

Bulk Rate  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Anchorage, AK  
Permit No. 377

ADDRESS CHANGE  
REQUESTED  
Return Postage Guaranteed

Sponsored by Alaska Helicopters, Inc.

# Resource Review

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

June 1986

## Impediments to Alaska's export potential identified at hearing

### INSIDE

- Tongass report deceptive ..... 3
- Tourists need affordable access ..... 4
- Alaskans reject park plans ..... 5
- Explosives used to scare whales ..... 6

to export is best done while those visitors are in Alaska, where they have first-hand experience of the state's resource wealth and strategic location.

The RDC testimony also pointed out that primary manufacturing requirements on commodity exports gives private resource owners a government-sponsored edge. Dimneen cited as an example timber from the Tongass National Forest which must be "canted" vs. round log exports from private lands.

"Value-added restrictions may not be the best mechanism for promoting in-state manufacturing, especially if it makes the commodity uneconomic and undesirable," Dimneen said.

Two other major impediments to realizing Alaska's export potential are lack of access and prohibitions on exploration and development of resources, Dimneen said.

"Since less than one percent of the state's acreage is in private hands, and since many of the restrictions are a result of ANILCA, Congressional efforts to enable or allow development are of utmost importance," the RDC division director said. "Access for transportation and power transportation corridors is of increasing importance to the future of all resource development in Alaska."

RDC pointed out that with the exception of the pipeline corridor, it is impossible to go from the vast North Slope to Interior Alaska without confronting a wildlife refuge or national park.

Complicating the development scenario are the prohibitions on resource exploration and development within federal units. About 80 percent of all federal land in Alaska is withdrawn from mineral entry. A prime example is the proposed permanent closure of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil and gas exploration. Another example is the Tongass National Forest in Southeast Alaska where only some land classifications preventing timber harvest.

"Alaska is thought of as a 'storehouse' of natural resources instead of a producer," Dimneen concluded. "Alaska is regarded as the last frontier, rather than a viable modern economy."

Protectionist legislation, restrictive land classifications and intra-structure constraints are three major domestic impediments to realizing Alaska's export potential, according to Larry Dimneen, Director of the Resource Development Council's International Trade and Industrial Development Division.

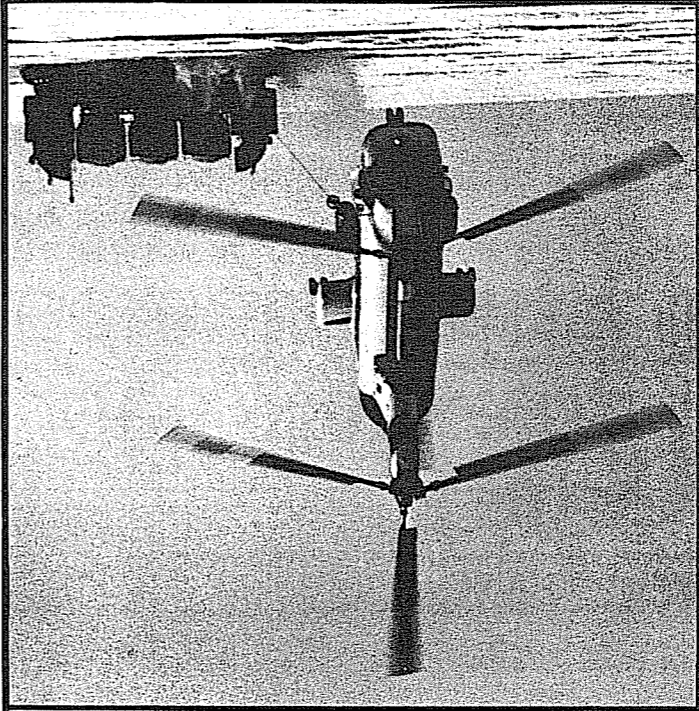
In remarks before the Senate Republican Conference Task Force on International Trade Policy, Dimneen said the ban on exporting crude oil from the North Slope is a major impediment to what could be Alaska's greatest valued export. Coupled with last month's Congressional move to prevent the export of Cook Inlet oil, "the Export Administration Act sends a firm signal of our nation's unwillingness to trade in the very commodities that our trading partners seek most — energy resources," Dimneen said.

Dimneen told Senators Frank Murkowski and Nancy Kassebaum, who chaired the Anchorage hearing in late May, the RDC supports legislation which allows a 90 day visa exemption period for foreign travelers from designated European and Asian countries. The RDC spokesman said educating visitors to Alaska's resources and desire



Hank Giegerich (right), President and General Manager of Cominco Alaska, Inc., and RDC Board member John Rense of NANA Regional Corporation, stand before the site of the proposed Red Dog lead and zinc mine. Cominco has entered a joint venture with NANA Regional Corporation to develop the mine, said to be the free world's finest deposit of zinc and lead. The developers, in conjunction with the State of Alaska, are preparing to build a road from tidewater to the mine. The mine products will be shipped to Pacific Rim markets.

# THE SOLUTION



**FAST.  
DEPENDABLE.  
COST EFFECTIVE.**

**ALASKA**  
**HELICOPTERS, INC.**  
**CONQUERING ALASKA'S CHALLENGES.**

P.O. Box 190283 6400 South Air Park Drive, Anchorage, AK 99519-0283 (907) 243-3404  
A subsidiary of Columbia Helicopters, Portland, Oregon

Options expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent the views of its sponsors.

### THE TASK

Move and unload a 220-ton barge across the Beaufort Sea during ice break up.

### THE CHALLENGE

- Fly into continual headwinds
- Navigate over a mine field of moving ice
- Maintain fragile underwater ecosystems
- Deliver cargo safely, on time, and precisely in place

### THE SOLUTION

Alaska Helicopter's experienced pilots and the twin engine Boeing Vertol 107 II. Can lift a payload of 10,000 lbs.

## Message from our executive director

by Paula P. Easley



### Who owns the land?

"I had truly been hoodwinked;" what about you?

I know it's absurd, but people living on the East Coast, New York City for example, actually believe the rest of the country is as "developed" as the Big Apple. Unless they've been there, they have no concept whatever of the vast wide open spaces outside their city. Flying around Alaska really blows their minds.

After living in Alaska all these years and reading a ton of environmental literature, I was convinced the American people were paving over the south 48 at an alarming rate. They've done a marvelous job at convincing us that we've "destroyed" so much land that we must remove every acre that's left from any kind of productive use. The media unquestioningly carried forth their message.

It wasn't until I began meeting with the National Public Lands Advisory Council and traveling to such "resort" outposts as Rosewell, New Mexico, Casper, Wyoming, Klamath Falls, Oregon, Grand Junction, Colorado and Butte, Montana, that I became flabbergasted with how little of our nation's land had been paved over. I had truly been hoodwinked, and that made me mad.

Then, lo and behold, the Soil Conservation Society of America and the U.S. Department of Agriculture published information that tells us how the land base is actually used.

I couldn't believe the figures, so I passed the questionnaire around to the RDC staff and later to readers of the Resource Review. Turns out I wasn't the only one who'd been hoodwinked. (Staff members were embarrassed that their answers are so far off base — I promised I'd never tell how far.)

### National lands council names three committee chairmen

Paula Easley, Executive Director of the Resource Development Council, has been appointed chairperson of the Lands Committee of the National Public Lands Advisory Council.

Easley has been serving on the 21-member federal advisory board since 1982. Her new position with the NPLAC was announced last month at the organization's spring meeting in Casper, Wyoming.

Wells O'Brien of Reno, Nevada, was appointed chairman of the Council while Robert Wright, former vice president of the National Cattleman's Association, was appointed chairman of the Renewable

Here are the questions asked:

(1) What percent of land in the U.S. do you think is used for settlement, commerce and industry, energy and mineral production, transportation, water storage and other consumptive uses?

Answers ranged from 10% to 78%, with the majority responding above 50%. The correct percent? **4.5%**

(2) What percent of land do you think is used for agriculture and forestry, including rangelands?

Answers ranged from 12% to 60%, with a mean of 35%. The correct percent is **78%**.

(3) What percent of land do you think is devoted to non-consumptive uses (parks, wilderness, glaciers, deserts, wildlands and water)?

To this question, responses centering between 40 and 60% probably meant people included rangeland in this category. The correct amount is **17.5%**

Now, aren't you glad to have this juicy tidbit of information?

P.S. On my recent (first in 26 years) automobile trip through the Pacific Northwest, I was fully prepared to view a vast clearcut wasteland. How thrilling it is to see mile after mile of tree plantations with new growth 20 to 40 feet high. Thanks, Weyerhaeuser, for those signs, or I'd never have known the areas had been cut. Even more exciting were the honest-to-God logging trucks with logs on them!

Resources Committee. In addition, Larry Kelly, chairman of the Board of Supra Corporation, a Houston oil and gas exploration firm, was appointed chairman of the Energy and Minerals Committee.

The NPLAC meets quarterly at various points around the nation to offer objective advice on the many issues surrounding multiple-use management of the public lands, especially those affecting energy and mineral development and overall rangeland management.

Easley is Alaska's sole representative on the Council.

The RDC business is located at 807 G Street, Suite 200, Anchorage.

**Resource Review** is the official monthly publication of the Resource Development Council, Box 100516, Anchorage, Alaska 99510 — (907) 276-0700.

Material in the publication may be reprinted without permission provided appropriate credit is given.

Carl Portman  
Editor & Advertising Manager

**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 nonprofit 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 7:30 a.m. in the Northern Lights Inn. Reservations are requested by calling 276-0700.

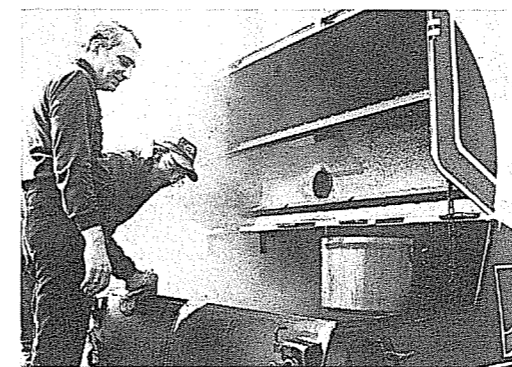
#### Executive Committee Officers

President ..... Boyd Brownfield  
Vice President ..... John Forceskie  
Vice President ..... Joseph Henri  
Vice President ..... Shelby Stasny  
Secretary ..... O.K. "Easy" Gilbreth  
Treasurer ..... Larry Laughman  
Past President ..... Charles Webber

#### Staff

Executive Director ..... Paula P. Easley  
Deputy Director ..... Becky L. Gay  
Public Relations Director ..... Carl Portman  
Research Coordinator ..... Larry Hayden  
Projects Coordinator ..... Mike Abbott  
Staff Assistant ..... Kate Hanes  
Membership Relations Director ..... Lynn Gabriel

## Here comes the pork ...



Sea-Land chefs Dave Dorsey and John Cleveland worked all day roasting pork and beef for several hundred folks who attended RDC's spring bash at Alaska Helicopters in late April.



Rex Bishopp, our host.

## ... and Rex is the first in line

### Does Alaska need a recreation river bill?

HB 93, which would have created an open-ended recreational river system on state land to protect six important southcentral rivers, failed to pass the legislature this year.

Some people fear that the failure of this bill will mean the destruction of Alexander Creek, Lake Creek, Moose Creek, Talchulitna River, Talkeetna River and the Little Susitna River — this is simply not true.

The issue here is *not* whether we should protect these rivers from activities that will impact the significant recreational opportunities. The real issue is whether legislation is needed to accomplish that goal. Everyone, from developers and sportsmen to residents of the Susitna Valley and Anchorage, agrees that the recreation values of the area must be protected.

The Resource Development Council was assured that the protections mandated by HB 93 are already being enforced by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Legislation would simply add another layer of designation and inflexibility to lands that are not threatened. Furthermore, DNR has all the necessary authority to manage the lands to protect the recreation values.

Since DNR is, in fact, already managing the areas to protect the important values that so many Alaskans rely on, it is obvious that the bill is a clear *duplication* of management direction. In general, duplication is costly and unnecessary, and should be especially avoided in times of declining revenues.

Following are specific examples of such duplication:

The bill set three goals for the management of the rivers: public recreation, wildlife habitat and water quality. The Susitna Area Plan already classified those lands to protect these elements.

The bill would have prevented land disposals in the river corridors. The Department of Natural Resources has already placed these lands off limits to land disposal.

The legislation would have closed the area to mineral entry. The Commissioner of DNR has already signed a mineral closing order for the same lands.

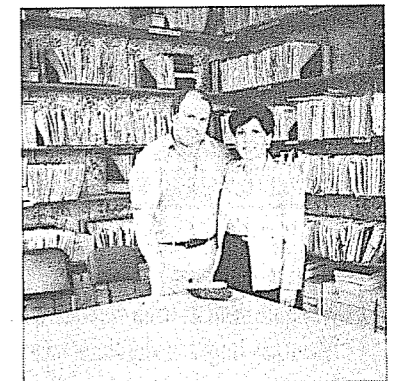
The bill would not allow prohibitions of snowmachine or motorboat use of the rivers. There are no such restrictions on the rivers right now and DNR is not considering any.

Since DNR is presently enforcing the mandate of the Susitna Area Plan, public review and comment are required by law before any changes could be made to these river areas.

The State of Alaska went through a long and expensive process to generate the Susitna Area Plan that would eliminate the need for piece-meal legislation such as HB 93.

The legislation would not have improved sporthunting or sportfishing on these important rivers. Measures to improve the resources of the area are being considered and will be implemented without legislative mandate.

With or without HB 93, no new mining claims will be allowed and no state lands will be sold in the six river corridors. Planning will continue as needed and land management authority will remain where it belongs — in the Department of Natural Resources.



Phil Thingstad, an officer with Carpenters Union Local 1281, donated his services to RDC last month to build tabletops to cover four mismatched tables in RDC's conference room. Executive Director Paula Easley compliments Phil for his hard work, which has given the conference room a bright, professional new look.

## Notable Quotes

"Our family of four relocated from Oregon to Alaska last year. It was a move dictated by special interest groups that shut down the timber industry where we were. We saw numerous jobs lost and mills shut down because those 'interest' groups were deciding how the forests should be managed."

Mary Ann Lamb  
Alaska Women in Timber

"Environmentalists have relentlessly pursued a political agenda to further erode hunting and fishing opportunities in Alaska. Whenever you ask any of these folks if they are anti-hunting, they almost always deny it; however, although in many cases they are not directly opposing hunting, they are in fact working to prohibit access to many areas left open for consumptive users."

Ed Grasser  
Alaska Outdoors Council, Inc.

# New regulations to ban use of lethal action against whales

The National Marine Fisheries Service plans to ban the use of firearms, explosives and other potentially lethal means of scaring whales away from catches after Alaska fishermen last month set off powerful explosions in Prince William Sound to scare orca whales from their nets.

The new regulations will take effect within 10 days after appearing in the Federal Register. It applies to 760 Alaska fishermen who have certificates of exemption from certain sections of the federal Marine Mammals Protection Act.

Fishermen came under fire recently for using powerful Detadrive explosives that might harm the whales. The explosions were set off despite the fact that no one knows what effect they may have on the whales.

The Resource Development Council suggested earlier this month that the certificates of exemption, which allow fishermen to injure or kill marine mammals in order to protect their catches, are essentially a double standard on Alaska industry.

Alaska's petroleum industry is prohibited from using explosives in marine environments by a 1975 policy that applies only to that one industry. The oil industry's use of explosives has been denied without exception, despite

Fishermen should operate under the same mandate the oil industry has been required to follow, that of preparing diligently beforehand to assure its activities will not harm the environment.

the fact that proposed tests have complied with all conditions of nationwide permits, the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act.

In 1984 the State of Alaska refused to issue a permit to Standard Alaska Petroleum Company for a special seismic test program in coastal waters. The Standard permit debate centered around the use of Primacord, a small explosive designed to eliminate the peak pressure problems associated with dynamite. Companies prefer to use the detonation cord to paint a picture of geologic structures in the earth that might contain oil and gas.

The Standard test was denied even though it was to take place when environmental risks were at the lowest levels.

Provisions of the Bristol Bay Cooperative Management Plan banning the use of explosives for geophysical surveys had a major part in the decision, as did intense pressure from fishermen and environmental groups to prevent the use of explosives in water.

The Alaska Oil and Gas Association is now conducting a \$120,000 experiment in Resurrection Bay near Seward to convince state officials to lift their ban on the use of Primacord for seismic exploration. The program involves a number of small explosions to assess possible effects on juvenile salmon and herring.

The state has agreed to reconsider the oil industry's use of explosives once it has more information to work with. The AOGA study should provide that information.

The Council believes fishermen should operate under the same mandate the oil industry has been required to follow, that of preparing diligently beforehand to assure that its activities will not harm the environment.

Double standards are not only unfair, the Council believes, they are nonproductive and confusing. They cause chaos for any industry doing business in the state.

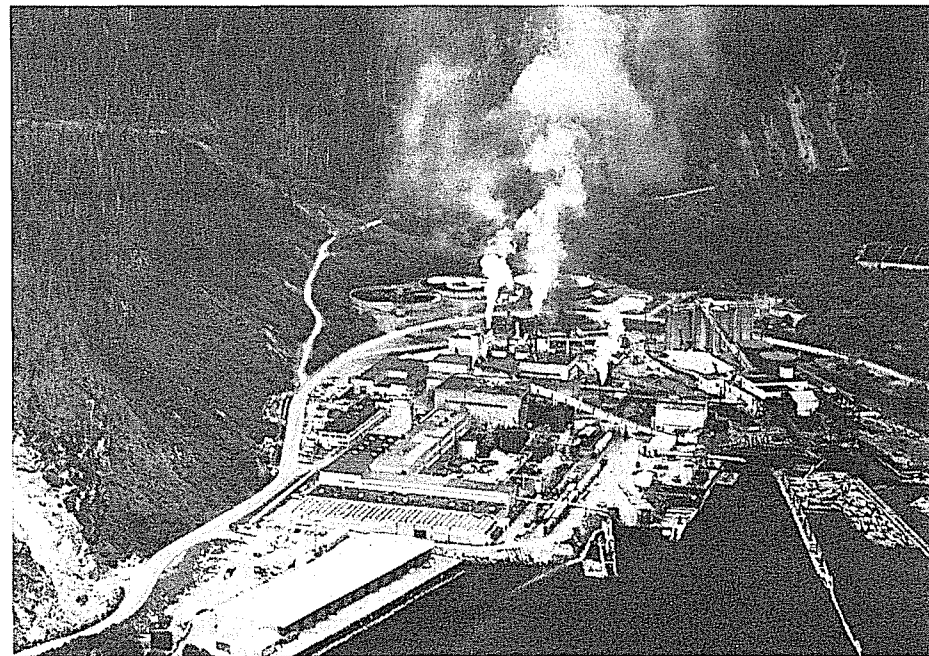
## EPA, Alaska Pulp agree on new standards

The Alaska Pulp Corporation and the Environmental Protection Agency's Region 10 office have agreed on wastewater treatment standards for the Sitka pulp mill.

The agreement must be approved by the EPA's Washington, D.C. office, the Justice Department and the federal court system.

Based on the state's approval of an \$8.2 million loan guarantee for purchase of new equipment, the agreement includes a compliance schedule.

Mill operators and the EPA have argued over wastewater treatment standards since the EPA denied a variance for the mill three years ago.



The Alaska Pulp Corporation's mill at Sitka will utilize a new anaerobic wastewater treatment system to meet EPA water quality standards. It now appears that APC's long-standing battle with the EPA is drawing to a close.

## Thoughts from the president



by  
Boyd Brownfield

Of all the issues before our great state, I believe those dealing with the future of our lands pose a greater impact upon Alaska than any other single issue. It is the destiny of these lands which forges the future of Alaska's greatest wealth; our overwhelming abundance of natural resources.

Consider for instance our enormous hard-rock mineral and coal deposits, vast timber and fisheries resources, natural gas and oil reserves, unparalleled water-borne energy,

## Alaska's destiny is in its lands

unlimited recreation and tourism opportunities and a host of others. Indeed, Alaska is overly endowed with riches and is the envy of our other 49 states.

However, without access to these vast opportunities, no meaningful resource development will take place. Our "potential" will remain in the ground, lending little assistance to the crucial mission of diversifying our leveling economy.

We can reap the benefits of our land and enjoy its special unique values. Many uses can be accommodated.

As the battle heats up to lock up more of Alaska's land, it is up to you and me to press for rational approaches to using our land and the resources it contains. We must accept this responsibility or the preservationist philosophy will prevail.

The Resource Development Council is working diligently to bring land into produc-

tion, because the future growth of Alaska's economy is directly tied to the production of resource commodities. However, we are only as strong and well-suited for this giant endeavor as the will of our membership. Our effectiveness corresponds to the level of commitment of the organizations, communities, individuals and companies that support our efforts.

Whether your firm is a full-service bank or a company that sells insurance, real estate, video equipment, or general hardware, your success in Alaska's ever-changing economy is connected to utilization of Alaska's land. As a result, it makes sense for you to invest your time and money in the Resource Development Council.

By standing together, we can assure sensible use of our lands and a strong economy with opportunities for all.

## Officials say Tongass report deceptive

"America's Vanishing Rain Forest," a Wilderness Society report on federal timber management in Southeast Alaska, is nothing but deceptive information and distorted facts about logging, according to industry officials.

The report was produced with funds from the W. Mellon Foundation. In addition, a Wilderness Society full-page ad in the New York Times which proclaimed, "Our Biggest National Forest is getting Beaten to a Pulp," was paid for with non-grant funds from the Lila Acheson Wallace Fund and the Mellon Foundation.

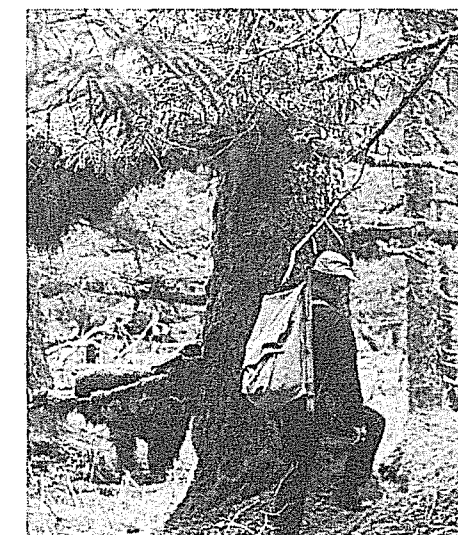
Dr. Carl Newport, a highly-respected forester and consultant to the Wilderness Society report, said the report was unbalanced and lacked objectivity.

In a letter to the Wilderness Society, Newport wrote, "In my opinion this report clearly reflects my failure to convince you that an even-handed examination of the available facts and opinions and an unbiased presentation of findings would be of greater benefit to the Society, the Forest Service, Congress and the public than this openly biased report." In addition, "the executive summary is strongly worded, mixes facts with opinions and untruths and generally advocates a Wilderness Society agenda which existed before any study results from this project," said Newport.

At a congressional hearing last month in Washington, D.C., RDC vice president Joe Henri explained that a compromise forged between environmental groups and industry placed about half of the Tongass commercial

timber base off limits into wilderness. Henri said less than 10 percent of the 16.7 million-acre forest would be harvested while millions of acres would be afforded ultimate protection in wilderness classification.

In exchange for the wilderness designations of large valuable timber stands, Congress included provisions within ANILCA to protect timber industry employment. The provisions, which were part of the overall com-



Environmentalists have launched an assault to sharply reduce the commercial timber harvest in the Tongass National Forest. Harvest levels were established through a compromise struck between environmentalists and developers six years ago.

promise agreed to by environmentalists, included establishment of the Tongass Timber Supply Fund to pay for road building, the use of innovative technology and other activities to make it economically possible to harvest less desirable timber areas.

At the May hearing, environmental groups launched an all-out assault on the compromise by calling for an end to the Tongass Timber Supply Fund and a sharp reduction in the timber harvest. The groups also presented petitions from 14 Southeast communities supporting a large reduction in the timber harvest.

These communities total about 2,000 people, many of whom are seasonal residents who come to Alaska to fish. Meanwhile, petitions from Ketchikan, Petersburg, Sitka and Juneau support the harvest. The combined population of these cities is about 80,000.

The Wilderness Society and other preservationists' lobbying power was evident at the hearing, according to the Alaska Loggers Association's John Galea. Preservationists outnumbered timber supporters, Galea said because the hearing was headed by pro-environmentalist Congressman John Seiberling.

The Wilderness Society's report is a good example of the lobbying power of the Wilderness Society, Galea said. "We (loggers and the Alaska timber industry) don't have the strength of the other groups," he said. "Most people who work in the timber industry have day-to-day jobs and don't have the time or money to lobby in Washington."

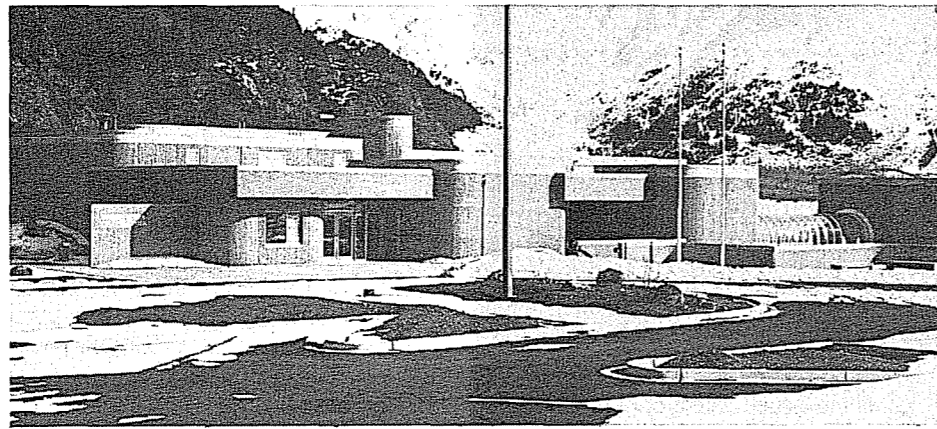
## Affordable access, facilities needed for Alaska tourists

The Resource Development Council has asked the President's Commission on American Outdoors to adopt six major policy directives that would allow people to enjoy the wonders of nature by providing affordable access and adequate visitor facilities in America's national parks.

Addressing the distinguished members of the Commission in Anchorage June 2, Executive Director Paula Easley said that before proposing any new legislative initiatives, the Commission should thoroughly assess their impacts on the western federal land states. She said a proposal that might well serve the state of Ohio could be disastrous to a state such as Alaska.

The Council also urged that Commission recommendations refute the perception that one can't have recreation without having "parks" or "specially designated areas."

Easley explained that National Geographic's 1986 opinion poll indicated that between 75% and 85% of Americans' favorite



The best example of a successful marriage of affordable access and adequate facilities is not a national park. At 500,000 visitors annually, Portage Glacier is the most visited attraction in Alaska. Portage visitors can now look forward to new opportunities at the glacier through the opening of the recently completed Begich-Boggs Visitors Center, operated by the U.S. Forest Service.

activities were walking, driving, sightseeing, picnicking and swimming. These activities, Easley stressed, require access and facilities.

"The greatest untapped recreational resource in the nation is the 272 million acres of land managed by the Bureau of Land Management," Easley pointed out. "Forest Service lands provide another 190 million acres. Lands managed by these two agencies allow the greatest variety of uses by humans, and to meet the needs of recreationists, their uses should remain flexible and under their control."

Nationally and in Alaska there is significantly more recreational activity on BLM and Forest Service lands than on those managed by the Fish and Wildlife Service or the Park Service, Easley said. "Yet the last two agencies capture far more Congressional appropriations for recreation than do the BLM or Forest Service."

In its third point, RDC suggested that recommendations to the President reflect the fact that other human uses need not be eliminated to have quality outdoor recreation. The Council stressed that a sound principle of multiple use encourages dispersed user areas, a variety of sightseeing opportunities and policies that allow land to be productive and contribute to the national economy.

"In Alaska, nearly all popular recreation areas exist because of access and facilities provided by mining, logging and commercial tourism operations," Easley said. "Recreation has traditionally coexisted with other uses, and this variety of uses should continue."

Easley urged the Commission to recommend cost-effective approaches to meet increasing needs for recreation that involve the private sector. She also urged the Commission not to recommend initiatives that result in negating the property rights of permittees, lessees, claimholders or land owners of any type on the federal lands.

The Council's sixth point called for the Commission to acknowledge that recreation is a resource having great potential for positively impacting the U.S. trade deficit.

Easley proposed that efforts be expanded to capture a greater share of the international travel market by providing greater access to public lands and more adequate visitor facilities.

"In Alaska, affordable access is the first step toward providing a range of recreational opportunities," Easley said. "The best example of a successful marriage of affordable access and adequate facilities is not a national park ... at 500,000 visitors annually, Portage Glacier is the most visited attraction in Alaska."

Easley said Alaska's average tourist is 54 years old and is "unwilling to carry a backpack, walk for long distances or use the great outdoors for a restroom."

## NPS rejects mining plans

The National Park Service says it has rejected 15 of 18 plans detailing mining operations within national parks because they lack specific information. Only one plan was determined complete, but it still has not been approved, according to Dan Hanson of the Park Service.

There are 40 active mining claims within Alaska's national parks. Deficiencies in the plans varied from case to case, but generally lacked enough detail, Hanson said.

Curt McVee, Executive Director of the Alaska Miners Association, said delays in getting the mining plans approved are preventing miners from working their claims in national parks. McVee contends that the park service changed guidelines it had earlier issued to let miners know what would be required of them in the plans.

"The rules since last winter have changed," McVee said. "Without something being held in a constant state it will be almost impossible for anyone to comply and catch up with the requirements."

Park Service spokesperson Nancy Stromsem said the miners are being asked to comply fully with the law.

In addition to having to review individual mining plans, the Park Service must prepare environmental impact statements describing the "cumulative" impacts of multiple operations in Denali National Park and two other park units.

## Alaskans reject nine park plans

Opposition to nine management plans proposed by the National Park Service continues to grow as citizens and groups throughout Alaska expressed deep concern over severely restrictive policies that limit public access to the parks.

The Resource Development Council joined the Citizen's Advisory Commission on Federal Areas, the Alaska Miners Association and others in expressing alarm to the Alaska Land Use Council that the plans do not meet the mandates placed on them by the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA).

After hearing testimony from concerned groups, the Alaska Land Use Council voted not to endorse the management plans. The advisory council, comprised of state and federal officials, will send its findings to the federal Interior Department which has final say on the plans.

Federal officials generally favored the plans while state members opposed them.

At stake is the future of 40 million acres of Alaska land, not including the millions of acres of adjacent lands which can also be impacted by park management.

"Our review of the general management plans for the parks has found them seriously

deficient in many ways," said Mike Abbott, RDC Projects Coordinator. "In a nutshell, the issue is that Alaska parks are different and must be managed to recognize and take advantage of that difference."

In a presentation before the land council June 9, Abbott said ANILCA provides for a different park management style in Alaska and the plans go some ways toward meeting that mandate, but they do not go far enough.

"Perhaps ANILCA was not explicit enough, but it certainly doesn't take a great deal of research to recognize that there was a clear, prevailing intent to protect this Alaskan acreage from being swept into the mainstream of National Park Service management without appropriate consideration for traditional uses and the special needs and values of the lands," said Abbott.

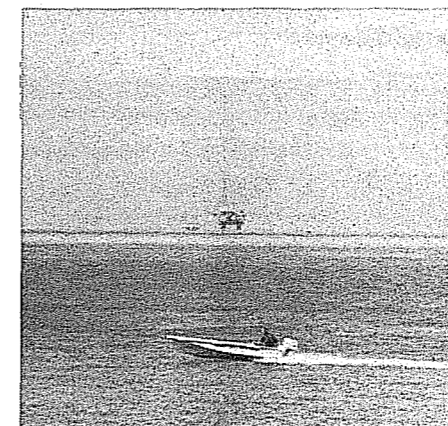
In its testimony, RDC pointed out it was clear throughout the documents that inholders will lead the "permit lifestyle" they thought they were protected from. It is equally clear, the Council contends, that the commercial opportunities so important to appropriate utilization of the parks are going to be unnecessarily limited.

Abbott said the plans display none of the sensitivity toward decades of mining tradition and history that was promised. In addition, virtually non-existent transportation systems into and through the park units will serve only to concentrate the people-density problems faced by the few park areas with reasonable access.



The general management plan for Aniakchak National Monument was one of nine plans rejected by the Alaska Land Use Council

## Washington approves export of Inlet oil



A sleek sport boat speeds up Cook Inlet with oil platforms looming in the background.

The federal Office of Management and Budget gave its final approval late last month to the export of up to 6,000 barrels of oil a day from Cook Inlet. The state plans to publish procedures by mid-June on the disposing of the royalty oil.

The amount of royalty oil involved would fill only a few tankers yearly.

"It's a very small amount, but it's certainly important symbolically, and it's important as the state's first step in seeking a free market for all our resources, including our North Slope oil," said Kay Brown, former director of the State Division of Oil and Gas.

Senator Frank Murkowski led efforts in Washington, D.C., to gain approval of the export of Cook Inlet oil.

## Trial shipment of Interior logs sent to Asia

Two containers of Interior Alaska wood weighing over 95,000 pounds began their 19-day journey to Korea and Taiwan this May.

The purpose of the trial shipment, which included cottonwood, white spruce and birch logs, cants and lumber, was to introduce new markets to the vast wood resource of South-central and Interior Alaska. Recipients of the products in Korea and Taiwan will report back to Alaska on how they were able to use the wood.

Mike McCrary cut the wood in the Trapper Creek/Talkeetna area and sent part of it to Greg Bell in Anchorage for processing at the Valley Sawmill. The State and the Alaska Loggers Association played a major role in the project.