to the caucus working group participants. The study would gauge the impact of commercial fishing on social and economic, and biological aspects of the Park, including opportunities for solitude, quality recreation experiences, preservation purposes, community stability, importance of local economics, and impacts on other fishing stocks in the region.

Caucus co-facilitator Bart Kochler stated: "This proposal is a solid stepping-stone for further discussions on important Glacier Bay issues." He added: "SEACC is committed to honoring the concerns of local people while recognizing the unique natural values of Glacier Bay National Park."



Reflections on Glacier Bay



Glacier Bay Citizen's Caucus Releases Interim Report

The Glacier Bay Citizens Caucus, a communication and negotiation project facilitated by SEACC, Friends of Glacier Bay, and the Icy Straits Fishermen's Alliance to explore alternative management policies for Glacier Bay National Park, has released an interim progress report. That report summarizes the process employed by the caucus as well as the rough draft Glacier Bay management proposal developed by caucus participants.

Until the formation of the Citizens Caucus, local communities and interest groups that evolved around, and are dependent upon Glacier Bay National Park waters had never met face to face to determine their level of agreement on Park marine management. The Glacier Bay Citizens Caucus is an attempt to do that, to see if a consensus is reachable among Icy Strait interests. It is a first step in what

fishing, such as halibut, salmon, crab, rockfish, and shrimp. Inside Glacier Bay proper, motorless Wilderness Water designations were suggested for Wachusett Inlet, Adams Inlet, Skidmore/Charpentier, and Rendu. Wilderness Water designation was recommended for Muir Inlet, subject to certain motorized vessel access and boundary considerations. Two special management areas were considered: upper Dundas and the Beardslee Islands.

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The green waters of the fiord were filled with sun-spangles; the fleet of icebergs set forth on their voyages with the upspringing breeze; and on the innumerable mirrors and prisms of these bergs, and on those of the shattered crystal walls of the glaciers, common white light and rainbow light began to burn, while the mountains shone in their frosty jewelry, and loomed again in the thin azure in serene terrestrial majesty.

(John Muir, *Travels in Alaska* p. 153)



DNR allowing loggers to cut salmon stream buffers**SEACC finds numerous violations of new Forest Practices Act**

by BUCK LINDEKUGEL

So you thought that the state was protecting our salmon streams with no-logging "buffer strips?" Think again!

Following a review of state documents, SEACC has discovered that the Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is allowing loggers on private land to cut inside the salmon stream buffer strips required by the recently passed Alaska State Forest Practices Act (FPA).

DNR grants illegal waivers

"The state foresters are granting exceptions right and left," says SEACC staff attorney Buck Lindekugel. Such actions are illegal, says Lindekugel, because there are no regulations in place that specify where and when DNR foresters may grant buffer strip waivers.

The Forest Practices Act authorizes state foresters to grant "variations" from buffer requirements on private lands in cases where fish habitat and water quality will not be impaired. However, the legislature required the agency to first adopt regulations that specify where variations are acceptable. The FPA also directs DNR to consult with Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G) biologists before granting variations. Moreover, the legislature said that fishery habitat, not timber, is the primary value to be considered in riparian (stream-side) areas.

SEACC learned of the unauthorized granting of variations after reviewing public documents obtained from DNR.

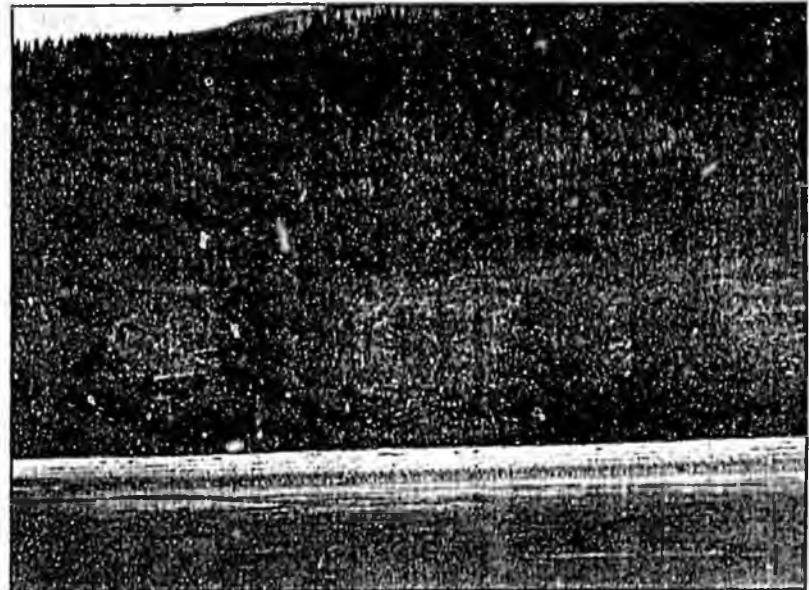
These documents reveal several additional problems.

1) DNR has approved logging in buffer strips along salmon spawning streams that range in size from 20 to 40 feet in width. But the Forest Practices Act directed DNR to specify the standards for allowing buffer variations only on low-gradient streams of five feet or less, and "other appropriate stream types." Variances have been granted along all sorts of salmon streams, however, even though DNR has not determined what standards apply.

2) DNR granted buffer variance requests over the objections of Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game (ADF&G). In spite of opposition from ADF&G biologists, DNR went ahead and allowed stream-side logging in several buffer strips -- absolutely contrary to the FPA's requirement that DNR grant ADF&G "due deference" in determining whether to allow logging within stream-side buffer strips on private timberland.

3) The DNR foresters caved in to the opinions of "outside experts" hired by private logging companies. The Forest Practices Act does not authorize DNR foresters to defer to such "experts."

"The new Forest Practices Act was the result of a compromise among loggers, fishermen, timberland owners, and environmentalists," says SEACC executive director John Sisk.



Cleurocut logging next to salmon stream

"Now DNR is caving in to the loggers' interests, in spite of the deal that was struck in the form of law. DNR is bending over backwards for one industry, timber, at the expense of another, commercial fishing."

"DNR's disregard for buffer strips is clearly at odds with the Governor's campaign promise to protect fish habitat," said Sisk. During his campaign for the governorship, Governor Hickel promised that if elected he would "protect our streams . . . protect our wild [salmon] stocks . . . [and] protect the 100-foot set-backs on Class 1, 2 and 3 streams." A Hickel position paper on commercial fishing reads: "In fact set backs on Class 1 streams may need to be wider." Yet these are the very streams where DNR has been granting variations.

What you can do!

DNR finally released draft Forest Practices Act regulations for public review on June 6th of this year. These regulations will determine how DNR will implement the Alaska State Forest Practices Act. Public comments on the proposed regulations are due by August 1, 1991. Public hearings are scheduled for June 26th in Ketchikan and July 23rd in Juneau. Copies of DNR's proposed regulations can be obtained from any local DNR office.

NOTE: Class 1 streams, as defined by the U.S. Forest Service, are defined as salmon spawning streams. Class 2 streams are those with resident, non-migratory salmonids such as trout and Dolly Varden. Class 3 streams are tributaries of Class 1 and Class 2 streams that do not necessarily contain salmon or other fish.

Honker Divide

continued from page 1



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Honker Divide

continued from page 1

Congress will be interested to know that the agency is continuing its timber-first approach to managing the Tongass."

On May 31, 1991, the Forest Service denied SEACC's Emergency Stay Request, arguing that the new issues presented in that request were not raised in the original appeal filed by SEACC and several of its member groups in July of 1989. That appeal challenged aspects of the Regional Forester's decision approving the Ketchikan Pulp Company's 1989-94 five year operating plan.

"This remarkable conclusion disregards the fact that the new information was not available to SEACC until after the appeal was filed," said SEACC staff attorney, Buck Lindekugel. "The agency is simply failing to fulfill its legal and ethical responsibilities to take a hard-look at the impacts to fisheries, wildlife and recreation from logging in the Honker Divide."

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Snakey Lakes, Honker Divide

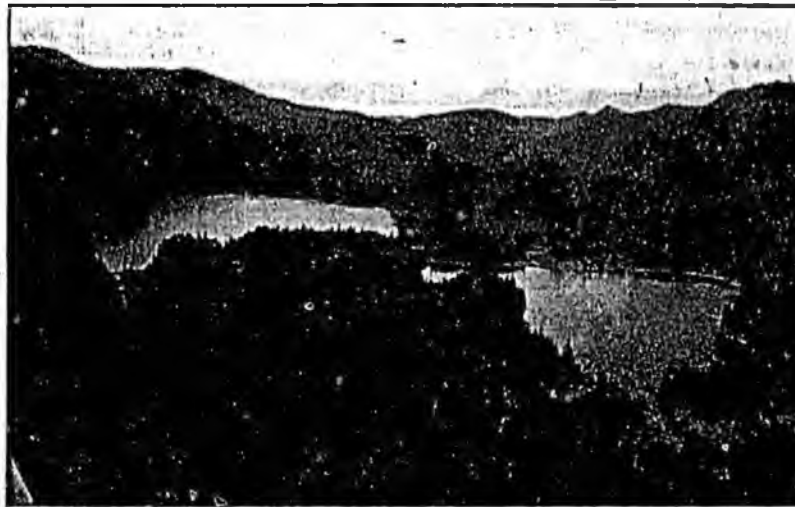
Honker Divide is one of the last remaining unlogged and unroaded areas on Prince of Wales Island--an interconnected chain of lakes and rivers stretching 36 miles from saltwater to saltwater, from Thorne Bay to Coffman Cove. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game has long recognized the Honker Divide as one of only 19 "high quality" sportfish watersheds in Southeast Alaska.

Honker Divide was recognized by the Forest Service as having

recreational and scenic values "of national significance" when it proposed recommending the Thorne River and lake system--the heart of Honker Divide--for Wild and Scenic River status in the draft Tongass Land Management Plan revision. The combination of low elevation topography, extensive stream and lake systems, and wetlands provide an extraordinary diversity of fish and wildlife in Honker Divide.

Unfortunately, the Forest Service appears more interested in satisfying the pulp mill's short-term economic interests than considering the entire public's interest in using this valuable area.

"The next opportunity to protect the Thorne River and the remaining unlogged part of Honker Divide is the TLMP Revision," said SEACC Executive Director John Sisk. In the new Tongass Land Management Plan, due out for public review late summer of fall, the Thorne River could be recommended, again, for Wild & Scenic River status, and the unlogged part of Honker Divide could be allocated to a more protective land management practice. "This could be our last chance to save the heart of Honker Divide," said Sisk. Stay tuned to SEACC for news on the Tongass plan revision!



Leask Lakes



White River

Would you trade these trees

by MEG CARTWRIGHT and DAVE KATZ

The State of Alaska is thinking about it. The Cape Fox Native Corporation has heavily logged its land in the White River valley, just north of Ketchikan. Now, they want to trade this giant clearcut for 2,500 acres of prime state-owned old growth forest in the Leask Lakes area, also north of Ketchikan!

For years, Cape Fox has tried to arrange a trade to obtain the valuable Leask Lakes timber. And for almost as long, the State has refused to bite on the deal. Now, however, Cape Fox has come up with new "bait" and the state is

nibbling; they are arguing that the trade will benefit the public by providing instant "roaded recreation" (the newest euphemism for "multiple use!") in the form of old and new logging roads.

Never mind that, according to DNR, upgrade of the White River road to public standards would cost a lot of money. Never mind the threat of mud and rockslides closing the road as the stumps rot out and the hillsides destabilize. Never mind that if the trade goes through, the lower third of the White River road would be unavailable for public use because Cape Fox would be using it for logging Leask Lakes.

Greenpeace targets pulp mills

by Larry Edwards

At the invitation of the Sitka

the atmosphere as gas during the bleaching process. The remaining

... for these stumps?

Never mind! Despite 7 hours of public testimony in which over half the people spoke against the trade, in November the Ketchikan Borough Assembly agreed with Cape Fox's arguments of roaded recreation opportunities and economic benefit to Ketchikan and voted 6-1 to support the trade.

The Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR), which oversees the Leask Lake parcels, recently signed a letter of intent to develop a "preliminary exchange agreement" with Cape Fox, meaning that the state will continue to entertain the notion of such a trade. However, DNR has suggested that Cape Fox

consider one-time only cutting rights in Leask Lakes in exchange for the White River land.

While the Assembly vote was a blow to the environmental community, the battle is not over yet! A state agency review of the plan, public hearings, and Legislative consideration are still to come. In the meantime, the Tongass Conservation Society will continue to be involved in the process, asking Cape Fox questions like, "What do you mean that you are going to clear-cut 1,200 acres and only impact 43 acres of habitat?" and "How do you recreate in a clearcut?"

State says 'no' fo Army tank

loading in Misty Fjords

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Greenpeace targets pulp mills

by Larry Edwards

At the invitation of the Sitka Conservation Society, two representatives of the Greenpeace Pulp and Paper Campaign visited Sitka and Ketchikan in early March. The campaign, which focuses on hazardous compounds generated by the pulp mills' chlorine bleaching process, is a world-wide effort with staff in several countries. During their visit from Seattle, Greenpeace's Shelly Stewart and Jackie Christiansen spoke at public forums and met with local commercial fishing and environmental groups.

Pulp and paper production generates large amounts of varied "chlorinated organic" compounds. Of these, dioxin has received the most attention because it is highly toxic even at the lowest concentrations. Greenpeace's concern, however, stems particularly from the many other organo-chlorine compounds, which while less toxic, are generated in very large quantities, are typically highly persistent, and are often mutagenic and/or carcinogenic.

The pulping process used in Southeast Alaska relies on hot acids to break down the lignins and resins which bind wood fibers together. Pulping does not however remove all of the binders and other unwanted material from the pulp. Bleaching, which is employed to finish the job, requires large amounts of chlorine. For a typical mill, according to Stewart, 90% of the chlorine will escape directly to

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the atmosphere as gas during the bleaching process. The remaining 10% of the chlorine reacts with lignin and resins to form a chemical soup comprised of an estimated 1000 chlorinated organic compounds which is discharged to the sea. This soup is so complex that only 300 of the compounds have been identified by analysis to date, and the impacts of very few of them (notably dioxin) have been studied.

In the absence of direct testing, Greenpeace uses a rule of thumb that the mass of the organo-chlorine soup roughly equals the mass of the total chlorine used by the mill. This would indicate an organo-chlorine discharge of about 1800 tons per month (20 million pounds per year) to Sitka's Silver Bay or Ketchikan's Ward Cove!

There is an alternative. Norway's Borregaard mill, which is common with our mills produces dissolving sulfite pulp, has changed over to an oxygen bleaching process using hydrogen peroxide. While the discharge still contains complex organic compounds, they are not chlorinated. The only additional precaution which must be taken is to assure that the highly reactive peroxide has degraded to oxygen and water prior to discharge. If employed here, peroxide bleaching would also eliminate the hazard of a large chlorine tank being breached by a tsunami, which could kill many people in a nearby town such as Sitka or Ketchikan.

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plan, public hearings, and Legislative consideration are still to come. In the meantime, the Tongass Conservation Society will continue to be involved in the process, asking Cape Fox questions like, "What do you mean that you are going to clear-cut 1,200 acres and only impact 43 acres of habitat?" and "How do you recreate in a clearcut?"

State says 'no' to Army tank logging in Misty Fjords rivers



Surplus armored amphibious craft used for logging in Misty Fjords
by MEG CARTWRIGHT

The Unuk and Chickamin Rivers, located in Back Behm Canal in Misty Fjords National Monument, are two of the top king salmon producing rivers in Southeast, coupled with abundant wildlife and spectacular scenery. But since the early 1970s, the Dept. of Natural Resources has issued permits allowing the permittee to take a large, surplus army tank called a "larc" ten miles upstream, cut and yard trees from log jams and the streambeds, sever their stem from the root wad, float them to saltwater, and sell them for timber!

The Department of Fish and Game strongly opposes this activity because it clearly contradicts the salmon stock rebuilding program, has the potential of degrading habitat, and threatens the viability of king and coho stocks.

Mr. Dick Hamlin, the permittee, has requested a permit for 1991. After reviewing

comments from government agencies, environmental and sportsmen's groups, and individuals, the Division of Governmental Coordination (DGC) has determined that tank logging in the rivers is inconsistent with the habitat standards spelled out in the Alaska Coastal Management Plan (ACMP).

However, the agency will allow logging within the intertidal estuarine area because "there is no specific information as to the permanency and value of the woody debris in these areas..." Mr. Hamlin has 90 days to appeal the decision.

While the environmental community applauds DGC's decision to ban logging in the rivers, we feel that the ACMP also provides protection for important intertidal habitat. We will continue to monitor the issuance of this permit and respond to DGC's recent decision. This is a move in the right direction!

recommended that a new Revised Mine Plan (RMP) be prepared to address: (1) the 70 miles of new roads that Geddes wants to build through the wilderness, including eleven bridges and twenty miles of road on the banks of the Tatshenshini, (2) the 320,000 gallons per day of toxic mine tailing water that they want to

Parliament Building, VICTORIA, BC V8V 4R3, Canada. Tell her to 1) stop the mine, 2) protect unique wilderness, 3) publish all provincial comments on Windy Craggy (these have never been disclosed).

For more information contact LCC at 766-2240 or Box 964, Haines, AK 99827.



Berners Bay goats threatened by Jualin mine drilling

by DANA OWEN

The Forest Service once again wants to leap before it looks. The agency has just released its decision to approve major mining exploration activity and helicopter use by Placer Dome mining company in prime mountain goat habitat in alpine areas of spectacular Lion's Head Mountain, above the current Jualin mine prospect.

The Lion's Head is home to sizable population of mountain goats which has not been adequately studied. We do know that as many as sixteen have been seen there at a time. We also know that helicopter noise is extremely disturbing to goats.

In 1988, the Forest Service was so concerned about possible

disturbance of these that it permitted an earlier Jualin leaseholder to build a road to the mine to avoid helicopter use. Those earlier concerns appear to have been forgotten. In spite of an almost complete lack of data, the Forest Service has approved what is the most likely activity to threaten the goats of Lion's Head, short of a summer hunt.

Friends of Berners Bay has asked that plans for alpine drilling be stopped until adequate studies have been done. You can help by asking the Forest Service and to put Placer Dome's plan aside while goat use of the area is studied.

It appears that the Bureau of Land Management got our message! Citing a long list of incompletd studies, errors and information gaps in the A-J draft environmental impact statement identified by the public and government agencies, the BLM's David Dorris has announced that even a late November release date for the final document is "extremely optimistic." The BLM had most recently planned to release the final EIS in August.

The last in a series of public meetings on the proposed mine will be held July 16 at Centennial Hall. The meeting will focus on the socio-economic impacts of the giant project. The Juneau Planning Commission will continue to hold Thursday noon meetings on different aspects of the mine on an as-needed basis.

No action on Echo Bay's permit applications may be taken until at least 30 days after the final EIS is out.

Tatshenshini River Rafting Special Environmentalist Trip

September 5 - 14, 1991

Environmentalist price: \$975

Regular price: \$1500



For more information and registration contact:



ALASKA DISCOVERY

369 S. Franklin St.
Juneau, Alaska 99801
907-585-1911

Windy Craggy update

Your letters are paying off!

by PETER ENTICKNAP

"We have never seen anything like it," say officials of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in Anchorage. "Every day we get letters and calls on Windy Craggy." Mike Dunn of Environment Canada (the Canadian equivalent of EPA) said he also has a stack of letters on the Windy Craggy from Alaska and elsewhere. "I don't know how many people live in Haines, but we have received hundreds of letters on Windy Craggy and we'll try to answer them all."

In the meantime, American Rivers named the Tatshenshini/Alsek as the second most endangered river in North America, after the Colorado. Articles on the issue have appeared in "Equinox", "LIFE", and "E Magazine." Lynn Canal Conservation and the World Wildlife Fund sponsored a "Paddle the Chilkat" trip on May 12th. Over sixty people from Haines and Whitehorse floated a fifteen mile stretch of the river to draw attention to the threats from Windy Craggy. Our thanks to Chilkat Guides for donating rafts and guides.

Both the US Department of the Interior (DOI) and Environment Canada (EC) were highly critical of the revised plan for the Windy Craggy Mine that was released last winter. Both DOI and EC recommended that a new Revised Mine Plan (RMP) be prepared to address: (1) the 70 miles of new roads that Geddes wants to build through the wilderness, including eleven bridges and twenty miles of road on the banks of the Tatshenshini, (2) the 320,000 gallons per day of toxic mine tailing water that they want to

dump at the end of their proposed slurry pipeline into Lutak Inlet, which supports one of Southeast's best sockeye runs; (3) the 30 million gallons of fuel and thousands of tons of chemicals and explosives to be shipped each year from Haines back to the mine; and (4) toxic sludge collected at the ore terminal also to be hauled back to the mine, presumably because it is too poisonous to dump in the US!

Concerns were also expressed about the frequent severe earthquakes in the region and their potential impacts on the tailings dam, downstream pollution, and fish and wildlife impacts.

So far Geddes has not succeeded in getting to first base in Alaska despite assistance from Rep. Don Young and the Governor's office. The Corps of Engineers and EPA rejected Geddes' plan for trucking ore concentrate to Haines this winter. A plan to transfer the old Army Tank Farm to Klukwan Inc., which would have given Geddes a leg up, died in Congress. Now ADOT/FP is considering a permit for the pipe line in the highway right-of-way.

Since you surely have energy for another letter, write: Honorable Rita Johnson, Premier, Province of British Columbia, Parliament Building, VICTORIA, BC V8V 4R3, Canada. Tell her to 1) stop the mine, 2) protect unique wilderness, 3) publish all provincial comments on Windy Craggy (these have never been disclosed).

For more information contact LCC at 766-2240 or Box 964, Haines, AK 99827.

**Tatshenshini - Ice and Flowers**

Alaska artist Rob Goldberg has given 100 limited edition prints exclusively for people contributing \$125 or more to Lynn Canal Conservation (LCC) for the Tatshenshini campaign. This silk-screen print "Tatshenshini -- Ice and Flowers" depicts wild flowers found in the Tatshenshini Valley and Walker Glacier.

"I had to do something about Windy Craggy, and this is my way of helping out," says Rob, who has done several prints for the Friends of SEACC program. We all appreciate Rob's fine work and dedication to the cause of protecting wild places.

Donations are tax deductible. Note on your check that you want to help save the Tat. Make checks payable to Lynn Canal Conservation, and send them to LCC, Box 964, Haines, AK 99827.

Next phase of EIS delayed**A-J mine update**

by JOHN HOWE

It appears that the Bureau of Land Management got our message! Citing a long list of incompleting studies, errors and information gaps in the A-J draft environmental impact statement identified by the public and government agencies, the BLM's David Dorris has announced that even a late November release date for the final document is "extremely optimistic." The BLM had most recently planned to release the final EIS in August.

The last in a series of Juneau town meetings on the proposed mine will be held July 16 at Centennial Hall. The meeting will focus on the socio-economic impacts of the giant project. The Juneau Planning Commission will continue to hold Thursday noon meetings on different aspects of the mine on an as-needed basis.

No action on Echo Bay's permit applications may be taken until at least 30 days after the final EIS is out.



...the River Bottom



Lynn Canal dump

continued from page 1

mine is a glossy document showing happy fishermen, healthy forests, and bald eagles soaring over reclaimed mine dumps. But between the covers and between the lines, the EIS reveals a project that would have major environmental impacts on Lynn Canal and outlying communities.

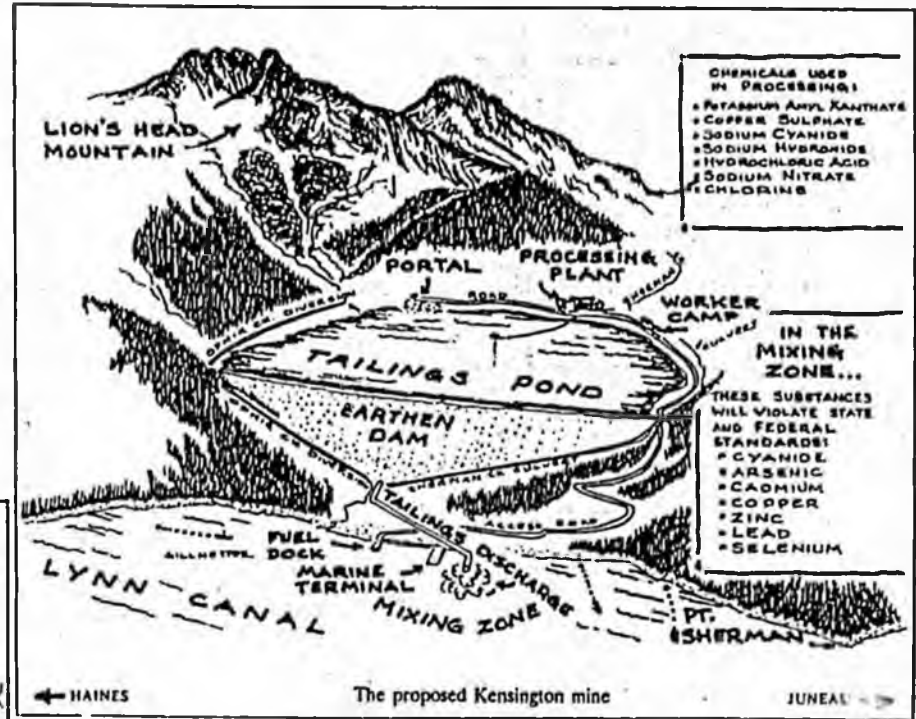
With the single exception of putting the mine's grinding facility underground, the Forest Service has proposed only minor changes to the company's project proposal.

"They're trying to cut a lot of corners," says SEACC mining analyst Chris Finch. "They're proposing some things here that would never even be considered in the lower-48. If they want to mine, they should do the job right."



proposed. At Greens Creek, the mine has already been cited for 81 violations of its wastewater discharge permit and continued to violate the permit as recently as February. One of the two mine partners, Echo Bay, has a history of serious pollution violations in the lower 48 and in Alaska, including violations of water quality standards in Juneau's Gold Creek. The Kensington project has already caused a 2,500-gallon diesel fuel spill into Sherman Creek.

In addition to the mixing zone



this drawing not to scale

closely resembles an "upstream" dam, generally considered the least stable type of tailings dams and used mainly in drier climates.

The structure would use rock, sand, and gravel for the initial embankment, with subsequent levels utilizing waste rock from the mine and tailings with "the consistency of fine beach sand" as structural materials. This raises serious questions about dam stability, particularly considering that two major faults run through the area. Long-term maintenance after mine closure is also a

explosives use, major helicopter traffic, and a 250-person work camp, on these species will no doubt be severe.

Major housing crunch expected

Even the very rosy DEIS analysis reveals that the project will bring a net loss to the City and Borough of Juneau's coffers and worsen existing shortages of housing, schools, drug and alcohol treatment programs, and child care. For example, the project

the lines, the EIS reveals a project that would have major environmental impacts on Lynn Canal and outlying communities.

With the single exception of putting the mine's grinding facility underground, the Forest Service has proposed only minor changes to the company's project proposal.

"They're trying to cut a lot of corners," says SEACC mining analyst Chris Finch. "They're proposing some things here that would never even be considered in the lower-48. If they want to mine, they should do the job right."

The Kensington Venture plans to build a half-mile long earthen dam across Sherman Creek Valley, paralleling Lynn Canal, and fill the resulting impoundment with millions of tons of "tailings" (the waste left over from mining operations). The project would be four times larger than Greens Creek mine on Admiralty Island.

'Mixing zone' = pollution zone

Though "zero discharge" of pollutants is technologically feasible, Kensington Venture proposes to dump toxic tailings water into a "mixing zone" in Lynn Canal. In this pollution zone, the discharge as proposed would violate federal standards for cyanide and several heavy metals by over 100 times.

The discharge would include cyanide and a host of heavy metals toxic to marine life, including arsenic, copper, lead, mercury, selenium, and zinc into Lynn Canal. Copper is of particular concern to the gillnet fishery because of its effect on salmon's migratory abilities and their adaptability from freshwater to saltwater. The DEIS states: "It is reasonable to expect that some avoidance could occur in the immediate vicinity of the proposed outfall, particularly in response to copper..." but concludes that "no impacts are expected to the fisheries."

It's doubtful Kensington could even keep the discharge to the excessive levels they have



proposed. At Greens Creek, the mine has already been cited for 81 violations of its wastewater discharge permit and continued to violate the permit as recently as February. One of the two mine partners, Echo Bay, has a history of serious pollution violations in the lower 48 and in Alaska, including violations of water quality standards in Juneau's Gold Creek. The Kensington project has already caused a 2,500-gallon diesel fuel spill into Sherman Creek.

In addition to the mixing zone, numerous hazardous substances - including fuel, cyanide, and many others - would routinely be transported to and from the mine, and a major spill of many of them could have devastating consequences.

Flawed marine studies

Besides the gillnet fishery, Pt. Sherman supports a rich collection of marine life, including halibut, crab, shrimp, seals, whales, sea lions, and numerous sea birds. Relatively little is known about the marine ecosystem there, however, and state and federal biologists have blasted Kensington marine studies as inadequate.

"These studies are inadequate to serve as a baseline for predicting the effects of the proposed Kensington mine or to serve as the foundation for a monitoring program," the Alaska Department of Fish and Game wrote in a 1/17/91 letter to the Forest Service. However, the Forest Service has released the EIS despite only having about 12 days of marine studies on crab and bottomfish.

Questionable dam design

The proposed tailings dam is also of great concern. Projected to be half a mile wide and 240 feet high, it would contain 20 to 30 million tons of tailings. While Kensington refers to the structure as a "centerline" type of dam, many mine experts warn that it

closely resembles an "upstream" dam, generally considered the least stable type of tailings dams and used mainly in drier climates.

The structure would use rock, sand, and gravel for the initial embankment, with subsequent levels utilizing waste rock from the mine and tailings with "the consistency of fine beach sand" as structural materials. This raises serious questions about dam stability, particularly considering that two major faults run through the area. Long-term maintenance after mine closure is also a big concern.

The project would destroy critical habitat for black bears and mountain goats in the area. The peregrine falcon, an endangered species, is known to inhabit the area, but the mine's effect on the bird is at this point speculative. The effects of daily mine operations, including

explosives use, major helicopter traffic, and a 250-person work camp, on these species will no doubt be severe.

Major housing crunch expected

Even the very rosy DEIS analysis reveals that the project will bring a net loss to the City and Borough of Juneau's coffers and worsen existing shortages of housing, schools, drug and alcohol treatment programs, and child care. For example, the project would require over 850 housing units in Juneau, but the current vacancy rate is less than 2%.

Your letter is needed to let the Forest Service and the miners know that we won't stand for irresponsible mining development. The miners must pay their way or stay away!

What you can do about the Kensington mine!

Write today to:

1. U.S. Forest Service, 8465 Old Dairy Rd, Juneau 99801
2. U.S. EPA, 1200 6th Ave, WD-134, Seattle, WA 98101

Speak at upcoming Forest Service and EPA hearings:

- | | |
|--|---------|
| 1. Forest Service hearing, Juneau, Centennial Hall | July 11 |
| 2. Forest Service hearing, Haines City Council | July 18 |
| 3. EPA hearing on "mixing zone," Juneau, | July 31 |

Key points to bring up in your oral & written comments:

Ask the Forest Service and EPA to extend comment deadline until October 1 and to require the company to:

1. Conduct thorough studies of local crab, bottomfish, and juvenile salmon use of the Pt. Sherman area. Without these, the EIS's assessment of marine impacts is speculative.
2. Build a wastewater treatment plant (if a tailings dam is needed) and not allow discharge of any pollutants into Lynn Canal. Technology exists to fully treat discharge.
3. "Backfill," or put tailings back into the mine. This would greatly reduce visual and water quality impacts and eliminate the need for a tailings dam.
4. Use dry tailings disposal for tailings that cannot be back-filled. This technique eliminates the need for a tailings dam, reduces surface impacts, and protects local creeks.
5. Develop a long-term reclamation plan for maintaining the tailings dam in perpetuity.

COMMENT DEADLINE IS AUGUST 1

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January/February 1992

Supporters Still Savoring ANWR Victory

Supporters of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge won a huge victory on November 1st when the Senate voted to not even consider S.1220, the Johnston-Wallop comprehensive energy bill. One of S.1220's 16 titles would have opened the Arctic Refuge's coastal plain to oil and gas development.

Although this may seem like old news, this is the Sierra Borealis' first chance to savor the victory. Such a stunning accomplishment deserves an extended celebration into the new year.

Many factors contributed to our success, but one undeniably stands out from the rest -- i.e., the tens of thousands of dedicated people across the country and here in Alaska who care deeply about the refuge. These people expressed their views and concerns to their Senators and Representatives in no uncertain terms. Even our opponents recognize this fundamental strength.

groups, I must say, wrote the textbook on how to defeat a bill such as this, and my admiration is to them for the political skill they exhibited."

This truly was a team victory. And a critically important part of our team was the committed group of Senators that lead the filibuster effort against a powerful array of forces. Three freshman Senators — Richard Bryan (D-NV), Joseph Lieberman (D-CT), and Paul Wellstone (D-MN), — initially spearheaded the filibuster. They were joined by five colleagues — Max Baucus (D-MT), Al Gore (D-TN), Howard Metzenbaum (D-OH), William Roth (R-DE) and Tim Wirth (D-CO) — in sending the Senate an unmistakable message about the seriousness of their opposition. We owe them a great deal for their courage and leadership. Please express your thanks to them. Encourage friends and relatives living in their states to do likewise.

bill. Seven weeks before the impending vote, not many (if any) political pundits gave our champions much of a shot of stopping S.1220. But they didn't give up. And neither did grassroots activists from Florida to Alaska. When Friday, Nov. 1st rolled around, all sides agreed the vote looked close, though many still felt Sen. Johnston and friends would find their needed 60 votes. It was not to be. The motion to invoke cloture failed 50-44, not even close.

So what now? We've won a big victory, but the fight continues and we can't let down our guard. Congress will continue its effort to forge a national energy policy. Because of the filibuster's success, a revised Senate energy package will not include an Arctic leasing title. But there could still be an attempt to amend whatever package emerges in '91. Particularly disturbing is a proposed amendment by Sen. Inouye (D-HI) to allow leasing on private Arctic Slope Regional Corporation lands with

it can be frustrating at times — particularly when our own delegation is unmovable and the "conventional wisdom" in the Alaska press and among many Alaska residents is that Arctic development is inevitable. It isn't. The filibuster effort showed what commitment and hard work can do in the face of such "wisdom". Having spent most of the last year back in D.C. battling our powerful opponents, it has helped to think of all the people back home fighting along with me. Thanks for writing those letters to Congressmen and editors, for making those phone calls, for showing up to make your presence felt at August's Anchorage field hearing — and most of all, thanks for believing we can and will prevail.

—Jim Young
 Alaska Issues Specialist

* Below are the Senators who voted against cloture: Adams (D-WA), Baucus

LA), Chairman of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee and lead sponsor of the bill, said: "I certainly have great admiration for those who fought the fight. The environmental

voke cloture, or to cut off debate. Invoking cloture takes 60 votes. In other words, S.1220 backers needed to collect 60 votes before the Senate could proceed to consideration of the energy

Fire Island Port Project Faces Tough Road Ahead

Governor Hickel's dreams of a deep-water port at Fire Island are waning with the results of a feasibility study (released in early December). The Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA) financed the \$100,000 study which states "constructing fully developed port facilities... would not be economically feasible".

The feasibility study explored five alternatives and determined the port could cost anywhere from \$500 million to \$1.8 billion. The low figure is more than twice that of the \$226 million estimate given by Commonwealth North, the developmental advisory group founded by Hickel, in its study of the proposed port.

In addition to the cost, the study listed other negative points associated with development. These included the already existing Port of Anchorage, the existence of other more feasible alternatives, and various environmental concerns.

A market assessment study was done in conjunction with the feasibility study. This study asserts that two of the major projects which were considered basic to the proposed port, the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and the Trans-Alaska Gasline, would have little impact on Fire Island, even if they are ever developed.

Further, shipping companies that were questioned about their preference said they would rather operate at the Whittier and Valdez ports. They cited the shorter, ice-free passage with direct rail or highway access.

The finding of the report is obviously a set-back, but the project is not dead. AIDEA will not make a decision on the project until consultants review the figures. They hope to narrow the gap between the high and low estimates. According to the AIDEA, some questions remain as to several engineering aspects of the study. The review is not yet underway, but once begun, it should be completed within 30 days.

Although Hickel has stated that the port would not be built if it was found economically unfeasible, he is not yet willing to give up on the project. There will have to be further review of the numbers before the port proposal is dropped.

A letter of intent was signed by the state and Cook Inlet Region Inc. (CIRI) which would allow the state to purchase the Fire Island acreage. If the state accepts that the project is not feasible, the deal is off.

-Tracy Abell
Intern

The House is also drafting a comprehensive energy bill. Still in committee, Rep. Phil Sharp's (D-IN) H.R. 776 does not deal with the Arctic Refuge. However, it is likely that an Arctic drilling amendment will be offered when the bill reaches the House floor. Our best defense against these threats continues to be an aggressive offense — building support for wilderness protection. The Roth-Baucus bill, S. 39, has garnered 25 co-sponsors. The Mrazek wilderness bill, H.J. Res. 239, now numbers 120 co-sponsors. The more co-sponsors we secure, the better shape we'll be in for an eventual House vote. Continued co-sponsorship recruitment will pay off down the road.

On a personal note, I want to thank all the Alaska Chapter members who are working to protect the Arctic. I know

Bradley (D-NJ), Bryan (D-NJ), Burdick (D-ND), Chafee (R-RI), Cohen (R-ME), Cranston (D-CA), Dixon (D-IL), Durenberger (R-MN), Exon (D-NE), Fowler (D-GA), Glenn (D-OH), Gore (D-TN), Graham (D-FL), Grassley (R-IA), Harkin (D-IA), Hollings (D-SC), Kennedy (D-MA), Kerry (D-MA), Kohl (D-WI), Lautenberg (D-NJ), Leahy (D-VT), Levin (D-MI), Lieberman (D-CT), Lott (R-MS), Mack (R-FL), Metzenbaum (D-OH), Mikulski (D-MD), Moynihan (D-NY), Reid (D-NY), Riegle (D-MI), Robb (D-VA), Rockefeller (D-WV), Roth (R-DE), Sanford (D-NC), Sarbanes (D-NC), Sasser (D-TN), Simon (D-IL), Smith (R-NH), Wellstone (D-MN), Wirth (D-CO). If you have connections to any of these Senators, I'm sure thank yous would be welcome.

Hickel Recall Balls Planned

A rock-n-roll parody of Governor Hickel's Inaugural Ball is coming to Anchorage! The Hickel Recall Ball is scheduled for 7 PM, Saturday, January 25, at Grand Central Station (International Airport Rd. and Arctic Blvd.). The band Joystick will play music starting at 9 PM. Proceeds will benefit the Mickel/Coghill Recall Campaign.

Recall organizers hope to schedule Recall Balls in every city that hosted an Inaugural Ball for Governor Hickel last year. The ball in Fairbanks was a smashing success. Over 300 people attended and donated \$2,700 to help with the petition drive. Organizers in Juneau and Kodiak are working on their own Recall Balls. Once volunteers are recruited to organize the event in Nome, the campaign will be able to match

every Inaugural Ball with a Recall Ball.

The evening begins with a volunteer meeting starting at 7 PM. A series of political satires, beginning with a guided tour of the "Yellow Brick Road to Wally World" will commence at 7:30. Dozens of Hickel Administration scandals will be displayed on yellow sheets that form the road's paving bricks. Volunteers are welcome to organize and present their own Wally World skits during this time slot.

A donation of either \$10 or of 30 petitions (signed by registered Alaskan voters) is requested. Costumes are optional for state workers and other discrete recall supporters. If you have questions, would like blank petitions, or would like to schedule a Wally World Skit, call 248-0742.

Soft Footprints

The good news is, environmentalism is on the rise. The bad news is, for many, environmentalism is getting a bad name.

Environmental concerns are at the front of many minds these days. Recycling, toxic waste clean-up, the ozone layer, preventative measures, all of these are fairly well known terms and topics. For some of us, we say it's about time. But for many, these are only added expenses and headaches which won't go away. These two groups, according to the media and labelers, are the extremes: Industry and business, with the backing of many politicians, concerned about jobs and profit, on one end: Environmentalists,



concerned about pollution and destroyed habitat, on the other. Often clashing. With very different viewpoints and values. Each arguing that their position should be heard, their way should be followed.

While each side spends time, energy, and money on facts and statistics to back their position, neither side listens to the other. Then there is the silent majority which, for now, remains middle-of-the-road. There are many "neutral" people who hear both sides of this argument. Depending on the strength of the presented case, their own experiences, or the validity of the presenters themselves, this silent majority will begin to take sides. And where the sympathies of this large group fall may determine the future of many of our laws, habits, and decisions. (A recent example of what numbers can do is the decision to keep ANWR closed to oil and gas exploration.)

To some degree, environmentalists and industry are like lawyers or advertising specialists, both trying to con-

vince. Unfortunately, I believe this is where environmentalism is getting a bad name.

For an uncommitted public, these arguments must sound distastefully similar. Not the specific details, of course. But the battles, tactics, slams, insults, accusations, "do it my ways",... all begin to sound alike. Industries badmouth environmentalists all the time. We do the same back. I believe that people become so turned off and tuned out that they are not really hearing what we are trying to say. All they know is they have lost (or could lose) their job, taxes are up, gas prices may rise, things are tough all over. They are not sure who to believe, so they do not

believe anyone. They simply withdraw and become engaged in personal and local concerns. As a result, we fail to reach them, and our struggle becomes even more difficult.

I am not trying to say that we are taking the wrong approach. Our environmental leaders, organizers and spokespeople are doing essential and critical work. We need them. But they cannot reach everyone.

To some degree, we are all, or at least we have the potential to be spokespeople for the environment. In our day to day existence, we cannot afford to alienate ourselves from and make enemies with the people around us. It is more enjoyable, and more effective, to be viewed with positive esteem. I am much more apt to listen to and learn from someone I like and respect. Further, I feel more willing to work with, compromise with, or do something for someone whom I admire and who treats me well, even if I don't agree with all of his or her points. I believe that if we live softly on this planet, we are role models for others

This month's topic: BECOMING AN ENVIRONMENTAL SPOKESPERSON

This is another example of the little things we can all do to leave soft footprints. This is not something on which you must spend considerable time each day. On the contrary, if you simply assimilate it into your lifestyle, though it may take an initial effort, it is not hard to do. First, you must become proficient at practicing what you preach. You will be much more legitimate and believable if you actually leave soft footprints yourself. Role modelling is an extremely strong and effective teaching tool. Second, when you talk with your friends, neighbors, co-workers, the checker in the grocery, about the benefits of recycling, ways to save water, or about the concerns you have regarding our environment, be a good communicator. Being a good communicator involves knowing what the message is you want to send, being a good sender, AND being a good receiver or listener. Try to eliminate the following communication barriers from your vocabulary. These serve as brick walls in preventing your message from ever being received. If you find yourself using any of those, chances are, your message will never be heard.

Communication Barriers: "I know best"; "I told you so"; get backs; interrupting; intimidating; threats; commanding; ordering; blaming; put downs; narrow mindedness; complaining; silent treatment; changing the subject; lecturing; assuming; nagging; stereotyping.

- Editor

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**FINAL
DEADLINE**

for the next issue is

where the sympathies of this large group fall may determine the future of many of our laws, habits, and decisions. (A recent example of what numbers can do is the decision to keep ANWR closed to oil and gas exploration.)

To some degree, environmentalists and industry are like lawyers or advertising specialists, both trying to convince the general population that their argument or product is best. Neither of the two sides is trying to convince the other to convert. Instead, they are trying to reach the millions of people who remain undecided or who could be swayed on many issues.

Industries, politicians, and environmentalists all have their professional spokespeople who spend much time, energy and muscle presenting their

... it is more enjoyable, and more effective, to be viewed with positive esteem. I am much more apt to listen to and learn from someone I like and respect. Further, I feel more willing to work with, compromise with, or do something for someone whom I admire and who treats me well, even if I don't agree with all of his or her points. I believe that if we live softly on this planet, serve as role models for others, listen with respect, and speak with tact, our message will reach many more ears.

Industrialists, politicians, environmentalists, and ordinary-everyday-people: we all live on the same planet and use the same resources. We definitely have our differences, but it would be nice if we could get along while discussing them.

Notes From the Chair



Hello there. I'm Anne Fuller, the chair of the Alaska Chapter for 1992. I live in Juneau, three miles downstream from the glacier. In this column, I want to share my sense of urgency, and my feeling of appreciation, about conservation.

I know that I need ridges, beaches, and bogs to walk through today. Don't expect me to accept reassurances that trees will regrow in 50 years or that bulldozer scars will heal in 20 years, when my experiences for weeks and months will be diminished. So I believe land use decisions and government spending choices need to be wise now.

Participating in democracy is demanding. But I am certain that better actions result from more citizen activism. Consequently, I write comments to the best of my ability. On those

issues in which I have expertise, my comments are more detailed. In the last few years, however, I have decided to write even if my points are philosophical, rather than technical or economic. I encourage all members to follow issues and to speak loudly.

I offer thanks to all the stalwart workers whose efforts have moved our work closer to wise ways. I am proud to take a visible role in the Chapter, and I hope all of us will achieve even more soon. Together we have an impact on society's practices and plans. The dedication of long-term volunteers has built a structure that welcomes the enthusiasm of newcomers.

Join the fray. I hope you will attend meetings, write comments, direct your Club, and explore wild places with great verve. Until next time.

Advertising & Editorial

FINAL DEADLINE

for the next issue is
February 15

Sierra Borealis

The *Sierra Borealis* is published six times a year by the Alaska Chapter of the Sierra Club. We welcome articles, letters to the Editor, poems, photographs, artwork, cartoons, reports of local Club activities, or anything else which members think may be of interest to our readers. The editors reserve the right to use an item in full or in part as space permits. The editors reserve the right to reject items not pertinent to the mission of the *Sierra Borealis*. Articles should be double-spaced and a maximum of two 8 1/2" x 11" pages. Photographs must be glossy, high-contrast, black & white prints, 4" x 5" or larger. We strongly encourage you to submit items you think may be of interest. Vitality and diversity are hallmarks of good journalism and your contributions to the *Sierra Borealis* are an important part of the information exchange necessary to keep the organization alive and well. You may submit items for publication by sending them to Editor, *Sierra Borealis*, Alaska Chapter, Sierra Club, P.O. Box 103441, Anchorage, AK 99510.

Opinions expressed in the *Sierra Borealis* do not necessarily represent the official position of the Alaska Chapter or the Sierra Club.

The Alaska Chapter is run entirely by volunteers. If you are interested in contributing your energies, skills, and talent to any of a wide range of activities, please consult the Chapter Directory or contact the Alaska Field Office.

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Exxon Settlement Millions Should Protect Fish and Wildlife Habitat

What would you do with a few hundred million dollars? This is the question state and federal officials are facing in the wake of the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill settlement. The money must be spent "for purposes of restoring, replacing, enhancing, rehabilitating or acquiring the equivalent of natural resources injured as a result of the oil spill and the reduced or lost services provided by such resources." "Services" means human uses of natural resources, such as subsistence, commercial use, and recreation.

The bulk of the money is controlled by three federal and three state trustees, who are now in the process of deciding how and when the public may participate in restoration decisions. The State Legislature is also interested in having its say. To ensure that the money will be spent wisely, it is essential that the people of Alaska make their wishes known to these government officials.

Oil still remains under the surface of many beaches. However, additional cleanup is so expensive and sometimes so environmentally disruptive that in many cases it may no longer be a wise use of the limited funds. There are more beneficial ways to restore and protect our resources and the services they provide.

Stretching across the southern coast of Alaska are hundreds of thousands of acres of private lands that lie inside the boundaries of existing federal and state parks, forests, and wildlife refuges, as well as other lands which deserve pro-

tection of fish and wildlife. Such development is planned for some areas in and around Prince William Sound (Chugach National Forest), Kachemak Bay State Park, Kenai Fjords National Park, Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge, Afognak Island, Yakutat State Game Refuge, and the Bristol Bay drainage.

Using settlement money to protect key threatened areas is the best long term use of the funds, for both the people of Alaska and the environment. These areas need not have been in the direct path of the oil to provide opportunities to restore or replace damaged resources.

Some corporations, including Afognak Joint Venture and Seldovia Native Association, are interested in selling some of their land or timber rights to be included in parks and refuges. There are also other options. Cooperative land management agreements between corporations and the state or federal government could range from sales to "conservation easements," under which corporations retain the land ownership but agree to conserve habitat.

Commercial fishing would benefit from such agreements because of increased habitat protection. In many cases, the state Forest Practices Act does not provide adequate buffers to protect salmon streams from logging damage.

Sport fishing, hunting, and the recreation industry would also benefit because populations of rainbow trout, brown bears, and other prized species

were killed, and populations in the oil spill areas have been unable to successfully reproduce. However, some other injured species nest in forests, including bald eagles, harlequin ducks and marbled murrelets (which may soon be declared a threatened species outside Alaska). Protecting forest habitat would minimize further devastation of their populations.

Much of the so-called "billion dollar" settlement is already spoken for. Its present value (adjusted for inflation) is actually \$754 million, according to the state's Legislative Research Agency. At least \$142 million will go to reimburse state and federal agencies for past costs of clean-up, damage assessment, etc. Up to \$40 million more will go to reimburse attorney fees. An unspecified amount may be spent on future clean-up, as necessary.

A significant amount is also likely to go towards continuing scientific study of the long term effects of the spill. The state and federal governments are still keeping secret the oil spill damage assessment studies conducted so far. Release of this information is essential for restoration planning.

What money is left is inadequate for full restoration and not nearly enough to buy everything that is worthy of protection. We must husband the trust fund wisely and set priorities carefully.

—Marilyn Leland,
Cordova District Fishermen United
—Nancy Lord,

Outdoor Education Conference Planned

A first-ever, state-wide outdoor education conference is currently in the works. The conference will combine environmental, adventure, and experiential education along with therapeutic and recreational outdoor programming. As a participant, you will have multiple options per session from which to choose. Topics will reflect cognitive, affective, and physical domains through environmental, therapeutic/experiential, and wilderness skills. Workshops will be presented in lecture and hands-on formats. Several key note speakers will be attending. If you have an expertise you would like to share, additional leaders and workshop topics are still being actively solicited. The conference will be held in Anchorage from March 27-29, 1992. The cost is \$65. Optional UAA graduate credit will be available. If you are interested in attending or would like more information, please contact: AOC c/o Adventures & Delights, 414 "K" Street, Anchorage, AK 99501, or call (907) 276-8282.

Sierra Youth

protect our resources and the services they provide.

Stretching across the southern coast of Alaska are hundreds of thousands of acres of private lands that lie inside the boundaries of existing federal and state parks, forests, and wildlife refuges, as well as other lands which deserve protection.

Owners of this private land are almost all Native Corporations. They must produce revenue, and they frequently feel compelled to log or subdivide their land despite risks to the subsistence, recreational, and commercial

cases, the state Forest Practices Act does not provide adequate buffers to protect salmon streams from logging damage.

Sport fishing, hunting, and the recreation industry would also benefit because populations of rainbow trout, brown bears, and other prized species decline in areas subdivided for recreational tracts.

As for restoring the wildlife most affected by the oil spill, there may be little that humans can do to help species which live entirely in the sea or tidal

full restoration and not nearly enough to buy everything that is worthy of protection. We must husband the trust fund wisely and set priorities carefully.

- Marilyn Leland, Cordova District Fishermen United
- Nancy Lord, Alaska Environmental Lobby
- Doug Ogden, Alaska Sportfishing Association
- Howard Valley, Afognak Joint Venture

For more information, please contact: AOEC c/o Adventures & Delights, 414 "K" Street, Anchorage, AK 99501, or call (907) 276-8282.

Sierra Youth Eco-activity



HIDDEN HABITATS

by Deb Ajango-Smith

When travelling through the cities, towns, and villages of Alaska, it is usually quite easy to see where the people live. It's not so easy, however, to find the homes of Alaskan birds and wildlife. See if you can find some of the trees and habitat that shelter and feed our furry and feathered friends.

S B V P U H C R I B C H W A P
W O A R G W R D N O E K L R I
Y D E M S O L A M G W B T O G
J G C O T T O N W O O D D N F
N S H B L U W T C M O S P U O
X C K G L I F W U N D H A T S
N A Y A L P I N E S L O P E S
O Z S L O U C P O P A C M E R
U L O V L D S R B E N F L C U
E W O O W A N X K C D S G U H
S T W P L Z R D S J S B O R T
R H A M B P S C H E P M L P W
L I F T J H S V H E A T H S G
V P U K C O L M E H R K Y T A
W O D A E M W I G U E D F S J

(Habitat: MEADOW, BOG, WOODLAND, HEATHS, TUNDRA, ALPINE SLOPES. AK Trees: COTTONWOOD, ASPEN, BIRCH, WILLOWS, LARCH, SPRUCE, HEMLOCK)

Update on Interior Department Spending and Amendments

The session's appropriations bill for the FY 1992 (Oct. 1 - Sept. 1) budget of the Interior Department contains the usual mix of good and bad items for Alaska. On the positive side, \$3.1 million was added by Senator Ted Stevens (R-AK) for acquisition of mining properties in the Kantishna Hills area of Denali National Park and Preserve. The Park Service had originally requested \$5 million.

Last year Stevens got \$5 million, which has enabled the Park Service to purchase tracts that otherwise would likely have been sold for resort and other commercial purposes. According to the Service, about \$30 million more—in \$5 million installments—will be necessary to complete the acquisition program. Sierra Club members can thank Senator Stevens for his efforts to date and encourage him to continue his support for the park by writing to him at: U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510.

A \$1.7 million appropriation sponsored by Stevens in the Senate version of the bill, for design and planning of a south side Denali National Park visitor center, was dropped in House-Senate conference committee. The money was sought by the State Division of Parks, which is apparently still bent on a resort

and visitor center complex at High Lake in Denali State Park.

The Park Service, which had not requested the funds, is currently preparing an EIS/Development Concept Plan on the proposed visitor center and other public facilities on the park's south side. House-Senate conferees may have deleted the funding as premature.

Three other Stevens amendments, opposed by the Sierra Club and other conservation groups, were adopted. Stevens amended—for one year—the Tongass Timber Reform Act of 1990 via an amendment that funds the sale of 420 million board feet in FY 92. He had added 450 million board feet to the Senate version, but he settled for the lower figure in conference.

Just last year the Tongass Timber Reform Act revoked the requirement in the Alaska Lands Act of 1980 that the Forest Service offer an average of 450 million board feet per year. Instead, the Service was instructed to meet the market demand for timber. In FY 1991, the Forest Service sold 354 million board feet, and the industry cut 364.6 million. Since 1952, the average cut has been 350; over the last 11 years the average has been 295 per year.

In a second amendment, added as a

rider during Senate floor debate, Stevens sought to make Far North Bicentennial Park in Anchorage available for commercial development. His amendment would have authorized the Secretary of the Interior to find any or all of the 700 acres still being used by the BLM to be surplus to federal needs, in which case the Secretary would have been required to sell the acreage. Most importantly, the amendment eliminated the restrictions of a 1974 land use plan that Congress adopted when it conveyed the former military lands to the State. These restrictions protected watersheds and wetlands of the north and south forks of Campbell Creek within the park.

In conference committee, mandatory disposal of unneeded BLM acreage was dropped, but the far more dangerous "release" of park lands from the restrictive covenants was retained. This probably means that a new land use plan for the park will be necessary pursuant to the federal Recreation and Public Purposes Act. Development interests led by Mayor Tom Fink—who requested the amendment—are already circling over the formerly protected park lands.

(continued on page 4)

Update on Interior Department *(continued from page 3)*

A third Stevens amendment was in the form of a rider to the Defense Department spending bill during Senate floor debate. At the request of the Calista (Native) regional corporation, Stevens sought to authorize acquisition by the federal government of 210,000 acres of Calista surface and subsurface estate for \$300 per acre. Acquired land would be added to the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge. No appraisal of the acreage had been made, and the rider was a surprise to the Interior Department and all other observers.

Senator Stevens' fast footwork on the spending bills was watched closely by Rep. George Miller (D-CA), Chairman of the House Interior Committee, and by Rep. Bruce Vento (D-MN), Chairman of the Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands. By using the spending bills as vehicles for substantive non-fiscal amendments, Stevens was trying to circumvent the Miller and Vento committees, and the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, which are the "authorizing" committees for non-fiscal matters. (See Nov./Dec. *Sierra Borealls* for additional background.)

Miller and Vento asked House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee Chairman, Sidney Yates (D-IL), and House Defense Appropriations Chairman, John Murtha (D-PA), to do what they could to side-track or neutralize the Stevens amendments. As noted

above, the Bicentennial Park and Tongass amendments were slightly modified. The Calista amendment was changed to impose a \$300 per acre ceiling, as opposed to the \$300 floor in the original amendment, and it is no longer a mandatory exchange.

When the dust settled, Stevens got some, perhaps most, of what he wanted. He may have won, however, a classic "pyrrhic victory", or one that is indeed costly for him. Miller and Vento, aroused by Stevens' raid on their committees' prerogatives, unveiled a new agreement with Rep. Yates when the Conference Committee bill came to the floor for full House approval. Hereafter, the three agreed, the House would reject any substantive, non-fiscal provisions on the Interior spending bill, as required by existing House rules.

Their pact will probably not deter Senator Stevens. But if Miller, Vento, and Yates can hold the line in future conference committees, the senior Senator from Alaska will see some of his legislative proposals examined in the same manner as other bills. This would be a welcome reform of the legislative process.

Sierra Club members can express their thanks and encouragement to Reps. Miller, Vento, and Yates by writing them at the U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515.

— Jack Hession

Trees Falling at Florence Lake

Florence Lake on Admiralty Island was a beautiful place: a lake big enough to land a float plane on, with a Forest Service cabin where one could stay.

This summer, a number of important people, previously uninvolved in conservation issues, found a reason to get involved. "My god, they're putting in a road at Florence Lake. They're going to log it!" There followed a flurry of excitement about saving Florence Lake; but it was too little, and way too late. The Forest Service ended up filling a

Island, Spaulding Meadows to Cowee Creek and Berners Bay . . .). The list goes on.

Nearly every place that is not a Congressionally designated National Monument or Wilderness Area is marked for, what the Forest Service calls, "resource development".

More than a few Gustavus residents are so concerned about what they see the Forest Service doing that they talk seriously about civil disobedience; i.e., sitting in front of the bulldozers. It's hard

Voices From Around the State

Letter Opposes Transportation Plan

It is true that the majority of Anchorage citizens will not give up their cars, but the reason is because they are chained to the road by the tyranny of the automobile. As long as our winter city is allowed to develop its land along the suburban, auto-oriented patterns of sun-belt cities, people will be forced into automobiles. This suburban-sprawl model contains serious environmental, social, and economic deficiencies which will inevitably choke off opportunities for sustained community growth and prosperity.

One of the significant weaknesses of our Long-Range Transportation Plan is the inadequate analysis of the costs associated with a suburban city in the sub-arctic. These costs will become painfully clear as Prudhoe Bay oil revenues decline. State government will be forced to reduce its subsidies for operation and maintenance of local roads. As these, and other road-related, costs come home, they will crowd out other important public priorities.

Suburban sprawl has a number of negative consequences:

- By assuming that the people will drive to and from all activities, the need for large streets and parking lots is a self-fulfilling prophecy. This large amount of land turned over to automobiles is land which is lost for construction of revenue generating development.

- By consigning the bulk of the available public budget to pay for transportation infrastructure, the human infrastructure of schools, recreation centers, fire stations, ice rinks and cultural buildings is starved.

- By forbidding mixed-use areas, the investment of personal time in the activity of commuting is mandatory. A person who drives two hours a day spends the equivalent of 8 working-weeks in the car. This also results in lost productivity for businesses as employees arrive late for work, in addition to disrupted business operations due to

maintenance. Pedestrians are forced to walk in the street next to high-speed traffic because walkways are impassable.

We will all suffer from suburban sprawl in our winter city. We will suffer by being forced into multiple automobile ownership. This absorbs an extra average yearly cost of car ownership of \$5,700. The possibility of a family owning one car less is the single most important subsidy that can be provided towards affordable housing.

The elderly suffer by losing their self-sufficiency once they lose their driver's licenses. Seniors with walking ability may continue to live independently within traditional neighborhoods, but in suburban sprawl they must be warehoused in retirement communities.

An alternative to this suburban sprawl is another form of low density urbanism and one which is more suited to our status as a winter city: the Traditional Neighborhood. This was the model in the U.S. from the first settlements to World War II. This pattern of development achieves a number of positive things according to Andre Duany, a very successful developer of planned communities:

- By bringing most of the activities of daily living into walking distance, everyone, but especially the elderly, physically disabled, and the young gain independence of movement.

- By reducing the number and length of automobile trips, traffic congestion is minimized, the expenses of road construction, along with their operation and maintenance costs, are limited and air pollution is reduced.

- By providing streets and squares of pedestrian scale, neighbors, walking, come to know each other and to watch over their collective security.

- By providing appropriate building concentrations at easy walking distance from bus stops, public transit becomes a viable alternative to the automobile.

Service cabin where one could stay.

This summer, a number of important people, previously uninvolved in conservation issues, found a reason to get involved. "My god, they're pulling in a road at Florence Lake. They're going to log it!" There followed a flurry of excitement about saving Florence Lake, but it was too little, and way too late. The Forest Service ended up killing a potential land swap, and now the trees are falling.

Last summer, Congress passed the Tongass Timber Reform Act. Unfortunately, that did not end the fighting over the Tongass. Currently, the Forest Service is revising the management plan which dictates the future of all land not specifically preserved in Wilderness Areas or National Monuments.

The Tongass National Forest land managers are laying plans to permit logging and/or mining in *your favorite* fishing, hunting, boating, kayaking, hiking, and camping spots. Some of the potentially affected sights include the Couverson Island "Home Shore" area, Mansfield Peninsula, Taku Harbor, and the whole east shore of Stephens Passage south (including Port Snettisham to Holkham Bay, Windham Point, Hobart Bay, the west side of Lynn Canal from William Henry Bay to Sullivan

Nearly every place that is not a Congressionally designated National Monument or Wilderness Area is marked for, what the Forest Service calls, "resource development".

More than a few Gustavus residents are so concerned about what they see the Forest Service doing that they talk seriously about civil disobedience; i.e., sitting in front of the bulldozers. It's hard to argue against such an approach since the Tongass National Foresters seem to have achieved near bureaucratic perfection: they politely listen to public comments and ideas, they then ignore the people and ideas and go ahead with their own plans. Protection of places important to the residents of Southeast Alaska has been achieved ONLY through strong public pressure.

If you wait until the bulldozers start grading logging roads, your favorite place will end up like Florence Lake. Though the comment deadline was December 6, the fight for the Tongass is not over. The Governor is threatening to sue the Forest Service in order to establish even higher logging levels (Is his aim to deforest SE Alaska?). Doing nothing will have a guaranteed outcome. Get excited NOW.

— Michael Sakarias
Chair, Juneau Group

buildings is stayed.

• By forbidding mixed-use areas, the investment of personal time in the activity of commuting is mandatory. A person who drives two hours a day spends the equivalent of 8 working-weeks in the car. This also results in lost productivity for businesses as employees arrive late for work, in addition to disrupted business operations, due to winter driving conditions.

This increased commuting also produces serious public safety concerns. The large increase in auto accidents after a snowfall, which occurs quite frequently, maims and kills our citizens. Police are burdened with extra traffic related work which removes them from criminal cases. Fire and emergency services have to be expanded to handle the automobile accidents. Auto and pedestrian conflicts increase as roads are widened with little setback for sidewalks, which have little or no winter

operation and maintenance costs, are limited and air pollution is reduced.

• By providing streets and squares of pedestrian scale, neighbors, walking, come to know each other and to watch over their collective security.

• By providing appropriate building concentrations at easy walking distance from bus stops, public transit becomes a viable alternative to the automobile.

We still have an opportunity to take control over our future, minimize our taxes and create a more livable winter city. A city with a realistic, climate-sensitive transportation infrastructure which is sustainable over the long term. A city built around traditional neighborhoods, not suburbs, and for people, not automobiles. A city built to be accessible by everyone and affordable for all.

—Allan Kempton
Vice-President,
Anchorage Winter Cities Assoc.

Sierra Borealis Advertising Rates

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Quarter Page Ad (4 7/8" wide x 7 5/8" deep) \$75.00

Eighth Page Ad (4 7/8" wide x 3 5/8" deep) \$25.00

If you would like to run an ad in the newsletter, please submit camera ready copy and your payment to the Editor by the 15th of the prepublication month (Feb, April, June, Aug, Oct, Dec). Checks should be made payable to the Sierra Club. The mailing address is Editor, Sierra Borealis, Alaska Chapter, Sierra Club, P.O. Box 103441, Anchorage, AK 99510. Questions should be directed to Debby Alango at 337-3480.



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Fisheries

2-11-92



UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

211 4th Street, Suit 112
Juneau, AK 99801
907-586-2820
Fax# 907-463-2545

February 11, 1992

MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

Alaska Crab Coalition
Alaska Independent Fishermen's
Marketing Association
Alaska Longline Fisherman's
Association
Alaska Trollers Association
Bering Sea Fishermen's Association
Bristol Bay Driftnetters Association
Concerned Area "M" Fishermen
Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association
Copper River Fishermen's Cooperative
Cordova District Fishermen United
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association
North Pacific Fisheries Association
Northern Southeast Regional
Aquaculture Association
Peninsula Marketing Association
Petersburg Vessel Owners Association
Prince William Sound
Aquaculture Association
Prince William Sound Seiners Association
Seafood Producers Cooperative
Southeast Alaska Seiners
Southern Southeast Regional
Aquaculture Association
United Cook Inlet Drift Association
United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters
Western Alaska Cooperative
Marketing Association

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Cliff Davidson, Chairman
and Members of the House Resources Committee

FROM: United Fishermen of Alaska Board of Directors

SUBJECT: PRESENTATION TO THE STATE OF ALASKA
HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before the House Resources Committee.

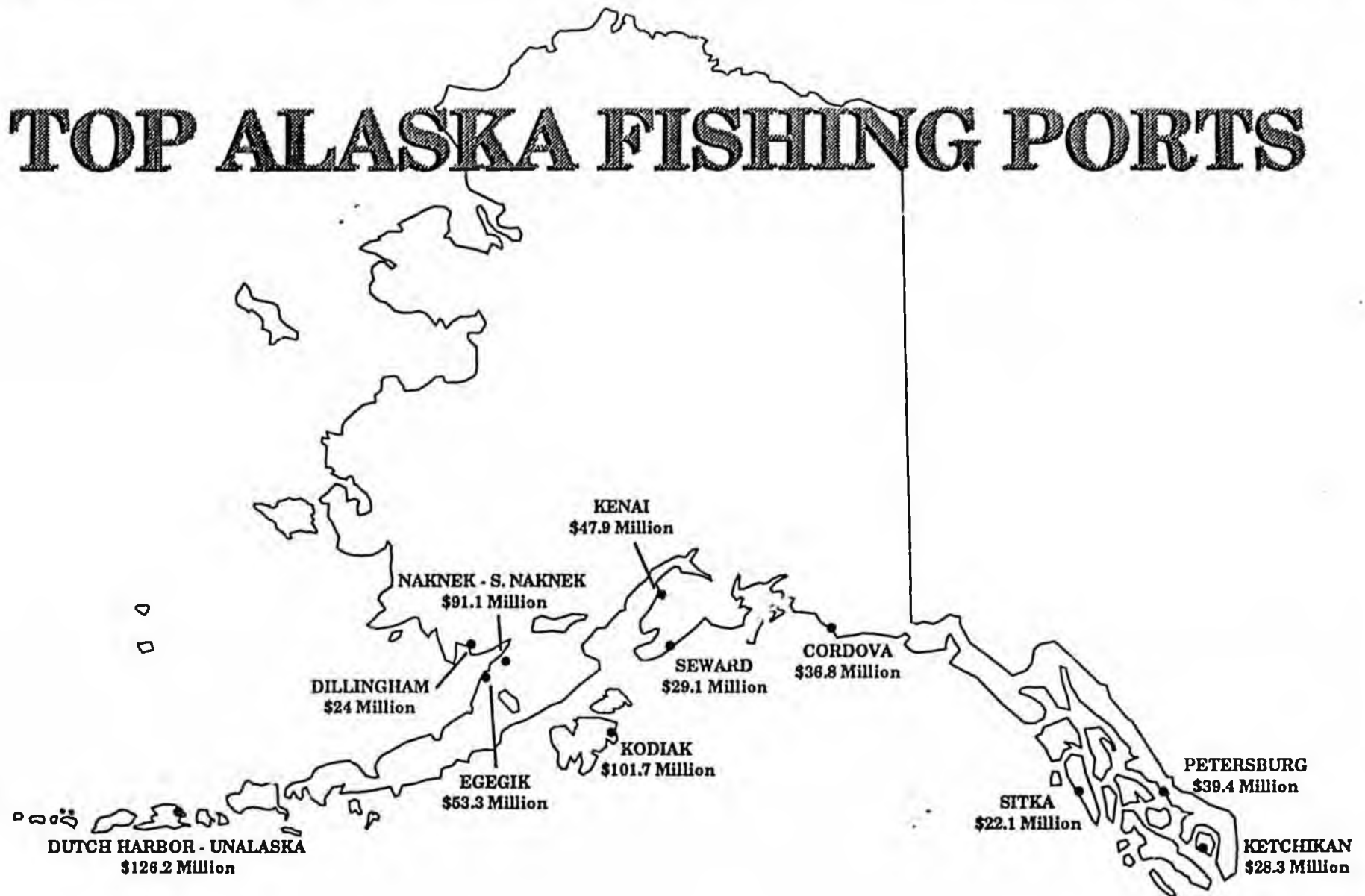
Attached for your information is a chartlet that illustrates the locations of UFA member groups and the ex-vessel value of the catches that are landed in those areas.

We would hope that this material is helpful to you in realizing the statewide nature of our organization as well as the economic importance of these fishery harvests to the State of Alaska.

GS:phl

Attachment

TOP ALASKA FISHING PORTS



Several Alaska communities stormed the elusive "top twenty" list of premier U.S. seafood ports. The value of seafood landings in most of these Alaska fishing towns ranked well ahead of San Francisco; Boston; Key West, FL; Astoria, OR; Cameron, LA; Montauk, NY; and many others. These, and many other communities, are the building blocks for an industry that has Alaska's largest payroll.

UFA MEMBER GROUPS

