

**ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 1999-2000 8672**

**10121 SENATE RESOURCES**

a National Landmark was not evaluated. Also, managing the small fish return of McNeil River mixed with the 1,500,000 fish return for Paint River was not discussed.

A lawsuit questioning these and other issues was filed against the Corps. That prompted fishing interests to lobby for and obtain legislation addressing McNeil River Sanctuary. The new legislation allows bear hunting, uncontrolled land use and offers little protection for the bears. The fishermen were responsible for a ransom clause in the legislation. The legislation does not become effective until fish use the ladder. This new attempt to get the suit dropped failed. The lawsuit is still pending.

Recently, the Army Corps of Engineers announced its intention to address the issue of the McNeil River bears again. Still hoping to get the lawsuit dropped?

They ask interested people to comment to the Corps of Engineers, Alaska District, Regulatory Branch, P.O. Box 898, Anchorage 99506-0098, referencing project SPN 91-4, by Aug. 31. If enough people comment, the Corps will understand the value of McNeil River and do a thorough analysis. They should ensure that this world-renowned placed not be ruined forever.

Leo Keeler

**WHY ARE WE KILLING ALASKA'S WOLVES?**

Please Join The Alaska Wildlife Alliance...

Thursday, March 2nd \* 6:30-8:30 pm

Egan Center, Downtown Anchorage

**RALLY:** Opposing Wolf Control (Begins promptly at 6:30 p.m.)

**PANEL DISCUSSION:**

Moderator and Wolf Biologist, Dr. Paul Joslin

25-year Moose Biologist, Dr. Vic Van Ballenberghe

Tourism Representative, Sarah Leonard

Ataska Board of Game Member, Leo Keeler

The Next Generation, 8-year old James Holleman

The Law and the People, Attorney Mike Grisham

**SLIDE SHOW**

by professional wildlife photographers Dorothy and Leo Keeler

**WE NEED YOUR HELP TO STOP BAD WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT. WILDLIFE IS FOR ALL ALASKANS!**

Alaska's Board of Game wants wolf control now! Show up and say no!!

For more information, call 277-0897

The Alaska Wildlife Alliance

P.O. Box 202022

Anchorage, AK 99520

(907) 277-0897

(907) 277-7423

<mailto:awa@alaska.net> <<mailto:awa@alaska.net>>

<http://www.akwildlife.org/> <<http://www.akwildlife.org/>>

[www.awimages.com](http://www.awimages.com)

**\*\*TOKLAT WOLF SPECIAL TUESDAY, NOV. 2nd ON CBS NEWS \*\***

*from the web site*



**\*\*TOKLAT WOLF SPECIAL TUESDAY, NOV. 2nd ON CBS NEWS \*\***

On Tuesday, November 2nd, CBS Evening News with Dan Rather featured the Toklat Wolves of Denali National Park, Alaska in a special segment of "Eye on America." Stay tuned... we expect them to do a followup story during the March Board of Game meeting.

The Toklat wolves are the most famous, most viewed, most photographed, first and longest studied group of wild wolves in the world.

Trapping season began November 1st, and it is our hope that people from all over the world will join us in seeking full legal protection for this special family of wolves.

(Please read the following six paragraphs, then go to our partner's site ([The Alaska Wildlife Alliance](#)) to send a free electronic postcard to voice your support for protecting the Wolves of Denali National Park. You can also help the Toklat wolves by purchasing a "[Wolves of Denali](#)" screensaver. You'll have a daily reminder of how special these wolves are, PLUS, 50% of the profits of the sale will go to The Alaska Wildlife Alliance. The proceeds will fund programs that protect the future of these very special wolves.

Thank you again for caring! My husband and I are professional wildlife photographers who are working with The Alaska Wildlife Alliance to try and save 10 of the rarest creatures on earth... the Toklat pack of wolves in Denali National Park, Alaska. This group of 10 wolves (only 2 adults, 4 yearlings, and 4 puppies from this year) is like no other. Like the McNeil River bears, they are totally habituated to humans and regularly walk next to bus loads of tourists, hikers, and photographers. They are currently being hunted and trapped as they follow their primary food source... a caribou herd that winters just outside of Denali National Park.

We are involved because we seem to have "wolf karma", and over the last ten years, have taken one of the largest collections of photographs of these wolves on earth. We have photos of pack members trotting next to buses and hikers, adorable photos of 6 week old puppies, several sequences involving two different bears and a wolf feeding on the same carcass, one sequence of the alpha male jumping over a carcass and dunking another wolf in a river, and the most amazing thing of all... this June, not once, not twice, but on 3 different days, we had a wild wolf walk within 5 feet of us AS WE SAT ON THE SIDE OF THE ROAD. Imagine a wild wolf approaching you at EYE LEVEL.

We have tried the standard route of testifying before the Alaska Board of Game to give the pack protection throughout it's entire range, but were denied for political reasons. Alaska is a state where reason does not always prevail. A former governor was quoted on national T.V. as saying "You can't let nature run wild", and we have a current legislature lead by predator control supporters.

We hope to put pressure on our stalemated Alaskan political officials, and have the interested land managers work together to protect these wolves within their entire home range. The officials currently insist on managing the Denali wolf population as a whole, and ignore the international value of the watchable wildlife traits that are being passed on in this specific pack of wolves.

We urge you to contact Steve Martin, the Superintendent of Denali National Park and Governor Tony Knowles in support of protecting these wolves within their entire range (go to our partner's site ([The Alaska Wildlife Alliance](#)) to send a free electronic postcard to voice your support for protecting the Wolves of Denali National Park.). Please pass this information on to anyone you feel would be in a position to help us. And consider helping by giving this issue as much exposure as you have available. Trapping season began November 1st. The lives of 10 very special creatures depend on your help...

Our only enemy is apathy. We hope what you have seen and learned will convince you of your value in helping in this effort. Please don't turn away... We promise you...you will wake up in the morning feeling proud of what your involvement did for 10 of the rarest and most fascinating creatures on the planet.

**REMEMBER.....YOU CAN HELP THE TOKLAT WOLVES IN THREE WAYS:**

1) Please send a free electronic postcard to Governor Tony Knowles in support of the full protection of the Toklat wolves. Go to the web site of our partner, The Alaska Wildlife Alliance (<http://www.akwildlife.org/campaigns/toklat/epostcard.htm>), complete the short form and hit "send". It's quick and easy!

2) You can also help the Toklat wolves by purchasing a "Wolves of Denali" screensaver. Please go to: <http://www.awimages.com/DenaliWolfPreview.htm> to order a downloadable copy. You can enjoy your new screensaver immediately and have a daily reminder of how special these wolves are. PLUS, 50% of the profits of the sale will go to The Alaska Wildlife Alliance Toklat Wolf Fund, so you'll have the satisfaction of knowing you truly helped! The Toklat Wolf Fund has been set aside to fund programs that protect the future of these very special wolves.

3) Help us spread the word! It's fun and easy by sending a Free electronic postcard from our web site. Go to: <http://www.awimages.com/p5-index.html> and choose from several scenic or wildlife photos, fill in your message, address and send. You are welcome to send as many as you'd like, as often as you'd like!

Leo and I can't thank you enough for taking time to read this and helping at whatever level you feel comfortable. On behalf of the Toklat wolves, Bless your heart!

Most Sincerely,

Dorothy and Leo Keeler

To receive a copy of this article, send us an [E-mail](#) and request "send me CBS info".

**NEW SERVICE Totally FREE Wildlife Electronic [postcard3.html](#)POSTCARDS**

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The Alaska Wildlife Alliance invites you to attend ...

*"The Wolves of Denali National Park"*

*Slide Presentation*

7:30 pm– 9:00 p.m. Friday, February 18, 2000

Mendenhall Glacier Visitor Center

Juneau, Alaska

Free Admission

*(Space is limited—arrive early!)*

Wildlife photographers Leo & Dorothy Keeler present a slide show with special emphasis on the Toklat family of wolves at Denali National Park. The Toklat wolves are the most famous, most viewed, most photographed, first and longest studied group of wild wolves in the world.



This presentation will include the highlights of interactions and behaviors rarely, if ever, captured on film. See 6-week old wild wolf puppies, a wolf chasing a fox and interactions between two bears and a wolf feeding on the same carcass. Most astonishing, view photos of a wolf walking within 5 feet of the photographers.

Part of the USDA Forest Service, Juneau Ranger District  
Fireside Chat Series

# Alaska Outdoor Council

PO Box 73902  
Fairbanks, AK 99707-3902  
Tel./FAX: (907) 455-4AOC (4262)  
[outdoor@polarnet.com](mailto:outdoor@polarnet.com)

February 28, 2000

The Honorable Tony Knowles  
Office of the Governor  
State Capitol  
PO Box 110001  
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

Dear Governor Knowles:

Your recent intrusion into wildlife management is almost unprecedented. You boot out one of the best Game Board members we've had in years and threaten the rest of the Board with a blackmail scheme to patronize anti-hunters. Then you delay reappointing the other Board member whose term has expired while you wait to see if the Board will succumb to blackmail. This scheme has the paw-prints of Jim Ayres, your chief of staff, all over it. Maybe your "take no prisoners" approach in attempting to dictate wildlife management policies should be no surprise.

Whatever your reasons and whatever the advice may have been from your Machiavellian staff, you have made a mockery of the Game Board, the Board's public process, and of the public at large. This Game Board came up with a very sound position on wolf control as a result of dealing with all the factors involved. No one's interests were ignored. The realities of predator-prey relationships in Alaska were accurately presented. The Board did not propose predator control as a cure-all. They dealt with the practical necessity of developing a framework for deciding on how to manage wildlife where predation is a major influence on big game prey. They obviously took into consideration your spongy mantra of "sound science, cost effectiveness, broad public support" regarding predator control.

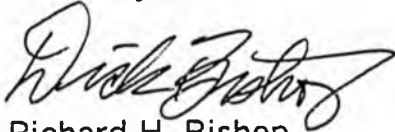
But when the Board acted on the logical conclusion that wolf control was warranted in GMU 19D(East) and in GMU 13, you told them they weren't doing their job right. After "firing" Bob Churchill by not reappointing him, you told the Board they better set up some new protective zones for wolves and bears or there would be no more talk of predator control. Then you appointed Leo Keeler to "help" them. Keeler has made a mini-career of opposing hunters' and trappers' interests. Instead of retaining a person with a broad perspective and proven ability, you have appointed a known extremist, claiming that will help the Board

represent "broader" interests.

Perhaps the most politically cynical aspect of your actions is that you know Keeler's appointment is unlikely to be confirmed by the Legislature. Keeler, for all his zeal and identity as an environmental advocate, is to you nothing more than a political pawn, whose appointment you know to be a hollow gesture.

By the time the smoke clears you will have savaged everyone's interests--the Game Board, hunters, trappers, viewers, photographers, ADF&G, the Legislature, etc. Hopefully, none of these folks will tolerate such unethical tactics.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard H. Bishop".

Richard H. Bishop,  
Vice President

# CORRECTION

THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENT(S)  
HAVE BEEN REFILMED TO  
ASSURE LEGIBILITY OR PAGINATION



Rev. 6/98

Central Microfilm Services  
Department of Education & Early Development  
State of Alaska

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Part of the USDA Forest Service, Juneau Ranger District  
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To learn more about the Toklat wolves, visit the website of  
The Alaska Wildlife Alliance at  
[www.akwildlife.org](http://www.akwildlife.org)



To learn more about the work of photographers  
Dorothy & Leo Keeler, visit their website at  
[www.awimages.com](http://www.awimages.com)



**Alaska Wildlife Alliance**  
P.O. Box 202022  
Anchorage, AK 99520  
907-277-0897  
Email: [awa@alaska.net](mailto:awa@alaska.net)

*Toklat Wolf Slide  
Show ...  
Don't Miss It!*

# Alaska Outdoor Council

PO Box 73902  
Fairbanks, AK 99707-3902  
Tel./FAX: (907) 455-4AOC (4262)  
[outdoor@polarnet.com](mailto:outdoor@polarnet.com)

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The Honorable Tony Knowles  
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State Capitol  
PO Box 110001  
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

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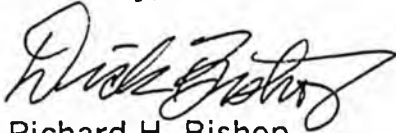
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard H. Bishop".

Richard H. Bishop,  
Vice President



## Alaska Outdoor Council

PO Box 73902  
 Fairbanks, AK 99707-3902  
 Tel./FAX: (907) 455-4AOC (4262)  
 e-mail: outdoor@polarnet.com  
 www2.polarnet.com/users/outdoor/

Senator Rich Holford, Chair  
 Senate Resources  
 Alaska State Legislature  
 State Capitol  
 Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Senator Holford:

Please be advised that the Alaska Outdoor Council is apposed to confirmation of Mr. Leo Keeler to a seat on the Alaska Board of Game. Mr. Keeler has supported the closure of bear viewing areas to hunting on the Alaska Peninsula when it was not necessary and he has been a strong proponent for the creation of buffer areas adjacent to Federal Park lands for protection of predators. At a time when we need objective Board members making decisions on our wildlife Mr. Keeler does not fit with what we perceive as a very slanted history toward consumptive users. We question whether the legislative mandate for intensive manage would receive fair consideration by this individual. Please vote no on his confirmation.

Yours truly,  
 Carl L. Roar, President  
 Alaska Outdoor Council

P O Box 20781 Juneau, AK 99802 Phone 463-3830/Fax 586-8020



# Fax

To: Senator Halford From: Carl L Rosier  
 Fax: 465-4928 Pages: 1  
 Phone: 465-4958 Date: 3/6/00  
 Re: Conf of Leo Keeler CC:  
 Urgent  For Review  Please Comment  Please Reply  Please Recycle

• Comments:

Territorial Sportsmen are opposed to confirmation of Mr Leo Keeler as a member of the Board of Game. His legacy of supporting closure of Bear viewing areas to hunting and support for creation of buffer areas adjacent to federal park lands for protection of predators indicates a severe lack of balance in his approach to game management in this state. We believe that such an individual would not be objective in his decision making capacity when the Board involves itself with intensive mgmt for the benefit of all Alaskans. Please oppose Mr Keeler's appointment.

March 6, 2000

Dear Senator Halford

Please DO NOT confirm Leo Keeler to the Alaska Game Board. The governor's reason for appointing him makes about as much sense as appointing a rapist to the victims rights committee. He is an avowed Wildlife Alliance partner. They are against hunting and want to add every little inconvenience there is to hunting. The Game and Fish boards make the rules we must go by. We don't need an obstructionist on the board to "give the other side" we need devoted conservationists from the hunting and fishing community of which there are many. Send him packing SOON. his web site alone should convince you. its address is:  
<http://www.awimages.com/CBS.htm>

Sincerely Stan Bloom  
303 Bentley Drive  
Fairbanks, AK 99701  
907-452-5068

**Subject: Oppose Mr. Keeler to Game Board**

**Date: Mon, 6 Mar 2000 13:47:49 -1000**

**From: "Thomas W Mc Kay" <TMCKAY@mail.aai.arco.com>**

**To: Senator\_Rick\_Halford@legis.state.ak.us**

Dear Senator Halford:

I encourage you and the Legislature to oppose Governor Knowles' appointment of Mr. Keeler to the State Game Board.

I would rather see someone who shares more of Alaskans' traditional values and interests in hunting and fishing appointed to this Board.

Sincerely,

Tom McKay

Mr. Keeler to Alaska Game Board

**Subject: Mr. Keeler to Alaska Game Board**

**Date: Mon, 06 Mar 2000 13:48:33 -0900**

**From: sandy7 <nevergiveup@gci.net>**

**Organization: Never Give Up**

**To: Senator\_Rick\_Halford@legis.state.ak.us**

Senator Halford,

I am opposed to Mr. Keeler being appointed to the Alaska Game Board.

Sincerely, Glen Guy

**Subject: AK Board of Game Nomination**

**Date:** Fri, 25 Feb 2000 11:18:04 -0900

**From:** George Covell <srf1991@ptialaska.net>

**To:** govmail@gov.state.ak.us,

"Representative\_Bill\_Hudson@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative\_Bill\_Hudson@legis.state.ak.u

"Representative\_Beverly\_Masek@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative\_Beverly\_Masek@legis.stat

"Senator\_Rick\_Halford@legis.state.ak.us" <Senator\_Rick\_Halford@legis.state.ak.us>,

"Representative\_John\_Harris@legis.state.ak.us" <Representative\_John\_Harris@legis.state.ak.us

As an eighteen-year veteran of the Alaska Boards process and long-time chairman of the Copper River/Prince William Sound Advisory Committee, it was with great disappointment that I read in this morning's Anchorage Daily News of the Governor's replacement of Board of Game Chairman Churchill with Leo Keeler. We have much experience with Mr. Keeler in Cordova but even more galling, is that on this sad occasion of federal usurpation of Alaska's fish and game management, the Governor has the insensitivity to appoint a federal employee to our Board of Game.

I would also suggest to the Governor that there is a large number of Alaskans who are well versed in the Alaska Boards process and associated fish and game issues through their often lengthy service on local fish and game advisory committees. Many of these citizens are much better qualified than a grenade thrower from the editorial page.

George Covell  
Cordova

**Subject: Re: Knowles appointment of Keeler to Game Board**

**Date:** Thu, 2 Mar 2000 09:59:37 -0900

**From:** "Jeff & Cyndi Chadd" <jchadd@ideafamilies.org>

**To:** <Senator\_Rick\_Halford@legis.state.ak.us>

Dear Senator Halford,

Governor Knowles latest political move to remove Bob Churchill from the Game Board and appoint Leo Keeler spells doom for the Alaska way of life of hunting and trapping. He is setting up a Game Board that is essentially "Green" and will destroy so much of what make Alaska a very special place to live. Keeler is being used as a pawn in Knowles power game.

The Board of Game had finally recognized the source of our moose & caribou population decline problem and were going to address the issue of predator control. Then in steps Gov. Knowles with his "environmental lobby" and totally destroys a working relationship between numerous agencies with quality game management in mind. What can we do? He is not an expert in this area and the outrage because of this has causes good people to step down.

I hope that when Leo Keeler comes before the Legislature for appointment that he would not even be considered!

Sorry to be so short and to the point, but time in of the essence!

Thank you for your time!

Jeff & Cyndi Chadd

MAR 01 2000

February 25, 2000

Senator Rick Halford

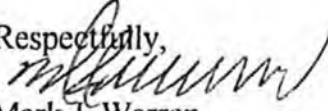
RE: Wolf – Kill program in McGrath area and removal of Bob Churchill from Board of Game.

Based on my personal observations while being privileged to fly GMU #19 including the McGrath area, averaging 500 flight hours per year since 1980, I am sure that the wolf population has drastically increased and the moose population has decreased in past 5 years.

I strongly recommend you back legislation to move ahead with a wolf kill program in GMU #19. I am sure you have considered that this is mandated by the "sustained yield management" clause of State constitution. Secondly, the hunting of moose in GMU #19 by subsistence hunters resident hunters and non-resident hunters contributing more new money to this area than non-hunter (observers) mining, sport fishing and the limited timber industry combined!

I am admittedly opposed to removal of Bob Churchill from BOG because he is a backer of wolf control and am requesting that you not approve Leo Keeler to Board.

Respectfully,

  
Mark J. Warren

*Warren Family's*

**STONEY RIVER LODGE, INC.**

P.O. BOX 670577 • CHUGIAK, ALASKA 99567

MAR 06 2000

P.O. Box 2778  
Palmer, AK 99645  
March 2, 2000

Senator Rick Halford,  
State Capital  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

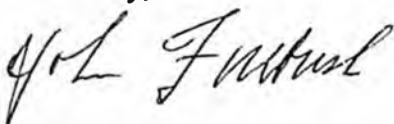
Dear Senator Halford,

I am writing to you in regards to the upcoming confirmation to the appointment of Leo Keeler to the Board of Game. I am asking you to vote against Leo's appointment. In the past ten years, Leo's own written letters to the editor have indicated he has not and will not support the Board of Game. I believe, and many others that I have talked to believe that Leo is Anti hunting, fishing, and trapping. Leo's letters seem to indicate that he is against the concept of scientific management of game and sound wildlife management.

I believe that the appointment of Leo Keeler to The board of Game would be a step in the wrong direction. A step in the wrong direction particularly for those who depend on wild game to supplement their food reserves.

Again I ask that you not support the appointment of Leo Keeler to the Board of Game!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Furbush".

John Furbush

Subject: Opposition to the appointment of MR. Keller to Game Board  
Date: Mon, 6 Mar 2000 13:59:31 -0900  
From: "Roy and June" <rjburk@alaska.net>

I am a forty Year resident of the State of Alaska, and an avid hunter. I am 62 years old and a disabled veteran. With the increase of age and my physical disabilities, it becomes more and more difficult to access the outdoors. On some occasions the board of game will take into consideration the affects various regulations will have on the elderly and the physically handicapped. These decisions are based on the ability of the board members to understand the hardships that a physically limited hunter faces each hunting season. I believe that the game board members should be hunters. I don't think that a Wild Life photographer could understand the problems and concerns of the older or handicapped hunters.

Roy J. Burkhart  
PO Box 204  
Willow, AK  
99688

Subject: Appointment of Mr. Keeler to the Game Board

Date: Mon, 6 Mar 2000 13:30:59 -0900

From: "Roy and June" <rjburk@alaska.net>

To: "Senator Rick Halford" <Senator\_Rick\_Halford@legis.state.ak.us>

I am opposed to Mr. Keeler being appointed to the Alaska Game Board. It is my understanding that he will not be a good appointee due to his wanting more Federal Control, etc. He is backed by certain groups and alliances that do not truly look at all issues when it comes to Game Management and rights of hunters in Alaska. Governor Knowles appointed would not be a benefit, and I urge to oppose this man's appointment.

Thank you,  
June Burkhart, Willow, Alaska

Subject: Fw: Governor's BOG appointee, Leo Keeler  
Date: Mon, 6 Mar 2000 09:56:25 -0900  
From: "Robert Green" <nelchina@matnet.com>  
To: <Senator\_Rick\_Halford@legis.state.ak.us>  
CC: <Representative\_Beverly\_Masek@legis.state.ak.us>

Ms. Masek, Mr. Halford:

In addition to my original message, I would like to inform you of a letter to the Editor, Anch. Daily News, that Mr. Leo Keeler submitted to the paper. On May 9, 1998, Leo asked the public to write your representative to change the present democratic system of check and balances and create a Wildlife Board, to replace the legislature confirmation process. Mr. Keeler has within the last 10 years attacked the Board of Game and Legislative confirmation process by writing approximately 17 letters to the editor of the ADN. Mr. Keeler says he is a hunter but in reality is just an animal rights and preservation spoke person.

Please do not confirm Mr. Keeler, our present system is working as intended by our constitution.

Our Mat-Su Valley and Eagle River members are following this issue very closely and will also be informed by our monthly newsletter on the final outcome and how their representatives voted etc. Your assistance will be very much appreciated.

Best regards,  
Bob Green

President, Alaska Frontier Trappers Association

-----  
Senator Green: I'm sending you this E-mail to ask you to NOT CONFIRM Governor Knowles appointment of Mr. Leo Keeler to the Alaska Board of Game. Mr. Keeler has not supported the BOG and has advocated to create a Wildlife Board contrary to the present system. He is anti consumptive use of Alaska's wildlife and will be representing the Animal rights and preservation agenda. In the history of the Alaska Board of Game, there hasn't been a Governor who has interfered and intimidated BOG members more so than Governor Knowles. The Governor is destroying the present Alaska Wildlife management system to meet his personal agenda!

As President of the Alaska Frontier Trappers Association, representing over 200 Mat-Su valley families, I'm asking you to not confirm Governor Knowles appointment of Mr. Leo Keeler to the BOG. This request was approved by our six AFTA Board members along with a general membership vote at our March 1, 2000 meeting.

Best regards,  
Bob Green  
President Alaska Frontier Trappers Association

**Subject: Opposition to Leo Keeler's appointment to BOG**

**Date:** Mon, 06 Mar 2000 14:13:15 -0900

**From:** mnaneng@avcp.org (Myron Naneng)

**To:** Senator\_Rick\_Halford@legis.state.ak.us, Senator\_Lyman\_Hoffman@legis.state.ak.us,  
Senator\_Albert\_Adams@legis.state.ak.us

With reports of moose laying dead on the tundra from the area around the Yukon River and many caribou kills that have been observed by hunters in villages on the east side of Kuskokwim River, we at AVCP adamantly oppose the appointment of Leo Keeler, who has been billed as one will place subsistence or food on table secondary to viewing and tourism. We cannot support the appointment of Mr. Keeler, when he does not understand the needs of our people in rural Alaska, other than his efforts to sell his photographs who may buy up his pictures of wolves.

**Subject: Leo Keeler**

**Date: Mon, 06 Mar 2000 14:10:34 -0900**

**From: "John A. Morrison" <jmorrison@gci.net>**

**To: Senator\_Rick\_Halford@legis.state.ak.us**

dear Senator Halford: The Daily News indicated that the legislature will act today on the nomination of Leo Keeler to membership on the Board of Game. I urge you to oppose confirming him in that position. Keeler is just a stooge for the governor's anti-spothunting agenda. Keeler has falsely claimed to be a "hunter" and a "wildlife photographer." He is not a hunter in the true sense of the word. He is a member of the animal rights activists crowd and is an employee of the U.S. Forest Service, which agency has played a major role in the federal subsistence program's interference with the state's right to manage its wildlife according to our constitution and statutes. Keeler's association with the governor, with the anti-hunters, and with the federal government would compromise his voting pattern on the board. We don't need a fifth-columnist on that board catering to the anti-hunters and the federal subsistence board. Keeler would be a disaster to the interests of all Alaskans who want honest, fair, competent, realistic wildlife management policies and practices.

John A. Morrison  
Anchorage

for  
97-115-1070

Barbara J. James (Miller)

I approve  
Mr. Keller's appointment  
being confirmed as a member  
of the Alaska Home Bank.

March 6, 2000

## National Audubon Society



## ALASKA STATE OFFICE

308 G Street, Suite 217

Anchorage, AK 99501

Tel: (907) 276-7034

Fax: (907) 276-5069

March 7, 2000

## Members

Joint House &amp; Senate Resources Committee

Alaska Legislature

Juneau, AK

FAX 465-4928

Dear Committee Members:

On behalf of Alaska Audubon, we recommend that your committee support confirmation of Mr. Leo Keeler as a member of the Alaska Board of Game. We believe that Mr. Keeler represents a large number of Alaskans' interests in wildlife management. Mr. Keeler is a professional wildlife photographer, wildlife watcher, and hunter. Although Mr. Keeler would surely represent a minority perspective on the board, his participation would ensure that many Alaskans would have representation in the important Board of Game decision making process.

The mission of Alaska Audubon is to conserve our natural ecosystems focusing on birds, other wildlife, and their habitats, for the benefit and enjoyment of current and future generations. Alaska Audubon has over 2,300 Alaska members in chapters based in Anchorage, Cordova, Fairbanks, Juneau, and Kodiak. Our membership has a strong interest in the management of Alaska's fish and wildlife resources.

Thank you for considering our recommendations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stanley E. Senner".

Stanley E. Senner  
Executive Director

VIA FAX

March 6, 2000

Dear Members of the House Resource Committee:

I understand that you have decided to consider the Governor's nomination of Leo Keeler to the Alaska Board of Game today, instead of waiting until the end of the session. I write to support Leo Keeler's nomination to the Board of Game.

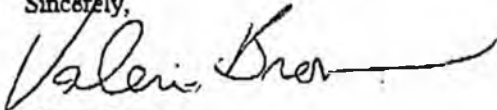
Despite the fact that the Board of Game determines policy for all wildlife management in Alaska, almost all representatives have been hunters and trappers. Most of those representatives have been strongly in favor of providing the most intense human use as possible of a few species, even when this use has included extreme measures such as the killing of predators to artificially enhance prey species.

The Board has repeatedly been responsive only to one segment of the people in Alaska interested in wildlife issues. Expansion of representation on the Board of Game to include the views of other Alaskans is well over due. While Leo Keeler is a hunter, he is also a wildlife photographer. I believe he is interested in many uses of wildlife and in many species of wildlife, including bears and wolves.

Biologists have long attempted to understand how wildlife populations fluctuate in response to natural conditions and human actions. Biology can help set parameters on how much hunting can be sustained by a given population. However, issues like allocation of wildlife to specific uses and the killing of predators has always been and will always be political. The political body that makes such determinations must represent more than just a minority of the public interested in wildlife issues.

In the past, politics has been used to exclude Board of Game members who disagree with the political policies of the majority of the Board. The timing of this committee's consideration of Mr. Keeler indicates that this hearing might be another such attempt. I urge you to support Mr. Keeler's nomination to the Alaska Board of Game. The Board of Game process can only benefit from broadening its representation of Alaskan interests.

Sincerely,



Valerie Brown  
P.O. Box 201473  
Anchorage, AK 99520-1473  
272-4544

FROM : SUPER 8 MOTEL FAIRBANKS

PHONE NO. : 907+451+8888

Mar. 06 2000 08:16AM P1

FAX TO JOINT SENATE-HOUSE RESOURCES Committee

3-6-00

Re: Keeler Appointment  
Hearing 3:00PM

Dear Members of the Committee,

I am a 32 year Alaska resident who has been a licensed active hunter for each of those years.

I support the appointment of Leo Keeler to the State Board of Game because I know him to be knowledgeable about wildlife, and willing to listen and fairly evaluate all points of view regarding difficult wildlife management issues.

Leo, a hunter himself, brings to the Board process a background that recognizes that there are many other valid uses of wildlife in the state.

Having served on the Board of Game for over 13 years (1977-1990), I believe that in order for the Board to be effective it must have a balance of interests and demonstrate an open, inclusive public process.

Leo Keeler will further this goal and be a valuable asset to responsible wildlife management.

Joel Bennett  
15255 Point Louisa Road  
Niasus 99801

DATE: Monday, March 6, 2000

TO: Joint meeting of House and Senate Resources Committees

FROM: Gerald R. Brookman, 715 Muir Avenue, Kenai, Alaska 99611-8816

REGARDING: Nomination of Leo Keeler to Board of Game

I understand that the House and Senate Resources Committees are meeting in joint session at 3:00 P.M. today to consider the nomination of Leo Keeler to the Board of Game. I would like to make the following comments on this matter.

1.) I do not understand the big rush here. I believe that this matter should be given full consideration, with an opportunity for public testimony from all teleconference locations in the state at which Alaskans desire to do so.

2.) I understand that the Governor's nomination of ME. Keeler is controversial, and some members of the legislature would appear to have decided against his confirmation before hearing from him or from the public. I urge you to keep an open mind on this matter.

3.) I believe that Mr. Keeler would bring the kind of balance to the board of game that it needs, and does not have now. I urge you to vote IN FAVOR of his confirmation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gerald R. Brookman". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name "Gerald R. Brookman".

March 6, 2000

Alaska Legislature  
Confirmation to Board of Game

Two whom it may concern,

We, as the Nushagak Advisory Committee, do support Bob Churchill to the confirmation to the Board of Game. We feel that his commitment during his tenure with the Anchorage Advisory Committee and the Board of Game has benefitted not only his constituents, but we as those who rely on game for subsistence, food, sport, etc, and to improve our quality of life. His background, his experience with game related matters more than qualify him for his role on the Board of Game.

Game Management Areas are increasingly subject to more hunting pressure by means and methods. Predator control is an unpopular issue, but needs to be addressed. We believe that the state should manage GMU's for high consumptive use. Federal regulations dictate rural priority for subsistence on Federal Lands. Bob Churchill has seen change, he has proven that he can take a stand on issues, he is a wealth of knowledge, his experience more than qualifies him for his reconfirmation to the Board of Game.

We as the Nushagak Advisory Committee do encourage you to reconfirm Bob Churchill to the State Board of Game. Thank you.

Sincerely Yours,



Hans Nicholson  
Chairman-Nushagak Advisory Committee  
PO Box 163  
Dillingham, Alaska 99576  
907-842-2275

Subject: Keeler  
Date: Mon, 6 Mar 2000 13:35:50 -0900  
From: Carl Jack <cjack@ruralcap.com>  
To: "'Juli Lucky'" <Juli\_Lucky@legis.state.ak.us>

Please pass this message to the Senator. I am not supporting Keeler to be appointed to Alaska Board of Game. Thank you.

Carl Jack  
Director, Subsistence & Natural Resources Dept.  
Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc.

Submitted by  
Michael HeKkers  
5200 N. Douglas Hwy  
#B  
Juneau, AK  
99801

**Keeler good for Game Board**

I want to comment on the recent article about the governor's decision to appoint Leo Keeler to the Board of Game as well as the governor's announcement that he will not pursue predator control unless there is clear public support and sound science.

On behalf of the Alaska Wilderness Recreation and Tourism Association, I support the governor's appointment of Leo Keeler to the Board of Game in the interest of the governor's continued initiative to provide a more balanced Board of Game. AWRTA is a non-profit trade association that promotes the recognition and protection of Alaska's recreation and tourism resources and the businesses that rely on them. AWRTA's mission is to support the stewardship of the wild in Alaska and the development of healthy, diverse travel businesses and communities by linking business, community and conservation interests. AWRTA represents more than 300 businesses and individuals across the state and nation.

The Board of Game is a critical forum, and by statute must represent a diversity of perspectives. Alaska is a broad and diverse state, and boards can function well only when there is thorough debate and public credibility.

I believe Leo Keeler will be able to represent wildlife issues in Alaska as well as bring diversity to the Board of Game. In recognition of his dedication to wildlife and tourism issues, Leo was recently awarded AWRTA's 2000 "Ginny Hill Wood" Award for outstanding tourism service. This selection is made by the entire AWRTA Board of Directors from membership nominations and is awarded to a key visitor industry representative during AWRTA's annual Ecotourism conference.

AWRTA supports the governor's initiative to bring balance and credibility to the Board of Game through nominations of key people who can represent the interests surrounding wildlife which include hunting, wildlife viewing, recreation and tourism pursuits. To add diversity and balance to the Board of Game is only a positive endeavor as this board tackles issues and valid uses that deeply affect so many Alaskan residents and businesses.

— Sarah Leonard, executive director  
Alaska Wilderness Recreation and Tourism Association

### Knowles makes good choice

I was very happy to read in Friday's paper about Gov. Tony Knowles' decision to appoint Leo Keeler of Anchorage to the Board of Game.

Gov. Knowles' choice recognizes that the values and uses of wildlife in Alaska are diverse and that the composition of the Board of Game needs to better reflect that diversity. Mr. Keeler is a hunter as well as a respected wildlife photographer and small-business owner. He is also a strong proponent of wildlife viewing opportunities. The governor's decision recognizes the vital role of non-consumptive uses of wildlife to Alaska's economic and environmental health.

According to the Alaska Division of Tourism, Alaska's tourism industry creates more jobs for Alaskans than any other and is second in revenues only to oil. Visitor statistics also show that it depends very heavily on the promise and availability of wildlife viewing opportunities.

Gov. Knowles' decision indicates his appreciation of the fact that wildlife management in Alaska, and Alaska's economic, social and environmental future, must be based on long-term conservation of all wildlife species, both game and nongame. It also reflects the governor's commitment to sound, ecosystem-based science and a more inclusive public process in the management of Alaska's wildlife.

— Kenny Powers  
Anchorage

### Keeler will balance board

I was very pleased to read that the governor has stepped in to restore some balance to the Board of Game with the appointment of Leo Keeler.

The Board of Game has to deal with many controversial issues. A board that lacks representation from the large section of the Alaska population that values wildlife viewing risks its credibility.

Recent decisions such as the board's authorization of a moose hunt along the wildlife viewing trails of Chugach Park (a hunt clearly opposed by the community, adjoining neighborhoods and the Chugach Park Advisory Board) damages the public's confidence in the board's ability to deal fairly with larger issues.

The hunting community should realize that increased confidence in the fairness of the board process will help resolve some of Alaska's complicated hunting issues.

I think the governor has taken a major step to improve the Board of Game and restore public confidence. I hope the hunting community and the Legislature have the wisdom to support this appointment. The decision of a board that does not fairly represent the views of Alaskans will always be suspect and lack broad public support.

— Douglas and Linda Donegan  
Anchorage

### Reduce hunters, not wolves

I have never written a letter to the editor, but I cannot listen to this talk of killing wolves to increase the moose and caribou populations any longer without speaking out. I have one question for the Board of Game. If the wolves are killing all the moose and caribou, why were there any in Alaska at all when the first settlers moved up here?

It seems to me that over the thousands of years before we got here, they would have wiped them all out. All we would have found was a land full of hungry wolves. It should be obvious to anyone that hunters are killing too many each year.

I have no problem with people who really need the meat to go out and hunt, but those who spend hundreds of dollars to fly into the Bush to hunt and kill a moose or caribou don't really need the meat to live. They can obviously afford to go to the store and buy their meat. The only reasonable way to "manage a sustained harvest" is to reduce the amount of hunters, not the amount of wolves.

— Robert Pessa  
Wasilla

### Caution prudent on wolf issue

I applaud the governor's stand to study the wolf situation first, rather than automatically killing them with our tax dollars. There are far too many unknown factors. In a Daily News article on Hillside moose numbers, biologists counted 30 percent fewer moose and are "baffled" why the usually hardy cows are missing ("Hillside moose tally falls," Dec. 26, 1999).

The Fort Richardson moose population is still recovering from the 45 percent die-off in 1994-1995. All this in a small study area, with no hunting, few predators, and a known tally of car accidents.

We need to study more. In McGrath, how many guided hunts take meat Outside? What percentage of cows are killed? As for Cantwell hunters' complaints, what effect do the hordes of snowmachiners have on animals? If a small percentage harass and stress an animal, wouldn't that animal be more prone to energy depletion and death or avoiding the area? Snowmachine stress has to be studied.

Many Alaskans have no faith in the Board of Game and have been forced to resort to ballot initiatives. Juneau lawmakers are currently trying to completely stop citizen ballot initiatives concerning wildlife, so all the power will rest with them alone. It is time for the Legislature to stop pretending they are wildlife experts and drop their heavy-handed habits. The voters are watching!

— Lenore Morford  
Chugiak

### Wolves part of natural balance

How unbalanced do we want our environment to become?

Kudos to everyone who has not yet tried to exterminate Alaska's wolves. They must be aware of the devastation caused by ordinary white-tailed deer in Lower 48 yards.

Ecological niches formerly occupied by wolves were filled, not surprisingly, by coyotes. Coyotes' gastronomy features small mammals and birds. Wolves control infirm and weak caribou all year long. Hunters kill trophy stags only seasonally. It has been objected that wolves kill caribou calves. Unlike man, they do not stock freezers with meat. Nothing goes to waste.

Like wolves shot by hunters who use aircraft, Arctic terns bulldozed from airport parking lots and Canada geese terminated by egg collectors are unlikely to return. What will replace them? Those feral cats that patrol bird feeders? Clouds of insects? Herbicides? Pesticides? Villages with contaminated water tables?

Those in favor of "wolf control" should seriously consider returning to the Lower 48 to decide how to handle all those surplus coyotes and deer and herbicides and pesticides and cancer and overpopulation and ... Yankees, go home, please.

— Dagmar Nye  
Anchorage

### Trophy hunting lacks sense

Thank you, Gov. Tony Knowles, for doing the right thing in McGrath. Paneloads of trophy hunters from all over the nation flock to McGrath to kill moose during hunting season.

Outside hunters come with their expensive clothes and equipment and spend thousands of dollars for the experience of killing an Alaska animal. A small group of radical McGrath residents who want the wolves killed also thrive financially by this unnecessary killing. McGrath editorials fail to mention this well-kept local secret.

Stop the trophy hunting and allow only subsistence hunting. Common sense tells us this alone will increase the moose populations.

— Lilly Wold,  
Anchorage

### Game board stuck in the past

Let's drag the Board of Game into the 21st century! Granted, it's going to be about as easy as dragging an old railway tie through a swamp, but a board stuck two centuries back makes no sense. Gov. Tony Knowles is trying hard to make the board's composition more representative of all Alaska, and deserves our support.

— Alan Seegert  
Denali National Park

### Predator ideas out of touch

Well, it looks as though the Board of Game and the Legislature have left the 20th century behind. Unfortunately, their thinking is rooted in the 19th, not the 21st. What I'd like to know is where is my representation?

I'm not a hunter. Well over 50 percent of us in the state are not hunters — in fact, I doubt they add up to even 25 percent. How much representation do non-hunters have on the board? Zero. This is not a representative public forum. I would advocate that Gov. Tony Knowles not only appoint one lone voice for non-consumptive use, but that he force the board to reflect the values of the majority.

It gets old to see that the board has gone off in left field again and there is no way for those of us who oppose these policies to get any attention. The Legislature goes out of its way to take away our avenues of traditional democracy. They allow only one-sided appointments to the board, they try to take away our right to petition on wildlife issues, and now they want to amend the Constitution to somehow silence us.

With no way to have a voice, the only recourse will be an old-fashioned Boston Tea Party. We can always dump e-mail and letters across the nation: "Alaska condones gunning down predators so people can find it easier to gun down big game. Please boycott tourism here." Is that what they want?

— William Hersman  
Anchorage

Letters  
to the  
Editor

# Anchorage Daily News

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Letters Published  
Monday  
March 6, 2000

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## Greed threatens Alaska habitat

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Since I moved to Alaska, about three years ago, I have struggled to grasp how the minds of many people in this state perceive the diverse wildlife and fabulous wilderness that can be found in no other place on Earth.

State legislators debate the most efficient ways to kill wolves and even bears. Kill these magnificent creatures so there will be even more moose and caribou for hunters to kill. I guess it is not satisfying enough to hunt down and kill the moose and caribou that survive the motor vehicle massacre of the road system. Then, many of these same people who can't seem to satisfy their appetite for killing turn their attention to destroying habitat and fouling wilderness by building more roads and tearing through more habitat areas with snowmachines and four-wheelers. Again, these people who derive so much pleasure from killing and destroying earn their money to buy their weapons and toys of destruction from cutting down trees and ripping resources from the earth and ocean.

What is being done to this beautiful state in the name of greed and pleasure is criminal and should be treated as any other crime. If it were not for the courageous heroes in the environmental groups and their sister agencies like the Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Environmental Conservation, Department of Fish and Game, Fish and Wildlife, the U.S. Forest Service, Department of Natural Resources, Bureau of Land Management, etc., which work diligently to counter the destruction by these people, Alaska would look like any other state that has been ruined by people of this same mentality.

- Carrie Snowden-Markley

Kasilof

**Letters  
to the  
Editor**

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# Anchorage Daily News

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**Letters Published**  
Monday  
March 6, 2000

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## Denali wolves need protection

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While it is a shame that the Denali Fish and Game Advisory Committee has disbanded, it is also a shame that those who served on it don't know the facts about hunting and trapping in Denali National Park and Preserve. Former member Armeda Bullard recently said that wolves are protected on 6 million acres of the park. Park biologist Gordon Olson also implied this in a CBS news story covering the Toklat wolves.

Wolves may be trapped on 4 million of the 6 million acres of the park, with liberal seasons and no bag limits. This is allowed under the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act. Heavy trapping also occurs on state land surrounding the park.

There are an estimated 50 to 70 wolves in Denali National Park and Preserve. The Toklat and Sanctuary groups make up the bulk of, if not all, wolf sightings by visitors. The Toklats were reduced to just two adults in 1998. The Sanctuary pack, once numbering 15, is down to three members. Three pups were recently trapped by a National Park Service employee less than one mile from the park boundary.

I ask people who oppose wolf protection to keep in mind how disenfranchised are those of us who do not view wildlife as just "food." Though wildlife is a resource for the benefit of all Alaskans, we cannot even get a handful of wolves protected.

- Karen Deatherage

Anchorage

### **Base wolf plan on science**

As an Alaska hunter and a wildlife biologist, I support Gov. Tony Knowles' delay of the proposed state-managed wolf killing programs ("Knowles won't OK wolf kill," Feb. 25).

Effective wildlife management cannot be legislated. It can come only through observation, good science and understanding. The Legislature's bullying tactics — i.e., the "intensive management" law, four bills mandating unreasoned but widespread wolf killing and a spiteful and childish threat to cut the Alaska Department of Fish and Game's budget and the commissioner's paycheck if he and his agency don't kowtow to the legislators' whims — only serve to obscure good principles and confound Alaska's future. The governor's call for a secure basis and understanding of our management principles is a step out of the shadows.

Rounding out the Board of Game with a member representing hunting, subsistence and nonconsumptive wildlife values is another move forward.

Leo Keeler, whom the governor has selected for the open board position, is a hunter and photographer and longtime Alaskan who embodies the combination that so many of us share. His appointment would be a strike against the categorization of interests and the quarrels that result and a move to reunite Alaskans in their enjoyment of this wild and natural world.

— Jeff Fair  
Anchorage

**Date:** 2/26/2000 11:36 AM  
**From:** Stewart, Sylvia  
**To:** "Mat-Su Legislative Information Office" <MatSu\_LIO@legis.matsc.ak.us>  
**Subject:** Wolf Population & Knowles  
Greetings,

I am very concerned at the direction of the state in regards to the protection of the wolf population. It disheartens me to read Knowles statements regarding "a new era of wildlife management", that we should "protect wolf populations that are valuable for wildlife viewing" and that the Alaska Board of Game "needs to represent broader interests" so he is appointing a wildlife photographer.

Knowles does not have the interests of the State of Alaska in his plans, he seems to have the interests of the environmental groups and their financial support more in his view. What can we do, other than contacting you, to get our voices heard. The wolf population all over the state is growing by leaps and bounds and the game population is crashing.

I heard from a man who had done some research in the Mat-Su Valley regarding the wolf population. He counted 140 wolf in the valley. Before Knowles term, there were about 30-40 wolf in the valley. I don't know all the facts, but he said that each pack needs something like 1 1/2 moose every other day to sustain the pack. My memory may be all wrong there, but it left me awestruck when he figured it out to how many moose one pack needs each year to sustain the members. It was incredible. If Knowles continues to stall and the wolf population is allowed to continue growing at its present rate, in a few years, the house pets, farm animals and even small children in villages will suffer the consequences. I think time for action has long past.

I am not a hunter, just a concerned citizen. Knowles policy of ousting Churchill for a photographer, and protecting the wolf and ignoring the livelihood and safety of people and communities appalls me and frightens me. Do we give up all reason to protect animals over people?

Respectfully,  
Sylvia Stewart  
P.O. Box 874175  
Wasilla, AK 99687  
907-376-6468



750 W. 2nd Ave. #109, Anchorage AK 99501 / Ph. 907-258-6171 / Fax 907-258-6177

P.O. Box 22151, Juneau AK 99802 / Ph. 907-463-3366 / Fax 907-463-3312 / unire@akvoice.org

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TO: Senate and House Resource Committee Members  
DATE: March 6, 2000  
RE: Confirmation Hearing for Board of Game Appointee Leo Keeler

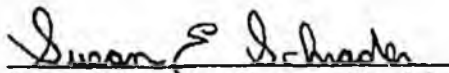
Alaska Conservation Alliance and Alaska Conservation Voters are sister nonprofit organizations dedicated to protecting Alaska's environment through public education and advocacy. Our 40 member organizations represent over 21,000 registered Alaskan voters. Our members can be found in all user groups of Alaska's wildlife, including subsistence users, recreational hunters, wildlife viewers, and photographers. We respect and appreciate the long, rich tradition held by Alaskans, Native and non-Native alike, that surrounds our state's wildlife resources. We also acknowledge that opportunities to use and appreciate our wildlife belong to all Americans and to visitors to our state from other countries.

On March 1, 2000, during the House Resources Committee hearing on HJR 56, several Representatives spoke to the open and fair process that the legislature provides on issues of wildlife management through its own public hearing process, its confirmation process for Board of Game appointees, and its process of setting policy for the Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game.

However, by scheduling a confirmation hearing for Leo Keeler, the Governor's most recent appointee to the Board of Game, with barely one business days' worth of public notice, the legislators have exhibited a profound disrespect for the public process. As a hunter and wildlife photographer, Mr. Keeler brings outstanding credentials to the Board of Game. Further, his interest in nonconsumptive use of wildlife clearly reflects the values that the majority of Alaskans hold for this resource. Mr. Keeler, as a private citizen who is volunteering his time and expertise, deserves the courtesy of being allowed to complete his participation in the current round of board meetings before being pre-judged by the legislature.

Because wildlife in Alaska belongs to everyone, our state law requires the Board of Game to have a diversity of perspective (AS 16.05.221). Mr. Keeler is an excellent choice to provide that diversity. To rush his confirmation hearing and to consider holding a joint Senate and House floor vote on his confirmation on March 8<sup>th</sup> is nothing less than an abuse of power and an affront to all the Alaskans who are trying to work constructively to achieve a more balanced, far-sighted approach to wildlife management.

Alaska Conservation Alliance and Alaska Conservation Voters truly hope that those legislators who have expressed support for a fair and open public process will realize that this biased reaction to Leo Keeler's appointment is a total contradiction to the reasoned approach our legislative leaders should be exhibiting on the issue of wildlife management.

  
Susan E. Schrader, Conservation Advocate

Conserve Alaska. It's Only Natural.

To: Senator Rick Halford  
Juneau, AK  
Fax# 907 465 4928

3/7/00

From: Joe Mattie  
Box 18 Ester Ak. 99725  
Fax# 907 479 0890

Ref: appointment of Leo Keeler to BOG

Having attended the entire March 2000 Board of Game meetings to date and observing the performance of Mr. Leo Keeler, my opinion is as follows:

Mr. Keeler does not possess the background knowledge nor does he seem to have even a basic understanding of the issues the Board is dealing with. His questions to people giving testimony were either irrelevant or leading to debate, neither of which appropriate for these meetings.

In my opinion, he should no be confirmed.

In the future, it might be helpful if appointees to the Board of Game have some amount of similar experience. Perhaps Fish & Game Advisory Committee experience would be one example.

Thank you,  
  
Joe Mattie

Dear Senator Halford -

I strongly oppose  
Leo Keeler being  
on the Board of  
Game. His "Buffer  
Zone" is a bad idea,  
even the Feds think  
so.

Sincerely

Alan C Jones

Box 70683

Fairbanks 99707

479-5458

Carol T. Torsen  
1558 Thuja Avenue  
Anchorage, AK 99507-4122  
[Ctorsen@alaska.net](mailto:Ctorsen@alaska.net) 907-344-5956

March 6, 2000

Senator Rick Halford  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

VIA FAX: 907-465-4928

REF: Leo Keeler Appointment to Board of Game

Dear Senator Halford:

Please do not support the appointment of Leo Keeler to the Board of Game. His appointment can only be detrimental to those of us who use wildlife for food, and other consumptive uses.

Mr. Keeler just proposed closing a half million acres around Denali Park to the hunting and trapping of wolves; therefore, is probably not a good choice for the Board of Game. The National Park Service has also come out in opposition to that proposal.

I therefore urge you not to support Mr. Keeler's appointment.

Sincerely,



Carol Torsen

Subsist.

Legisla-  
tion

# SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 9/28/99

FURTHER: FINANCE

Date of 5-Day Notice: \_\_\_\_\_  
(in accordance with Uniform Rule 23)

DATE TURNED  
IN TO OFFICE: 9/28/99

Resources Committee considered: CS HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 202(FINANCE) AM

(proposing amendments to the Constitution of the State of Alaska relating to use of renewable resources for subsistence by residents)

and recommends:

- be replaced with \_\_\_\_\_ CS \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_)
- adopt previous \_\_\_\_\_ CS \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_)
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt Letter of Intent by \_\_\_\_\_ Committee
- further referral to the \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

- Senate Bill:
- same title
  - new title
- House Bill:
- same title
  - technical title
  - new: SCR# \_\_\_\_\_

| SIGNING DO PASS           | DP | OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS      | NR | DNP | AM |
|---------------------------|----|----------------------------|----|-----|----|
| <i>[Signature]</i>        | X  | <i>Linda Beer</i>          |    | ✓   |    |
| <i>[Signature]</i>        | ✓  | <i>Alison Hannell</i>      |    |     | ✓  |
|                           |    | <i>Kate Kelly</i>          |    | ✓   |    |
|                           |    | <i>Robin H. Taylor</i>     |    | ✓   |    |
| CHAIR: <i>[Signature]</i> |    | CHAIR: <i>Rich Halford</i> |    | ✓   |    |

**NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):**

Department                      Date      Zero      Fiscal

|             |      |  |              |
|-------------|------|--|--------------|
| GOVERNOR    | 9/27 |  | 2001<br>11.5 |
| FISH & GAME | 9/27 |  | 10,000 (+)   |
|             |      |  |              |
|             |      |  |              |
|             |      |  |              |

**PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):\***

Department                      Date      Zero      Fiscal

|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
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|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

APPROPRIATION -- no fiscal note

\*include fiscal notes accompanying Governor's bill

# FISCAL NOTE

Bill Version: CSHJR 202 (JUD)

(H) Publish Date: 9/27/99

**STATE OF ALASKA  
1999 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction) \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. Affected Office of the Governor  
 Title Constitutional Amendment: Subsistence BRU Elective Operations  
 Component General and Primary  
 Sponsor House Judiciary Committee  
 Requester House Judiciary Committee Component Serial No. 22

**Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)**

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

| OPERATING EXPENDITURES | FY 2000    | FY 2001    | FY 2002    | FY 2003    | FY 2004    | FY 2005    |
|------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Personal Services      |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Travel                 |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Contractual            |            | 1.5        |            |            |            |            |
| Supplies               |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Equipment              |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Land & Structures      |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Grants & Claims        |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Miscellaneous          |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| <b>TOTAL OPERATING</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>1.5</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> |

|                      |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|----------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| CAPITAL EXPENDITURES |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|----------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|

|                        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| CHANGE IN REVENUES ( ) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|

**FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)**

|                          |            |            |            |            |            |            |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 1002 Federal Receipts    |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| 1003 GF Match            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| 1004 GF                  |            | 1.5        |            |            |            |            |
| 1005 GF/Program Receipts |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| 1037 GF/Mental Health    |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Other (Specify Type)     |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>             | <b>0.0</b> | <b>1.5</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> |

Estimate of any current year (FY99) cost: \_\_\_\_\_

**POSITIONS**

|           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Full-time |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Part-time |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Temporary |  |  |  |  |  |  |

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This figure includes the cost of providing information about this issue in the Official Election Pamphlet, as required by AS 15.58. However, only six measures can be printed on an 8-1/2 by 14 inch ballot. If this measure requires printing an 8-1/2 by 18 inch ballot, the cost will increase by \$22.0.

Prepared by Gail Fenumai *Gail Fenumai* Phone 465-3935  
 Division Division of Elections Date/Time 9/27/99 8:57 AM  
 Approved by C Lt. Governor Fran Ulmer *Fran Ulmer* Date 9/27/99  
 Agency Lieutenant Governor's Office

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# FISCAL NOTE

## STATE OF ALASKA 1999 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction) \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. Affected Fish and Game  
 Title Constitutional amendment for a subsistence preference BRU ComFish, Boards, Subsistence  
 Component \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sponsor House Rules  
 Requester House Judiciary Component Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_

### Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

| OPERATING EXPENDITURES | FY 2000    | FY 2001    | FY 2002    | FY 2003    | FY 2004    | FY 2005    |
|------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Personal Services      |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Travel                 |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Contractual            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Supplies               |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Equipment              |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Land & Structures      |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Grants & Claims        |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Miscellaneous          |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| <b>TOTAL OPERATING</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> |

|                      |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|----------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| CAPITAL EXPENDITURES |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|----------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|

|                        |          |  |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------|----------|--|--|--|--|--|
| CHANGE IN REVENUES ( ) | 10,000.0 |  |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------|----------|--|--|--|--|--|

### FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

|                          |                 |            |            |            |            |            |
|--------------------------|-----------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 1002 Federal Receipts    | 10,000.0        |            |            |            |            |            |
| 1003 GF Match            |                 |            |            |            |            |            |
| 1004 GF                  |                 |            |            |            |            |            |
| 1005 GF/Program Receipts |                 |            |            |            |            |            |
| 1037 GF/Mental Health    |                 |            |            |            |            |            |
| Other (Specify Type)     |                 |            |            |            |            |            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>             | <b>10,000.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> |

Estimate of any current year (FY99) cost: \_\_\_\_\_

### POSITIONS

|           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Full-time |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Part-time |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Temporary |  |  |  |  |  |  |

### ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

If the legislature places a constitutional amendment before the Alaskan voters before October 1, 1999, the US Congress has authorized \$10,000.0 to go to the State of Alaska to implement a unified system of subsistence management and to provide support to the state boards of fish and game and local and regional fish and game advisory committees. The authorization for the department of fish and game to receive and expend these funds is contained in Section 8 of Chapter 84 SLA 99.

Prepared by Geron Bruce  
 Division Commissioner's Office  
 Approved by Commissioner Frank Rue *Geron Bruce for*  
 Agency Department of Fish and Game

Phone 465-6143  
 Date/Time 09/27/99  
 Date 9/27/98

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**COMMITTEE COPY**

# FISCAL NOTE

No. 1  
 Bill Version: SLA 201  
 (S) Publish Date: 9-22-99

STATE OF ALASKA  
 1999 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction) \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. Affected Fish and Game  
 Title Constitutional amendment for a subsistence BRU ComFish, Boards, Subsistence  
preference Component \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sponsor Rules  
 Requester Governor Component Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_

**Expenditures/Revenues** (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

| OPERATING EXPENDITURES | FY 2000    | FY 2001    | FY 2002    | FY 2003    | FY 2004    | FY 2005    |
|------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Personal Services      |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Travel                 |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Contractual            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Supplies               |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Equipment              |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Land & Structures      |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Grants & Claims        |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Miscellaneous          |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| <b>TOTAL OPERATING</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> |

|                             |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| <b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b> |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|

|                               |                 |  |  |  |  |  |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| <b>CHANGE IN REVENUES ( )</b> | <b>10,000.0</b> |  |  |  |  |  |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|--|--|--|--|--|

**FUND SOURCE** (Thousands of Dollars)

|                          |                 |            |            |            |            |            |
|--------------------------|-----------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 1002 Federal Receipts    | 10,000.0        |            |            |            |            |            |
| 1003 GF Match            |                 |            |            |            |            |            |
| 1004 GF                  |                 |            |            |            |            |            |
| 1005 GF/Program Receipts |                 |            |            |            |            |            |
| 1037 GF/Mental Health    |                 |            |            |            |            |            |
| Other (Specify Type)     |                 |            |            |            |            |            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>             | <b>10,000.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> |

Estimate of any current year (FY99) cost: \_\_\_\_\_

**POSITIONS**

|           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Full-time |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Part-time |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Temporary |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**ANALYSIS:** (Attach a separate page if necessary)  
 If the legislature places a constitutional amendment before the Alaskan voters before October 1, 1999, the US Congress has authorized \$10,000.0 to go to the State of Alaska to implement a unified system of subsistence management and to provide support to the state boards of fish and game and local and regional fish and game advisory committees. The authorization for the department of fish and game to receive and expend these funds is contained in Section 8 of Chapter 84 SLA 99.

Prepared by Geron Bruce GB Phone 465-6143  
 Division Commissioner's Office Date/Time 09/20/99  
 Approved by Commissioner Frank Rue Date 9/20/98  
 Agency Department of Fish and Game

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# FISCAL NOTE

No. 2  
 Bill Version: SJA 201  
 (S) Publish Date: 9-22-99

STATE OF ALASKA  
 1999 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction) \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. Affected \_\_\_\_\_ Office of the Governor \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title Constitutional Amendment: Subsistence BRU Elective Operations  
 Component General and Primary  
 Sponsor Rules  
 Requester Governor Component Serial No. 22

**Expenditures/Revenues** (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

| OPERATING EXPENDITURES | FY 2000    | FY 2001    | FY 2002    | FY 2003    | FY 2004    | FY 2005    |
|------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Personal Services      |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Travel                 |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Contractual            |            | 1.5        |            |            |            |            |
| Supplies               |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Equipment              |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Land & Structures      |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Grants & Claims        |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Miscellaneous          |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| <b>TOTAL OPERATING</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>1.5</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> |

|                             |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| <b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b> |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|

|                               |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| <b>CHANGE IN REVENUES ( )</b> |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|

**FUND SOURCE** (Thousands of Dollars)

| FUND SOURCE              | FY 2000    | FY 2001    | FY 2002    | FY 2003    | FY 2004    | FY 2005    |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 1002 Federal Receipts    |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| 1003 GF Match            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| 1004 GF                  |            | 1.5        |            |            |            |            |
| 1005 GF/Program Receipts |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| 1037 GF/Mental Health    |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Other (Specify Type)     |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>             | <b>0.0</b> | <b>1.5</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> |

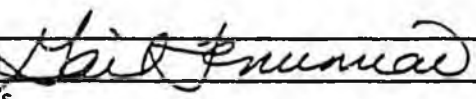
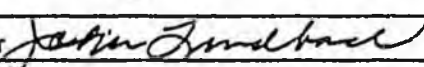
Estimate of any current year (FY99) cost: \_\_\_\_\_

**POSITIONS**

|           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Full-time |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Part-time |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Temporary |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**ANALYSIS:** (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This figure includes the cost of providing information about this issue in the Official Election Pamphlet, as required by AS 15.58. However, only six measures can be printed on an 8-1/2 by 14 inch ballot. If this measure requires printing an 8-1/2 by 18 inch ballot, the cost will increase by \$22.0.

Prepared by Gail Fenumia  Phone 465-3935  
 Division Division of Elections Date/Time 9/21/99 9:28 AM  
 Approved by Lt. Governor Fran Ulmer  Date 9/21/99  
 Agency Lieutenant Governor's Office

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TONY KNOWLES  
GOVERNOR



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Juneau, Alaska 99811-0001  
(907) 465-3500  
Fax (907) 465-3532

STATE OF ALASKA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
JUNEAU

September 22, 1999

SJR 201

The Honorable Drue Pearce  
Senate President  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear President Pearce:

On October 1 the federal government will take over management of subsistence fishing on nearly 60 percent of Alaska's rivers and lakes. That date will mark a historic reversal of Alaska's independence. Our state will lose the right to manage a significant portion of the fish and wildlife within its borders, a right that was at the heart of the battle for Alaska Statehood. Today I am once again putting forward the only approach that will prevent this federal takeover—a simple, permissive constitutional amendment to be placed before the voters at the next general election.

In the past, the consequences of inaction by the Legislature have been postponed by the action of our Congressional delegation and the Secretary of Interior, but the messages from Washington now are loud and clear: No one is going to bail us out again; there are no more reprieves. Either the Legislature acts to bring the state into compliance with the provisions of ANILCA, or the federal government will expand its current management of game resources on federal lands to include the management of fisheries for subsistence on inland rivers and lakes within and adjacent to federal public lands.

The potential impact of fisheries management is far greater than that of game management. Because of the complexity of fishery management, the federal government's reach, under the federal case law principle of "extra-territoriality," could well extend to fish now managed by the state in waters distant from federal lands.

This joint resolution calls for a vote on a state constitutional amendment to permit a preference to rural residents for subsistence uses of renewable natural resources, a principle a majority of Alaskans support. Subsistence defines the special tie we as Alaskans have to our land. It makes us unique among the 50 states. In rural Alaska, subsistence is the special bond that defines the very essence of the rural way of life.


The Honorable Drue Pearce  
September 22, 1999  
Page 2

The language of the amendment is similar to what I have proposed in the past and what has been recommended by the Governor's Subsistence Task Force and rural legislators. When the amendment is coupled with appropriate statutory changes, it will enable the state to comply with ANILCA, thereby retaining complete management of fish and regaining management of wildlife on all land and water in Alaska.

Over the years, we have studied many options for resolving the subsistence issue. Now, we are down to two. We can place a simple, permissive constitutional amendment on the ballot to be decided by Alaskans, or we can relinquish, without a whimper, some of our most precious assets to the heavy hand of federal management. There are no other alternatives.

Every public opinion survey says Alaskans want us to act to preserve state sovereignty and the culture of rural residents. As elected leaders, I urge you to demonstrate your faith in Alaskans by allowing a vote on this measure that will avert a federal takeover.

Sincerely,



Tony Knowles  
Governor



COMMITTEE: SENATE  
RESOURCES

Subject of meeting: ①  
SUBSISTENCE LEGISLATION

DATE: SEPTEMBER 22, 1999

# SIGN-IN

PLEASE PRINT!  
NAME

ADDRESS (MAILING) & (ZIP)

PHONE

REPRESENTING

DO YOU  
WANT TO  
TESTIFY?

|  |   |                 |                                     |       |
|--|---|-----------------|-------------------------------------|-------|
| * Rob HOCT                               | P.O. BOX 489<br>TALKEETNA, ALASKA 99616 | 907<br>733/2723 | ALASKA PROFESSIONAL<br>HUNTERS ASS. | YES   |
| * Mike Williams                          | BOX 27<br>AKIAK, AK 99552               | 907<br>765-7426 | ALASKA Inter-<br>Tribal Council     | yes   |
| Mary Bishop                              | 1555 Gus's Grind 99709                  | 455-6151        | self                                | yes   |
| Julie Kitka<br>accompanied by            | AFN Anch.<br>1574 C St. S. 300 99501    | 214-3611        | AFN                                 | yes   |
| Ms. Yoh Yon Pharen<br>Mr. Chris Lyon     |   |                 |                                     | } yes |
| Mr. David Olivera<br>Rev. William Green. |   |                 |                                     |       |
| Rev. Mark Boess.                         |   |                 |                                     |       |
| * Eileen Norbert<br><del>Mary</del>      | Box 1858, Nome, AK<br>99762             | 443-5231        | Kawerak                             |       |
| * David Bedford                          | 526 Main Juneau 99801                   | 463-5030        | Juneau                              | yes   |
| * Caleb Pungowiyi                        | BOX 948 Nome, AK                        | 443-5231        | Kawerak                             |       |



COMMITTEE: SENATE  
RESOURCES

Subject of meeting:  
SUBSISTENCE LEGISLATION

DATE: SEPTEMBER 22, 1999

# SIGN-IN

PLEASE PRINT!  
NAME

ADDRESS (MAILING) & (ZIP)

PHONE

REPRESENTING

DO YOU  
WANT TO  
TESTIFY?

| NAME                                | ADDRESS (MAILING) & (ZIP)                           | PHONE            | REPRESENTING                | DO YOU WANT TO TESTIFY? |
|-------------------------------------|---|------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| DAN COFFEY                          | 207 E. NORTHERN CT3 BLDG<br>#200 ANCHORAGE AK 99503 | 274 3385         | BOARD OF<br>FISHERIES       | ✓                       |
| Harold Brown                        | 122 First Ave, Ste. 600<br>Fairbanks, AK 99701      | 452-8251         | Tanana Chiefs<br>Conference | No                      |
| TONILEE JACKSON                     | PO BOX 165<br>COPPER CENTER, AK 99573               | 822 5241<br>WORK | AHTNA                       | No                      |
| Carlene Pete                        | PO BOX 101<br>Copper Center AK 99573                | 822-5468         | Native Village              | NO                      |
| <sup>Tomorrow</sup><br>Dawey George | Box 210 225 Anke Bay, 99824                         | 790-4452         | my wife's family            | well<br>soa             |
| Shirley Millie                      | 11229 Copper Center, AK 99573                       | 822-3724         | CRWA                        | NO                      |
| David G. Kelleyhouse                | POB 478 Tok, AK 99780                               | 883-5384         | self                        | Yes                     |
| JOHNNY GOODLAW                      | Box 364 - 99588<br>GLENNA ALLENAS                   | 907-822-5036     | SELF                        | NO                      |
| Timothy Pete                        | 256<br>COPPER CENTER, AK 99573                      | 907-822-348      | Self                        | NO                      |
| DICK BISHOP                         | 1555 BUS'S GRIND<br>FAIRBANKS AK 99709              | 455-6151         | ADC                         | Yes                     |



COMMITTEE: SENATE  
RESOURCES

Subject of meeting: (3)  
SUBSISTENCE LEGISLATION

DATE: SEPTEMBER 22, 1999

# SIGN-IN

PLEASE PRINT!  
NAME

ADDRESS (MAILING) & (ZIP)

PHONE

REPRESENTING

DO YOU  
WANT TO  
TESTIFY?

|                    |  |           |                             |                          |
|--------------------|--|-----------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Veronica Nicholas  | P.O. Box 94 Cantwell AK. 99729                 | 768-2591  | Native Village of Cantwell  | <input type="radio"/> NO |
| Clifford Luke      | P.O. Box 52 Ft. Yukon AK 99702                 | 1062 3186 | NATIVE Village of Ft. Yukon | <input type="radio"/> NO |
| DEBORAH VO         | 431 W 7 <sup>th</sup> Ave Ste 201<br>ANC 99501 | 523-9334  | AI-TC                       | NO                       |
| MIKE WILLIAMS      | 431 W 7 <sup>th</sup> Ave Ste 201<br>ANC 99501 | 523-9334  | ALASKA INTER TRIB. COUNCIL  | YES                      |
| Paul White, Jr.    | Box 22356 Juneau 99802                         | 789-4264  | Huna Tokem                  | Yes                      |
| Shulay A. Domiant  | 229 Second Ave                                 | 4563318   | Fairbanks Native Assoc      | Yes                      |
| Andy Jimmie        | Box 6 Minto AK 99758                           | 798-7292  | MINTO                       | NO                       |
| Jesse VanderZander | AOC  | 455-4262  | AOC                         | YES                      |
|                    |  |           |                             |                          |
|                    |  |           |                             |                          |





COMMITTEE: SENATE  
RESOURCES

Subject of meeting: (3)  
SUBSISTENCE LEGISLATION

DATE: SEPTEMBER 22, 1999

# SIGN-IN

PLEASE PRINT!  
NAME

ADDRESS (MAILING) & (ZIP)

PHONE

REPRESENTING

DO YOU  
WANT TO  
TESTIFY?

|                  |  |                      |   |                          |
|------------------|--|----------------------|---|--------------------------|
| ✓ Gilbert Vart   | P.O. Box Allakaket AK 99720<br>614 Goldsack Rd | 968-2225             |   |                          |
| ✓ GERRY HOPE     | P.O. Box 72<br>Sitka, Alaska 99835             | 747-3359             | ALASKA NATIVE BROTHERHOOD<br>SITKA CAMP #1      | YES, ON<br>THURSDAY 9/22 |
| ✓ Eleanor Dement | Box 14<br>Cantwell. 99729                      | 768-2368             | Cantwell  |                          |
| ✓ Ken Johns      | Copper Center                                  |                      | Copper River                                    |                          |
| Stanley Noel     | Allakaket AK 99720                             | See & Simple Sign up | Talk to the Senate is like a fart in a Billiard | at<br>congress<br>not    |
| ✓ Karl Jensen    | P.O. Box 30<br>Anvik AK 99558                  | 907-663-6522         | Anvik   | NO                       |
|                  |  |                      |   |                          |
|                  |  |                      |   |                          |
|                  |  |                      |   |                          |
|                  |  |                      |   |                          |





**TESTIMONY OF MIKE WILLIAMS, CHAIR**

**ALASKA INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL**

To the Alaska Senate Committee on Natural Resources

September 22, 1999

Mr. Chairman, members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on behalf of the Alaska Inter-Tribal Council. AI-TC is a statewide tribal consortium that was established in 1993, around the time the Department of Interior published its list of 226 federally recognized Alaskan tribes. 180 of those tribes are members of AI-TC.

As you know, the issue of subsistence is of critical interest to Alaska's tribal peoples. I think it is important in this forum to draw your attention to the intent of Congress in including Title VIII as part of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act. The best and most accurate record of the legislative intent for ANILCA's subsistence title is contained in a presentation made to Congress on November 12, 1980 by the House Manager for ANILCA, the late Congressman Morris Udall.

Congressman Udall made reference to the fact that Title VIII grew directly out of Congress' wish to fulfill the promise it made to Alaska's Native people even as it extinguished our aboriginal hunting and fishing rights with the passage of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971. Udall said:

"I am particularly proud of the subsistence language in [ANILCA] because it fully reflects the commitment that was made to the Alaska Native people at the beginning of the 95<sup>th</sup> Congress. At that time, we promised that any law would recognize the importance of subsistence and would contain management provisions which recognize the responsibility of the Federal government to protect the opportunity from generation to generation, so that Alaska Natives now engaged in subsistence uses, their descendants and their descendants' descendants, will determine for themselves their own cultural orientation and the rate and degree of evolution, if any, of their Alaska Native culture."

For those who have criticized ANILCA's subsistence protections as a violation of the rights of Alaska's non-Native citizens, I wish to point

out the next point made by Congressman Udall as he laid out Congress' intent in adopting Title VIII of ANILCA. He said:

"Although there are many non-Natives living a subsistence way of life in rural Alaska (which may be an important national value), the subsistence title would not be included in the bill if non-Native subsistence activities were the primary focus of concern. Rather, the subsistence title and the other subsistence provisions are included in recognition of the on-going responsibility of the Congress to protect the opportunity for continued subsistence uses in Alaska by the Alaska Native people, a responsibility [which is] consistent with our well recognized constitutional authority to manage Indian affairs."

In other words, Mr. Chairman, Title VIII of ANILCA did not happen in a vacuum – nor was it an arbitrary step by the federal government to move in on the State's authority to manage its own fish and game. Alaska's tribes view Title VIII as a demonstration of the federal government's awareness of its trust responsibility to Alaska's indigenous populations – our Alaskan tribes.

Mr. Chairman, members of the Committee:

You all have been sworn to uphold the State's laws and its Constitution as part of your service to the people of the State of Alaska. Among Alaska's citizens are some 80,000 members of 226 Alaskan tribes. Each of those tribes has a government of some sort that is distinct and separate from the city and borough governments established under Title 29 of State law. Some tribes re-established their governments with councils created according to the Indian Reorganization Act of 1936. Some tribes maintained their ancient traditional councils rather than re-organize as IRA councils. Some tribes call themselves the "Native Village of Such and Such". What they all have in common, however, is a government-to-government relationship with the United States that is mandated by the Indian Commerce clause of the United States Constitution.

'What does that have to do with subsistence?' you may ask. 'A great deal,' is our response. Title VIII was included in ANILCA after a hard-fought battle between those protecting Native interests and those who said they stood for the State of Alaska's interests. In the end, Native people settled in good faith with the Congress and the State of

Alaska accepting the agreement to institute a "rural" rather than a "Native" subsistence preference on Alaska's federal public lands. Title VIII was Congress' way of living up to that agreement.

The State, on the other hand, has yet to fulfill its own part of that agreement. Instead, we have seen Title VIII attacked as some sort of un-American or "un-Alaskan" conspiracy to rob non-Native Alaskans of their hunting and fishing rights.

We Alaskan tribes stand on our inherent right to maintain our communities, our tribal members and our way of life, which is supporting ourselves and enriching ourselves from our traditional lands and resources. We respect the authority of the State of Alaska inasmuch as it touches our lives – but we do not support the State of Alaska when it attempts to undermine our authority as tribes, as tribal governments, nor do we support any attempt to diminish our tribal hunting, fishing and gathering rights.

For this reason, on September 2 I wrote to Interior Secretary Babbitt to inform him of AI-TC's opposition to any legislative resolution that would "permit" rather than "require" the Alaska Legislature to bring

State laws into compliance with the federal subsistence protections contained in Title VIII of ANILCA. Mr. Chairman, I would like to submit a copy of that letter along with my testimony, to be included in the record of this hearing.

Alaska's tribes wish you, Mr. Chairman, members of this Committee, and the rest of your colleagues in the Alaska Senate and Alaska House, the best of luck and the guidance of your God as you address the subsistence issue this week.

Thank you once again for this opportunity to testify.

MW:me



# Alaska Inter-Tribal Council

431 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 201, Anchorage, Alaska 99501  
Telephone 907/563-9334 · Fax 907/563-9337 · Toll Free: 1-888-560-AITC

September 2, 1999

Secretary Babbitt  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Washington, DC

Dear Secretary Babbitt:

As you know Governor Tony Knowles has called for a special legislative session on subsistence to be convened at 1:00 p.m. on September 22, 1999. At that time the governor is expected to propose that the Legislature adopt a resolution allowing the question to be placed before Alaska's voters in the 2000 general election, in the form of a constitutional amendment.

The constitutional amendment proposed by Governor Knowles contains language that *permits* rather than *requires* the Legislature to enact State statutes to comply with the current federal subsistence protections contained in the Alaska Lands Act [ANILCA, Title VIII]. The Alaska Inter-Tribal Council cannot and will not support this (or any other *permissive* amendment to the State constitution) for the following reasons:

- A permissive constitutional amendment does not require the passage of a statute to bring the State into compliance with ANILCA, and thereby moves the onus for protection of tribal hunting and fishing from its proper place within the Department of Interior, to the discretion of the Alaska State Legislature. This would directly violate the government-to-government relationship between Alaska's tribes and the federal government and would amount to an abrogation of your responsibility and authority to take action on behalf of the tribes in this matter.
- It is futile to expect the current legislative majority to take action based on a permissive direction from Alaska's voting populace, given their inability to succeed in addressing the question over the past decade. A permissive constitutional amendment begs the question, "Why should Alaska's voters direct the Legislature to use their own discretion?"
- The adoption of a permissive constitutional amendment will create a *de facto* extension of the current moratorium on federal subsistence management to December 1, 2000. Alaska's tribes opposed the initial moratorium and have been vociferous in their opposition to its three extensions. The prospect of allowing a hostile Legislature to have an additional fourteen months to pursue amendments to ANILCA does not tempt us to support a permissive constitutional amendment.
- A permissive constitutional amendment will effectively put the question of subsistence "on hold" to be decided by the next (and potentially Republican) administration. That is a daunting prospect for Alaska's tribes, who have supported your efforts to ensure that this issue is settled "on your watch".

We recognize this has been a more than difficult issue for your administration to deal with. We are aware that Governor Knowles would view almost any constitutional amendment adopted by the current Legislature as a positive step – but we would like to remind you and the governor of what is at stake for those who will be most directly impacted by any resolution of this matter. Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely,

Mike Williams  
Chairman

Advocating for Tribal Governments across Alaska

I am addressing this testimony to those individuals with the political strength to alter forever the subsistence lifestyle that has been passed down to me by ancestors of thousands of years and my inherent right which I am now forced to defend.

My name is Eleanor Dementi and I am a member of the Ahtna Regional Corporation and an Athabascan Native American. I live at "Yedatene'Na" or a place known to most of you as "Cantwell". Yedatene'Na is an Athabascan "place name" descriptive of the land itself. Descriptive of the mountains, rivers and landforms of that area, and referred to by that name by my people for an estimated 6-8000 years. Our people used place names to direct each other to hunting grounds and areas proven to sustain survival, because, as you know, we were a hunting and gathering culture, and although we have accepted western culture for what it is, we are not willing to relinquish our right to provide for our family's in the manner we know is one of the last rights of our culture.

Yedatene'Na is located on the corner of the Parks and Denali highways. As this hunting season passes and hundreds of hunters descend on our land I have to wonder where they go when they are not in the village. I live here year-round, I am not passing through nor am I here for the sole purpose of a hunt. Yes, I did choose to live here, as did my ancestors and as do my children, and yes, this is a rural area. But I don't feel that living in a rural area should require my native subsistence lifestyle be threatened and I will fight for the right to continue my subsistence lifestyle in the land that is my home.

I am discouraged by 40' recreational vehicles pulling 2-4 four wheelers, as I can't believe they really need that meat. I hunt because it is necessary and I am accustomed to the taste of moose and caribou. This is the food I grew up with and fed my children their entire lives. As the majority of the local hunters come home empty handed and the local Fish and Game official confiscates one to two illegal kills a day, I have to wonder "What is wrong with these people, have they no respect for what God provides"? I had the misfortune to view an illegal kill and as I looked at this unrecognizable mass of dirt, grass and leaves I was stunned to realize I was looking at a rib cage. The waste is sickening. I am unable to muster any sympathy for the hunter responsible for that kill, nor will I believe he or she was a subsistence hunter. I do not, however, dispute that person's right to hunt, whether it be for sport or subsistence. I do not believe in sport hunting but I am not disputing a person's right to do it. I am simply a subsistence hunter and cannot understand the desire to kill an animal unless it is to provide for my family and sustain our lifestyle.

We need the protection of a Constitutional Amendment for rural preference. Not because of *where* we live but to protect the *way* we live. We have little left of our cultures and only have been able to keep hold of subsistence because it is such a large part of which we as Alaskan Native People are and have remained for thousands of years. To those who claim a rural preference for subsistence hunting is unfair treatment of urban residents, please reconsider and try to understand how inherent subsistence is to our culture and what it will mean if we Alaskan Natives lose it.

Respectfully,



Eleanor Dementi  
Native Village of Cantwell



## KAWERAK, INC.

P.O. BOX 948 • NOME, ALASKA 99762

TELEPHONE: (907) 443-5231 • FAX: (907) 443-3708

SERVING THE  
VILLAGES OF:

BREVIG MISSION  
COUNCIL  
DIOMEDE  
ELIM  
GAMBELL  
GOLOVIN  
KING ISLAND  
KOYUK  
MARYS IGLOO  
NOME  
SAVOONGA  
SHAKTOOLIK  
SHISHMAREF  
SOLOMON  
STEBBINS  
ST. MICHAEL  
TELLER  
UNALAKLEET  
WALES  
WHITE MOUNTAIN

### KAWERAK, INC. RESOLUTION NO. 98-04

TITLE: Kawerak's position on Subsistence

WHEREAS, Kawerak, Incorporated is the regional Native non-profit consortium, authorized by the region's twenty federally recognized tribes to provide services throughout the Bering Straits Region of Alaska;

WHEREAS, the Alaska Native people of the Bering Straits Region have depended on animal and plant resources for thousands of years to provide sustenance for themselves and their families;

WHEREAS, to this day the cultures of Alaska's indigenous people continue to be based on hunting, fishing and gathering activities, while the technology has changed, our dependence on the resources has not;

WHEREAS, our non-Native friends, family members and neighbors in rural Alaska also depend on subsistence resources to feed their families;

WHEREAS, subsistence is primary and essential to the economy of rural Alaska;

WHEREAS, our ability to gather food and live off the land today and on into the future is core to our identity as Native peoples, our culture and spiritual well being;

WHEREAS, our ability to live our culture is a basic human right, one which Congress sought to protect when it passed the Alaska National Interest Conservation Act in 1980 which provided a preference for subsistence use of resources on federal lands in rural Alaska;

WHEREAS, in 1989 the Alaska Supreme Court ruled that the Alaska Subsistence law which provided a rural preference was unconstitutional;

WHEREAS, in 1990 the federal government took over management of subsistence hunting on federal lands;

WHEREAS, since 1990 we have had dual management in the State of Alaska with the Federal Government managing subsistence on federal lands and the State of Alaska managing fish and game on state lands and navigable waters;

WHEREAS, in 1994, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that the subsistence priority applies to those navigable waters in which the United States has reserved water rights;

WHEREAS, for the past two years, the Alaska Congressional delegation has placed a moratorium on spending federal funds to implement final federal regulations for managing subsistence fishing in federal reserved water;

✕ WHEREAS, even though a majority of Alaska's voters favor a constitutional amendment for subsistence, the Alaska State Legislature has consistently refused to place a constitutional amendment on the ballot and has abrogated its responsibilities to deal with this issue at the State level for the past seven years;

✕ WHEREAS, under state law, all Alaska residents in the State of Alaska are considered to be subsistence users and all are eligible to apply for a Tier II hunting permit during times of resource shortage;

✕ NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Kawerak opposes any amendments to ANILCA except those that strengthen rural and Native subsistence protections;

✕ BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Kawerak will support a state constitutional amendment if one is placed on the ballot which:

- 1) contains language that a rural preference shall be provided,
- 2) will strengthen rural and Native subsistence protections;

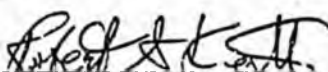
✕ BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Kawerak shall seek to insure that the accompanying legislation shall:

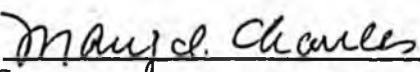
- 1) provide for a strong regional council system similar to the federal model;
- 2) allows co-management initiatives between Rural and Native Alaskans, their representative bodies and the State of Alaska.

✕ BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Kawerak will strongly object to any constitutional amendment that would adversely affect rural subsistence priority;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Kawerak will appropriate necessary resources to protect the rural subsistence priority.

PASSED AND APPROVED by Kawerak board on this 9 day of April, 1998 at a regularly scheduled quarterly meeting.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert Keith, Chairman of Kawerak Board

ATTEST:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

## SUMMARY OF POINTS

### BOARD OF FISHERIES POSITION PAPER ON SUBSISTENCE

The Board of Fisheries has prepared a Position Paper on the pending federal takeover of Alaska's subsistence fisheries which is available on request. The following is a Summary of that Position Paper.

1) The Board of Fisheries regulates all of Alaska's fisheries: subsistence, personal use, commercial, sport and guided sport. The Board is uniquely qualified to comment on the effects of a federal subsistence takeover.

-If the federal government takes over subsistence fisheries in Alaska, the effects on our billion dollar commercial fisheries and our multi-hundred million dollar sport fisheries is incalculable.

-The Board takes comprehensive approach to all fisheries when adopting regulations. Federal management of subsistence fisheries will be done without regard to the effect on other fisheries.

2) All members of the public have easy access and full participation in the management and regulation processes of Alaska's fisheries.

-There will be virtually no access to the Federal Subsistence Board for most Alaskans.

-Efforts by the Board of Fisheries to work with the Federal Subsistence Board were rebuffed by the Federal Subsistence Board

3) There is currently a subsistence priority in effect in the State of Alaska which the Board recognizes and strongly supports.

-If a rural or place of residence priority for subsistence is established in Alaska, there will be virtually no change in the regulation and management of Alaska's fisheries.

4) Alaska's personal use fisheries are in substantial jeopardy if the federal government takes over subsistence management.

-The personal use fisheries afford Alaska residents opportunity to harvest substantial numbers of salmon for personal consumption.

-The Kenai River and the Copper River Dip Net Fisheries are both at risk.

### CONCLUSION

The Board of Fisheries believes that we, as a State, should take all steps necessary to avoid a federal take over of our subsistence fisheries. Board members are present in Juneau to respond to any inquiries from the Legislature.

**POSITION PAPER ON SUBSISTENCE**  
**ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES**

**FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE MEMBERS OF**  
**THE ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE**

In response to questions from some of Alaska's Legislators the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Board of Fisheries prepared this Position Paper for presentation to the Legislature. The Position Paper has been reviewed and approved by the other members of the Board of Fisheries.

The Board of Fisheries consists of seven (7) members. These members have a wide perspective on Alaska's fisheries. Some members live in rural areas, while others live in urban areas. Some members are subsistence users. Some are native. Some are non-native. Regardless of their differences, all Board members support this Position Paper.

As the public body charged with the regulation of subsistence, personal use, sport, guided sport and commercial fisheries throughout the state of Alaska, the Board of Fisheries is uniquely qualified to comment on the existing subsistence practices of the state of Alaska and the effects of the pending federal take over of Alaska's subsistence fisheries. While the federal take over of Alaska's fisheries purportedly effects only navigable waters that flow adjacent to and through federal lands, the reach of the federal take over will extend into every aspect of every fishery in Alaska. In short, allowing a federal take over of Alaska's fisheries will take the state back to territorial days when the federal government managed (many say mismanaged) Alaska's fisheries. The history of Alaska's statehood efforts is that management of our own resources was a primary objective of statehood.

The points outlined below are based on the Board's considerable experience and knowledge in regulating Alaska's numerous and diverse fisheries, including all of its extensive subsistence fisheries. These points are also based on the Board's specific efforts, made during the last nine (9) months, to reach agreements with the Federal Subsistence Board on fish management practices. The Board's efforts were directed towards the establishment of a dual management system which would protect the fish resources, all of the fisheries of the state and those dependent upon them. All of these efforts were rebuffed by the Federal Subsistence Board which rejected any and all dual management proposals. Frankly, the Federal Board is simply not

interested in having the state involved in the management of subsistence fisheries within its jurisdiction.

This short Position Paper is not the place to try to detail all of the specific facts which support the points made below. However, the Board will have its Vice Chairman in Juneau during the special session to provide detailed information which supports these points should the Legislature wish to hear from the Board. It is the Board's hope that the Legislature will consider this Position Paper in its deliberations and, to the extent that it has questions about the Board's position, it will ask the Vice Chairman for additional information.

The Board asks you to consider the following points:

1) Alaska currently has the best regulated and managed fisheries in the United States, if not in the world. Year after year of record salmon returns since statehood conclusively demonstrate this fact. Despite some concerns in some areas of the state, Alaska's record on salmon fishery regulation and management is the envy of every other state. This year, for example, the Board of Fisheries received an award as the best fisheries regulatory body in the western United States based on its sustainable fisheries work and the development of its committee process. The Board of Fisheries and the Department of Fish and Game have, as charged by our Alaska Statute, "preserved and developed" our fisheries very, very successfully.

2) Under the current statutes and regulations which govern the regulation and management of Alaska's fisheries, there is a priority given to subsistence users. This priority has been in place since statehood. The Board of Fisheries recognizes and strongly supports this priority.

When runs are low, other fisheries are reduced or eliminated to preserve fish for subsistence uses. The vast amount of subsistence users in Alaska live in rural areas. In fact, the major population centers of the state are currently classified as non-subsistence areas (Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, Ketchikan). If an urban resident in a non-subsistence area wishes to subsistence fish, the resident must go to a subsistence area to fish. This rarely occurs.

Also, the Board of Fisheries provides for "personal use" fisheries which meet the needs of the vast majority of urban Alaskans. For example, the dip net fishery for sockeye on the Kenai River in Cook Inlet, results in thousands of Cook Inlet area residents getting all of the sockeye they need for their own

consumption. The same can be said for the Copper River dip net fishery which provides sockeye to thousands of Fairbanks residents. Both the Kenai dip net and the Cooper River dip net fisheries are in substantial jeopardy if the federal government takes over subsistence management.

3) The federal record on fisheries management during territorial days in Alaska was abysmal. The last time we had federal management, our fisheries were run for the benefit of large processors located in Seattle. Alaskan's got a few table scraps. Now, we are letting the federal government back in to manage one part of complicated multi-part fisheries.

The greatest harm from federal management of subsistence fisheries (which will be done in a vacuum without regard to Alaska's other fisheries), will be to the resource itself. It is impossible to properly manage only one type of fishery when there are multiple users of the resource. The consequences of federal subsistence management on our billion dollar commercial fisheries and our multi-hundred-million dollar sport and personal use fisheries is incalculable.

Under federal management, federal subsistence fisheries will be run without regard for Alaska's legitimate resource concerns; by federal bureaucrats who are answering to a political agenda far different from that of the majority of Alaskans; by federal bureaucrats who do not have the knowledge, expertise, nor adequate management plans to manage our subsistence fisheries; and finally, by politicians and bureaucrats who don't care about the long term well being of our state or all of our fisheries.

4) Alaska's Board of Fisheries' practices and procedures provide extensive public access to the regulatory process in a manner which is unprecedented anywhere else in the Country. The public and the stakeholders in our fisheries participate actively and effectively in the Board of Fisheries' regulatory process. Try getting in touch with a federal bureaucrat whose only concern is a subsistence fishery, let alone persuading that bureaucrat to do something which might benefit some other fishery besides subsistence. Talk about an impossible task.

With the Board of Fisheries and the Department of Fish and Game, the regulatory process and the review of management practices of the Department of Fish and Game are open and easily accessible to the public. That is simply not the federal way. The Federal Subsistence Board has already conducted closed door meetings from which the public was excluded.

5) Once the federal government takes over our subsistence fisheries, the already existing divisions among Alaskan's (urban/rural and native/non-native) can only be increased. There will definitely be haves and have nots under federal management. Absent some action by the Legislature, there will be a rural preference for subsistence managed by the Federal Subsistence Board. However, the rural preference will not be uniform in its application. Thus, many rural residents will bear a tremendous and disproportionate amount of the burden of federal (mis)management.

6) If the federal government takes over subsistence fisheries, the result will be the creation of a resource regulation and management system. This takeover will provide a fisheries resource regulation and management economy where none exists today. If the state ever resolves the issue of management of subsistence fisheries by either winning a lawsuit or by bringing the state into compliance with ANILCA, the restoration of state regulation and management will create further divisions among our citizens.

#### CONCLUSION

The Board opposes a federal take over of our fisheries. The Board can clearly see the negative consequences of such an action. More than any other state public agency, the Board, which manages all of Alaska's fishes, knows what the federal management of one fishery will mean for Alaskans engaged in the other fisheries.

The Board also knows the realities of our subsistence fisheries. If the people of Alaska were to adopt a rural preference, the management and regulatory systems would be virtually identical to those currently in place. There would be no recognizable change in the way in which Alaskans would harvest their fish resources.

For these reasons, the Board believes that we, as a state, should take all steps necessary to avoid a federal take over of our subsistence fisheries.

It is hoped by the Board that this Position Paper will be of some help to the Legislature in its deliberations. We all thank you for the opportunity to present this Position Paper and your consideration of the facts presented. We look forward, through our Vice Chairman, to answer any questions you may have concerning the positions taken in the paper.

WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF; GERRY HOPE, PRES. SITHA A.N.B.

✓ TITLE VIII OF A.N.I.L.C.A.; NO CHANGES.

✓ STATE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

SJR 201 SEC. 19 THE LEGIS. MAY STRIKE MAY ADD SHALL

✓ THERE'S YRS. OF TESTIMONY OF MANY PEOPLE.

I'M HOPING WHAT MAKES THIS NEW ROUND OF TESTIMONY WILL FINALLY MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

✓ THANK THOSE STATE LEGISLATORS WHO SUPPORTED.  
~~THE~~ STATE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

~~THOSE WHO WERE OPPOSED ARE THE LEGISLATORS~~

✓ OVER THIS SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE SESSION ON  
SUBSTANCE, ~~IT IS HOPED THERE WILL BE~~

~~THE LEARNING~~ THE DIALOG THAT WILL TAKE PLACE - I

HOPE - WILL BE CONVINCING ENOUGH THAT THE LEGISLATURE  
WILL FINALLY HAVE ENOUGH VOTES TO PASS A  
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

## STATE VS. FEDERAL

LOCAL CONTROL IS BETTER - STATE.

HOWEVER, WE ALASKA NATIVES CANNOT GIVE UP ANY MORE THAN WE HAVE GIVEN UP ALREADY.

CECILIA KUNE SAID;

"TOOK OUR LAND, NOW YOU WANT MY APPETITE TOO,"

A.N.I.L.C.A.'s TITLE VIII IS ONE OF THE FEW LEGAL TOOLS LEFT THAT HELPS PROTECT WHAT LITTLE IS ~~REMAINING~~ REMAINS WHAT IS CRITICALLY IMPORTANT AND ESSENTIALLY VALUABLE TO ~~US~~ ALASKA NATIVES.

AK. NATIVES USE VERY LITTLE OF THE RESOURCE - AROUND 4%. ~~HOW MUCH~~ IT BEGS THE QUESTION, DOES THE NON-NATIVE NEED THE TOTAL RESOURCE, AT THE EXPENSE OF ALASKA NATIVES?

IF THE CHOICE IS - FEDERAL CONTROL VS. ALASKA NATIVES LOOSE ANILCA-TITLE VIII PROVISIONS. THEN I WOULD - REGRETFULLY CHOOSE FEDERAL CONTROL.

**A Discussion Regarding  
Alaska's Sovereign Title  
To Submerged Lands,  
Navigable Waters and the  
Natural Resources Within Those  
Lands and Waters**

**Compiled for the**

**Alaska Legislature  
September 22, 1999  
Special Session on Subsistence**

**Alaska Wildlife Conservation Association  
1625 Old Steese Highway  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701**