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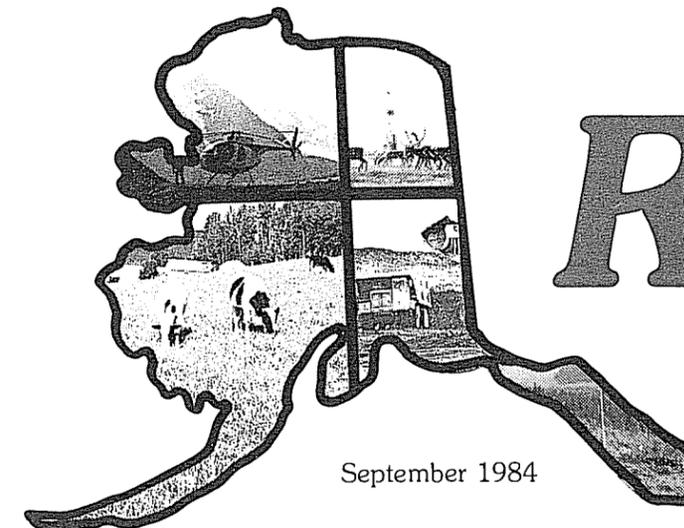
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Resource Development Council for Alaska Inc. Box 100516, Anchorage, Alaska 99510

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Message From The Executive Director

By Paula P. Easley

Who Are the 'Conservationists'?

"Conservation — Of natural renewable resources — e.g., soil, water, wildlife, forests — their continuing protection and management in accordance with principles that ensure their optimum economic and social enjoyment."

This definition, adopted by the Society of American Foresters, a national organization of professional resource managers, is generally accepted as the standard against which other definitions of natural resource conservation are measured.

Notice the phrase, "their continuing **protection and management** in accordance with principles that ensure their optimum **economic and social** enjoyment."

It is against this definition that those who profess to be "conservationists" must be compared.

Thus to practice "conservation," (or to be a "conservationist"), one must be prepared to give "continuing protection," and to "manage" for optimum "economic" and "social" enjoyment.

Under such a generally recognized definition it is hard to imagine a resource exploiter — or a hard-core member of the environmental movement with a "lock-up" mentality — as a "conservationist."

It may seem silly to define labels, and partake of semantic game-playing in order to label one who thinks or acts differently. But, labels do convey meanings or relay intentions; thus it is critical that labels are correctly applied.

A person or corporation undertaking a resource development project only to gain maximum economic return on an investment would be loudly criticized for claiming the title "conservationist." The conflict between the label and the intention is easy to perceive.

Unfortunately, however, the conflict between conservationist and "modern preservationist" (for want of a more formal term for those who oppose all resource utilization for commercial gain) is not always so easy to determine.

Those against logging, because it causes changes in the forest, or who oppose hunting and trapping or animal harvesting, many times label themselves conservationists; but that is false and misleading.

The early leaders of the American conservation movement, those of the 19th and early 20th Centuries who forced America to "stop, look and change" the destructive resource practices of that era, would be hard-pressed to identify with many of the persons and organizations that today label themselves conservationists, when in reality they are highly active obstructionists.

Regrettably, these pseudo-conservationists are often in legislative and administrative positions within government. Other times they are highly-paid professionals, living on well-intentioned donations or government grants, expert in propaganda and political manipulation, whose goals are not to "conserve" but to disrupt, delay and sometimes even destroy the twin goals of "economic and social enjoyment" that are the true definitions of conservation.

The Resource Development Council for Alaska, Inc., an association of Alaskans dedicated to wise use and development, through management of our state's many resources, must ask "Who are the Conservationists?"

In this era of expanding populations, longer lifetimes, increased education and expectations, it is important that the public answer this question.

And while it is right and proper that unrestricted, damaging exploitation of resources be halted, and perpetrators be brought to task, it is also important that the same public be critical of those who utter the term "conservation" while really working to denigrate and deny opportunity that results in wise utilization of resources for the betterment of mankind.

Reprinted from Anchorage Daily News, August 9, 1984

COVER: The Alaska Range provides a beautiful backdrop in Delta as the September barley harvest continues. See story, page 4.

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Carl Portman
Editor & Advertising Manager

For advertising information and special rates, contact Carl Portman at 278-9615.

Resource Review encourages its readers to submit articles, announcements and letters to the editor for publication. Send all correspondence to Resource Development Council, Resource Review, Box 100516, Anchorage, Alaska 99510.

Resource Development Council, Inc.

The Resource Development Council (RDC) is Alaska's largest privately funded non-profit economic development organization working to develop Alaska's natural resources in an orderly manner and to create a broad-based, diversified economy while protecting and enhancing the environment.

RDC invites members and the general public to its weekly breakfast meeting featuring local and nationally-known speakers on economic and resource development issues. The meetings are held on Thursday at 7:15 a.m. Aesops/Suite 201, 711 H Street. Meeting charge is \$2 and reservations are requested by calling 278-9615.

Membership Information

The Resource Development Council extends an invitation to all persons interested in the responsible development of Alaska's resources to join the Council's efforts. For membership information, contact:

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The RDC business headquarters are located at 444 West 7th Avenue in downtown Anchorage.

Mat-Su Forum Advocates New Economic Development

David Gleason, Chairman of the newly formed Mat-Su Forum, outlined his organization's objectives at its first general meeting this summer.

"The Forum recognizes the need for a permanent, privately owned tax base in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough," Gleason said. "We are concerned that the current trend in this region is toward a bedroom community economy where the only taxable entities are homes and small service businesses."

Unless the rapid growth the borough is now experiencing is balanced by long-range permanent economic development, Gleason said such growth is self-defeating. He said homeowners and small businesses would be forced to support a burgeoning government, organized to provide schools, roads, police, fire and health protection, unless industrial development occurs.

In the coming months, the Forum will be working toward a long-range plan to develop Point McKenzie into an industrial, transportation and agricultural area. Gleason envisions a port serving Upper Cook Inlet and Interior Alaska as well as a needed staging area tied directly to Anchorage with the Knik Arm Crossing.

He said the group will also advocate a rail and highway system to Point McKenzie and investigate the establishment of an international free trading zone.

The Mat-Su Forum is a borough-wide non-profit business and trade organization.

Yukon Businessmen Come To Trade

In an effort to strengthen economic ties with Alaska, a delegation of Key Yukon Territory businessmen will hold a reception October 10 from 5 to 7:30 p.m. in the Anchorage Room of the Holiday Inn. The public is invited.

For further information, contact Larry Bagnell in Whitehorse at 403-668-4655.

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Earth Anchors Take Hold

Resource Development Council member Charles Meacham is beginning to see the fruits of a seed planted over a year ago.

While searching for a strong aircraft tie-down, Meacham, a former Commissioner of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, learned of a new product called the Duckbill Earth Anchor. The 30-year Alaska resident was so impressed with the concept that he set out to purchase one, but found to his frustration that none was available in Alaska or the Pacific Northwest.

Meacham contacted the factory in Wyoming and in May 1983 was granted exclusive sales rights in Alaska. Since then "acceptance of the Duckbill Earth Anchor in Alaska has been outstanding," says Meacham. "Just about anyone who needs an efficient and quickly set 'deadman' can utilize the product."

Earlier this year the state listed the Duckbill Earth Anchor as one of two preferred aircraft tie-downs. The construction industry has been particularly enthusiastic and the product has enjoyed wide utilization by landscapers, field crews and resource industries.

Meacham's first major Alaska sale of the product resulted from an ad placed in the Resource Review.

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British Columbia Coal Project Opens

After ten years of planning, marketing, design and construction, the Northeast British Columbia Coal Project was officially opened in Tumbler Ridge, British Columbia in June. Prominent members of government and industry gathered to celebrate the successful completion of Canada's largest combined mining and industrialization project.

The unprecedented Northeast Coal Project represents a unique level of cooperation between two Canadian mining companies, the Japanese steel industry, 55 international banks, the Canadian National and British Columbia railways and government, the initiator of the mega-project.

The project consists of two mines and a port constructed at Prince Rupert. The project also created a new frontier town of 5,000 residents carved out of the northern wilderness.

The development took place in a remote and rugged area, previously inaccessible by rail or vehicle. Extensive rail lines were constructed to allow for transport of the coal to Prince Rupert, 650 miles to the west. The British Columbia Railway constructed over 70 miles of new track, which included nine miles of tunnels and eleven major bridges.

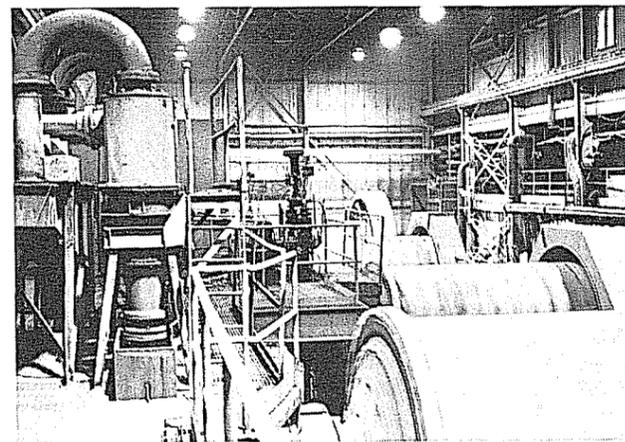
The Canadian National Railway upgraded about 500 miles of track and replaced some 70 bridges. New roads and transmission lines were also built.

Much of the resource development in Canada is a joint effort by government and industry, and according to Canadian officials, this is particularly true for major developments in remote regions where resource industries cannot bear the entire front-end cost of power supply, community development and transportation infrastructure.

In the Northwest Territory of Canada, the government constructed over 400 miles of railroad, a hydroelectric dam and granted mineral

rights which encouraged the development of the Pine Point Mine. Since Pine Point opened, the government has been repaid several times over from usage fees.

The Canadian mega-projects demonstrate that governments can play an active and vital role in bringing new resource developments on stream.



Rod and ball mills at Pine Point.

Two Major Conventions Planned Next Month

Two major conventions dealing with resources and the state's economy will be held next month.

The Alaska State Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual convention October 4-6 in Valdez with Governor Sheffield scheduled as the keynote speaker on the opening day. The opening session will also include a 25-year review of Alaska statehood by three former state governors.

"What's Ahead for Alaska Business" is the topic of the second day session. A panel of top representatives from six Alaska industries will present a 25-year outlook for their particular industry.

The 1984 Alaska Miners Association Convention and Trade Fair will be held October 31 to November 3 at the William Egan Convention and Civic Center in Anchorage. The theme of this year's convention is "Mining at the Crossroads."

Highlights of the program include a short course on Alaska mining law and a USGS presentation on the results of the Seward Peninsula AMRAP Study. Technical sessions will also discuss challenges to Alaska mining, native corporation mineral development, placer mining outlook and development and an update on exploration.

For further information on the Miners convention, contact 276-0347.

Cordova Road Resolution Passes

The Executive Committee of the Resource Development Council passed a resolution in mid-September calling for the completion of the Copper River Highway from an area north of Cordova to the Richardson Highway near Valdez.

The Council's resolution noted that completion of the highway would provide an alternative means of shipping goods into Cordova and fish to market. It would also serve to boost tourism and diversify the ailing Cordova economy.

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Ann Burford To Address Council

Ann Gorsuch Burford, previous Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, will address a special luncheon of the Resource Development Council Friday, October 5 at 12 noon in the Discovery Room of the Hotel Captain Cook.

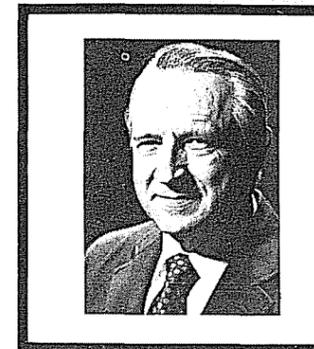
Burford confirmed from Washington, D.C. that she would discuss her Washington experience at the luncheon.

To make reservations for Burford's presentation, which is open to the public, call the Resource Development Council at 278-9615.

Further information was not available at press time.



We're Energizing Alaska!



A Letter From Our President

By
Charles R. Webber

The development of Alaska's natural resources implies the need for simultaneous development of other closely related areas such as financial capability and an increasingly efficient work force.

Although entrepreneurial interest will generally be available for financial support, the state must position itself to give assistance to viable opportunities by taking a firm position toward the development projects themselves as well as lending its influence to adequate financing for the developer.

With resource potential and financing available, there must be a labor force of sufficient productivity to enhance the project. Both industry, management and labor have a mutual responsibility to provide the framework in which they are able to compete with domestic and foreign competition.

Here again it is imperative that state government utilize its resources to assist industry and labor in increasing the basic productivity which will enhance opportunities for jobs, profit and future operations.

Environmental Group Seeks To Halt Alaska Mining

Mining on public lands has long been a hated issue for environmental groups, especially in Alaska. In their latest bid to curtail such activity, a group of environmental activists are seeking to enjoin all mineral production on state lands.

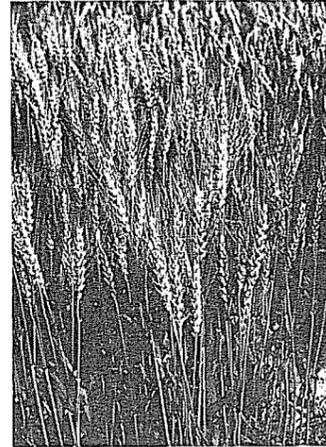
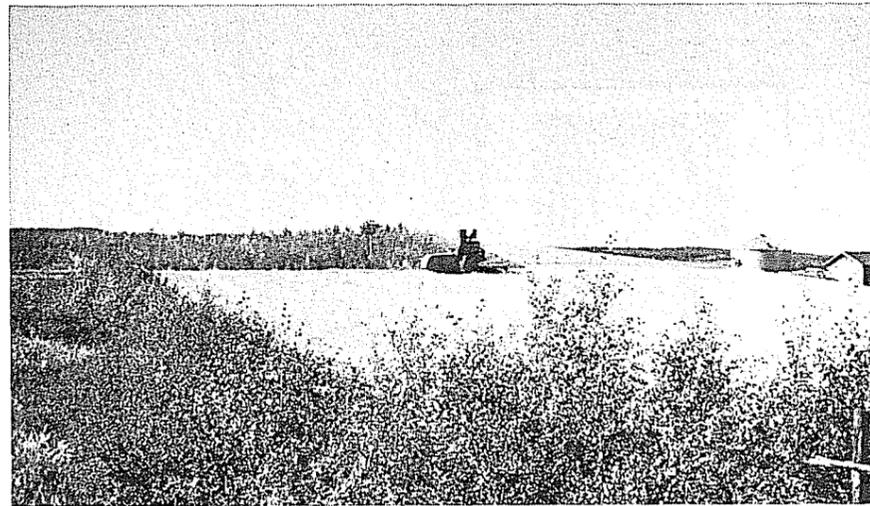
Trustees for Alaska and such allied groups as Friends of the Earth are suing the state alleging that prospectors are not paying royalty fees. Historically, miners do not pay royalties, but rather state, borough and municipal taxes and for any improvements made to the mined lands. By changing the "rules of the game," environmentalists hope ultimately to curtail mining altogether.

The Sacramento-based Pacific Legal Foundation is representing several Alaskan communities for whom mining forms the basis of their economic livelihood.

PLF believes permit and tax structures that promote individual economic initiative should be encouraged. Recently, PLF filed a motion for summary judgment based on the belief that the Trustees for Alaska suit has no basis in law.

A decision from the Superior Court in Anchorage is pending.

—From Pacific Legal Foundation, The Reporter, 9/84



State officials calculate that 16,000 acres of barley were planted in Alaska this season.

Delta Farmers Harvest 1984 Crop

After an early snowfall and heavy rain, warm and dry weather in early September is a welcomed relief to nervous Delta farmers who are busy getting their barley crops out of the fields.

As of early September, farmers were cutting the barley and leaving it in the fields in hopes that temperatures in the 60s and a light breeze would reduce the grain's moisture content before final harvest.

Last year Alaska farmers planted 12,000 acres of barley, but harvested only 8,000 tons due to poor weather. This year state agriculture officials calculate that 16,000 acres were planted, and the success of this year's crop will depend on September's weather.

A high moisture content in grain brings lower market prices.

In 1983, only three farmers qualified for the state's new grain reserve program that permits farmers to borrow money against their stored grain. However, to qualify, a farmer's grain must meet federal requirements for low moisture content.

Environmental Group Director Is Fired

The founder of Friends of the Earth has been dismissed as Chairman of the national environmental group.

David Brower was fired after he reportedly refused to carry out certain directives. Under Brower's leadership, the organization has accumulated \$700,000 in debts.

This is the second time Brower has left a major position with an environmental organization. In 1969, he was forced to leave the Sierra Club in a cloud of controversy.

—Association Trends, August 1984

1984 harvest figures should show an increase in oats and hay production, although a

wet July was not good for hay producers, officials said.

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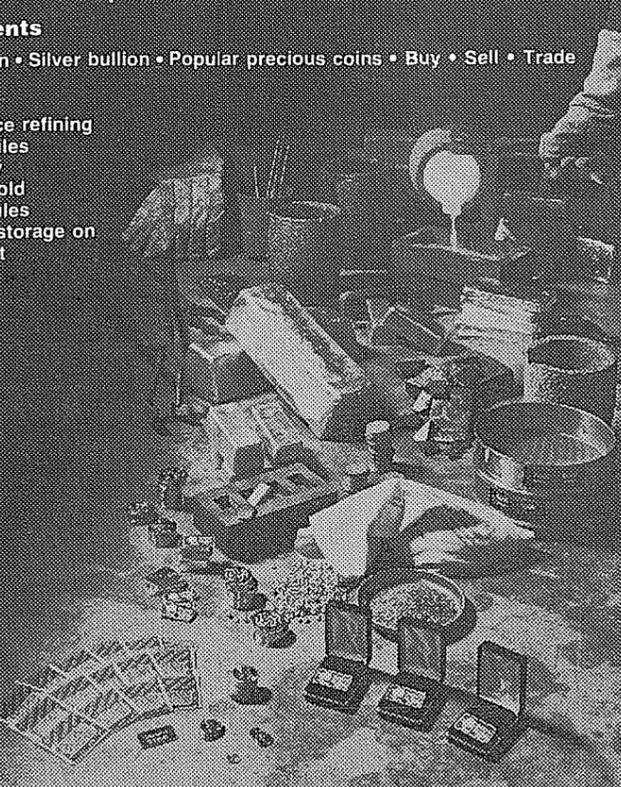
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Sheffield Administration Looks to New Long-Range Planning Process

Long-term planning in state government is essential in light of the short-term perspectives of elected state officials says Peter McDowell, Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

"As a businessman, Governor Bill Sheffield has made a commitment to manage the State of Alaska in a business-like manner, implying a commitment to make short-term budget and policy decisions in the context of their longer-term fiscal, social and economic impacts," McDowell told the Resource Development Council last month.

Long-range planning implies a further commitment to "institutionalize the voice of the future and the future generation into the current political and managerial decision-making process," McDowell said. "It implies a commitment to manage the fiscal year annual state budgets through 1987 and perhaps, subsequent to the 1986 election, the fiscal years 1988-1991 to create a soft landing . . . when the decline in oil revenues from Prudhoe Bay begins."

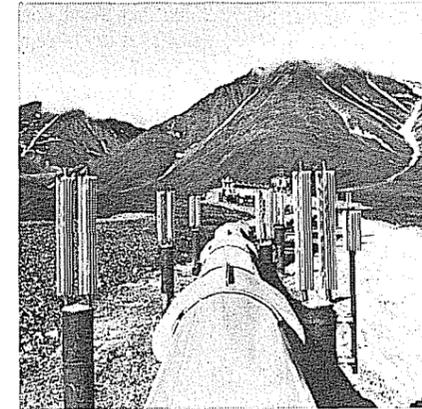
With the annual state government budget totaling over \$5 billion, McDowell indicated state spending is one of the most significant factors affecting the Alaska economy today.

As a result, he says it is imperative that a long-term planning process recognize early detection and assessment of changes in the state's fiscal environment which may occur within the next ten years. Assessment of those impacts will reduce uncertainty about the spread of future events, permit better focusing of planning and implementation efforts and assist in making short-term decisions on deploying and committing the state's strategic resources of manpower and funding.

In his Council address, McDowell outlined five major elements of the Sheffield administration's long-term fiscal planning process. The first, which has already begun, is to publish study projections that clearly show the effects of declining oil revenues from Prudhoe Bay.

When allocating state funds, McDowell stressed that state officials must keep in mind a projection graph that shows an increasing operating budget intersecting a decreasing revenue line sometime between 1991 and 1998. McDowell's gloomy projection is made in light of fresh oil production figures from all known new fields on state lands and the assumption that oil prices will eventually rise.

The administration's second element in fiscal planning calls for restraining a growing operating budget. The keystone of McDowell's fiscal strategy is to reduce a 19 percent annual operating budget growth rate so that more funds



The encouragement of new petroleum exploration and development activities is one aim of long-range planning.

would be available for investments in needed capital assets.

A third element of the fiscal plan is to work toward expanding and diversifying the economy away from the single Prudhoe Bay reservoir. Realizing that the oil industry still holds the greatest promise for Alaska's economic future, McDowell revealed that the administration's highest economic development priority is to encourage the continued exploration and production of oil and gas on state lands.

"There is no other industry in this state that has the potential to generate the amount of employment and income in both the private and public sectors as does the oil industry," McDowell stated.

Major capital spending is McDowell's fourth point in the fiscal plan. The thrust in this category is for long-term economic return from capital budget investments.

The final element of the plan calls for increasing the size of the Permanent Fund.

McDowell stressed that the five fiscal planning elements are not just policy statements, but in fact implemented decisions.

The dollar amounts targeted for the operating, capital and loans budget, the nature of some of the budgets included in the capital budget, the proposals for more deposits to the Permanent Fund and the amount of those proposals were all derived from the long-range planning process. The proposal for a constitutional amendment to establish a major projects fund and the amount of money to go into that fund was also derived through long-range planning.

"The second long-term planning cycle will impact decisions, policy initiative and direction this fall," McDowell promised.



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