

STATE OF ALASKA

THE LEGISLATURE

1985

Source

HJR 38

Legislative
Resolve No.

22



Relating to fisheries enhancement by the Department of Fish and Game within the Andy Simons Wilderness Unit, Kenai National Wildlife Refuge.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

WHEREAS the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is preparing a comprehensive conservation plan for the Andy Simons Wilderness portion of the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge; and

WHEREAS the final draft for the comprehensive conservation plan states that fisheries enhancement will not be permitted in wilderness areas; and

WHEREAS the Alaska Department of Fish and Game has had a fisheries enhancement program in operation on Tustumena Lake; and

WHEREAS the fisheries enhancement program on Tustumena Lake has resulted in an increase in the total production of fish from the lake without negative results on wild stocks or the rearing environment; and

WHEREAS the Tustumena fishery enhancement program has resulted in the production of at least 300,000 additional adult salmon, with a value to Central Cook Inlet fishermen of \$1,600,000; and

WHEREAS the comprehensive conservation plan, if implemented, would put the state fisheries enhancement program in jeopardy; and

WHEREAS the Alaska Department of Fish and Game has recommended to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that the comprehensive conservation plan permit fisheries enhancement in special situations under cooperative agreements; and

WHEREAS the Department of Fish and Game has also recommended

that the Tustumena Lake sockeye stocking be continued until the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department of Fish and Game jointly determine that these projects have been completed or that they no longer achieve their stated objectives;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to continue to permit the stocking of fish and the enhancement of the fishery resources within Tustumena Lake of the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Donald P. Hodel, Secretary of the Interior; to Robert A. Jantzen, Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; to Robert Gilmore, Director, Alaska Region, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; to W. Vernon Wiggins and Robert Grogan, Co-Chairman, Alaska Land Use Council; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.