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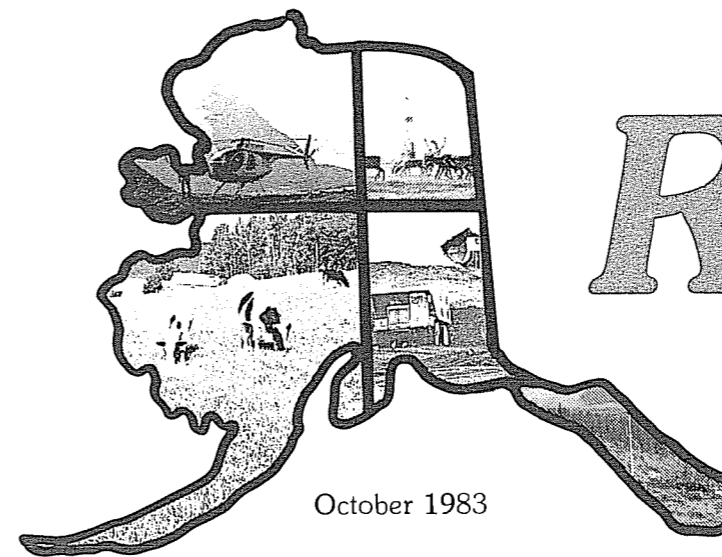
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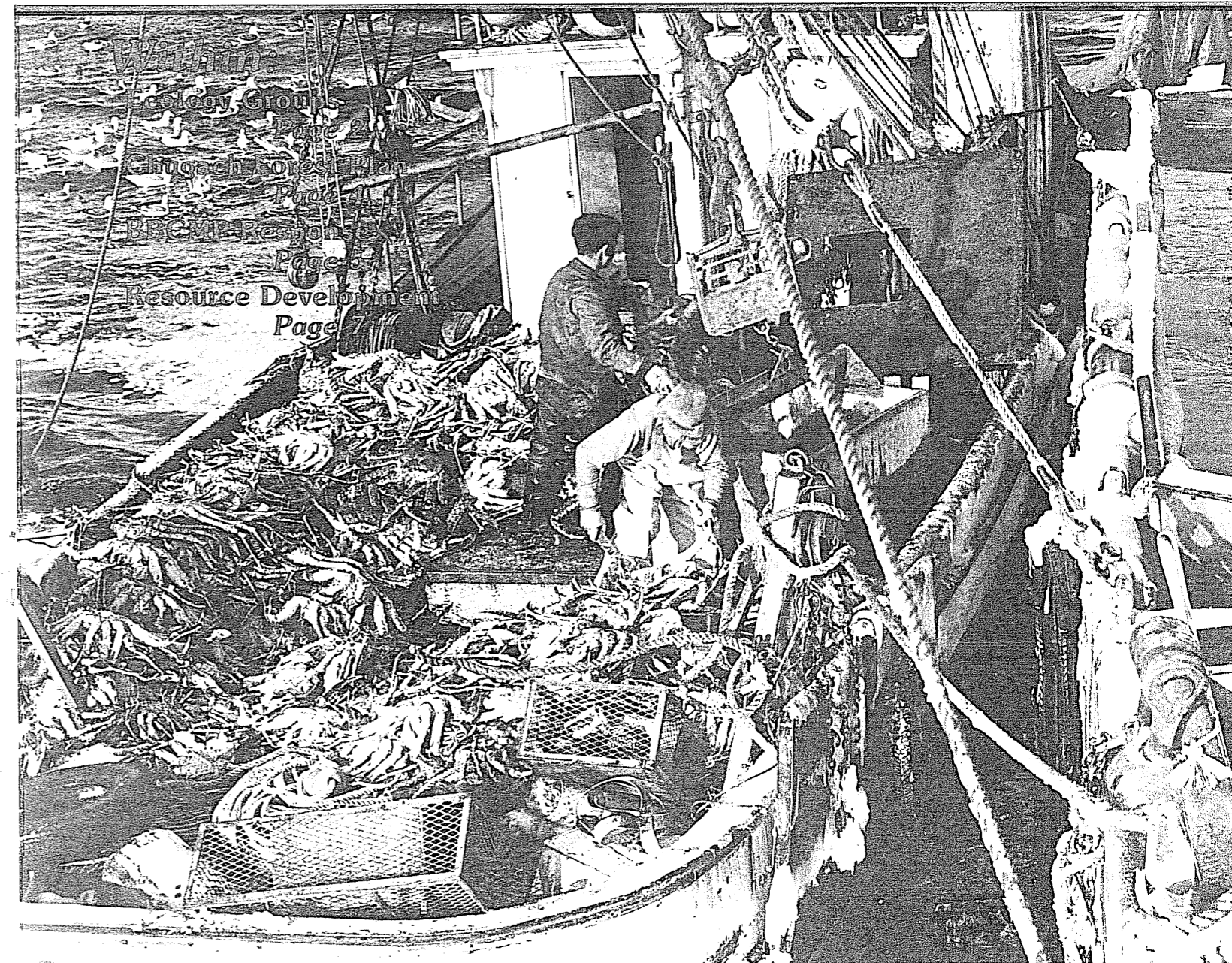


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Message From The Executive Director

By Paula P. Easley

Business-Oriented Ecology Groups

Funny man Ralph Harris, a Los Angeles freelance writer, gave us a good chance to chuckle at ourselves in a recent issue of OMNI magazine. He said it was widely believed that the major obstacle confronting the environmental movement was the attitude of 'big business,' best summed up as "Damn the bald eagles, full speed ahead."

Harris says this assessment is an unfair generalization — that business people **are** interested in the environment and would be the first to support a cause they believed in. Unfortunately, they've not yet found that cause. To remedy this, Harris proposes the immediate formation of some business-oriented ecology groups.

FRIENDS OF THE EARTHMOVERS: A coalition of contractors, heavy-equipment operators, etc., would clean up the great outdoors by getting rid of the dirt — not the litter, just the dirt. FOE's goal would be to raise enough money to pave the entire U.S. and build a giant, coast-to-coast condominium centered somewhere near Mattoon, Illinois.

CAMPAIGN TO VARNISH THE REDWOODS: Lumbermen and manufacturers of furniture-care products could unite in this organization to see that the redwoods last even longer for future generations to study, enjoy and polish.

GREENSPACE: Any executive whose handicap is less than 15 would be urged to join this effort to save our nation's golf courses from being further destroyed by hackers.

SHAVE THE WALRUSES: While not yet an endangered species, there certainly would be more mating going on if these creatures weren't so ugly. Trim their beards, add a little blusher and eye shadow and mating could increase, virtually overnight. A worthy cause for the cosmetics industry.

SAVE THE COCKROACHES: Cockroaches are being ruthlessly slaughtered for sport with shoes, newspapers and even old copies of National Geographic. This is tragic. So-called slumlords might rally to their defense and have their roach-infested buildings declared game preserves, qualifying them for special tax breaks.

SAVE THE REAL ESTATE: This group would mount protests on behalf of an endangered commodity — west coast real estate. The cause of the problem: too many whales. All those 20-ton mammals lolling about in the ocean create the same effect you produce when you sit in a full bathtub: it overflows. By getting rid of the whales, the Pacific will eventually recede, providing the necessary real estate for building more homes, factories and whale museums.

Then there's the Campaign to Quit Harping on the Seals and Nader's Degraders. How about a campaign to crossbreed the Delta bison herd with the caribou so they'd migrate away from the Delta barley fields?

If you'd like to get involved in one of these causes or suggest additional ones, by all means, let us hear from you.

COVER: The Bristol Bay Cooperative Management Plan covers not only fisheries, but oil and gas, mining and other resources in the Southwest region. See story page 5.

Printed the second week of each month, **Resource Review** is the official monthly publication of the Resource Development Council Box 100516, Anchorage, Alaska, 99510 — (907) 278-9615.

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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. in the Rony Room of the Pines on Tudor Road. 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:

Mike Abbott
Financial Development Director

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

Congressman DON YOUNG

Guest Columnist



It's Time To Develop Alaska's Resources

Alaska has a history of suffering through a boom and bust economy. As resources are found, they are developed, giving us a boom; as resources suffer economic or physical depletion or as the market becomes glutted with what we have to offer, our economy suffers. We have seen this happen with gold, with oil, and now with our crab and salmon fisheries. Unfortunately, our reaction has far too often been to take steps to try to preserve the status quo, rather than thinking about how we can have a year-round, growing economy. I believe it is time to change our approach.

What does Alaska have to offer to the world? Our resources include oil and gas, minerals, timber, fish, agricultural land, and scenery. While each have been developed to some extent, they all hold further potential. Development of these resources also has been hampered by dissent within our state.

Take fish, for example. Within 200 miles of our shores, we have 14% of the world's marine protein resources. Unfortunately, Alaska has concentrated on only a few of the number of species that are available. As a result, when those species are depleted (in the case of crab and shrimp) or are harvested in such numbers that the world market price is lowered (as in the case of salmon), our fishing economy suffers.

As I mentioned before, our reaction has been to take steps to preserve the status quo, rather than looking at new ways to handle familiar products or at developing new products.

Further, the fishing sector views with suspicion any attempts to develop other resources that may be in conflict with fishing. (The fishing industry is not the only one; other economic sectors are equally guilty.) Thus, we wind up with an important industry trying to preserve existing practices at all costs, including the costs of not developing new fisheries and not developing other industries. Again, the same charge can be made against the other sectors of our economy. This is not the way to ensure a sound economic base for our State.

Ways exist to solve these problems. For one thing, representatives of the various economic sectors have to talk to each other to understand each other's problems. Once the understanding exists, those same representatives have to work together to see that the problems are resolved. The fishing industry has already taken this step with the oil industry and I am hopeful that accommodations will be reached in all areas of Alaska.

Another suggestion is to emulate the work done by the Fisheries Policy Task Force. Let each important sector of our economy assemble a report detailing problems and solutions. Then, establish an economic task force to combine all of the ideas of individual groups and, from them, produce a series of suggestions for statewide economic development. This need not be done by the State government; a group such as the Resource Development Council can serve as the focal point for long-term planning. The trick is that we have to learn to work together as a State, not as members of the fishing industry, the oil industry, the tourism industry and so on.

Any long-term economic program is going to include trade-offs between industries; this must be recognized and accepted. The oil industry can't drill everywhere, the timber industry can't cut every tree, the fishing industry can't catch every fish. However, there is enough to go around if we act wisely and with cooperation.

One more benefit may result from such a proposal: in every field of endeavour, those involved tend to become parochial in their approach to problem solving. Perhaps the oil industry can learn something by talking to fishermen; maybe our directors can find some new directions after talking with loggers. The most important thing is the need to talk and work together. Only through such a cooperative effort can we truly become Alaska, the Great Land.

Financial Development And Planning Division Works To Advance Goals of RDC

By MILTON BRYD
Chairman

The Financial Development and Planning Division of RDC concentrates its attention on the financial viability of the organization. We see that resources are available to finance the advancement of RDC's goals.

During the past two years a small cadre of concerned and devoted members have come together regularly to plan and implement creative and responsible ways to generate resources. These members are Len McLean, Shelby Stastny, Bill Seelye and Hameed Ahmad. In addition, other members have from time to time participated and contributed. Among the RDC staff, Mary Holmes met and worked closely with us, despite her more-than-a-full-time responsibility as RDC office manager.

Early we realized it was necessary for RDC to appoint a full-time fundraiser. While member volunteers could generate creative plans and initiate implementation, a full-time professional was necessary to pursue and persist. When the Board's Executive Committee concurred and approved, we recruited and appointed Mike Abbott as Director of Financial Development. Both Mike and Jim Jinks, RDC's Deputy Director, began meeting with us. The result has been a growth of financial support for RDC together with new activities on the front-burner to enhance that growth.

We have designed and have been carrying through the final stages of organizational and legal implementation of RDC's new Education and Defense Fund. This legally independent unit will carry our message to the Alaskan population at large, including schools, the media and the courts. We will now have appropriate resources to advance RDC's general social and philosophical position on resource development in addition to the practical issues of the moment.

As this new year moves into maturity, RDC's Financial Development and Planning Division recognizes (a) that about three-quarters of our financial support continues to come from membership dues and (b) that there are business and professional groups in Alaska who need a vigorous invitation to join us. We are currently active in stimulating this source of financial support.

Our division welcomes new participants in our deliberations. We meet one or two times each month for breakfast at 7:00 a.m. and adjourn at 8:00 a.m. or shortly thereafter, thus intruding very little into our working day. You may call RDC to indicate your interest or call my office (279-1471) or let me have your business card at the regular Thursday morning meeting. Our purpose is clear and important: to gather resources to advance RDC's goals.



Milton Bryd

'Us' and 'Them'

By **ROBERT WARREN**

Director, Northern Alaska Environmental Center

Editor's Note: The following editorial appeared in the October edition of the Northern Line, a publication of the Northern Alaska Environmental Center. RDC commends Mr. Robert Warren for his message urging cooperation and honesty in dealing with the issues facing Alaska today.

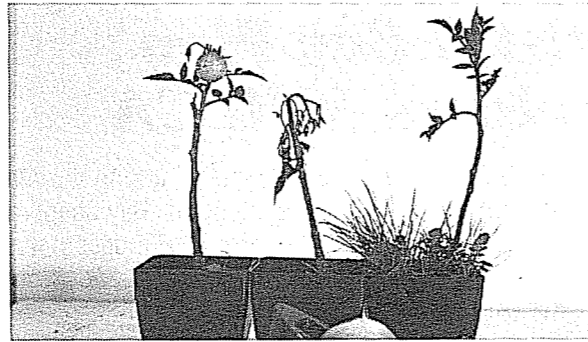
Recently I was asked by someone close to Alaska's mining industry, "What is the environmental community's policy on mineral development?" It was a good question. I certainly didn't know the answer. But the assumption within the question was that we did indeed have such a policy and that it somehow involved a well-planned opposition to future mineral development in Alaska.

Many people within the mineral industry believe that we have such a plan. They believe that the plan is not only to prevent the development of Alaska's minerals but to thwart all economic growth. Preposterous, you say? Maybe so, but equally preposterous are some of our views of the mineral industry. For some of us, they are just a bunch of greed-crazed hustlers bent on rape and ruin, with little concern for what they leave behind or what they destroy in the process. And so, just as they see us as a bunch of illogical "antis," we view them as villains, totally opposed to reasonable environmental safeguards.

The real problem may lie in our perception of "us" and "them." Maybe it is time for each of us to show a little more respect for the other. We need to talk. Our common history of emotionalism, threats, and counterthreats must come to an end. Just like all other responsible Alaskans, we are concerned about creating a stable and diversified economy and we should not be afraid to say so. If we are to successfully speak for our environmental constituency it must be done within some kind of a framework of useful discussion. Both sides must make an honest attempt at abandoning predetermined extreme positions, in favor of productive dialogue.

More hard rock mineral development is coming to Alaska. That is a fact. Currently, the pressure is on from the highest levels of state government to develop an alternative to the decline in oil revenues. The state agencies charged with regulating the mineral industry are yielding to that pressure and one cannot blame the individuals involved. At the local level, the personnel may be sympathetic to complaints by citizens, but they are powerless without administrative support from Juneau. Without constructive talk, the loudest voice with the most money is the one heard best by bureaucrats in Juneau.

This is not to say that we should abandon our goals of protecting Alaska's wilderness, wildlife, water quality, or ecological diversity. But in order to achieve our goals we need to work with the industry and the agencies in a problem solving capacity. The issues are complicated and re-



The RDC staff embarked on a major agricultural project this summer backed by a \$500 million Export-Import Bank loan. Staff members imported Siberian tomato plant seeds from a Canadian seed pusher. This photo shows the tomato crop days before harvest.

quire an understanding of all perspectives, even those of the "other guy."

Rather than using our limited resources to fight to stop all mineral development in Alaska, we should be developing a viable strategy. For too long we have allowed ourselves to be placed in the role of opposing economic growth and diversity. The time has gone when we can look at the world as being populated by white hats and black hats. The stereotypes don't work anymore. It's time we grew beyond them and worked constructively towards solving our mutual problems.

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A Letter From Our President

by Chuck R. Webber

Quality

As Alaskans we look forward to development of our natural resources to provide an economy that will yield a high standard of living in the future. We should give serious consideration to the quality of our efforts in all facets of that development for we may be able to use our natural assets to provide not only the hard money exchange, but also to help generate new knowledge and abilities that would have value in the future.

Knowledge and technical ability backed by a recognition for quality may provide revenues for Alaskans beyond that of the developed resource itself. Alaskans should begin now to set high standards of performance that will enhance the merchandising of knowledge and abilities along with the merchandising of the resources themselves.

Book On Agriculture Available

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough has released a colorful book detailing the history of agriculture in the Matanuska Valley, the industry's current status in the valley and its potential.

The 64-page book covers recent farming activity, products of Valley farms, lands, soils and the environment. Economics, transportation and utilities are also covered in addition to policies needed to encourage agriculture.

Persons interested in obtaining a copy of the book, titled "Agriculture," should call or write the Matanuska-Susitna Borough in Palmer, 745-4801.

Education Program Targets Students

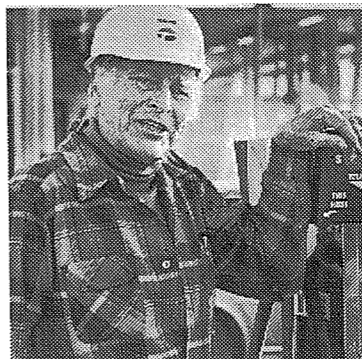
Students in the classrooms today will soon be the citizens who are seeking careers within the mining industry and making decisions about mineral resource development in Alaska.

In recognition of this fact, the Alaska Department of Education in cooperation with the Alaska Department of Commerce and Economic Development and representatives from private industry in Alaska, including the Resource Development Council, are developing a curriculum resource kit about minerals development in Alaska.

The "Alaska Resource Kit / Minerals" will consist of specific information and activities about mineral resources including oil, coal and gas, mining history, economic implications and environmental concerns relating to the development of mineral resources. It will provide students with current materials and practice in information gathering and decision making.

The kit is being designed through a contract with the Mineral Information Institute, a Denver-based non-profit organization with consultation from Alaska teachers and Larry McBiles, author of Arizona's "Min-

ing, Minerals and Me" curriculum on mining accepted for national publication. Supporting the teachers in their effort is a government-industry advisory group made up of individuals (Continued on Page 5)





"We're Energizing
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Forest Plan Would Lock Up Valuable Chugach Forest Resources

Under a preferred alternative plan for managing the Chugach National Forest, one-third of the forest's 5.94 million acres would be placed into wilderness classification, effectively locking up valuable resources in those areas.

Of 13 plans examined by the U.S. Forest Service, Alternative J was selected as the management approach for the Southcentral Alaska forest. The plan makes very limited quantities of timber available for sale and it does nothing to encourage exploration and development of the highly favorable mineral potential in the area.

The preferred alternative offers 16.9 million board feet to loggers each year of an annual harvest potential of 47.6 million board feet. Conservative private foresters have pegged the potential yield harvest over 60 million board feet per year.

According to RDC Executive Director Paula Easley, the Council will oppose the Forest Service choice in favor of Alternative L, a plan that would make all lands in the Chugach National Forest available for multiple use, encourage exploration and development of the areas' resources and would create no new wilderness areas.

To date, the Forest Service has received more than 400 letters from environmental groups and individuals who favor no development of the forest's resources and the creation of more wilderness areas. Easley warned that "their views will prevail unless the Forest Service hears from our members supporting a more sensible alternative to managing the forest."

In supporting Alternative L, the Council's Deputy Director, Jim Jinks, pointed out that in other national forests in the U.S., multiple use has resulted in expanded recreational op-

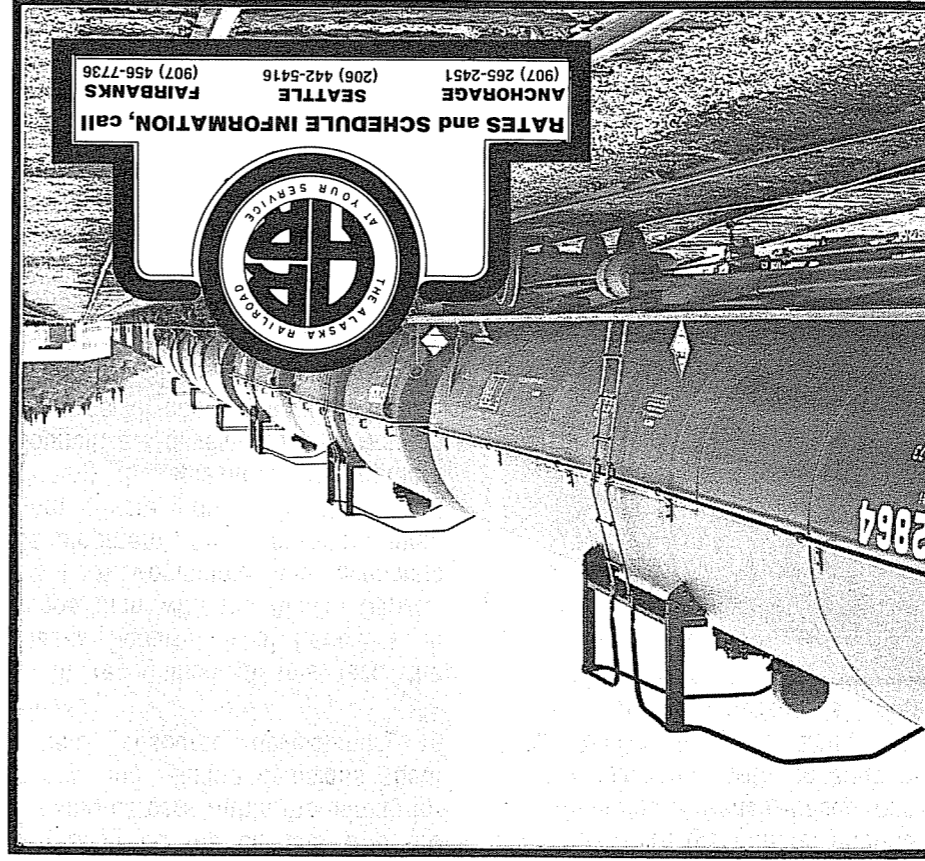


Despite an annual harvest potential of 47.6 million board feet, the preferred plan offers only 16.9 million board feet to loggers.

portunities, increased productivity and expanded habitat. "Those uses have added significantly to economies of the areas in which the forests are located,"

Jinks said. "The proposal for Chugach National Forest would deny Alaska the benefits that could be derived from having the national forests here managed as the rest of our national forests have been." While the draft environmental impact statement cited the high mining potential of the area, Jinks said the plan chosen does not give more than a cursory consideration to existing and potential mineral resources. He said mining has been conducted in the area for over 100 years, and the plan "does not adequately recognize this nor does it encourage exploration in the area."

The recommended alternative would place over 1.95 million acres of the forest into wilderness classification. He said despite the fact that Alaska already has more land under such designation than the entire U.S. combined.



Bristol Bay Plan Violates ANILCA

The Resource Development Council is urging the Alaska Land Use Council not to approve the Bristol Bay Cooperative Management Plan (BBCMP), insisting that it does not meet requirements of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA).

In a comprehensive report issued by a 26-member study team of mining, fisheries, forestry, energy and land management specialists, the Resource Development Council says the BBCMP is directed at preservation and restricts land use to fish and wildlife protection with little regard to other significant natural resources.

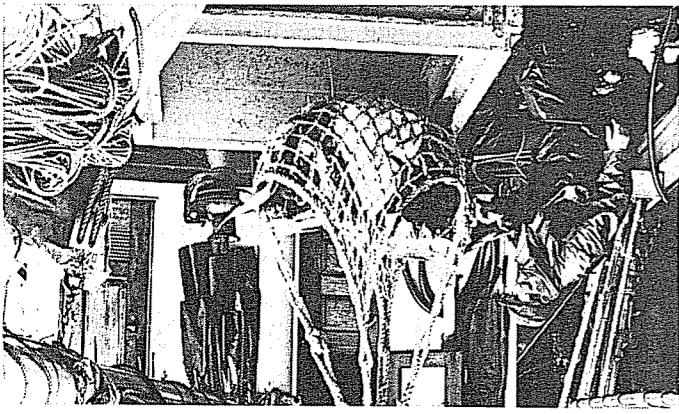
According to Dr. William E. Davis, the Council's Land Division Director, the plan "virtually sentences the entire region to remain a mono-economy by making fish and wildlife protection the primary use for almost all the lands and waters of the area." Davis said years of safe, environmentally sound developments which have provided economic diversification in other regions of the state appear to have been ignored by the authors of the plan.

"While the value of the fisheries currently far exceeds the value of other resource activities in the Bristol Bay region, it may well be that, as in the case of Prudhoe Bay 25 years ago, the value of undiscovered resources will far exceed the value of the fisheries," Davis said. "Were such the case, technology has existed for many years that will allow both economic activities to profitably coexist without significant impact on each other."

Davis pointed out that the plan does not meet ANILCA requirements providing for the rational and orderly development of all economic resources and the identification of significant resources and present and potential uses of the land. He said the plan closes the door on any exploration which would properly identify the significant resources of the region. Davis said without adequate inventory, identification of the resources is impossible.

Fish and Wildlife Service policy maintains that the environment must be protected in a way that balances protection with economic development and that there is a need to rely on an economic yardstick to measure the value of resources. However, Davis said this hasn't been the case with the Bristol Bay plan since the authors cannot compare benefits to losses when they don't estimate the benefits arising from development of resources other than the fisheries in the area.

The Resource Development Council believes the BBCMP represents a generally anti-development bias that appears to be prevalent among the study group members. Of thirty federal representatives in the group, twenty-one were from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and one was an environmental protection specialist with the Minerals Management Service. Representatives from other



The BBCMP is directed at preservation and restricts land use to fish and wildlife protection with little regard to other resources.

sectors in the group were also weighted heavily in favor of the environmentalist/preservationist philosophy. "The balance of the study group is such that the Council has extreme reservations as to the objectivity of its efforts," Davis said. "The lack of objectivity becomes obvious as one reads the plan and becomes more aware of the almost total preoccupation with fish and wildlife."

A proposal in the plan to create a management group to make resource allocation decisions within the study region was called nothing more than a "new level of bureaucratic management" by the Council report. It also expressed concern that the plan does not recognize the effects of the existing regulations and states but instead "inserts yet another level of administrative obstruction to reasonable development."

The Council urges in its report that the plan create no new level of management and that existing regulations and statutes be incorporated into the BBCMP structure. Besides urging the Alaska Land Use Council not to approve the BBCMP, the Council recommends that the federal and state study group be reconstituted to reflect an even balance of resource interests and that the plan be rewritten to satisfy the requirements of ANILCA.

Education Program . . .

(Continued from Page 3)
from public and private sectors with an abiding interest in resource development and education in Alaska.

"Having industry cooperation in the development of a curriculum is a vital part of this project, as it will insure the students receive an accurate picture of minerals resource development and potential in Alaska," said Karen Doney, an Education Associate with the Department of Education. Currently the project is in the developmental phase with the actual writing of the curriculum by Alaska teachers to begin next year.

To offer or receive information about the program, contact Doney at the Alaska Department of Education, Division of Design and Delivery, Pouch F, Juneau.