

RG 22 FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

BUREAU OF BIOLOGICAL SURVEY

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE, 1890-1956

Reservations

Proposed

Alabama, 1934-42, 1945-60

Arkansas, 1933-39

BOX NO. 235

E162

RG 22, FWS
E. 162 (UD), Gen. Corr., 1890-1956
BOX 235

R-Z PROPOSED

1940-1959

ALASKA

RG 22, FWS
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BOX 235

FILE COPY
Surname:

Day

R-2
Prop
ALASKA

John L. Farley

FEB 18 1954

Mr. William Voigt, Jr.
Executive Director
Isaak Walton League of America, Inc.
31 North State Street
Chicago 2, Illinois

Dear Mr. Voigt:

Thanks for your letter of February 9 suggesting the idea of a refuge area adjacent to the highway along Turnagain Arm in Alaska. I am sending a copy of your letter to Clarence Rhode, our Regional Director in Alaska, asking for his comments and will get in touch with you again as soon as we hear from him.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) JOHN L. FARLEY

John L. Farley
Director

AMDay:rs
Copy to: Region 6 w/copy incoming
Refuges w/copy incoming

MAILED FEB 18 1954

RG 22, FWS
E. 162 (UD), Gen. Corr., 1890-1956
Box 235

*Mr. Day
Mr. and Mrs. Johnson*

Izaak Walton League of America, Inc.

DEFENDER OF SOIL, WOODS, WATERS AND WILDLIFE



NATIONAL OFFICES 31 NO. STATE STREET CHICAGO 2, ILLINOIS • PHONE ANDOVER 3-3522

February 9, 1954

Colonel John L. Farley, Director
Fish and Wildlife Service
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Colonel:

I have received information to the effect that some of our Izaak Walton League people in Anchorage, Alaska, are of the opinion that a refuge area should be set aside adjacent to part of the highway along Turnagain Arm.

I am not personally familiar with this, but am told the area is one of the very few places where mountain goats may be seen from the highway. Our people believe that the accessibility of the area may make extermination of the goats inevitable - and mountain sheep too - if the present heavy hunting pressure is allowed to continue. Our people write me that many hunters, especially service men who often go in large parties, visit the area.

I'm told this also could be made into an excellent tourist attraction.

In order to preserve this attraction and to prevent the killing out of big game in the area in question, the Alaska Game Commission has been requested by our Anchorage chapter, to set aside as a big game reservation "all the area draining into Turnagain Arm, from the bed of Potter Creek to and including the Glacier Creek watershed".

I will appreciate greatly your letting me have the benefit of the views of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service on this proposition. On the basis of information made available by our Anchorage chapter, the request seems plausible and the results to be gained appear quite reasonable and desirable.

Sincerely yours,

Bill Voigt
William Voigt, Jr.
Executive Director

WV:zw

Owner and Publisher of **OUTDOOR AMERICA**®

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Box 235

R-2
PROP
ALASKA.

Box 1685, Juneau, Alaska
February 26, 1948

and
Mr. Salyer
Mr. Johnson
Mr. [unclear]

Mr. Albert M. Day, Chief
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
Washington 25, D.C.

file
5-12-48
ak

Dear Al:

Believe the proposed refuges did not fare too bad in Ketchikan. The main one, the Yukon-Kuskokwim went through in good shape, and the one at Cold Bay. The former was the one Salyer was most interested in so far as waterfowl is concerned. Cold Bay is also O.K.

Tetline, Innoko and Stikine still will go if examination proves them to be any good. Big Delta Buffalo refuge needs more pushing and overcoming the resistance of the Fairbanks Commissioner. It was not in the right place on the map. Believe if we put a slant on it that making it a refuge is a counter-military move, it will go through.

The Kenai Refuge still hangs fore. As I see it, it is sewed up anyway. Andy is the resistance there and time should work it out. Frank pitched all he had to get these approved but had we tried to put them all over, we would not have had a single one approved. As is, two are O.K. with the Commission, and good chances for the rest are in the making.

Glad you came up, and think the boys liked you because you did not promise them the moon. They are O.K. but they are having hell to make a living.

Am getting some pictures blown up that you might use. Have a movie made of wolf operations but am afraid I can not get it cut in time to get it back there to do any good.

Very truly yours,

C. E. Gillham
C.E. Gillham

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golden-eyes, green-winged teal, and scoters all nest here. The most important breeding colony of canvas-backs in Alaska is found here. The area is well populated by breeding swans. Many muskrats, beaver, and moose frequent the area.

As stated above, most of the area is now an Indian reservation. It is believed that the Service's waterfowl program can be established here without detriment to the Indians' welfare; in fact, our management practices are sure to increase waterfowl and muskrat production here, which will increase and redound to the Indians' specific benefit. A joint study of the problem by representatives of both agencies is now under way.

Cold Bay-Morshovoi Bay-Izembeck Bay Management Area. The low-lying lands, marshes, and sheltered bays of this strategic waterfowl concentration point is one of the great flyway crossroads of the waterfowl world. The bulk of Alaska's annual waterfowl production concentrates here in the late summer and fall to spend a month to 6 weeks moulting, preening, and putting on flesh preparatory to the strenuous overseas flight to the Hawaiian Islands and the South Pacific area on the one hand, and our Pacific coast and British Columbia on the other. The waters here have dense, expansive beds of eelgrass, a preferred waterfowl food. The nearby, low-lying tundra abounds in berries which the geese and the curlews seek with great eagerness. Already promiscuous shooting by the armed forces here during the past war had an undesirable effect upon this concentration. The fact that the Army is maintaining a permanent base here will require careful regulation of shooting by this group from the standpoint of maintaining conservation values here. Over-shooting here will greatly affect the welfare of the gunners in the United States.

The higher land back from the marshes here is a narrow land bridge used by caribou in their migrations up and down the peninsula. During the early part of the World War just over, barbed wire entanglements here seriously interfered with caribou migrations. A glance at the map will show how important it is for this Service to control this strategic pass area for these animals going between their summer and winter feeding grounds.

The big brown bear (Peninsula Giant Bear) is well distributed here and needs protection from over-shooting. There is a rare sub-species of ptarmigan found here which could be speedily exterminated by even light gunning.

The area, then, is a general wildlife area of first rank in Alaska and is, above all, the greatest concentration point for migrating waterfowl in the whole of Alaska. With all of this important resource practically confined here twice a year, it is of the greatest importance that the Service have management rights at this point.

To conclude, let me state my appreciation of the insight and interest which you have shown in this Alaskan problem and my hope that you will continue to clear the way for these fundamental areas which we feel confident will aid in maintaining Alaskan wildlife resources on a scale adequate to both the needs of its citizens and those of the United States proper.

(SGD.) ALBERT M. DAY

Albert M. Day.

JCS:ak
1-30-48
cc - Regional Director Hynes
(2 extra cc for Mr. Warne)

7

RG 22, FWS
E. 162 (ud), Gen. Corr., 1890-1956
Box 235

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

December 30, 1947

Handwritten notes:
H. A. Johnson
W. E. Warner
to prepare material
to justify
W. E.

MEMORANDUM

To: Director, Bureau of Land Management
Commissioner, Bureau of Indian Affairs

From: Assistant Secretary Warne

Subject: Game management areas in Alaska.

On October 1 I requested Fish and Wildlife Service to advise me as to the status of their recommendations as to game management areas in Alaska. In response thereto four separate memoranda dated October 24 were submitted to me. Both the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Bureau of Land Management have commented with respect to the four proposed projects, the Delta, Innoko, Tetlin, and Stikine wildlife management areas. I attach hereto for your information copy of (1) December 18 memorandum containing the comments of the Bureau of Indian Affairs; (2) December 18 memorandum containing the comments of the Bureau of Land Management; and (3) a rough tabulation prepared by Mr. Price to summarize the comments to date.

Since the submission of the proposals for the four wildlife management areas named above, Fish and Wildlife Service has submitted in memorandum dated December 15, 1947, a proposal for an area along the Alaska Peninsula in the vicinity of Cold Bay. I hope that the two Bureaus will be able to review this new proposal within a two-week period, allowing one week apiece, so that about the middle of January we shall be able to discuss action to be taken with respect to all five. I am attaching to the copy of this memorandum addressed to the Bureau of Land Management the original December 15 memorandum from Fish and Wildlife Service, together with its location map. I request that after completion of review by Bureau of Land Management it transmit the memorandum with map to the Bureau of Indian Affairs for its review and return to me.

DEC 31 1947
RECORDS AND
COMMUNICATIONS
SECTION

((sgd)) William E. Warne

cc: Fish and Wildlife Service. ✓

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BOX 235

COPY

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management
Washington 25, D. C.

In reply refer to:

2113439 "LP"

December 18, 1947

MEMORANDUM

To: Assistant Secretary Warne
From: Assistant Director
Subject: Establishment of Wildlife Management Areas in Alaska.

As requested in your memorandum of November 3, the proposals to create the Innoko, Tetlin, Delta, and Stikine Wildlife Management Areas in Alaska have been reviewed.

We have no comments concerning the Innoko and Tetlin areas beyond the general observation that reservations and withdrawals in Alaska should be kept to the absolute minimum necessary to accomplish their purpose, even though as far as these proposed areas are concerned, the withdrawn areas do not appear to have any particular immediate settlement and development values, as is the case with the Innoko and Tetlin areas.

With respect to the Delta area, it is noted that while the eastern boundary appears to have been revised somewhat from the original proposal, nevertheless, the area still extends east of the Delta River and embraces a portion of the Richardson Highway. This may lead in time to some conflict with settlement and development along the Richardson Highway near its junction with the Alaska Highway. Reports of the Fish and Wildlife Service indicate that the buffalo herd has shown a strong tendency to stay on the west side of the Delta River. It is suggested, therefore, that consideration be given to eliminating from the proposed area that small part lying east of the Delta River.

The proposed Stikine Wildlife Management Area embraces Farm Island and other surveyed lands at the mouth of the Stikine River. These lands were originally surveyed because the area was considered suitable for settlement under the homestead laws. In fact, a number of homestead entries were made on Farm Island. This general Stikine River area has been scheduled for land examination by this Bureau, since it represents one of the largest, contiguous areas of agricultural settlement land in southeastern Alaska. I believe its potentials for settlement should be thoroughly explored before it is formally included within a wildlife management area and thus closed to settlement.

(sgd) Thos. C. Havell

Assistant Director.

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Box 235

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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Office of Indian Affairs

December 18, 1947

Memorandum

To: Mr. R. C. Price, Special Assistant to Assistant
Secretary Warne.

From: Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Subject: Establishment of wildlife management areas in Alaska.

Reference is made to your memorandum of November 3, regarding the establishment of the Delta, Innoko, Tetlin and Stikine Wildlife Management Areas in Alaska.

We have discussed the four above mentioned proposed wildlife management areas in Alaska and the probable effect of such areas on the economy of the Natives, with representatives of the Fish and Wildlife Service. We are in full agreement with the objectives sought by that Service in the establishment of these management areas. In the circumstances, we interpose no objections to the establishment of the Delta, Innoko, and Stikine Wildlife Management Areas. The Tetlin Wildlife Management Area as proposed includes a large part of the Tetlin Indian Reservation. It also includes lands in which other Indians are interested. We have agreed with the Fish and Wildlife Service that the establishment of this management area should be held in abeyance until local representatives of each service can make a joint study of the situation. After this study has been completed, further consideration will be given to the establishment of this management area.

(sgd) William Zimmerman, Jr.

Commissioner.

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COMMENTS OF INTERESTED AGENCIES WITH RESPECT TO PROPOSED WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS IN ALASKA

Name of proposed area	Fish and Wildlife Service	Comments by *	
		Bureau of Indian Affairs	Bureau of Land Management
Delta	Favorable 10/24/47	Favorable 12/18/47	Rec. eliminate the part east of Delta River which conflicts with Richardson Hwy. 12/18/47
Innoko	Favorable 10/24/47	Favorable 12/18/47	No objection, but keep to minimum. 12/18/47
Tetlin	Favorable 10/24/47	Rec. joint study since it would overlap Ind. Res. 12/18/47	No objection, but keep to minimum. 12/18/47
Stikine	Favorable 10/24/47	Favorable 12/18/47	Unfavorable since "one of largest ... areas of agr. settlement land in south-eastern Alaska." Rec. study of possibility for settlement before inclusion within wildlife area. 12/18/47
Alaska Peninsula	Favorable 12/15/47	No comment yet	No comment yet

* Dates shown refer to memorandum on which views are expressed.

Note: The following note has come informally from the Division of Territories:

"I rather favor game management areas, provided that they are located in areas that are not likely to have other real commercial uses, but I feel quite strongly that if Alaska is to breed and raise migratory fowl, the International Treaty on migratory fowl should be changed so that the FWL Service could permit hunting at certain interior points as early as August 1. It might be well to consider using Alaska's willingness to accept game management areas for a right to shoot ducks in the open season. As it is, the ducks in many interior points leave the Territory before the season opens and therefore people are forced to break the law if they want to shoot and eat migratory fowl."

R-2

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Mr. Salzer, Chief, Division of Wildlife Refuges.

October 14, 1947.

Mr. Griffith.

Report on Inspection of Alaskan Areas.

Mr. Bell has covered the principal items in the inspection trip which we made this past summer; therefore, I will comment only on biological features of the several areas visited.

It was readily apparent from discussions with people we met in Alaska that the Division has a long ways to go to bring its program up to date. Some sections of Alaska are developing very rapidly and new problems in management of wildlife resources have outdistanced our efforts thus far. The Service's responsibilities in Alaska are tantamount to those of the State Conservation Department. The Service is primarily responsible for the protection and management of the wildlife resources in the Territory. It seemed to me, from the observations I was able to make and from the information obtained from the residents, that the Refuge Division program was suffering from neglect, a part of which seems attributable to a lack of understanding of the need for planning management areas under administration so as to maintain reasonable game populations, especially in the vicinity of areas which are developing rapidly, as in the case of Anchorage. Judging from local accounts, big game herds in the vicinity have been badly depleted, and additional enforcement work, as well as a constructive field program of resource management, will be necessary to protect the wildlife assets of economic importance.

The wildlife management problems in the Territory are not receiving attention proportionate to the Service's obligations for management of the resources, at least in the case of waterfowl and upland game. It seems to me that the Service has an unparalleled opportunity for organizing and executing the type of conservation program which can be regarded as a model for States to follow. The problems which developed during the war and are still growing are quite similar to those which the States have faced and are still confronted with. It is recognized that the lack of funds and other circumstances beyond the control of the Service are responsible for the apparent inattention to our obligations for wildlife management in the Territory. On the other hand, it would appear that we have been remiss in not making a more concerted effort to secure funds essential for conducting an adequate management program.

Sticking Points

As pointed out in Mr. Bell's report, this enormous and rapidly developing river delta is primarily valuable as a resting ground. It is

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understood that some nesting occurs; however, it is not regarded as being of consequence. The gravel bars apparently attract large numbers of waterfowl, as do the rather extensive salt marshes near the outer fringe of the expanding delta. In our flight over the area, ponds on the *Spartina patens* meadows were observed to be supporting a growth of aquatics. Several small patches of threesquare bulrush were also observed on the marsh. There is no question but what this area will assume greater importance in years to come if the delta continues to build up at the present rate. The area is so extensive, however, that it can probably accommodate all the present shooting pressure without seriously restricting opportunities for feeding and resting by migratory waterfowl. It is difficult to predict what changes in hunting pressure, as well as in the character of the feeding grounds, may develop from the establishment of paper mills in that vicinity.

Kenai

The effect of this past summer's fire was covered in considerable detail in a separate report. Considering the deterioration of the range which has occurred over the past twenty or more years, the fire was timely and decidedly beneficial. It is hoped, however, that the assignment of personnel and location of equipment at Kenai will permit execution of a carefully developed management plan for maintaining the moose range in an optimum condition. This will have to be accomplished in part by controlled burning. It will be difficult to control burn many parts of Kenai where cover management must be accomplished by means of fire. It will be equally difficult to protect patches of cover on the ridges, since the combination of an abundance of fuel and dry summers contributes to a real fire hazard on many portions of the area. The rainfall is about 15 inches a year, and were it not for the runoff from the melting snows and glaciers, much of Kenai would be like a tinderbox. As it is, there will be considerable danger from wildfires, since the new highway, which roughly bisects the management area, will result in far more public use than occurred in the past. The fire hazard, of course, is proportional to the degree of public use.

Some management of Kenai can be accomplished through the sale of timber. White spruce and birch attain merchantable size on the ridges. There is a growing demand for lumber in the vicinity of Anchorage, and plans are now under way to establish sawmills, as well as a veneer plant. The Bureau of Land Management has been active in developing a market for commercial timber near population centers, such as Anchorage. As a result of the rapidly increasing population, there is every reason to believe that there will be a demand for timber on portions of Kenai in

the not too distant future. In any event, it is important that the Service plan for the utilization and management of the timber resources on the game range; otherwise, the opportunity for doing this may be transferred to other agencies whose primary interest will be timber rather than game.

In view of the enumerable lakes and ponds on Kenai, the area cannot help but be of some value as a waterfowl breeding ground. Further reconnaissance is desirable to establish the true value of the water areas in the Kenai game range.

Innoko

Little evidence of waterfowl was seen in the aerial reconnaissance of the Innoko marshes. This is probably due to the lateness in the season rather than biological deficiencies which would cause birds to avoid this area. The typical tundra ponds have very little aquatic growth that would furnish waterfowl food. No bulrush was observed on the shoreline of any of the ponds, and the emergent growth of sedge was very spotty. In fact, if one were not aware of the past history of the area as a nesting ground, the inclination would be to class Innoko as relatively unproductive. Notwithstanding its past history, I am inclined to believe that the lower Kuskokwim-Yukon area is far more productive.

Kuskokwim

The eastern portion of Kuskokwim was found to be similar to Innoko. The best areas are without exception the ponds of most recent origin. Throughout the years the Delta has developed in a rather leisurely manner, with the main channels shifting greatly from one season to the next, thus leaving hundreds of oxbows and sloughs scattered for a wide distance on either side of the present stream bed. What few waterfowl were seen were on the "younger" ponds. Even on these, however, there was little evidence of food resources. Judging from the general character of the lakes, ponds, and marshes on the outer fringe of the delta consisting of a strip about 100 miles wide paralleling the coast, the major nesting ground, as well as feeding area, is in the zone embracing fresh and brackish water habitat. The area is so vast that it is out of the question to appraise its capabilities on the basis of such little time as we were able to spend there. It is of such great importance, however, that intensive studies should be initiated as soon as circumstances permit. It is here, rather than at other points in the Territory, where an intensive banding program should be undertaken. Hundreds of waterfowl

could be located here as compared with a mere handful on a similar unit of water area elsewhere. Listed in order of their abundance, the following species occur here as nesters, migrants, or both: Pintail, sculp, green-winged teal, baldpate, shoveller, cackling goose, emperor goose, white-fronted goose, eider, brant, scoter, and whistling swan.

There is an Indian Service teacher, Killingsstad, at Mountain Village doing a great deal of banding work and who I understand would welcome an opportunity to enter the Fish and Wildlife Service. Killingsstad has had biological training and at one time filed an application for refuge employment. He has taught at Mountain Village since 1941 and thus is quite familiar with the general territory. If a banding program can be conducted on the Kuskokwim-Yukon area next season, it is suggested that Mr. Killingsstad's assistance be obtained.

It is estimated that not more than 100,000 waterfowl of all kinds were observed in the flying we did over the Kuskokwim-Yukon area. The majority of the birds were along the coast. Whistling swans were everywhere in the interior, and most of the lakes and ponds supported at least one pair. Little brown cranes were likewise well distributed.

It is my understanding from discussing the matter with the Chief of the Alaska Fire Control Service that wildfires are a major concern in the management of these extensive waterfowl breeding grounds. The rainfall is very light, and during the summer season the tundra becomes extremely dry. The Eskimos are careless about leaving campfires unattended and are chiefly responsible for fire damage to the nesting grounds. In some years many thousands of acres of primary nesting cover are destroyed by fire during the height of the breeding season. These fires are very difficult to combat. The best approach to the problem, of course, is through public relations, and this job can be handled only by having a resident manager on the ground. There are some excellent opportunities for doing original work in waterfowl management on the Kuskokwim-Yukon area, and the need for carrying on an intensive banding program over a period of years, along with the breeding ground surveys, behavior studies, and ecological studies, warrants assignment of trained personnel to this area at an early date.

Nunivak

From the brief aerial reconnaissance made of this area, the range appeared to be in good condition. No areas were observed where there was evidence of excessive use. It is understood that the summer range is in excellent condition, though the winter range for reindeer is

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deficient on some portions of the island. Judging from our field observations and information secured from personnel on the island, there is ample year-round range for the present herd of musk ox. According to Jack Warwick, who assisted Palmer during the early history of the project, musk ox do considerable browsing during the winter season. It is quite possible that a further detailed ground survey of Nunivak will reveal excessive use of browse where the feeding grounds of reindeer and musk ox overlap.

So far as the musk oxen are concerned, Mr. Ball included in his report a rather complete summary of the animals which were observed on the island. Judging from the number of young that were seen, it is my belief, based upon information available with respect to herds elsewhere, that the present herd reflects a normal rate of increase. It is reported that the oxen do not breed until they are three years old, and even then the cows calve only in alternate years, unless the calves are forcibly weaned or lost in the first year. Twins are known but seem to be very exceptional. So far as can be ascertained, one or two calves a year in a herd of ten is normal. On the Thelon sanctuary in Canada, where there is a herd of about 300, the Canadian officials estimate the yearly increase would be "upwards of 30 calves." This they consider to be normal.

The extent to which the musk oxen may range in a short period of time is indicated by aerial observations made on the Thelon sanctuary in 1936, wherein it was noted that the animals drifted as much as 20 miles in a 24-hour period. On the Canadian musk oxen ranges, it is reported that the animals frequent the wet pastures along the water during the summer season. In the early fall they start moving into the highlands nearby. Information in the literature indicates that musk oxen feed rather extensively on willow when it is available. There is a possibility that the distribution of willow growth determines the range territory that might be selected by an individual herd, which is generally small and consists usually of four to six animals. In flying over Nunivak, I noticed one patch of willows bordering a drainage running southward from Twin Mountain and which was practically killed out. It is not known, of course, whether this might have been the result of heavy feeding.

Until we have concrete evidence of seasonal or other range requirements of the musk oxen, it is urged that the reindeer herd on the island be kept from exceeding the present level of about 7,000 animals. It would appear from local information that the lichen range is in fair condition. Since the lichen seems to be the principal food of the reindeer, it would appear that there would be no competition with the musk

oxen for essential forage, unless the reindeer herd built up to a point where they were forced to make heavy use of the willows and grasses important to the musk oxen.

Our management problem here is one of keeping the total population of ungulates within the carrying capacity of the range. For this purpose, seasonal surveys should be made by a person experienced in judging local range conditions and having a general knowledge of plant ecology.

Mallards use the marshes and ponds on Nunivak. Black brant frequent some portions of the coast line. Little brown cranes are very common.

Big Delta Area

This is excellent moose range, and because of the variety of habitat encompassed in the area, which extends from the Tanana River up into the Mt. Hayes Range, Big Delta supports a variety of wildlife. There are some brown bears, ptarmigan, and waterfowl. We saw more moose on the Big Delta area than anywhere else in the Territory. The range is in good condition at the present time. There are some opportunities for maintaining good forage conditions through controlled burning. The biggest problems at the present time are law enforcement and public relations. There are some waterfowl areas deserving of careful study. They do not, however, compare in importance with the Kuskokwim-Yukon area.

Copper River Plate

Our brief aerial reconnaissance of this area failed to reveal any concentration of waterfowl. Compared with other areas we saw, I would class Copper River as being of secondary importance from the standpoint of production. There is reason to believe that it is important to large numbers of waterfowl during migrations, and some waterfowl are understood to winter in the vicinity. The nature of the area is such that it would not serve as a base for an intensive banding program.

There are problems arising on the mainland, particularly adjacent to population centers such as Anchorage, that require serious consideration of the oft-made proposal that deer be stocked on portions of the moose range. The moose, of course, cannot withstand the heavy shooting pressure that has developed in many parts of the Territory during the past few years. Thus, if big game continues to be available within

reasonable distance of places such as Anchorage, hunting of this species will have to be restricted in proportion to the annual increment on a fully stocked range or an attempt made to meet the hunting pressure by introducing deer, which could in some sections become more abundant than moose. Personally, I would hate to see deer displace moose on the ranges where the latter species is still present in reasonable numbers. On the other hand, stocking deer may have some merit from the standpoint of meeting increased demand for opportunities to take big game, and possibly in the "shot out" areas some attention should be given to stocking of deer on an experimental basis.

According to the information which some of the Fisheries Research men have assembled through their field studies, the brown bears have increased to the point where their present numbers represent a heavy drain on the escapement of spawning salmon in some important streams. There are indications from the field data that brown bears should be subjected to more control on some portions of Kodiak Island, for instance, than occurs at the present time. It would seem from the information at hand that we should give serious consideration to management of the bear population by directing hunting pressure, as could be accomplished through opening or closing specific areas in accordance with needs to regulate the population.

From discussions with Fisheries personnel engaged in stream surveys, the beaver population in specific areas is in need of greater control in the interest of maintaining the salmon industry. There are many areas where the presence of beaver is not in conflict with maintaining salmon runs. On the other hand, there are other instances where the beaver are an important limiting factor.

Richard E. Griffith.

REG:mb

File
f. 5
 Office Memorandum

Mr. Ball
~~Mr. Ball~~
 UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

R-2
PROP
ALASKA
 TO : Chief, Division of Wildlife Refuges
 FROM : Chief, Sec. of Operations, Div. of Wildlife Refuges

DATE: September 4, 1947

SUBJECT: Report on Inspection of Alaskan Existing and Prospective Wildlife Refuges

Itinerary

I think we should go ahead with Mr. Ball's proposed requirements for equipment ready here. We will discuss personnel later.

On the morning of July 22, 1947 the writer, accompanied by Mr. Richard E. Griffith, Chief of Habitat Improvement of the Wildlife Refuge Division, set out from Chicago in Game Management Division Seabee aircraft NC-740 for the purpose of delivering the aircraft to Alaska and to inspect existing and prospective wildlife refuges in the territory and to determine the biological and administrative problems incident thereto, in accordance with letter of travel instruction dated July 10, 1947. The route was planned to include a stop at Gillette, Wyoming to check the progress of the work being performed by the Casper Flying Service on Predator & Rodent Control Division Cessna aircraft NC-704. We arrived in Gillette on July 23 and proceeded from there to Seattle via Billings, Montana, arriving in Seattle on the evening of July 24. Enroute the Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge was inspected from the air and a small fire of approximately 2 acres extent and well under control by the refuge personnel was observed. On July 25 a standard 30-hour check and necessary adjustments were made to the aircraft by Northwest Air Service at Boeing Field, Seattle. Mr. Griffith and the writer spent the day contacting Fisheries and Game Management Division officers and Mr. Knott and Mr. Lochhard of the State Fish and Game Department. Mr. Brooks of the War Assets Administration was contacted and information obtained relative to surplus equipment available.

Work on the aircraft was not completed until the afternoon of July 26. Departure from Seattle was at 2:40 PM. An aerial survey was made enroute of the Dungeness Spit Refuge and the proposed Snohomish Refuge north of Seattle and a refueling stop was made at Vancouver, British Columbia. The next stop was at Port Hardy, B.C. at 7:25 PM. Here it was discovered that the propeller oil seals were leaking badly and it was not considered safe to proceed further without having these seals replaced. New seals were ordered from Seattle but did not arrive until July 29. They were immediately installed and we departed from Port Hardy at 3:30 PM. for Annette Island. Pilot Freimuth and Regional Fisheries Supervisor Scudder met us at the Annette Island airport in another Seabee and we followed them to Ketchikan, arriving there at 8 PM. on July 29. Assistant Director James and Regional Director Hynes arrived in Ketchikan aboard the vessel Brandt during the night and discussions were held with them during the morning of July 30 relative to the refuge problems and our proposed itinerary. Mr. Hynes suggested that we keep the Seabee NC-740 for our entire inspection trip.

Arrangements were made to depart from Ketchikan on the afternoon of July 30 but these plans were inadvertently changed when the propeller refused to go from reverse pitch to forward pitch as we backed away from the Ketchikan docks. This resulted in our ending up among the piling on the far side of the harbor. Fortunately the only damage was a bent right elevator, which was readily straightened. An examination of the propeller mechanism disclosed that the piston was approximately two inches out of line and upon taking it apart it was found that the three piston guides were sheared at the base of the cylinder. A replacement propeller and mechanism were available at Juneau and this was

immediately ordered. The defective cylinder and piston were later forwarded to the factory for replacement and this was done without cost. July 31 was spent with Game Management Agent Banta and a visit was made to the Ward Cove Wildlife Refuge on the Tongas Forest north of Ketchikan. On August 1 Pilot-mechanic Bob Meeks arrived in the third Seabee with the new prop. The propeller and control mechanism were installed and a satisfactory test flight made. On August 2 we set out from Ketchikan for Juneau. Enroute an aerial inspection of the proposed Stikine Flats Wildlife Refuge was made. A stop was made at Petersburg and a conference held with the Alaska Game Commission chairman Earl Ohmer on Alaskan Refuge problems and the proposed operations. We arrived in Juneau at 4:55 PM. on August 3. A conference was held with Regional Director Hynes and Regional Game Management Supervisor O'Connor in regard to refuge operations and our prospective itinerary. During the afternoon a familiarization and fisheries patrol flight was made in the vicinity of Juneau with Regional Director Hynes. August 4 was devoted to discussions with Mr. Hynes, Mr. O'Connor, Mr. Furness, Mr. Freimuth, and Army Signal Corps and CAA representatives. The plane was serviced and placed in condition for departure on August 5. August 5 - We took off from Juneau stopping at Yakutat and Cordova for refueling enroute to Anchorage. An effort was made to contact Alaska Fisheries Chief, Seton Thompson, and Alaska Fisheries Division pilot Hedlund, at Cordova, but they were out on aerial patrol and time would not permit awaiting their return. We arrived in Anchorage at 6:40 PM. Alaska Aircraft Supervisor Rhode was in the field but contact was made with Game Management Agent Larsen.

The morning of August 6, accompanied by Game Management Agent Larsen, Mr. Griffith and the writer made a thorough aerial and ground inspection of the Kenai Refuge and burned area. A stop was made at the town of Kenai and the Fish and Wildlife Service residence there inspected. We proceeded south to Homer, thence to Lakeview, where a conference was held with Alaska Game Commissioner Simons on refuge matters. We returned to Anchorage at 7:25 PM. On August 7 a 30-hour check was performed on the aircraft at Anchorage and conferences were held with WAA Assistant Administrator Sharp and Mr. Louis, Mr. Mathews, and Mr. Morrison of his staff in regard to the availability of surplus property in the territory. August 8 - Aircraft Supervisor Rhode returned to the Anchorage Office and the morning and part of the afternoon was spent in conference with him on Alaska aircraft problems. The writer and Mr. Griffith departed from Anchorage in NC-740 at 4:15 PM; remained overnight at McGrath. On August 9 we departed from McGrath at 9:15 AM. and inspected the prospective refuge area along the Tanana River West of McGrath to the Yukon River. A gas stop was made at Aniak and the prospective water-fowl refuge area between the Kuskokwim, at Yukon and Bethel were inspected from the air and stops were made in some of the lakes to determine the available aquatic and emergent vegetation. We arrived at Bethel at 5:30 PM.

The weather was unsuited for flying during the morning of August 10. Conditions improved in the afternoon and we departed from Bethel for Nunivak Island at 1:40 PM. Enroute the Kuskokwim Delta area from Bethel west and southwest to Kinak Bay and northward to Tununuk. A landing was made at Tununuk and we arrived at the village of McKorryk, Nunivak Island, at 6:10 PM., where we were met by Douglas Gray, Acting Regional Refuge Supervisor. Discussions were held

with Mr. Gray and with the Reindeer Service's representative, Mr. McClellan, during the evening. August 11 was devoted to flying over Nunivak Island. Landings were made at Nash Harbor and discussions held with Refuge Manager Frank Beals and Mr. Gray.

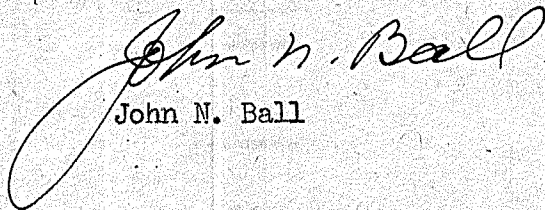
The morning of August 12 was spent in further aerial reconnaissance of Nunivak Island in company with McClellan of the Reindeer Service. A landing was made at Nash Harbor and further discussions held with Refuge Manager Beals and Mr. Glaser. A conference was held with Gray and McClellan and we departed for Bethel at 5:35 PM. Enroute to Bethel a reconnaissance was made of the prospective waterfowl area in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta from Tununuk north of Hazen Bay and eastward to Bethel. We arrived at Bethel at 7:50 PM. Mr. Belcher of the Juneau Office of Indian Affairs was contacted at Bethel and Nunivak operations discussed with him. On the morning of August 13 we departed from Bethel for Fairbanks, arriving there at 4:25 PM. Contact was made with Frank Dufresne Jr. and his program discussed with him.

The morning of August 14 - a check for an oil leak disclosed loose crankcase nuts. These were tightened and we departed from Fairbanks at 10:35 AM., accompanied by Messrs. Griffith and Defresne for the Big Delta. An aerial survey was made of the proposed Big Delta buffalo range. A refueling stop was made at the Army Base at Big Delta and we returned to Fairbanks at 4:30 PM. Alaska Game Commissioner Forbes Baker was contacted and discussions held in regard to the Alaskan refuge program. Conferences were held with Mr. Irving Reed and Jack Warwick in regard to the muskoxen. A conference was held with Frank Dufresne Jr. in regard to his work for the remainder of the summer and disposition of his equipment. August 15 - Our departure for Anchorage was delayed until 10:30 AM. because of weather and it was necessary to proceed via Big Delta, Gulagna and Palmer into Anchorage, as the other passes were closed by weather. We arrived in Anchorage at 3 P.M. Aircraft Supervisor Rhode was in the field with Assistant Secretary Warne and a Congressional party. Discussions were held with pilots Hedlund and Bragg and George Kelz and Dr. Rounsafell of Fishery Biology. Seabee NC-740 was turned over to Alaska Amphibious Airmotive for a 100-hr. check.

On August 16 Grumman Goose NC-710 was test-flown. Accompanied by Messrs. Griffith, Kelz and Rounsafell we departed in NC-710 from Anchorage at 4:35 PM. for Kodiak, arriving at Kodiak Naval Air Station at 6:30 PM. On August 17 an aerial survey was made in Grumman Goose NC-710 of Kodiak Island, accompanied by Messrs. Griffith, Kelz, Rounsafell and Fisheries Agent Marcus Myers. Landings were made at Karluck Lake and Olga Bay where fisheries operations were inspected. Returned to Kodiak Naval Air Station at 8:20 PM. Minor damage resulted to the left wing float when the wet brakes failed to work after landing and it became necessary to use the port engine to keep the aircraft straight on the landing roll. The morning of August 18 was spent in making contacts with Captain Blaisdell of the 17th Naval District Supply Corps and other naval officers in regard to surplus materials. We departed from Kodiak at 12:45 PM. with Messrs. Griffith, Kelz and Rounsafell and landed at Brooks Lake. Messrs. Kelz and Rounsafell were left at Brooks Lake and the writer and Mr. Griffith returned to Anchorage at 6:50 PM. August 19 was spent making contacts at Fort Richardson in regard to available surplus equipment. These

contacts were not completed until late afternoon and weather conditions would not permit departure that day. August 20 - we departed from Anchorage at 8:15 AM. in Seabee NC-740, refueled at Yakutat and arrived in Juneau at 3:55 PM. Discussions were held with Messrs. O'Connor, Freimuth and Furness. The morning of August 21 was devoted to conferences with Messrs. O'Connor, Hynes and Seton Thompson. At 2:40 PM. Mr. Griffith and the writer departed from Juneau via Pan American Airways, arriving in Seattle at 8:15 PM. On August 22 we departed from Seattle via Northwest Air Lines and arrived in Chicago at 10:15 PM. that evening.

During the period of this trip approximately 13,000 miles were covered by air in 32 days, including commercial transportation from Juneau back to Chicago. Of these 32 days, 9 full days were spent on the ground performing administrative duties, for mechanical reasons, or because of weather. 5 of these 9 days were attributed directly to mechanical work. 2 were chargeable to a combination of administrative duties and mechanical work; 1 may be chargeable directly to administrative duties; and one to a combination of administrative duties and weather.


John N. Ball

General

Proposed Wildlife Refuge

Kenai National Wildlife Refuge

Refuge Inspection Report

Kenai National Wildlife Refuge

General

The Kenai Refuge includes approximately two-thirds of the Kenai Peninsula. It is accessible to Anchorage and Seward. A new road is in process of construction which will make the area readily accessible. This road extends from the town of Kenai more or less paralleling the Kenai River north of Skilak Lake, thence to Kenai Lake, Seward, and northward along Turnagain Arm and Chickaloon Bay. The north end of the refuge is timbered with spruce, aspen, birch, and willows, the climax being spruce. This northern area is covered with myriads of lakes and sloughs and traversed by the Chickaloon River, Swanson River, and the Moose River. The lakes vary considerably as to the amount of aquatic and emergent vegetation. The north end of the refuge north of the Kenai River and Skilak Lake is generally flat with occasional ridges. The area is a terminal moraine build up.

The Kenai River cuts through the approximate middle of the refuge and extends from Skilak Lake westward to Cook Inlet at the town of Kenai. This river is navigable to Skilak Lake for a small boat although there are several stretches of fast water. It, as well as Skilak Lake afford good trout fishing. The water in both Skilak Lake and Kenai River is relatively clear with only a slight color from glacial silt.

South of the Kenai River to Tustumena Lake the lands are wooded but do not have the lakes found to the north of the Kenai River. There are, however, numerous sloughs and bogs. The principal rivers in this area are the Killey and the ^{Eury} ~~Eury~~, both flowing into the Kenai River. Lake Tustumena is a very large lake but the water is very chalky from glacial silt. South of Lake Tustumena the country rises and changes from forest to range, vegetation becoming mountainous meadow lands. In the vicinity of Homer in the southwest end of the Peninsula some farming and high lands are found. The east half of the Peninsula rises sharply into rugged ^{high} mountains and glaciers in excess of 6000 ft. elevation.

Kenai Fire

The whole of the Kenai Peninsula west of the mountains was given a thorough aerial coverage at an average altitude of approximately 150 feet above the ground. The burned-over area is located primarily north of Skilak Lake and the Kenai River, although some small patches were burned south of the Kenai River. The fire was completely extinguished; the weather was clear; and we were afforded an excellent view of the entire area. The burned-over the entire area was spotty rather than solid. Within the periphery of the burned-over area it is estimated that not over 25% was burned. Much of the cover around the lakes and the sloughs was left untouched by the fire even though the periphery extended northward almost to Chickaloon Bay and westward to the vicinity of Cook Inlet. The fire apparently originated along the highway approximately 16 miles west of Kenai Lake. Much of the burned-over area was spruce lands which have no food value for moose.

A landing was made on one of the lakes in the approximate center of the burned area and a ground reconnaissance was made. Fresh moose tracks, bear tracks,

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Kenai - 2 -

and coyote tracks were observed in the burned areas and a grouse was flushed. The fire did not seem to have been excessively hot in most places since the moss was only charred on the surface and the soil apparently was not harmed. The bleached skull of one small animal, probably a mink, was found but this could well have been dead prior to the fire. No other indication of losses to wildlife was observed either on the ground or from the air, although undoubtedly there was some bird and small animal life lost. No remains of moose could be found. Moose were difficult to observe but one cow moose with calf was observed from the air within the periphery of the burned area.

It is felt that the fire will prove generally beneficial to the moose by increasing the desirable food and cover and the destruction of large tracts of spruce which were beginning to take over much of the range. This spruce will be replaced by aspen, birch and willow, which will afford valuable moose browse. It is felt that sufficient unburned area remains within the periphery of the burned to provide the necessary food and cover to carry the present moose population through the winter without undue ~~herding~~ *hardship*.

Recommendations

The Kenai Refuge presents the most pressing problem of any of the areas in the Territory. The area requires and is well adapted for management, both for moose and for waterfowl. This management should include control burning to maintain the necessary moose habitat and prevent the climax spruce from taking over the range.

The north end of the Peninsula is potentially an important waterfowl area. The many lakes now support a light population of ducks and swan, but it is felt that with the proper cover management and the establishment of more desirable aquatic feeds the waterfowl usage can be materially increased. Mountain sheep and goats were observed along the ridges on the extreme east side of the refuge and on the ridges overlooking the west end of Kenai Lake.

The project is accessible and becoming more so through the completion of the road which is already passable to Alaska's largest city of Anchorage and to the town of Seward. The area affords excellent recreation in the form of fishing on Skilak Lake and the Kenai River, and for moose hunting. The opening of the road presents serious problems of trespass and of squatters moving in. There is already some indication of squatters setting up cabins within the area. The Kenai Peninsula has much to offer for settlement and it is anticipated that increasing pressure will be exerted to open up more and more of the Peninsula for homesteading.

For the reasons as outlined above, it is felt that the Kenai Refuge should be treated as a management area with controlled hunting as conditions warrant and that it be placed under immediate administration. The Fish and Wildlife Service owns a good 7-room house in the town of Kenai adjacent to the Kenai airport. This would be the logical location for refuge headquarters. It is accessible both by air and by water. In order to properly handle the immediate management and patrol problems it is felt that a minimum of a refuge

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Kenai - 3

manager and assistant should be assigned to the area without delay. The Fish and Wildlife Service house at Kenai is being occupied on a month-to-month basis by a road commissioner engineer and it is recommended that he be given notice so that the refuge manager assigned may take over the dwelling. Warehouse facilities are necessary. The Service owns a small log cabin in back of the dwelling which would be suitable for a stable and limited storage space. The Army has some Quonsets located on the Kenai airfield near our dwelling and a request should be made for two of these units, together with the site location, to be used for storage purposes. This request may be addressed to District Engineer, Alaska District, Corps of Engineers, Anchorage, Alaska, attention of Real Estate Division.

The equipment required to place this project under administration should include a D-4 tractor with angledozer, 2 saddle horses, a LCVP landing craft, cartop boat or canoe with small outboard motor, 1 panel truck, one 2½ or 3 ton stake truck, one 1½ ton combination stake and dump truck, 1 2½ KW generator, 1 snomobile, two-way radio set up on 3207.5 kc., one 6 - 8 cu. ft. refrigerator, snow shoes, skis, miscellaneous small tools, portable fire pump, hose and other equipment & oil heating stoves. Much of this equipment may be obtained from surplus and Acting Regional Refuge Supervisor Gray has been directed to make every effort to obtain same at Dutch Harbor and along the Aleutian chain.

Any delay in placing the Kenai under active administration and management will make the problems increasingly difficult and it is urged that this project be given immediate attention and priority over other refuge projects within the Territory. It is further urged that a specific request be made to Congress for funds to place this area under active management. It is felt that the time is now appropriate for making such a request since the Kenai has been brought forcibly to public attention as a result of the recent fire.

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SUMMARY

A summary of the recommendations for administering the Alaskan Refuge program follows:

1. A representative, preferably Mr. Salyer, re-present the proposed Refuge Division program to the Alaska Game Commission at their winter meeting in February 1948, clarifying the misunderstandings that have existed and obtaining the support of the Commission.
2. The Kenai Refuge be given priority in the assignment of personnel and funds to place it under active administration, with the assignment of a refuge manager and a refuge maintenance man CPC-5, with headquarters in the Fish and Wildlife Service residence at the town of Kenai.
3. The Big Delta Refuge be withdrawn and established under Executive Order as a wildlife management refuge for buffalo and moose. Immediately upon establishment of this refuge personnel should be assigned in the form of a refuge manager P-2 to provide the necessary active administration.
4. Refuge Manager Glaser remain on Nunivak Island for a period of one year to obtain the necessary basic data. Unless new findings are brought to light it is not felt that this refuge justifies maintaining full-time administrative personnel thereon. It is believed the refuge interests may be adequately handled through occasional visits, implemented by aircraft.
not
5. It is/felt that the Kodiak Island Refuge problems are sufficient to occupy the full time of a resident refuge manager. It is, therefore, recommended that the Refuge Division collaborate with the Alaska Fisheries Division and have the Fisheries Agent headquartered at Kodiak handle the refuge patrol and public relations problems incident to his Fisheries work. Special problems requiring full-time attention may then be handled under assignment of personnel from the Kenai Refuge.
6. It is recommended that the waterfowl breeding range west of the 163rd Meridian between the Kuskokwim River and the Yukon River be withdrawn and established as a wildlife management refuge for migratory waterfowl. Thereafter seasonal personnel may be assigned as required.
7. It is recommended that a refuge manager SP-6 be headquartered at Dutch Harbor to handle all refuge problems along the Aleutian Chain; the work of this Refuge Management to be supplemented by one trip a year along the Aleutian Chain by Acting Refuge Supervisor Gray.
8. It is recommended that efforts be made to charter the Alaska Fisheries Division vessel "Crane" once a year for Mr. Gray's use on the Aleutian trip in lieu of the Division continuing the operation of the "Brown Bear".
9. It is recommended that Douglas Gray be given full authority as Regional Refuge Supervisor for Region 6 and that there be a clarification of authority and fixing of responsibility in the Regional Office for administration of refuges and the general handling of refuge problems. At the present time

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Summary - 2

there is a division in the assignment of authority between Messrs. Gray and O'Connor. This division of authority complicates the fixing of responsibilities and results in considerable administrative confusion.

10. It is recommended that an agreement be negotiated with the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the use by this Service of the warehouse located at Nash Harbor on Nunivak Island.

11. Quonset huts in the process of being declared surplus should be inspected at Dutch Harbor, Kenai, Seward, Spruce Cape on Kodiak Island, Bethel, Big Delta, and Fairbanks, and suitable warehouse and/or overnight quarters should be requested for transfer to this Service along with their sites for use in place. This request should be addressed to the District Engineer, Alaska District, Corps of Engineers, Anchorage, Alaska, Attention Real Estate Division, and should specifically indicate the buildings desired by number.

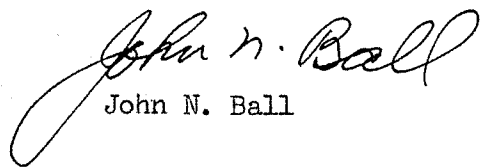
12. It is suggested that further study be made of the proposed Innoko River area during the late spring to determine its value as a waterfowl nesting area before action is taken looking toward its withdrawal and establishment as a refuge. This area is in no immediate danger from the encroachment of civilization.

13. The proposed Stikine River Flats Refuge is recommended for further study to determine its value as a migratory refuge before any action is taken looking toward the withdrawal of this area and its establishment as a waterfowl refuge.

14. It is practically impossible for refuge interests to be properly supervised or looked after without having available within the Territory an amphibious aircraft assigned specifically to the Region for use by refuge personnel and the Regional Refuge Supervisor, as required. For this purpose the Grumman Widgeon NC-701 is well adapted to the Refuge needs. It is, therefore, suggested that consideration be given to assignment of this aircraft, together with its pilot David L. Spencer, to Alaska to be based at the Kenai Refuge in the town of Kenai, with Mr. Spencer acting in the capacity of Refuge Manager in charge of the Kenai Refuge.

15. It is recommended that Refuge Manager, Frank Beals, be transferred from Kodiak Island Refuge to take charge of the proposed Big Delta Refuge as soon as it becomes established, and that his headquarters be Fairbanks.

16. It is estimated the cost of this program, including the chartering of the vessel "Crane" for one trip along the Aleutian Chain each year, will approximate \$55,000. annually.


John N. Ball

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~~4-21~~

P-2
Proposed
Alaska

May 1, 1941

MEMORANDUM for the Commissioner,
General Land Office.

Receipt is acknowledged of your memorandum of April 25 with attached copy of resolution passed by the Alaska Territorial Chamber of Commerce protesting the establishment of any additional national monuments, game refuges, bird sanctuaries or other reservations.

I have carefully considered the resolution of the Chamber of Commerce but do not feel that the protest is serious at this time for the reason that the proposed Executive order does not prevent the homesteading of lands to a distance of six miles from the shore line of Cook Inlet, which six-mile strip is not withdrawn from entry by the order. This strip of land will remain subject to the primary jurisdiction of your office for disposition pursuant to the public land laws applicable to Alaska.

Should future developments indicate the need for making available additional lands for homesteading and agricultural purposes in the Homer region, there should be no difficulty in modifying the Executive order to make that possible.

It will be recalled that the Secretary at a meeting called sometime ago to discuss the Kenai moose reserve verbally approved the issuance of an Executive order for that purpose. The order should go forth without further delay.

Ira N. Gabrielson
Director.

GAH; jm

BUREAU OF BIOLOGICAL SURVEY
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
UNITED STATES

IN REPLY REFER TO

MAY - 2 1941

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R-2
Prop.
Alaska

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF BIOLOGICAL SURVEY

March 4, 1941.

This is an
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Original filed
A-2
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MEMORANDUM for the Commissioner,
General Land Office.

Recently you made inquiry of this Service as to whether or not we desired to retain certain land on Kenai Peninsula that was reserved by Executive Order No. 6802 for the joint use of the Department of Agriculture and the Alaska Game Commission for use as a wildlife agent headquarters site.

I am advised by the Alaska Game Commission that they desire to retain all existing rights in the reservation and I have been requested to so inform you.

W. C. Henderson
Acting Director.

GAH:il

MAR - 4 1941

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A-Z

PROP.

ALASKA

1890-89

Reliance

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3 1/2 INCH EXPANSION

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PATENTED APRIL 28, 1931
PATENT NO. 1,602,429

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Alaska

1932-1938

for
of All re proposed Kenai
moose refuge. (Report included)

To Mr. Bassick

12-3-40