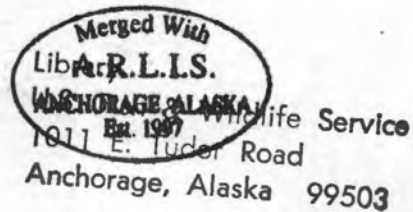


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US FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE--ALASKA

VOLUME I  
UNIMAK ISLAND WILDERNESS RECORD



WILDERNESS RECORD

UNIMAK ISLAND WILDERNESS PROPOSAL

Involving  
UNIMAK ISLAND  
(965,000 Acres)

in the  
ALEUTIAN ISLANDS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Third Judicial Division

ALASKA

February 1972

**ARLIS**

Alaska Resources  
Library & Information Services  
Anchorage, Alaska



VOLUME I  
TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Section
Wilderness Study Report.....	I
Text	
References	
Photographs	
Location Maps	
Appendix	
Mineral Appraisal Report.....	II
Master Plan.....	III
Federal Register Notice.....	IV
Materials Sent to News Media.....	V
News Releases	
Newspaper Clippings	
Public Hearing Package.....	IV
Public Notice	
Notice of Public Hearing	
Letter-size Map	
Wilderness Brochure	
Public Hearing Mailing List.....	VII
Public Hearing Handout Material.....	VIII
Birds of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge	
Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge pamphlet	
Statement of Bureau Representative	
Public Hearing Attendance List.....	IX
Public Hearing Transcript.....	X

SECTION I. WILDERNESS STUDY  
REPORT

6-15

UNIMAK ISLAND WILDERNESS STUDY  
Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge  
Third Judicial District, Alaska

WILDERNESS STUDY REPORT

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife

## PREFACE

Unimak Island begins where the Alaska Peninsula ends, and is the first of the Aleutian Islands. A true Alaska wilderness of slightly under a million acres, it has unmatched physical beauty and bountiful wildlife resources.

Being of volcanic origin, it is dominated by numerous extinct volcanoes and by the presently active Shishaldin Volcano. Recent lava flows testify to the fiery history of the Island. Glaciation is common at higher elevations in the central portion of the Island.

Wildlife resources are abundant on and adjacent to the Island, with the Alaskan brown bear and the barren-ground caribou the most obvious forms to be found. Also occurring are: wolf, wolverine, red fox and land otter. The graceful whistling swan dominates the avifauna, and thousands of waterbirds and song birds use the area during their spring and fall migrations. Off-shore waters support large numbers of sea otters, hair seals, Steller sea lions, and whales as well as provide habitat for millions of pelagic birds.

The Island's streams support four species of salmon important to local and state economies. Bear, caribou, and waterfowl hunting and beach-combing are the main source of recreation. Present recreational use is limited due to high-quality recreational sources in closer proximity to the population centers.

The Island is little disturbed by man's activities and remains in an essentially natural state. Much of the wildlife resource depends upon a wilderness environment to exist. Designation as wilderness will be in keeping with objectives of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge and will serve to perpetuate those resources which support the local economies.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION.....	Page 1
OBJECTIVES.....	4
HISTORY.....	5
LOCATION.....	11
PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS	
Geology.....	12
Climate.....	15
RESOURCES	
FISH AND WILDLIFE	
Brown Bear.....	17
Caribou.....	18
Wolf.....	19
Marine Mammals.....	19
Furbearers and Other Small Mammals.....	20
Waterfowl.....	22
Other Migratory Birds.....	23
Upland Game.....	24
Birds of Prey.....	24
Fish.....	27
VEGETATION.....	31
WETLANDS.....	33
TIMBER.....	36
GRASSLANDS AND SHRUBS.....	36

RECREATION

Hunting.....37

Fishing.....38

Other Uses.....38

MINERALS.....40

MANAGEMENT.....42

DEVELOPMENT.....43

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS.....44

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS.....51

REFERENCES

PHOTOGRAPHS

LOCATION MAP

MAP OF REFUGE

APPENDIX

## INTRODUCTION

The Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, of which Unimak Island is an integral part, was established by Executive Order Number 1733 dated March 3, 1913, signed by President William H. Taft. Previous and subsequent Executive Orders have altered the status of Unimak slightly. Withdrawals have been made at Cape Pankof, Ikatan Cannery, False Pass, Cape Sarichef, Sennett Point, and Scotch Cap. All withdrawals are on the periphery of the Island.

The Refuge was established as a preserve and breeding ground for native birds, for the propagation of reindeer and furbearing animals, and for the encouragement and development of the fisheries. Management investigations conducted over the past fourteen years have resulted in the refinement of Refuge goals as follows:

1. To maintain at above minimum recovery levels all native species normally associated with the environments found on the Refuge -- more specifically, to protect and preserve populations of colonial nesting birds, marine mammals, and other wildlife indigenous to the Aleutian Islands and their adjacent waters.
2. To assure the survival in a natural state of each of this Nation's plant and animal species -- more specifically to restore the Aleutian Canada goose and sea otter populations to former ranges and levels of abundance.
3. To contain all lands or networks of lands of national significance whose benefits to the public can best be achieved by the distinctive competence of the National Wildlife Refuge System -- more specifically



to preserve watersheds which contribute materially to the production of salmon stocks.

4. To seek out, identify, designate, preserve, and appropriately use sites and objects on refuges that are recognized to have esthetic, historic, geologic, archeologic or scientific values.
5. To raise to optimum levels the kinds, range, amount, and quality of wildlife and wildlands-orientated recreation -- more specifically, to develop game populations on Adak Island for recreational hunting.
5. To establish and preserve in a natural state selected areas for reference observation, scientific study, and/or specialized public use, and in which the major ecological communities in the system are represented.

Unimak, containing approximately one million acres, is the first and largest island in "the Chain" of the Aleutian Islands. For the purposes of this report, Bird Island and the islets, rocks and reefs surrounding Unimak are included under the general designation of Unimak Island. It is administered as an integral part of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge with headquarters located at the village of Cold Bay, 37 airline miles distant. The Island is 670 air miles from Anchorage.

Unimak generally has the floral and faunal characteristics similar to the Alaska Peninsula. Common are the brown bear, caribou, wolf, wolverine and several species of furbearers. This is the westward limit of many of these species. There are numerous salmon-spawning streams with four species of salmon utilizing them. Tens of thousands of waterfowl use the many bays

and lagoons. Songbirds and shorebirds use the uplands and marshes, and bald eagles and peregrine falcons occur commonly throughout the island.

This island qualifies separately from the remainder of the Aleutian Islands Refuge for wilderness review because of its unique natural state, scenic, wildlife, historical, and scientific values.

## OBJECTIVES

The Wilderness Act of September 3, 1964 (Public Law 88-577), directs that all roadless islands and areas of 5,000 acres or more within National Wildlife Refuges shall be considered for inclusion as units within the National Wilderness Preservation System. In defining wilderness, the Act also included areas of less than 5,000 acres that are of sufficient size to make preservation and use in an unimpaired condition practical. The objective of this study is to evaluate the suitability or unsuitability of Unimak Island of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge for consideration as wilderness. More specifically, the study was designed to determine:

1. If the Refuge island has wilderness qualities, as defined in the Wilderness Act.
2. Whether establishing all or part of the island as wilderness would conflict with the original purposes for which it was established as a unit within the National Wildlife Refuge System.
3. What other conflicts or benefits there might be if all or part of the island were established as wilderness.

## HISTORY

To put the history of Unimak Island into proper perspective one needs to first review the history of the Aleutian Islands and the Alaska Peninsula.

The people native to the Aleutian Islands are known as Aleuts. They are of Eskimoid origin and are believed to have crossed the Bering Sea land bridge late in the Pleistocene (inter-glacial) period of approximately 10,000 to 15,000 years ago, somewhat after the American Indian crossed the same route. The Aleut and Eskimo languages are related but are mutually unintelligible. Their cultures are basically similar but adapted to different environments.

Aleut villages were always built on the seacoast. Seven of these ancient villages have been found on Unimak. Inland visitation of Unimak was probably common due to the presence of abundant game animals, birds, furbearers, and salmon runs throughout the island. Certain land plants were utilized for food but the villagers' staples came from the sea in the form of sea mammals, fish, sea birds, sea urchins, and mollusks. Clothing was made from the skins and intestines of sea mammals, boats were covered from the same source, and implements and building materials were of bone, stone, and driftwood.

With the passes of "the Chain" acting as barriers, two distinct dialects came into being, i.e., the Unalaskan of the eastern Aleutians and Alaska Peninsula, and the Atkan of the central and western Aleutians. When the

Russians reached the Aleutians nearly all of the islands were inhabited and the Aleut population is believed to have numbered 16,000 people. But by 1831 there were Aleuts present on only 16 islands and the total population was less than 2,000.

On June 4, 1741, two Russian ships under the command of Captain-Commander Vitus Bering sailed on a voyage of exploration from Kamchatka, Siberia. They sailed eastward and touched upon several points in Alaska, notably the Aleutian Islands. Bering's expedition brought back several hundred skins of sea otter, fur seal, and fox. When news of this reached the Siberian fur hunters (call promyshlenniki), there began a forty-year reign of terror and depredation that reduced the Aleuts (natives of the Aleutian Islands) to virtual slavery, exterminated the Steller's sea cow, and seriously depleted the populations of sea otter in the Aleutians and Commander Islands.

This period was followed by the establishment of a trading company that ultimately came under the management of Alexander Baranof. The Company's function was not simply a matter of overseeing a job and keeping accurate accounts. In a large measure they represented the Czar in far-off St. Petersburg. Theirs was the problem of adjusting the views of ecclesiastics (for the Orthodox Church sent its emissaries to Russian America) with the ambitions of a lusty people in contact with an aboriginal group and a totally different moral code. They had to equate the needs of all these people and the requirement of making a profit, and then absorb the frequent

losses of ships bringing supplies from Siberia or returning with valuable cargoes of furs. The Company became faced with the effects of uncontrolled hunting of sea otter and fur seal, and began practicing limited management of these resources. Meanwhile, the ships of other nations entered the highly competitive sea otter trade. Altogether it was a remarkable and colorful history.

In 1867, Alaska was sold to the United States and the fur resource was again plundered. By 1910, the sea otter and fur seal were threatened with extinction. Since then the trend has been reversed and the continued existence of harvestable populations seems assured.

During the period of the mid- to late-1920's and throughout the 1930's, extensive use was made of Unimak and other Aleutian Islands for fox farming. Most of the fox produced were the blue phase of the Arctic fox, but some reds and a few silvers were also bred. Permits were issued to individuals on an annual basis for trapping red fox on Unimak Island. The red fox were indigenous to Unimak and not introduced as was the case with most of the Aleutian Islands.

This fur enterprise brought many hundreds of thousands of dollars to the fox farmers, but it was terminated by the late 1940's due to low fur prices. The Refuge has been left with the fox that, in some instances, has become an obstacle to the management of certain wildlife species such as the Aleutian Canada goose.

A phase of World War II, the Aleutian Campaign, was conducted largely within the Aleutian Islands Refuge. Following a carrier attack on Dutch Harbor in early June 1942, the Japanese forces seized positions on Kiska and Attu Islands. The U. S. forces already established at Cold Bay and on Umnak Island, occupied positions first on Adak and then Amchitka, using them as staging and bombing bases for the ultimate assault that resulted in a hard-won U.S. victory on Attu, followed by the evacuation of Japanese forces from Kiska. Military activity on Umnak was restricted to the Navigational Aids at Scotch Cap and Cape Sarichef and occasional small training missions.

The physical marks of this chapter in Aleutian history are, like all the others, there for all to see. Unlike the others, however, these marks need not be carefully sought out in kitchen middens or communal dwelling sites 150 or more years old. Aircraft runways, piers, roads, telephone and power distribution systems, temporary buildings, and damaged ships of both Japanese and U.S. origin are to be seen throughout the length of "the Chain". On Attu the marks of combat are implanted for at least the duration of this geological age. Abandoned military buildings are still much in evidence at Scotch Cap.

At the outbreak of World War II there was an Aleut village on Attu as well as on Atka and other islands farther east. Considerable movement of Aleuts took place at that time throughout "the Chain" largely due to the fox-farming enterprise. The Attuans were captured by the Japanese forces in 1942 and interned in Japan for the duration of the war. When

the war ended the Attuans were returned and settled with the Atkans in the village of Atka. The only other villages now in "the Chain" are at Nikolski, Unalaska, Akutan, False Pass (on Unimak), and Sanak, but these are not purely native communities.

The name Unimak was derived from the Aleut name "Oonemak" as recorded by Captain Cook of the Royal Navy on July 2, 1778. Other names used in the past include Don Jose de Flores, Ile de Oonimak, Isla San Gonzalo, and Oonimak Island.

Other than False Pass, the last known native village on Unimak Island was Unimak, located at the southwestern end of Unimak at 54°28'N, 164°40'W. The village was reported in the 1940 census with a population of 88. No other information concerning this village has been found.

Recent human habitation of Unimak Island has been at Ikatan, False Pass, Cape Sarichef, and Scotch Cap. The Ikatan Cannery was constructed about 1916 for the processing of salmon and cod, and abandoned around 1956. The cannery was removed and the majority of the residents moved to King Cove, a fishing village 46 miles to the northeast. A cannery which was for two years located in Little John Lagoon was moved in 1919 to the village of False Pass. The only other fish-processing site on the island was a cod-fish salting station in Dora Harbor. No date on the abandonment has been found, but the site is at least twenty-five years old, as that is the approximate period when cod fishing in the eastern Aleutians terminated. Little remains of this station.



Intensive trapping occurred from the early 1920's through the late 1940's, mostly for red fox, but otter, mink, and wolverine were also taken. Approximately ten to twenty trappers utilized the Bering Sea side and three to five worked the Pacific side. It is estimated that approximately 1,000 fox pelts were taken annually during the peak ten years. Pelt income averaged in the low thirty-dollar range with the top price reaching \$42-\$46.

The Coast Guard facilities at Scotch Cap and Cape Sarichef were constructed in 1940; however, lighthouses had been previously established at these locations in 1903 and 1904. The Scotch Cap station has as its functions a navigational light and a radio beacon. The Sarichef station has a navigational light, radio beacon, and LORAN station.

The lighthouse at Scotch Cap was totally destroyed by a tidal wave on April 1, 1946, with the loss of five lives (all hands manning the station).

The Cape Sarichef DEW Line Site was constructed in 1959 but deactivated as a radar site in 1969. Presently it is maintained as a White Alice Communications site by Radio Corporation of America.

In April 1970, Shishaldin Volcano was dedicated as a Natural History Landmark by the National Park Service because of its rugged beauty and its use as a visual landmark for centuries. This magnificent, almost perfectly cylindrical volcano lies 22 miles southwest of False Pass with the Landmark area encompassing approximately 63,000 acres. This designation does not interfere with the Refuge management objective of maintaining the wildlife-wilderness environment.

LOCATION

Unimak is the first and largest of the Aleutian Islands, and is situated off the southwestern tip of the Alaska Peninsula. It is 670 air miles southwest of Anchorage and 37 miles southwest of Cold Bay, site of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge headquarters. Approximate center of the island lies at 54°50'N, 164°12'W.

## PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

### Geology

This uniquely beautiful island is dominated by the active Shishaldin Volcano, a classic cylindrical cone rising to 9,978 feet, the highest mountain in the raw and rugged Aleutians. Shishaldin's neighbor, Isanotski, known locally as "Ragged Jack", is an outstanding example of the awesome splendor created by the combined forces of volcanization, glaciation, and winds of gale force. Inactive volcanoes and recent lava flows tend to create a mysterious atmosphere that makes one feel as if he were living in pre-historic days. This line of volcanoes makes up the extremely rugged and scenic center and southwest areas of the island, interrupted only by the robin-egg blue waters of the volcanic lake, Fisher Caldera.

The Bering Sea side consists of rolling heath interspersed with many lakes, streams and marshes that create a lush emerald green carpet that succumbs in the fall to a golden brown. Luxuriant growths of alder dominate the Pacific side and are interrupted only by vast volcanic ash flats.

This island of 998,260 acres has a coastline of over 265 miles which is unequaled in scenic values and variety. The huge, precipitous, jagged cliffs and wide, gently sloping sand beaches provide a mecca for the photographer, the beachcomber, and the outdoorsman.

Unimak Island is a part of the Aleutian Islands which is a chain of islands surmounting the crest of a submarine ridge approximately 1,400 miles long, 20-60 miles wide and 12,000 feet high above the sea floor on either side.

This was part of the Bering Land Bridge which linked North America with the Eurasian continent. Unimak appeared as an island as early as 8,000 years ago when the waters of the surrounding seas rose.

It is now separated from the Alaska Peninsula by one and seven-eighths miles at Kabuch Point in Isanotski Strait, and by six and seven-eighths miles between Cape Krenitzen and Chunak Point at the entrance of Bechevin Bay into the Bering Sea.

Volcanic activity on Unimak has been reported as follows: Roundtop is 6,140 feet in elevation and had an ash eruption in 1825. It is thought that some eruptions reported for Isanotski should be credited to Roundtop. Isanotski is 8,435 feet in elevation and had ash eruptions in 1795, 1830, and an active eruption in 1845. Shishaldin stands 9,978 feet high and has the following record: 1775-1778, active; 1790, smoke; 1824-1826, ash eruption; 1827-1830, ash eruption; 1838, ash eruption; 1842, ash eruption; 1865, smoke; 1880-1881, smoke; 1883, ash eruption; 1897, smoke; 1898, ash eruption; 1922, ash eruption; 1925, ash eruption; 1928-1929, ash eruption; 1946-1953, ash eruption; and 1955, ash eruption. It is presently the only active volcano on the island.

Unimak also contains a large lake known as Fisher Caldera (approximate size, seven by nine miles) which is the collapsed summit of a large cone, possibly created as a result of a colossal explosive eruption. Fisher is recorded as an inactive volcano 3,590 feet high with perhaps an ash eruption in 1826. Westdahl Peak is a 5,035-foot inactive volcano with no historic activity.

Progamni, 7,500 feet, had ash eruptions in 1795, 1820, 1827-1830, and a lava flow in 1796. Lava flows occurred in the late 1950's, but no exact date has been found.

Much of the mountainous part of the island has been deeply eroded by streams, glaciers, and frost action which produced many steep slopes, scarps, cliffs, and bare rock. Ice fields and small glaciers occur on and around Roundtop Mountain, Isanotski Peaks, Shishaldin Volcano, Westdahl and Faris Peaks. The lower glacier flows occur from 2,000 to 2,500 feet and it is thought that no permafrost occurs on Unimak except at the higher altitudes. Only a few broad, flat valleys interrupt the persistent cliffs and steep slopes.

The Bering Sea lowland is a gently sloping plain rising gradually from the sea either to merge imperceptibly with the mountain slopes, or, in places, to intersect them sharply. The Bering Sea lowland is continuous throughout the north side, and ranges from 5 miles to more than 12 miles in width. The surface of this lowland is generally less than 300 feet above sea level. It is characterized by a dense growth of vegetation, many rounded hills, and numerous lakes, streams, and marshes. The shores are commonly sandy and backed by low bluffs cut into grass-covered sand dunes.

Sand and gravel spits and bars are common in the bays and coves, whereas reefs and offshore rocks, abundantly fringed with kelp, commonly flank the rocky headlands. A small part of the coastline is quite rugged and mountainous with rockbound and cliffed shores.

Narrow boulder beaches lie at the foot of the rock cliffs, and sand beaches are found along the coastal lowlands and at the heads of some bays and coves. Generally, lowlands encircle the larger bays.

Unlike many of the Aleutian Islands, Unimak possesses several long streams, many slow-flowing, on the northern, western, and southern sides. Generally speaking, those draining into the Pacific Ocean occur in steep-walled valleys and are shorter and of steeper gradient than those draining into the Bering Sea.

Lakes occur in volcanic craters and Fisher Caldera. Many small lakes occupy irregular basins in the rolling lowland topography where glaciation has occurred.

Both of the early explorers, Veniaminof and Lutke, mentioned Ikatan as a separate island. At that time it was named Ikatok. This appears feasible as low sand dunes separate the Unimak lowland from the Ikatan Peninsula.

#### Climate

The climate is maritime with frequent cyclonic storms crossing the Pacific Ocean and Bering Sea. This accounts for the common occurrences of high winds, low clouds and fog. Temperatures are cold but not usually severe, due principally to the moderating effect of warm water transported into the area by the Japanese Current. Mean annual temperature is about 38°F. and the mean annual maximum and minimum temperatures differ less than 10°F. Temperature extremes range from the low 70's F. to -10°F., but below-zero temperatures are rare. Winter lasts six to nine months and frost can be

expected every month except possibly July and August.

Total precipitation averages 30-35 inches annually and is fairly evenly distributed throughout the year. Snowfall is low, averaging 40-45 inches, but often accumulates to considerable depths in drifts.

Sky cover averages 80 percent year round, with fog occurring mostly during the spring and summer months. Winds of high velocities are quite common with the average approximately 20 miles per hour. Maximums of over 100 MPH have been recorded at Cape Sarichef. Winter winds are frequently north-westerlies and prevailing summer winds are from the south-southeast. Winds of gale force may come from any direction any time of the year.

## RESOURCES

### FISH AND WILDLIFE

#### Brown Bear

Brown bear occur throughout most of Unimak except at higher elevations. Concentrations occur in the Uṛilia Bay and Lazaref River areas. The first and only survey was conducted in 1968 and indicated a minimal population of 65-85 animals. A total of 56 bears were classified. Over-all productivity of the Unimak population (40% cubs and yearlings) is less than that of the Peninsula (52% cubs and yearlings) and the adjacent Izembek National Wildlife Range (52% cubs and yearlings).

Since 1949, the harvest of brown bear has been regulated by a permit system. Through 1968, twenty-five permits were available annually to hunters on a first come-first served basis. In the fall of 1969 the number of permits was reduced to 15 due to the relatively low reproductivity and small population found during the 1968 survey.

Since 1961, recorded legal harvest of this magnificent animal has averaged seven annually, which does not appear to be significantly large. It is not known whether the illegal kill is significant.

Unimak is visited by and is more accessible to commercial fishermen, military and oil personnel than it is to the sportsman. Many of these people are not cognizant of the Refuge permit system, and may not concern themselves with permits, thus biasing the records.



The brown bear is a wilderness mammal whose living requirements are met best in a wilderness environment. With increased hunting pressure, increased hunter accessibility by aircraft, the demands upon the population by the hunting public are becoming substantial in proportion to the bear population size. Unimak Island is an ideal situation where a healthy and vigorous population can be maintained and wilderness designation can assist in this goal.

#### Caribou

Presently caribou are common, with population estimates of 2,000-3,000 animals. They use all but the mountainous area; however, they are generally concentrated on the Bering Sea and western sides of the island in the marshes, upland, and beach area. Their numbers appear to be increasing. Production averages 20 percent annually with calving occurring throughout the lowlands along the length of the island. Major calving areas are in Mike's Valley, Swanson Lagoon, Rocky River, Urilia Bay, Dublin Bay, Unimak Bight, and Lazaref River. This population has experienced extreme highs and lows, the high occurring in the 1920's (estimated 9,000) and presently, and lows occurring during the 1940's and 1950's (thought to be less than 200 animals). Biological data has been compiled only for the past few years and must be supplemented by recollections of local residents.

Harvest is estimated to be less than 100 animals annually. Trophy animals do occur, but because of other trophy caribou in closer proximity to human population centers, little trophy hunting of the Unimak caribou occurs. Meat and sport hunting are pursued by commercial fishermen and the residents of False Pass.

### Wolf

Wolves occur in limited numbers over most of Unimak Island. Generally, sightings are restricted to False Pass, Cape Sarichef, and Scotch Cap due to the continual presence of humans. Packs of three to five animals have been recorded between Cape Sarichef and Scotch Cap, with an occasional wolf reported shot at False Pass. Wolf sign is uncommon throughout the lowlands. Occurrence probably corresponds to that of the caribou. Although not a serious limiting factor, the wolf is partially dependent upon the caribou for sustenance. An occasional sport hunt is prompted by a sighting near the human habitation. The wolf is a truly magnificent wilderness mammal and should be considered a natural part of the Unimak ecology. The present inaccessibility of the island assists in the continued presence of the wolf.

### Marine Mammals

The once rare sea otter now occurs commonly along the Bering Sea coast, in Bechevin Bay and Isanotski Pass, and they are occasionally found on the Pacific side. They haul out on the rocks and reefs on the periphery of the island. Maintaining these areas in their present state is necessary to the continued utilization by sea otter and other marine mammals. The population density of sea otter on Unimak is low in comparison to that found in the Central Aleutians due primarily to the lack of protected waters and winter ice, but it is thought that the Unimak population is increasing, and at least one pod of over 1,000 was noted between Unimak and Amak Islands. Larger populations occur in the adjacent Sandman Reefs and the Sanak Group.

Sea lions and hair seals are commonly found around the island. Hauling grounds at Oksenof Point and Sea Lion Point have had recorded sea lion populations of approximately 4,000 and 150-300, respectively. The sea lion is especially abundant throughout much of the year in the offshore waters, ranging out from large hauling grounds on the adjacent islands of the Sanak Group, Ugamak, Akun, Amak, and the Sandman Reefs. Hair seals occur by the thousands in the offshore waters.

The northern fur seal passes through Unimak Pass on its migration to and from its rookeries on the Pribilofs and offshore waters of Washington, Oregon and California. There are no records of its hauling out on Unimak.

The Pacific walrus has been sighted in False Pass and carcasses are not uncommon on the Bering Sea beaches. During winters when the ice pack approaches Unimak, walrus might be common. Adjacent Amak Island was an ancient hauling ground and is still visited by up to 200 walrus in a winter. Extension of this use to Unimak would not be unusual.

Whales occur commonly in adjacent waters. Most common are the Pacific killer whale, finback whale and sei whale.

The continuation of Unimak as a wilderness area will help insure the unaltered ecology of the land and offshore areas, necessary in the maintenance of the marine mammal populations.

#### Furbearers and Other Small Mammals

Red fox are especially abundant, with the major portion of the population

occurring within three miles of the beach line. The river otter is also common on the island's periphery and in the Urilia Bay and Lazaref River drainage systems. It uses many of the other fresh-water streams as well. Mink and weasel occur in most of the drainage systems. Wolverine are found throughout the island except at higher elevations. This animals is truly a wilderness creature and is commonly sighted by visitors to the island.

Ground squirrels are common on the Pacific Ocean side and are abundant on the Bering Sea side. The majority of this population occurs in the lowlands below 500 feet elevation although a scattered population occurs above this level. Shrew, lemming, and mice are abundant.

The following is a list of those mammals observed on the island or in adjacent waters. Common names and scientific names follow the publication: List of North American Recent Mammals, 1955. Miller and Kellogg. U.S. National Museum Bulletin 205.

Cinereous shrew	<u>Sorex cinereus</u>
Dusky shrew	<u>Sorex obscurus</u>
Ground squirrel	<u>Citellus parryii</u>
Collared lemming	<u>Dicrostonyx hudsonius</u>
Meadow mouse	<u>Microtus oeconomus</u>
Jumping mouse	<u>Zapus hudsonius</u>
Sperm whale	<u>Physeter catodon</u>
Pacific killer whale	<u>Grampus rectipinna</u>
Dall's porpoise	<u>Phocoenoides dalli</u>

Gray whale	<u>Eschrichtius glaucus</u>
Finback whale	<u>Balaenoptera physalus</u>
Sei whale	<u>Balaenoptera borealis</u>
Wolf	<u>Canis lupus</u>
Red fox	<u>Vulpes fulva</u>
Brown bear	<u>Ursus arctos</u>
Weasel	<u>Mustela erminea</u>
Least weasel	<u>Mustela rixosa</u>
Wolverine	<u>Gulo luscus</u>
Otter	<u>Lutra canadensis</u>
Sea otter	<u>Enhydra lutris</u>
Northern fur seal	<u>Callorhinus ursinus</u>
Northern sea lion	<u>Eumetopias jubata</u>
Pacific walrus	<u>Odobenus rosmarus</u>
Hair seal	<u>Phoca vitulina</u>
Barren ground caribou	<u>Rangifer arcticus</u>

#### Waterfowl

The lagoons and marshes (most important - Lazaref River, Swanson Lagoon, and Peterson Lagoon) support hundreds of nesting and thousands of migrating waterfowl. Whistling swans produce approximately 40-80 cygnets annually and wintering concentrations of up to 146 birds have been noted. Thousands of lesser Canada geese utilize the lowlands during the fall. The rare and endangered Aleutian Canada goose probably utilizes the island on its migration to and from Buldir Island, since it has been sighted in the adjacent

Izembek Lagoon. Up to 20,000 black brant have been observed during their fall migration. Emperor geese peak in the tens of thousands on their migrations from the Aleutian Islands to and from the nesting grounds in the Kuskokwim and Yukon Deltas. Many emperor geese winter on the island.

During fall and spring migrations, thousands of mallards, pintails, green-winged teal, scaup, and golden-eye use the fresh-water areas. Tens of thousands of eiders and scoters utilize the lagoon and offshore waters. Old squaw ducks winter along the shores.

#### Other Migratory Birds

Unimak does not support the huge numbers of colonial nesting birds as do many of the Aleutian Islands, although several of the rocks, reefs, and cliffs on Ikatan Peninsula, Cape Mordvinof and Bird Island support relatively small nesting populations of pelagic cormorant, black-legged kittiwake, and common murre. At various times of the year the offshore waters support extensive concentrations of slender-billed shearwater, common murre, black-legged kittiwake, northern phalarope, crested auklet, and ancient murrelet. The slender-billed shearwater has been noted in Unimak Pass in a mass measuring fifteen miles long and two to three miles wide, containing an estimated fifteen million birds.

The uplands are populated by thousands of Lapland longspur and snow bunting. The lowlands and beach areas are the nesting grounds for gray-crowned rosy finch, giant song sparrow, and winter wren.

Unimak is a resting and feeding stop for tens of thousands of migrating shorebirds. During the fall dense flocks are common, often appearing as "smoke" on the horizon. Common migrants include the rock sandpiper, ruddy turnstone, and pectoral sandpiper. The rock sandpiper nests in abundance throughout the island's lowlands.

#### Upland Game

Both willow and rock ptarmigan occur on the island with the willow at the lower elevations and the rock at the upper. There is some hunting of these birds by the people of False Pass, but the populations as a whole are relatively unharvested.

#### Birds of Prey

The bald eagle is a common year-round resident. Transient populations occur during the spring and fall months during the height of the salmon-spawning season. Nesting occurs on the promontories around the island's periphery with the majority of nests found on the Pacific side. At least ten pair are known to nest on the island.

The rare and endangered peregrine falcon is also a year-round resident but occurs in limited numbers. Due to its secretiveness and remote nesting sites, no comprehensive reproductivity data has been collected.

Rough-legged hawks have been recorded on Unimak but there are no recent observations, although they have been recently noted on the Peninsula and in the chain.

Beals and Longworth report gyrfalcons occurring frequently at False Pass

but no recent observations have been made. This species is occasionally noted in the Cold Bay area.

Local residents report the snowy owl as occurring frequently during the winter months. Short-eared owls were common throughout the island in 1925 but no recent observations have been made although they are noted in the Cold Bay area during the winter months.

The following bird list contains 91 species which represent observations by eight different individuals. Three species have been recorded as accidentals: American coot (one observation at False Pass by Gabrielson), common snipe (one sighting by Olaus Murie), and slaty-backed gull (sighting by Frank Beals).

Those marked with an asterisk are known to nest on the island. This list is in accordance with the Fifth A.O.U. Checklist.

Common loon*	Canada goose, cackling
Red-necked grebe	Canada goose, Taverner's
Laysan albatross	Black brant
Fulmar	Emperor goose
Slender-billed shearwater	White-fronted goose
Double-crested cormorant	Mallard*
Pelagic cormorant*	Gadwall*
Red-faced cormorant	Pintail
Whistling swan*	Common teal (Aleutian)*
Canada goose, Aleutian	Green-winged teal*



Greater scaup*	Sanderling
Common goldeneye	Northern phalarope
Bufflehead	Pomarine jaeger
Oldsquaw	Parasitic jaeger
Harlequin duck*	Glaucous gull
Steller's eider	Glaucous-winged gull*
Common eider*	Mew gull
King eider	Black-legged kittiwake*
White-winged scoter	Sabine's gull
Surf scoter	Arctic tern*
Common scoter	Aleutian tern
Red-breasted merganser	Common murre*
Rough-legged hawk	Thick-billed murre
Bald eagle*	Pigeon guillemot
Marsh hawk	Marbled murrelet
Gyr Falcon	Ancient murrelet
Peregrine falcon*	Parakeet auklet
Willow ptarmigan*	Crested auklet
Rock ptarmigan*	Least auklet
Sandhill crane	Horned puffin
Black oystercatcher	Tufted puffin
Semipalmated plover*	Short-eared owl
American golden plover	Belted kingfisher
Ruddy turnstone	Bank swallow
Wandering tattler	Barn swallow

Common raven*	Gray-crowned rosy finch*
Dipper*	Common redpoll*
Winter wren	Savannah sparrow*
Water pipit	Golden-crowned sparrow
Northern shrike	Song sparrow*
Yellow warbler	Lapland longspur
Wilson's warbler	Snow bunting

### Fish

The commercial salmon fishery is a major source of income in this area. Sockeye salmon, chum salmon, pink salmon, and coho salmon use both Bering and Pacific fresh-water streams for spawning. Total number of spawners is unknown as time, distance, and weather severely limit salmon stream surveys in this area. The total contribution of the Unimak fishery is unknown but it is undoubtedly substantial. The salmon run is an important fall food source for the brown bear.

A major salmon fishery is located offshore of Unimak and is dependent in part on the island streams for spawning habitat.

The South Unimak salmon fishery (Ikatan-Morzhovoi Bay areas) dates back at least to 1911 when 58,000 sockeye (red) salmon were harvested. Catches subsequently built to a peak of 2.8 million in 1922, then fell to an annual average of 200,000-300,000 during the 1940's to mid-1960's, and have fluctuated upwards to 1,500,000 in 1970. The South Unimak sockeye catches are made in the June headland fishery.

Chum(dog) salmon have contributed significantly to the harvest, increasing

from 100,000 in 1914 to 640,000 in 1920, then running 100,000-250,000 through 1948, 50,000-150,000 through 1965 and fluctuating 70,000-360,000 from 1966 through 1970. Chum are caught primarily in the June headland fishery.

Fish traps dominated the early fisheries. They were distributed about Ikatan Bay and up into Morzhovoi Bay, ranging from three in 1913 to a reported 36 in 1919. The number of traps gradually decreased through the 1920's and 1930's and settled at five to six through the 1940's and 1950's. Fish traps were declared illegal in 1959 just prior to Alaska Statehood.

Seine gear has been operated in the South Unimak fishery at least since 1935 with 19 boats. Records indicate slightly over a dozen boats participated each season through 1940. Subsequent to World War II seine fishing efforts appear to have generally run six boats through the 1950's and an average of about ten through the 1960's. Driftnet gear entered this fishery about 1958 and has grown steadily in use to a peak of 110 boats in 1970. The seine fishery is from Ikatan Bay to Cape Lutke and driftnets in Ikatan Bay and, since 1960, to Cape Lazaref.

Strong winds often halt or hinder any sockeye salmon fishery effort around the island. On the average, about 20 days in June are fishable. Fishing begins the second week in June and halts normally about July 1. Any fishing after this date is almost entirely on local runs.

The Alaska resident portion of the harvest increased from nil in 1961 to 72% in 1967. Subsequently, their portion fell to 58% in 1970 but it

appears likely that the share will continue as the majority percentage.

Tagging studies since 1958 show passing pink salmon are spawning in the South Peninsula, North Peninsula, and Russian Coast. Tagging of chum salmon has taken place since 1923 and recoveries are similar to those of pinks. The pattern of tag recoveries indicates that the South Unimak Island fishery is intercepting pink and chum salmon bound for widely dispersed areas.

Little is known of the history of the North Unimak and Bechevin Bay fisheries. Alaska Fish and Game Department reports that the North Unimak salmon runs consist primarily of sockeyes in the Urilia Bay system, pinks and chums at St. Catherine Cove, and cohos in St. Catherine Cove, Swanson's Lagoon, and the Urilia Bay systems. They think that of the following harvest 25% of the chums and 100% of the remaining salmon are from Unimak's spawning habitat. Harvest is conducted by a few small seiners operating out of False Pass, mostly in July. The records indicate the following total salmon harvest in the North Unimak and Bechevin Bay fisheries during the period 1962 through 1970.

Sockeye salmon	64,100
Coho salmon	20,800
Pink salmon	69,600
Chum salmon	180,300

The coho salmon are mostly caught in the shallow lagoons on the north side, are salted and sold to the Japanese. This harvest is almost solely by the people of False Pass.

Sea run Dolly Varden trout are quite abundant in many of the fresh-water streams. King crab is especially abundant in Unimak Bight and is heavily harvested. The area immediately north of Unimak is an extremely important rearing area for halibut. Tanner crab is common in offshore waters and is being increasingly harvested. Razor clams occur in large numbers in inshore waters and in the lagoons on the Bering side. A few are dug by False Pass people and by some commercial fishermen.

The following is a list of inshore fishes collected by Alex Peden and Dr. Norman J. Wilimovsky of the University of British Columbia. These collections were mostly on Ikatan Peninsula and the southwestern part of the island. Additions to the list were made by this writer. It should be noted that the list is far from complete, and is included for a record of natural, unaltered inshore fishery.

Skate	<u>Raja aleutica</u>
Chum salmon	<u>Oncorhynchus keta</u>
Sockeye salmon	<u>Oncorhynchus nerka</u>
Pink salmon	<u>Oncorhynchus gorbuscha</u>
Coho salmon	<u>Oncorhynchus kisutch</u>
Dolly Varden trout	<u>Salvelinus malma</u>
Capelin	<u>Mallotus villosus</u>
Pacific cod	<u>Gadus macrocephalus</u>
Great flounder	<u>Platichthys stellatus</u>
Kelp greenling	<u>Hexagrammos decagrammus</u>
Greenling	<u>Hexagrammos stelleri</u>

Rock greenling	<u>Hexagrammos lagocephalus</u>
Rockfish	<u>Sebastes alutus</u>
Red Irish lord	<u>Hemilepidotus hemilepidotus</u>
Irish lord	<u>Hemilepidotus jordani</u>
Sculpin	<u>Triglops macellus</u>
Sculpin	<u>Triglops forticata</u>
Calico sculpin	<u>Clinocottus embryum</u>
Sharpnose sculpin	<u>Clinocottus acuticeps</u>
Great sculpin	<u>Myoxocephalus polyacanthocephalus</u>
Lumpsucker	<u>Lethotremus muticus</u>
Liparid	<u>Liparis rutteri</u>
Globefish	<u>Cyclopterichthys glaber</u>
Three-spined stickleback	<u>Gasterosteus aculeatus</u>
Nine-spined stickleback	<u>Pungitius pungitius</u>
Pacific sandlance	<u>Ammodytes hexapterus</u>
Searcher	<u>Bathymaster signatus</u>
Langbarn	<u>Leptoclinus maculatus</u>
Crescent gunnel	<u>Pholis laeta</u>

#### VEGETATION

The vegetative composition consists of arctic-alpine species, dominated by the heath plant family (Ericaceae). The island is treeless except for a few spruce introduced at False Pass and Ikatan villages. The Bering Sea lowlands are blanketed by crowberry (Empetrum nigrum), mosses (Sphagnum), lichens (mostly Cladonia spp.), sedges (Carex spp.), cranberry (Oxycoccus spp.),

and prostrate willow (Salix sp.). The Pacific side is dominated by dense growths of alder (Alnus crispa). This and taller willows are found in some of the river valleys. Alpine vegetation occurs at the higher elevations with the upper limit ranging to the 1,000-1,500-foot level.

Alder is generally restricted to the Pacific side with irregularly scattered thickets in the lower 400-500 feet of the mountain slopes. These thickets commonly reach to the sea. In places, these thickets attain heights of 15-20 feet but average 3-8 feet, and are often so dense as to be impenetrable.

Coastline vegetation is dominated by beach rye (Elymus arenarius) and Heracleum with secondary species being beach pea (Lathyrus venosus), Lupinus, and fireweed (Epilobium spp.).

Marshes contain mostly sedge (Carex dioica) with secondary species crowberry, Calamagrostis, bog blueberry (Vaccinium uliginosum), marsh marigold (Caltha palustris), yellow monkey flower (Mimulus guttatus), Cladonia and horsetail (Equisetum arvense). During spring and early summer the lowlands are a profusion of flowers. Common are fireweed, Geum sp., crowberry, cranberry, Senecio sp., beach bluebell (Campanula lasiocarpa), and strawberry (Fragaria chiloensis).

Elderberry (Sambucus racemosa), cinquefoil (Potentilla palustris), and cow parsnip (Heracleum lanatum) occur abundantly with alder in the area around False Pass. Salmonberry (Rubus spectabilis) occurs on the eastern

end of the island and its berries are commonly gathered by the people of False Pass.

The adjacent cold, clear marine waters contain large growths of marine vegetation. Much of this vegetation is utilized by certain mammals, birds, fish and invertebrates. Most common is the algae or rockweed Fucus. It is a slippery, mucilaginous plant with thick, pimply structures and smooth bladders found on the rocks at low tide. Alaria, which is a kelp, is generally found in deeper waters. The other most common plant is sea lettuce or Ulva, used to a great extent as a forage plant by the emperor goose.

#### WETLANDS

There are three salt water lagoons, all located on the Bering Sea side. The most easterly, Swanson Lagoon, is the one preferred by water birds. It contains the highly nutritive and much utilized eelgrass (Zostera marina) and during the fall supports thousands of black brant, lesser Canada geese, emperor geese, as well as diving and dabbling ducks. During the winter it is favored by the whistling swan, concentrations of up to 146 being noted. This lagoon and Silver Salmon Creek, the main creek flowing into it, support a spawning run of chum, sockeye, and coho salmon. This is an important source of the cohoes that are processed at False Pass. Since eelgrass is dependent on a narrow range of temperature and salinity for survival, it is important to keep these lagoon waters in a natural, undisturbed condition.



The other two lagoons, Peterson and Christianson, also contain growths of eelgrass, but not in large quantity. Both lagoons are used by various species of waterbirds year-round. Sea ducks such as the scoters and eiders depend upon the invertebrates produced in these shallow lagoons for much of their food. Peterson Lagoon has a limited sockeye salmon run.

The headwaters of Christianson Lagoon drain through one of the most productive areas of the island, Urilia Valley. This area probably supports, at different times of the year, the majority of the brown bear and caribou populations. The sockeye salmon run in this area is quite substantial and undoubtedly the most important on the island. No definitive figures have been obtained for the run due to the area's inaccessibility.

The many lakes in this area support a moderate population of nesting whistling swans. Production of cygnets in Urilia Valley probably averages 15-20 annually. Mallards, harlequins, common loons and rock sandpipers also nest in this area as well as throughout the lakes and marshes of the island.

The lakes are mostly restricted to the lowlands and are connected to the sea by streams. Most of them support broods of common loon and diver ducks and several get substantial use during fall migrations. Most lakes above the 700-foot elevation are sterile.

Lakes worthy of mention are as follows:

Swede's Lake (Ikatan Peninsula) - supports a substantial run of sockeye salmon.

Shishkof Pond - gets little use and appears to be unproductive for both plant and animal life.

Fisher Caldera - appears to be sterile.

Most rivers are found on the Bering Sea side of the island, though a few occur on the Pacific side. The following is a list of the more important drainages, their salmon run, and its relative importance:

Tugamak River (probably chum) - minor run  
Corner Creek (probably chum) - minor run  
Urilia Bay Creek (sockeye, chum) - major red run  
Mudhole Creek (sockeye) - minor run (Peterson Lagoon)  
Emil River (chum) - minor run  
Clinker and Middle Creeks - no run noted  
North Creek (coho) - minor run  
Rocky River (coho) - minor run  
Coal Oil Creek (coho) - minor run  
Big River (coho, pink) - major run  
Silver Salmon Creek (chum, sockeye, coho) - major run  
Mike's Creek (chum, coho) - minor run  
False Pass Creek (pink) - minor run  
Swede's Creek (sockeye, coho) - major run  
Salmon Ranch Creek (sockeye, coho, pink) - minor run  
Lazaref River (coho, sockeye) - major run  
Longhouse Creek - unknown

Several other streams occur on Unimak Island but there is no record as to

salmon runs. The aforementioned rivers and streams are the most important on the island. These streams also support hundreds and maybe thousands of water birds during nesting and migration periods.

Marshes of varying size occur throughout the lowlands. The two most significant marshes are the previously-mentioned Urilia Valley and the Lazaref River areas. The latter is quite important for nesting whistling swans, producing 10-20 cygnets annually.

The wetlands provide Unimak's optimum habitat for waterbirds, brown bear, caribou, fur bearers, fish, and other wildlife. These areas provide a significant part of the essentials (food, water, cover) necessary for continued existence. Any development of the wetlands would most certainly be disadvantageous to the wildlife found there, so to maintain the unique wildlife values, the natural characteristics of the wetlands must be preserved.

#### TIMBER

The island is south of the treeline on the Alaska Peninsula and therefore contains no timber.

#### GRASSLAND AND SHRUBS

The Bering lowlands contain large areas of grasslands that are dominated by sedges (Carex spp.) and Calamagrostis. These areas contain many lichens and mosses and support the caribou population throughout much of the year. The Pacific side contains grasslands although more limited, due to the dominance of that side by alder and cinder flats. The alder and willow growths have been discussed under the Vegetation section.

### RECREATION

Public use of Unimak Island is primarily restricted to the existing human populations at False Pass, Cape Sarichef, and Scotch Cap. Other use comes from hunters of bear, caribou, and waterfowl, and commercial fishermen who use the waters adjacent to the island. Two factors, weather and access, greatly influence recreational use as well as other human uses of the island. Most often this limits use to those persons of a hardy and durable nature.

Because of the inaccessibility of much of the island, recreational use is limited to only those points that can be easily reached by either plane, boat, or on foot. Due to the recreational opportunities in closer proximity to human population centers, recreational use of the island is expected to remain at a relatively stable low level. Because of its richness in natural resources, scenic beauty, and pristine condition, the island is essentially a Utopia to those interested in wilderness. With this uniqueness and the tendency to draw only those wanting a high-quality wilderness experience, no recreational development is planned.

### Hunting

Unimak is renowned for its high-quality brown bear hunting. Trophy bear do exist. An average of seven bear are legally harvested annually, mostly from the Urilia Bay, Lazaref River, and First River areas. Bear harvest permits were reduced in 1969 from 25 to 15 due to a low population and a low productivity. Although the number of potential hunters is rapidly increasing, the number allowed to hunt will remain static and possibly even decrease if the bear population continues to decline. Hunting access is

strictly by boat or aircraft and management plans are to continue this limited access. This will insure the continuation of high-quality hunting opportunities presently available.

The waterfowl and caribou hunting potential is quite high but hunting opportunities in closer proximity to the Alaskan population centers presently inhibit much use of these island resources. Limited hunting is accomplished by the people of False Pass and by commercial fishermen. Access is by boat to nearby lagoons.

#### Fishing

No known sport fishing occurs on the island but the potential is great, except near the western military sites. Four species of salmon and Dolly Varden trout spawn in moderate numbers throughout the island's drainage system and offer much recreational potential, but areas closer to the population centers presently absorb fishing pressures.

#### Other Uses

Beachcombing is a very popular pastime for all who come in contact with the island. The Bering Sea beach contains tens of thousands of glass balls from Japanese and Russian fishing nets, shipwreck hulks, old trapping cabins, carcasses of walrus, sea lion, whale and remains of other living things that occur on or near the island.

Other uses include limited trapping, berry picking, and some wildlife observation and photography. The eastern, central and southwestern mountainous areas hold much potential for mountaineering. The only

known climb of Shishaldin was by the Hubbard party of 1932.

Recreational use of lands surrounding False Pass are limited big game hunting, limited trapping by schoolage children, berry picking, ptarmigan hunting, beachcombing and waterfowl hunting.

Some waterfowl and caribou hunting is done by False Pass people in the St. Catherine Cove and Swanson Lagoon areas but most of this effort is directed toward the Morzhovoi Bay area.

During the warm period of the year people are occupied with the harvest and processing of salmon. At the time of year when they are free to pursue recreational endeavors the weather severely limits the intensity and range of activities. The fact that False Pass is surrounded by precipitous mountains on three sides and marine waters on the other precludes the building of roads into the interior or around the periphery of the island. The designation of the surrounding lands as a wilderness area should not change the land-use pattern that has developed over the years. Access to other parts of the island will continue to be by boat, aircraft, or on foot.

Use by military personnel consists mostly of beachcombing, hiking and photography. Some bear hunting by military parties occurs annually from Cape Sarichef. Hiking is limited to beach and upland areas and by those individuals of a hardy nature.

Fishing opportunities on the southwestern end of Unimak are severely limited, with streams containing Dolly Varden and salmon within hiking

access only.

Weather limits outdoor activity. In general, most of the people assigned to these western sites as temporary residents are not inclined towards outdoor activities. Recreational use can be delineated to within one-half to one mile on each side of the road system and to a three-mile radius of each station. The designation of most of Unimak as a wilderness area should not alter the present or future recreational use of this area.

#### MINERALS

There are no known mineral deposits on the island. The U. S. Geological Survey has classified the island as "prospectively valuable for geothermal resources." This refers to the existence of hot springs which are few in number and occur in the Urilia Bay and Lazaref River Areas.

Seismic exploration for oil has occurred offshore and surface exploration onshore, but the potential for oil is unknown due to the secretiveness of the oil companies' operations. As of this date there have been no applications for permits to drill. The USGS does not consider this area as having much oil potential, and has classified it as a volcanic province, not within any of the possible petroleum provinces of Alaska. A request for a written mineral and geothermal appraisal was made September 15, 1971.

The adjacent Izembek National Wildlife Range on the Alaska Peninsula has in part been classified as prospectively valuable for oil and gas. Sedimentary rocks of Jurassic age are exposed at two localities adjacent

to the Range. The Naknek Formation of Upper Jurassic age crops out in the Black Hills, some 17 miles northeast of the eastern boundary of the Izembek National Wildlife Range; other exposures occur in the sea cliffs northwest of the Black Hills. These are the westernmost exposures of the formation on the Alaska Peninsula. The rocks consist of less than 100 feet of dense, gray-green claystone with some siltstone and fine sandstone. In the Black Hills some 1,000 feet of coarse, tan feldspathic sandstone and siltstone are present. The rock types are similar to lithologies of the Naknek Formation occurring throughout the Alaska Peninsula. The maximum thickness of the Naknek marine clastics may approximate 10,000 feet; geologic evidence indicates that essentially identical marine units were deposited in the Matanuska geosyncline from Nelchina in the Copper River Basin, to the Black Hills. It is likely that these rocks may extend southwestward under the alluvium. Nearly all of the known indications of petroleum in the Cook Inlet Mesozoic province are associated with the Middle and Upper Jurassic sequence of rocks. Shows of oil and gas from the Naknek Formation are known in wells and in seeps on the outcrops, and the formation is therefore considered to be prospectively valuable for oil and gas. Its presence under the Izembek National Wildlife Range is inferred. No evidence has been found to indicate the possibility of this formation's underlying Unimak Island but the possibility does exist.

Other island use by oil companies has been in locating radio navigational aids (by helicopter) at various points to assist in their offshore exploration.



## MANAGEMENT

Refuge management objectives for Unimak Island are to preserve the wilderness-wildlife environment as it presently exists. No development is contemplated because any facility construction would destroy that environment which management is attempting to preserve. Shelter requirements have in the past been satisfactorily met with tents, fishing boats or existing cabins.

Biological surveys will be accomplished by foot, aircraft and/or boat. No habitat improvement is planned. Management of existing wildlife populations will be through surveys, monitoring habitat changes, and subsequent manipulation of hunting regulations.

The low level of recreational activity is not expected to significantly increase. Recreational development is not contemplated and most recreation will continue to be in the form of primitive wilderness travel. Present users indicate that they wish no more than what the area now offers in the way of shelters, trails, etc. This is not expected to change. Aircraft will continue to be permitted to land on the island. The existing restrictions placed on aircraft access by big game hunters to landing areas at False Pass, Cape Sarichef, and on lakes would be continued.

Executive Order Number 1733, dated March 3, 1913, and signed by President William H. Taft, in establishing the Aleutian Islands Refuge, stated, "The establishment of this reservation shall not interfere with the use of the

islands for lighthouse, military, or naval purposes..." The use of the island in national emergencies is unquestioned, but during peacetime, any use by the military establishment is generally incompatible with management objectives and definitely not compatible with wilderness as defined by the Wilderness Act. It is recommended that Executive Order Number 1733 be modified to exclude the statement "The establishment of this reservation shall not interfere with the use of the islands for lighthouse, military, or naval purposes..."

#### DEVELOPMENT

Refuge management objectives are to preserve the wilderness-wildlife environment. No development by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife is planned for the proposed wilderness area.

Livelihood of the island's residents by use of existing natural resources on the island is not dependent upon increased access or other development. No expansion of the facilities at False Pass, Cape Sarichef, and Scotch Cap is anticipated. Reinhabitation of Ikatan Village is not expected.

Old trapping and hunting cabins still exist on the island's periphery and in Urilia Bay. Most are in a deteriorated condition and not suitable for human use, so nearly all overnight recreational users utilize tents or fishing boats for shelter. It is not anticipated in the foreseeable future that general recreational pressure will necessitate the building of shelters.

#### SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS

The only industry on the island is the salmon cannery at False Pass, owned and operated by Peter Pan Seafoods, Inc. False Pass began as a cannery in 1919. By 1950, only ten to twelve people wintered there. Approximately 50-60 people wintered there in 1969 with 22 of these schoolage children. Census figures record 41 residents in 1960 and 62 in 1970. The summer work force has been stable in the 150-200 range. The cannery operates from June to September and is closed the remainder of the year. During the winter months no activity is in evidence except caretaker chores. Products sold are canned salmon, salmon roe (Japanese market), and salted salmon (cohos). The wholesale value of the 1969 pack of approximately six million pounds of salmon was over \$5 million. Salmon roe brought an additional \$183,000. Many of these salmon were produced in Unimak streams. To sustain this fishery requires maintaining the spawning grounds in their present condition. Wilderness designation will prevent exploitation of spawning gravels.

No increase in either the size or population of False Pass is expected, due to the instability (extreme levels of harvest) of the salmon resource. The village is nestled at the foot of a valley surrounded by precipitous mountains and the sea. Access to the remainder of the island has to be by foot, boat or plane. It would not be feasible to develop access for wheeled or tracked vehicles.

Wilderness classification should not affect the people at False Pass adversely. It should give additional protection to the salmon spawning streams upon which their livelihood depends and preserve the means by which they can continue their historical hunting, fishing and trapping rights for subsistence purposes. Other activities such as hunting, fishing, trapping and beachcombing will not be affected.

The village of Ikatan is abandoned and no return is expected due to the greater centralization of fish-processing units. Therefore, wilderness designation of surrounding lands will not affect this village.

The following list and map indicate past and present known campsites and/or cabins used by Natives for trapping, hunting, and fishing. There are 27 known sites. Many of these old cabins have been washed away, many deteriorated to the point of being unusable. Ten cabins are still usable, with only one currently in use. Pending Native claims legislation will determine Native use on Unimak and subsequent use and ownership of these sites.

Establishment of the military sites at Scotch Cap and Cape Sarichef has been completed. Roads and trails required for maintenance of water-storage facilities and travel between Scotch Cap and Cape Sarichef have been developed. The areas affected by these roads and trails are not suitable for consideration as wilderness. Designation of the remainder of the island as wilderness would not affect the mission of these establishments, nor the recreational needs of the personnel stationed there.

The only foreseeable conflict of wilderness designation would be the possible discovery of minerals. No known minerals have been found, but the likelihood for oil is possible, as discussed under the Mineral section.

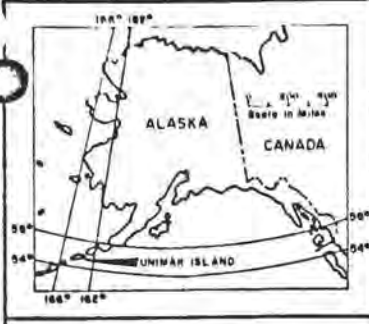
One of the most important assets of the Aleutian Islands is that they provide a marine environment (continental shelf, estuaries) that is the basis for a biologically productive area. Its presence, in its current relatively uncontaminated condition, sustains the fishery resource that ultimately feeds people. How many people? A great many, considering that the resource is utilized by the United States, Canada, Japan, Russia, and now South Korea. To maintain this marine environment for maximum sustainable yield requires that it remain in as productive a condition as possible. Productivity here is optimum with a natural environment. This means that man's despoiling activities must necessarily be limited if we are to retain or maintain the high productivity of this and similar areas of the world.

Man's polluting of the environment is primarily from his land-based activities. To limit his activities on land is difficult at best. In the North Pacific and Bering Sea areas, we can still make this limitation because of the relative lack of developments by man and the dense populations found elsewhere. To maintain a large area such as the North Pacific and Bering Sea in a pristine condition may be vital to man's continued existence.

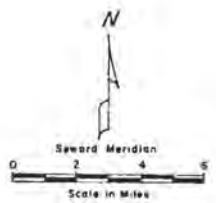
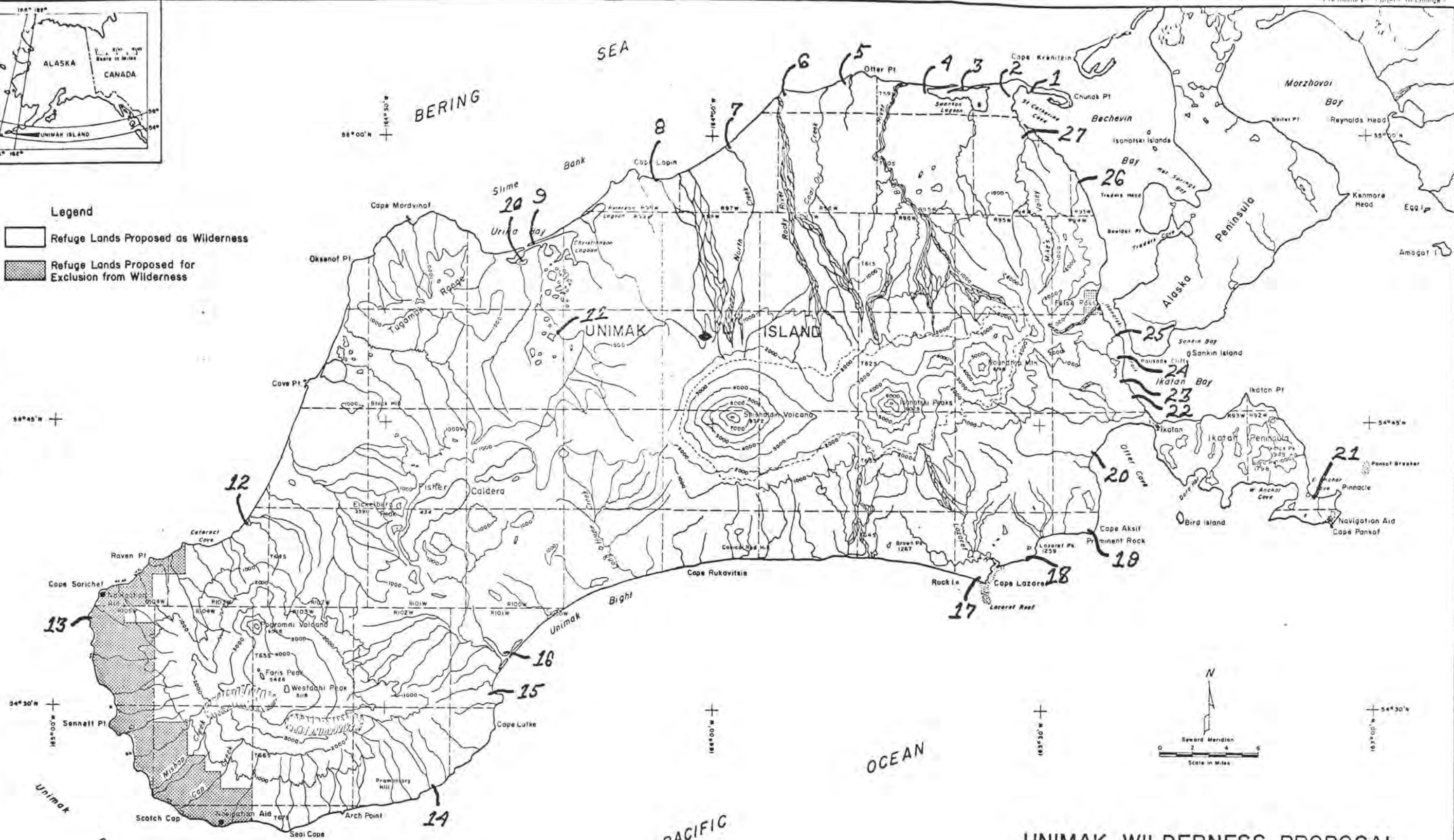
Maintaining these marine environments may require limitation of man's

activities on the surrounding lands to those with minor effects on the seas. The placing of Unimak and similar areas into wilderness status is in keeping with the proper conservation of larger adjacent areas. Although Unimak is a small part of the overall picture, it is vital and important.

We must view this in the broad concept of maintaining our present environment so that man can continue to live satisfactorily, both materially and spiritually.



- Legend**
- Refuge Lands Proposed as Wilderness
  - Refuge Lands Proposed for Exclusion from Wilderness



**UNIMAK WILDERNESS PROPOSAL**  
Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge  
Alaska  
*NATIVE USE - SITES*

## UNIMAK WILDERNESS PROPOSAL - NATIVE USE

Camp/ Cabin	User-Owner	Legal Description	Location	Condition	Use Period	Type of Use
1	John Gardner(deceased) Son Jr. at Sand Point	W 1/2 Sec. 26 T 59 S,R 94 W	Midway on Chunak Pt.	No longer exists	1915-late 1930's	Trapping, hunting
2	Unknown	Section 29 T 59 S, R 94 W	Head of St. Catherine Cove	No longer exists	?	Presumed trapping, hunting
3	Henry Peterson Bremerton, Wash.	W 1/2 Sec. 25 T 59 S,R 95 W	Swanson La- goon,midway	No longer exists	1915 or 1918 to late 1930's	Trapping, hunting
4	"	E 1/4 Sec. 28 T 59 S,R 95 W	W.end Swanson Lagoon	Fair - not used	"	Trapping, hunting
5	Peter Yatchmeneff False Pass	NW 1/4 Sec.26 T 59 S,R 96 W	Otter Point	Washed away, Bering Sea	Early 1920's- late 1930's	Trapping, hunting
6	George Peterson(dec.) Son Edward,Bristol Bay	NW 1/4 Sec.31 T 59 S,R 96 W	Rocky River	Washed away, Bering Sea	Early 1920's- late 1930's	Trapping, hunting
7	"	NW 1/4 Sec.15 T 60 S,R 97 W	North Creek	Poor - not used	Early 1920's- late 1930's	Trapping, hunting
8	"	NE 1/4 Sec.26 T 60 S,R 98 W	East of Cape Lapin	Unusable	Early 1920's- late 1930's	Trapping, hunting
9	Nick Kristensen (deceased)	Section 11 T 61 S,R 100 W	Christianson Lagoon	Washed away, Bering Sea	About 1910 to late 1930's	Trapping, hunting
10	"	SW 1/4 Sec.15 T 61S,R 100 W	"	Washed away, Bering Sea	"	Trapping, hunting
11	"	N 1/2 Sec.12 T 62 S,R 100 W	NW of Whale- back Mountain	Good-used by misc. hunters, no Native use	"	Trapping, hunting



## UNIMAK WILDERNESS PROPOSAL - NATIVE USE (continued)

Camp/ Cabin	User-Owner	Legal Description	Location	Condition	Use Period	Type of Use
12	Axel Samuelson (dec.) Son Axel, King Cove	SE 1/4 Sec. 2 T 64 S,R 103 W	Dublin Bay	Poor -not used	Late 1910's- late 1930's	Trapping, hunting
13	William Rosenberg (deceased)	N 1/4 Sec. 5 T 65 S,R 104 W	Cape Sarichef	No longer exists	Between 1910 and 1920	Trapping, hunting
14	Unknown	E 1/4 Sec.26 T 66 S,R 102 W	NE of Maru Benchmark	No longer exists	Unknown	Presumed trapping, hunting
15	Unknown	S 1/4 Sec.28 T 65 S,R 101 W	North of Cape Lutke	Washed away, tidal wave, 4/1/46	Unknown	Presumed trapping, hunting
16	Fred Sunquist (dec.)	N 1/2 Sec.15 T 65 S,R 101 W	SW end of Unimak Bight	Unusable	Early 1920's- early 1940's	Trapping, hunting
17	George Kochuten False Pass	Section 29 T 64 S,R 95 W	Cape Lazaref	Washed away, tidal wave, 4/1/46	"	Trapping, hunting
18	"	Section 14 T 64 S,R 95 W	Lazaref Peak	Washed away, tidal wave, 4/1/46	Late 1910's- early 1940's	Trapping, hunting
19	"	Section 9 T 64 S,R 94 W	Prominent Rock	Washed away, tidal wave, 4/1/46	"	Trapping, hunting
20	"	Section 16 T 63 S,R 94 W	SW corner, Otter Cove	Washed away, tidal wave, 4/1/46	"	Trapping, hunting
21	John Shelikoff (deceased)	NE 1/4 Sec.34 T 63S,R 92 W	East Anchor Cove	No cabin, camp site only	1900's- 1930's	Trapping

## UNIMAK WILDERNESS PROPOSAL - NATIVE USE (continued)

Camp/ Cabin	User-Owner	Legal Description	Location	Condition	Use Period	Type of Use
22	Fred Johnson, Anchorage sold to Geo. Kochuten	NE 1/4 Sec.26 T 62 S,R 94 W	North of Big River-Ikatan Bay	Poor -not used	Late 1910's- mid-1950's	Trapping, hunting, and fishing
23	"	SW 1/4 Sec.23 T 62 S,R 94 W	"	Poor -not used	"	Trapping, hunt- ing, & fishing
24	Odd Steffenson (dec.) Wife in Unalaska	E 1/2 Sec. 15 T 62 S,R 94 W	South of Whirl Point	Poor - not used	1920's - 1950's	Trapping, hunt- ing, & fishing
25	"	NE 1/4 Sec. 10 T 62 S,R 94 W	Whirl Point	Good - not used	1920's - Sept. 1966	Trapping, hunt- ing, & fishing
26	Arthur R. Newman (dec.) Son in False Pass	SE 1/4 Sec.19 T 60 S,R 93 W	Rocky Point	Poor - not used	Late 1910's- early 1940's	Trapping, hunting & fishing
27	Ernest Newman (dec.) Bro. in False Pass	NW 1/4 Sec. 10 T 60S,R 94 W	S.corner,St.. Catherine Cove	Poor - not used	"	Trapping, hunt- ing, & fishing

All but Number 12 are within the proposed Wilderness boundaries.

Number 11 has been reconditioned by parties unknown and has been utilized in the immediate past by outside hunters. The local people do not know who repaired the cabin. There has been no recent Native use. Latest Native use was during the mid-1950's by numerous locals.

## SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

1. Unimak Island, of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, consists of approximately one million acres of diversified habitat that varies from open sandy beaches; rough, rock-strewn shorelines; wide expanses of heath, cinder bars and lava flows; to precipitous glacial mountain peaks containing the active Shishaldin Volcano.
2. The lowlands of the island contain myriad wildlife dominated by the brown bear, barren-ground caribou, wolf, and four species of salmon. The offshore waters are host to large numbers of marine mammals as well as harvestable populations of king crab, halibut and bottom fishes.
3. The island has remained a wilderness except for human developments at False Pass, <sup>2</sup>Ikatan, <sup>3</sup>Scotch Cap, and <sup>4</sup>Cape Sarichef. Expansion of these areas is not anticipated. The management objective is to maintain the present wilderness environment.
4. Unimak Island (except the southwest corner, False Pass area, and Cape Pankof), Bird Island and all islets, rocks, and reefs above mean high tide line (Solicitor's memo of February 22, 1971) are suitable for consideration as wilderness. The remainder does not qualify because of roads and installations currently in use. It is recommended that all lands and waters falling within the following boundaries are not suitable for consideration as wilderness:

average

Cape Sarichef and Scotch Cap: Beginning at the southeast corner of Section 1 in T 67 S, R 104 W, north two miles to the southeast corner of Section 25, T 66 S, R 104 W; thence west two miles to the southeast corner of Section 27; thence north one mile to the northeast corner of Section 27; thence west one mile to the northwest corner of Section 27; thence north one mile to the northeast corner of Section 21; thence west one mile to the northwest corner of Section 21; thence north two miles to the northwest corner of Section 8; thence west two miles to the northwest corner of Section 7; thence north six miles to the northeast corner of Section 12, T 65 S, R 105 W; thence west two miles to the southeast corner of Section 3; thence north one mile to the northeast corner of Section 3; thence east one mile to the southeast corner of Section 35, T 64 S, R 105 W; thence north two miles to the southwest corner of Section 24; thence east two miles to the southeast corner of Section 19, T 64 S, R 104 W; thence north approximately two miles to the northeast corner of Section 18 and Tundra Vee benchmark; thence following the coastline at mean high tide line southwest bisecting Section 18; thence in T 64 S, R 105 W, moving southwest bisecting Sections 24, 23, 26, 27, 28, 32; thence in T 65 S, R 105 W moving south along the coast bisecting Sections 4, 5, 9, 16, 21, 28, 34; thence T 66 S, R 105 W moving south and southeast along the coast bisecting Sections 3, 10, 11, 14, 23, 24, 25, 36; thence in T 66 S, R 104 W southeast and east along the coast bisecting Sections 31 and 32; thence in T 67 S, R 104 W moving southeast and east along the coast bisecting Sections 5, 4, 3, 10, 11 to the beginning point of the southeast corner of Section 1. Continuance of the military functions is expected in this area.

This is the largest exclusion recommended and consists of approximately 32,200 acres of land and water.

The following uses in the aforementioned area would conflict with wilderness status:

1. Withdrawal of areas around Cape Sarichef and Scotch Cap by Executive Orders dated January 4, 1901, August 27, 1901, and January 9, 1902, for lighthouse purposes (approximately 10,140 acres).
2. Cooperative agreement between the U. S. Air Force and the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife dated April 25, 1959, for use of land at Cape Sarichef for a DEW Line site and runway.
3. A road approximately five miles long from Cape Sarichef to First River near Raven benchmark. Secondary roads branch from this, causing an even larger area unsuitable for wilderness.
4. Two parallel roads from Cape Sarichef to Scotch Cap for servicing the Scotch Cap lighthouse. One road runs along the highlands at an approximate elevation of 200-300 feet and is used only during snow-free months. The other road is alongside and on the beach. This road is travelled mostly during the winter. Both roads have secondary branches due to recreational exploration by Coast Guard and Air Force personnel. This renders the area unsuitable for wilderness.

2) False Pass: Beginning at Near benchmark on the beachline of Isanotski Strait in the southwest corner, SW 1/4, SW 1/4, Section 34, T 61 S, R 94 W, west about 1 1/8 mile to the southwest corner of Section 33; thence one

and one-half miles north to midway on the western boundary of Section 28; thence east bisecting Section 28 to the mean high tide line of Isanotski Strait; thence following the coastline south bisecting Sections 28, 33 and 34 to the beginning point of Near benchmark southwest corner, SW 1/4, SW 1/4, Section 34, T 61 S, R 94 W.

This proposed exclusion totals approximately 745 acres of land and water within the Refuge. Private tracts total approximately 32 acres.

The following uses in this proposed exclusion would conflict with wilderness status:

1. Private tracts owned by Peter Pan Fisheries, Inc. as covered by U. S. Surveys 1588, 1589, 1590 (originally withdrawn by Executive Order 4251). These tracts contain the False Pass townsite.
2. Private tract of land known as the Vanner Tract covered by AA-5709.
3. Existence of a gravel airstrip approximately 100 feet wide and 4,200 feet long. This landing strip is directly west of the village of False Pass and was built and owned by the State of Alaska.
4. A road to the False Pass cemetery which is located near the north end of the airstrip.

3) Ikatan: U. S. Survey 1574 is of approximately 10 acres in SE 1/4, SE 1/4, Section 6, T 63 S, R 93 W. This is the remains of an abandoned cannery. This is private land and it is recommended that this parcel of land be acquired and returned to Refuge status. At that time it should be evaluated as to suitability for inclusion into the National Wilderness Preservation System.

4 Cape Pankof: Recommended exclusion of that area covered by Executive Order 3406 dated February 13, 1921, in Sections 1, 2, and 11, T 63 S, R 92 W, containing approximately 100 acres as not considered suitable for wilderness. This land was reserved for lighthouse purposes and presently possesses a navigational light.

The exclusion for the Cape Sarichef-Scotch Cap area will permit continued access between the two stations necessary for completion of their mission and continuance of a small road system which provides a recreational outlet for the personnel in this area.

The total area recommended for exclusion contains approximately 33,218 acres. Total private land is approximately 42 acres. It is recommended that the remainder of Unimak Island, comprising approximately 965,000 acres is suitable for consideration as a unit of the National Wilderness System. Outstanding scenic, wildlife, historical and scientific values exist in this proposed area.

#### ALTERNATIVE PROPOSALS

Alternative 1. Make no wilderness proposal. Unimak has been managed as defacto wilderness since establishment of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge in 1913, and there are no management or development plans that would change this in the short term. Under existing National Wildlife Refuge System policy there is the possibility the wilderness resource could be adversely affected in the long range. Activities such as road building, use of motorized vehicles, agriculture, mass recreation,

construction of permanent structures, commercial and industrial development and extraction of renewable and non-renewable resources are sometimes permitted on National Wildlife Refuges provided they do not conflict with the primary purpose for which a refuge is established. These uses are incompatible with wilderness, however, because they to some degree alter natural communities, distract from scenic and aesthetic values, and disturb wildlife. Economically, they would require a greater expenditure of funds than if natural forces were to continue to interact unimpeded by man and his technology. About \$20,000 is currently spent to administer Unimak. This would not be expected to change substantially with or without wilderness designation.

Alternative 2. Reduce the acreage proposed by withholding lands along the Bering Sea coastal plain from St. Catherine Cove to Urilia Bay. These lands with their associated lagoons, tideflats, streams, marshes and lakes constitute the island's most productive wildlife area and the one most likely to be affected by future refuge management plans. Withdrawal of an additional 276,000 acres here would reduce the original proposal to approximately 689,000 acres

Generally the more complete and larger the biotic unit, the greater the opportunity to achieve adequate protection for unique ecological features. Since there is an inverse relationship between size of wilderness area and impact of human activities outside its boundaries, reduction by withholding these coastal plain lands from the proposed wilderness would eventually complicate both refuge and wilderness management on the island.



Alternative 3. Reduce the wilderness proposal to about 872,840 acres by withholding 92,160 additional acres (four townships) adjacent to False Pass along Isanotski Strait and including the Ikatan Peninsula.

This could be to the advantage of local residents but would make management and protection of the wilderness area more difficult should incompatible developments someday occur on these excluded lands. As in alternative number 2, this action would administratively subdivide ecologically inseparable biotic communities which appear to qualify as wilderness under terms of the Wilderness Act.

Alternative 4. Reclassify the entire island as wilderness. This would be the ultimate in providing maximum protection to unique ecological features and wilderness qualities, but would require purchase of the 42 acres of private land, displacement of permanent residents, abandonment of roads, and removal of all structures including the salmon cannery at False Pass and the navigation-communication facilities at Scotch Cap and Cape Sarichef. Obviously this would prove unpopular with local residents, cause personal hardships and require the expenditure of several million dollars. Structures permitted to remain would have to blend with the naturalness of the area or be of great historic value.

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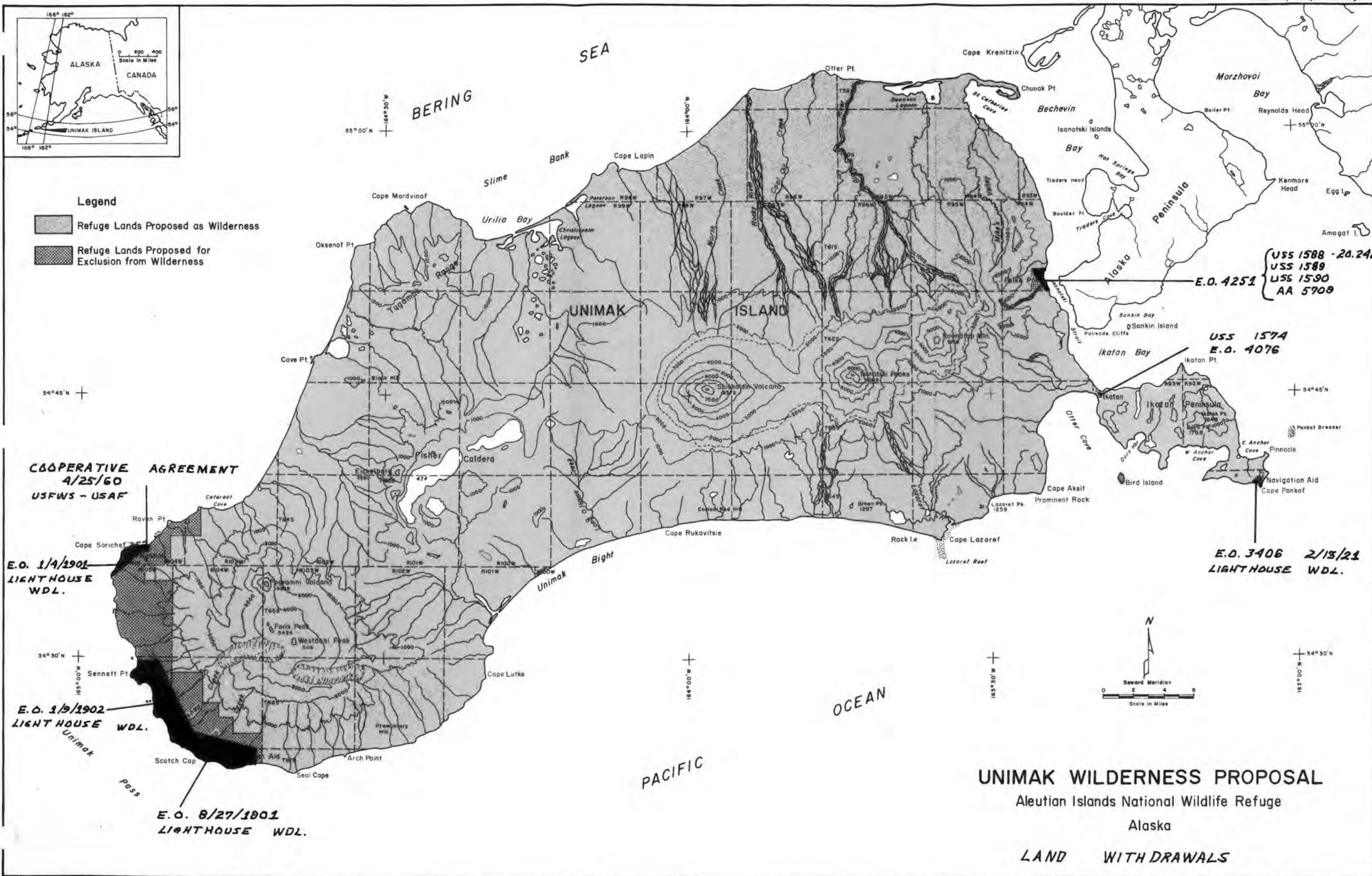
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ESTABLISHING

ORDERS

AND

AGREEMENTS



**Legend**

- Refuge Lands Proposed as Wilderness
- Refuge Lands Proposed for Exclusion from Wilderness

**COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT**  
4/25/60  
USFWS - USAF

E.O. 1/4/1901  
LIGHTHOUSE  
WDL.

E.O. 1/9/1902  
LIGHTHOUSE  
WDL.

E.O. 8/27/1901  
LIGHTHOUSE  
WDL.

USS 1588 - 20.244.  
USS 1589  
USS 1590  
AA 5708  
E.O. 4251

USS 1574  
E.O. 4076

E.O. 3406 2/13/21  
LIGHTHOUSE WDL.

**UNIMAK WILDERNESS PROPOSAL**  
Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge  
Alaska  
**LAND WITH DRAWALS**

EXECUTIVE MANSION.

January 4, 1901.

It is hereby ordered that the hereinafter described tracts of land, or sites, in the District of Alaska, be, and they are hereby, reserved and set apart for light-house purposes, subject to any legal existing rights to any land in the limits of the reservations hereby established, to wit:

Scotch Cap. Beginning at a point at low water mark, said point being three miles easterly of point at low water mark opposite Scotch Cap Pinnacle, thence due north one mile, thence north 71° east, true, 4 miles, thence south 38°, true, to low water mark, thence following the windings of the low water mark to place of beginning.

Cape Saritchey. Beginning at a point on the low water line, said point being southerly along the beach 1 1/2 miles from a point on the beach opposite large detached pinnacle rock, thence east, N.E. true, 3 miles, thence N.N.W., true, to low water mark, thence following the windings of low water mark to place of beginning.

Ugamok Island,

Rootok Island,

Egg Island,

Unalga Island, and the Sea Gull Rocks adjacent.

Revised by P.L. 02476 9-5-1961

Revised by P.L. 01227, 9-11-55



*Revised by PLO 2476  
9-5-1961*

Pinnacle, entrance to Summer Bay. Beginning at a point at low water mark on Illiuliuk Bay distant 1/4 mile from point at low water mark opposite center of Pinnacle Rock, thence due south 3/4 mile, thence due east 3/4 mile, thence due north to low water mark Summer Bay, thence following the winding of low water mark to place of beginning. *unobscured Island*

*Revised by PLO 2770 of 9-6-62 ~~revised by PLO 2770 of 9-6-62~~ Dec 7-012/86*  
Cape Edgecombe. Beginning at a point at low water mark, said point being at extreme S.E. point of what is known as Point of Shoals, thence N.45° W., 2 miles, thence due W. to low water mark, thence following winding of low water mark to place of beginning. *that has preferred right to select for lease*  
*KRUZOF Island Sika A-5 + A-6 guards*

Fairway Island, Peril Strait.

Sentinel Island, Lynn Canal.

✓ Ralston Island. *Revised by PLO 2267 of 2-13-61*

Battery Point. Beginning at point at low water mark, said point being 2 1/4 miles S.E. from junction of wharf at Haynes Mission with shore, thence due south 1 1/2 miles, thence due east to low water mark, thence following the winding of low water mark to place of beginning. *unobscured Island*

→ Point Sherman. Beginning at a point at low water mark, said point being 1/2 mile S.W. from Seward City wharf, thence due east 1/2 mile, thence due south to low water mark, thence following the winding of low water mark to the place of beginning.

*Revised by PLO 2476*

*✓ Alexander Archipelago*  
Eldred Rock. Situate at the head of Lynn Canal, and marking the dividing point between Chilcat and Chilcoot Inlets.

Point Retreat. All that portion of Point Retreat, Mansfield Peninsula, lying north of the parallel of latitude  $58^{\circ} 22' 1/2''$  north. *Admiralty Islands*

Midway Islands, Stephens Passage.

S.E. Five Fingers.

*✓*Yasha Island, near Junction of Frederick Sound and Chatham Strait. *Revoked by PLO #2267 of 2-13-61*

Lincoln Rock, and Abraham Island, distant about 3-4 mile from Lincoln Rock.

Guard Island.

Mary Island. Beginning at a point at low water mark, said point being southward 500 feet from a cross cut on the side of a large rock on second point below Point Winslow, Mary Island, thence due west  $3/4$  mile, statute, thence due north to low water mark, thence following the winding of low water to place of beginning.

Tree Point. Beginning at a point at low water mark, said point being southerly  $1/2$  mile from extreme westerly point of low water mark on Tree Point, on Alaskan Mainland, thence due east, true,  $3/4$  mile, thence due north 1 mile, thence due west to low water mark, thence following the winding of low water mark to place of beginning.

William McKinley.

10  
EXECUTIVE LAND OFFICE  
SITKA, ALASKA.  
RECEIVED AND FILED,  
JUL 2 1901  
John W. Dudley, Register.

17

27th 1901.

It is hereby ordered that the Executive order of January 1, 1901, reserving for light-house purposes, among other tracts of land, or sites, in the District of Alaska, a tract described as follows: "Scotch Cap. Beginning at a point at low water mark, said point being three miles easterly of point at low water mark opposite Scotch Cap Pinnacle, thence due north one mile, thence north 71° east, true, four miles, thence south 33° , true, to low water mark; thence following the windings of the low water mark to place of beginning," be, and the same is, hereby, canceled so far as it relates to the above described tract, and it is hereby ordered that in lieu thereof a tract described as follows; Scotch Cap. Beginning at a point at low water mark, on Unimak Island, said point being three miles easterly of a point at low water mark opposite Scotch Cap Pinnacle; thence due north one mile; thence north 71° west, true, four miles; thence south 33° west, true, to low water mark; thence following the windings of low water mark to place of beginning, be, and it is hereby, reserved and set apart for light-house purposes, subject to any legal existing rights thereto.

1. Light House Re. *(Signature)*

William McKinley.

Approved by Ex. 5097- 11/21/02  
Ex. 5097 11/14/37

17

61 S 10420 S2

8-22-01

## WHITE HOUSE.

20

January 9, 1902.

It is hereby ordered that the hereinafter described tracts of land, or sites, in the District of Alaska, be, and they are hereby, reserved and set apart for light-house purposes, subject to any legal existing rights to any land in the limits of the reservations hereby established, to wit:

Scotch Cap, West. Beginning at a point at the low water mark of Unimak Island, said point being at the intersection of low water mark with the northwestern boundary of the reservation set apart by Executive order of August 27, 1901, for light-house purposes at Scotch Cap; thence north  $38^{\circ}$  east, true, along the northwestern boundary 7,760 feet more or less to the northwest corner of said reservation; thence north  $29^{\circ} 30'$  west, true, 26,880 feet more or less to a point; thence west, true, 5,160 feet more or less to low water mark; thence southerly, following the windings of low water mark, to the point of beginning.

Cape Kalekhta. Priest Rock and all rocks adjacent thereto, and within one-half mile thereof, uncovered at low tide and detached from the main shore at Cape Kalekhta.

(signed) THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

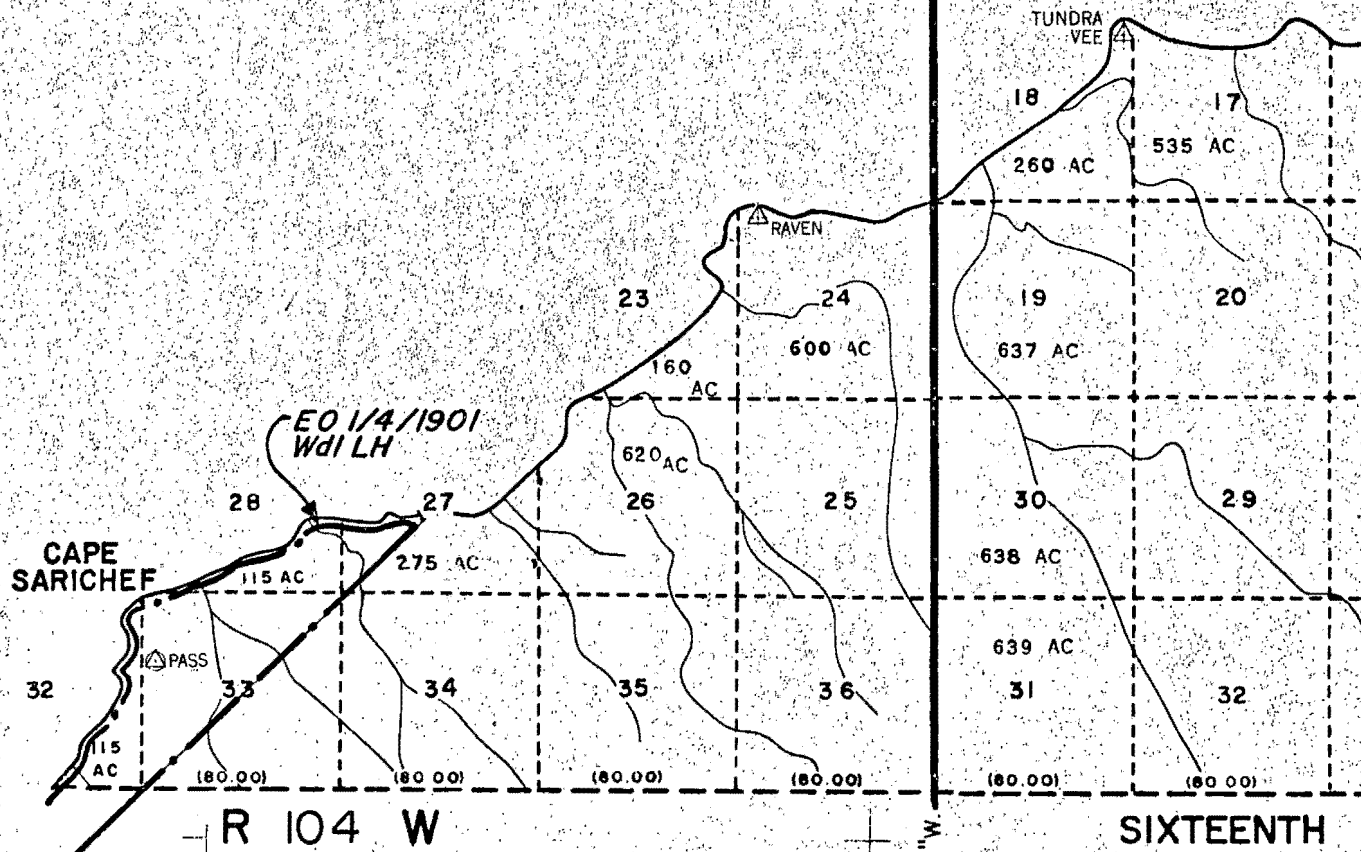
C. A.

1. Light House Res.  
2. Unimak I.

aff'd by E.O. 50713 4/20/27.  
No 7537 1/13/27. permit  
Rear Admiral

20

1/9/02

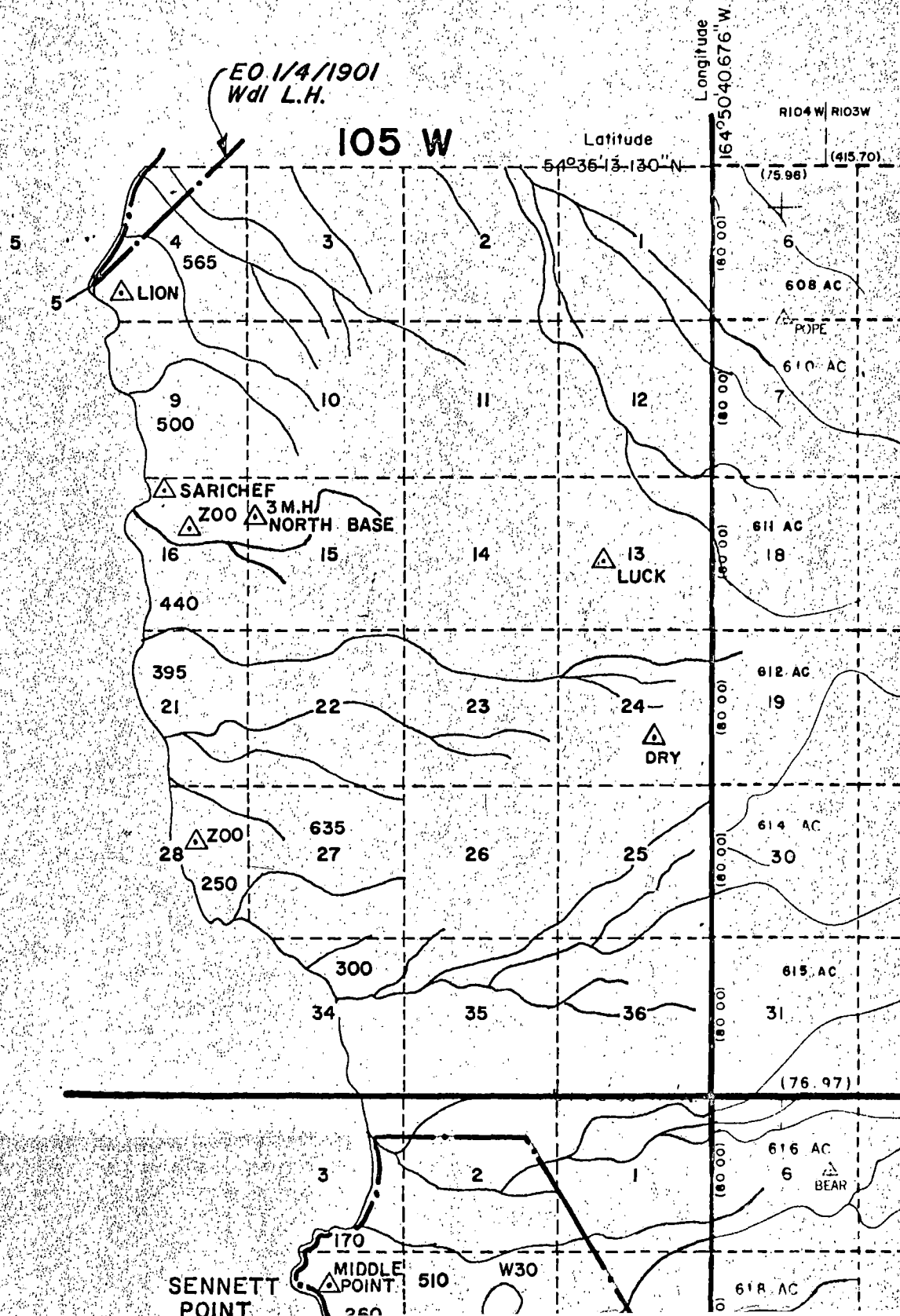


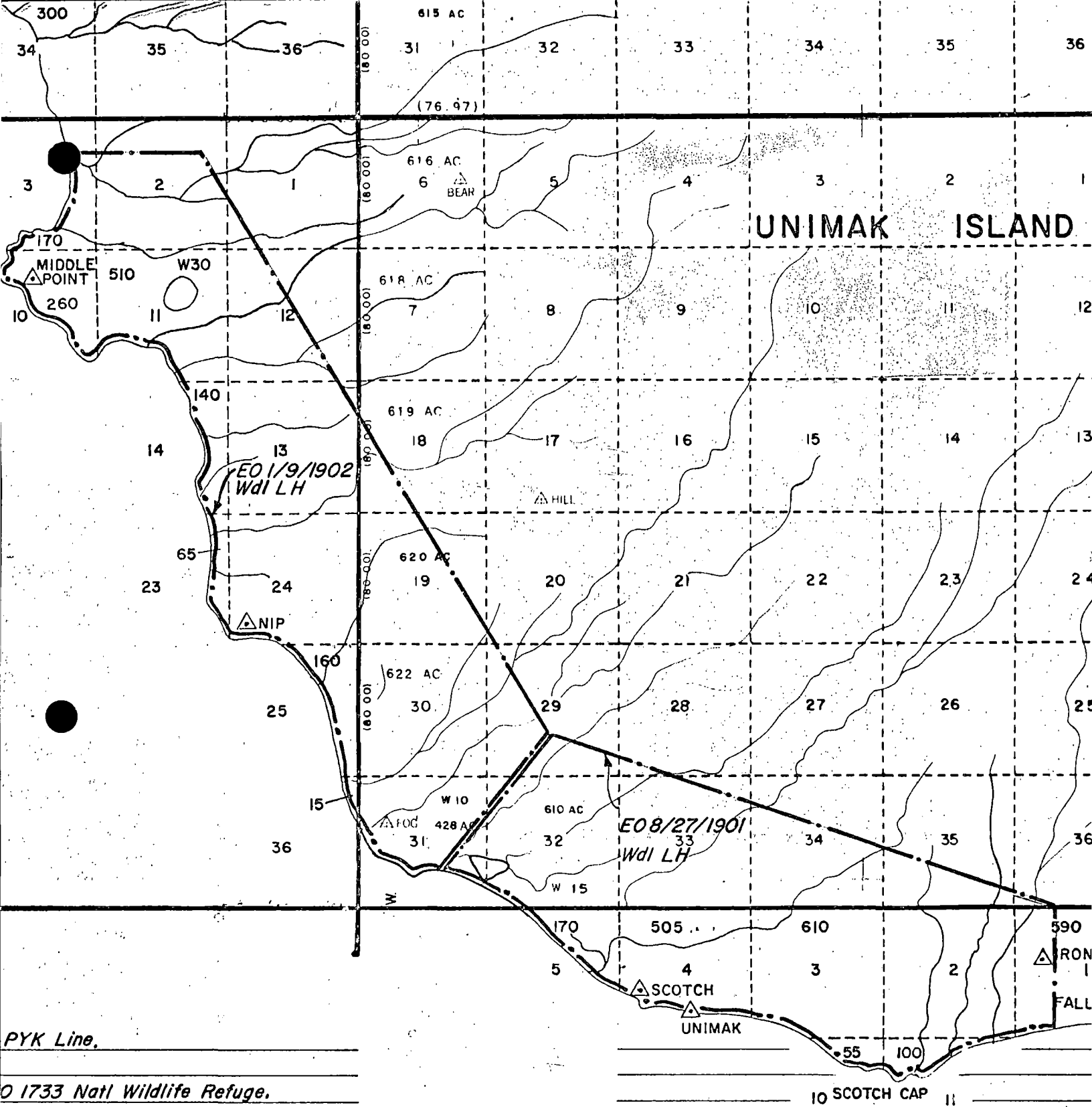
All Tps West of PYK Line.

All Tps within EO 1733 National Wildlife Refuge.

# UNSURVEYED TOWNSHIP

PROTRACTION DIAGRAM No. S28-4





PYK Line.

0 1733 Natl Wildlife Refuge.

10 SCOTCH CAP 11

166

3/3/13

## Executive Order

---

It is hereby ordered that all islands of the Aleutian chain, Alaska, including Unimak and Sannak Islands on the east, and extending to and including Attu Island on the west; be and the same are hereby reserved and set apart as a preserve and breeding ground for native birds, for the propagation of reindeer and fur bearing animals, and for the encouragement and development of the fisheries. Jurisdiction over the wild birds and game and the propagation of reindeer and fur bearing animals is hereby placed with the Department of Agriculture, and jurisdiction over the fisheries, seals, sea otter, cetaceans and other aquatic species, is placed with the Department of Commerce and Labor.

It is unlawful for any person to kill any otter, mink, marten, sable or fur seal, or other fur bearing animal within the limits of Alaska Territory, except under such regulations as may be prescribed by the Secretary of Commerce and Labor; and it is unlawful for any person to kill any game animals or birds in Alaska or ship such animals or birds out of Alaska except under the provisions of law and under such regulations as may be prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture.

Within the limits of this reservation it is unlawful for any person to hunt, trap, capture, wilfully disturb, or kill any bird of any kind whatever, or take the eggs of any such bird, except under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture.

Warning is expressly given to all persons not to commit any of the acts herein enumerated and which are prohibited by law.

The establishment of this reservation shall not interfere with the use of the islands for lighthouse, military, or naval purposes, or with the extension of the work of the Bureau of Education on Unalaska and Atka Islands.

This reservation to be known as the Aleutian Islands Reservation.

WM H TAFT

THE WHITE HOUSE,

March 3rd, 1913.

[No. 1733.]



For Protection of Native Birds the Propagation of Reindeer and Fur Bearing  
Animals and the Development of Fisheries  
ALASKA

[illegible]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GENERAL LAND OFFICE  
Frederick C. Commissioner.

## Executive Order.

It is hereby ordered that the 168 parcels of land situated in Alaska, represented upon sheets numbered 1 to 122, inclusive, taken from U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey Charts and made a part of this order, described as follows, be, and the same are hereby reserved for lighthouse purposes, subject to any existing valid rights thereto, viz:

143. CAPE PANKOF, ALEUTIAN ISLANDS, UNIMAK ISLAND; SHOWN ON U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY CHART NO. 8841—SHEET NO. 101.

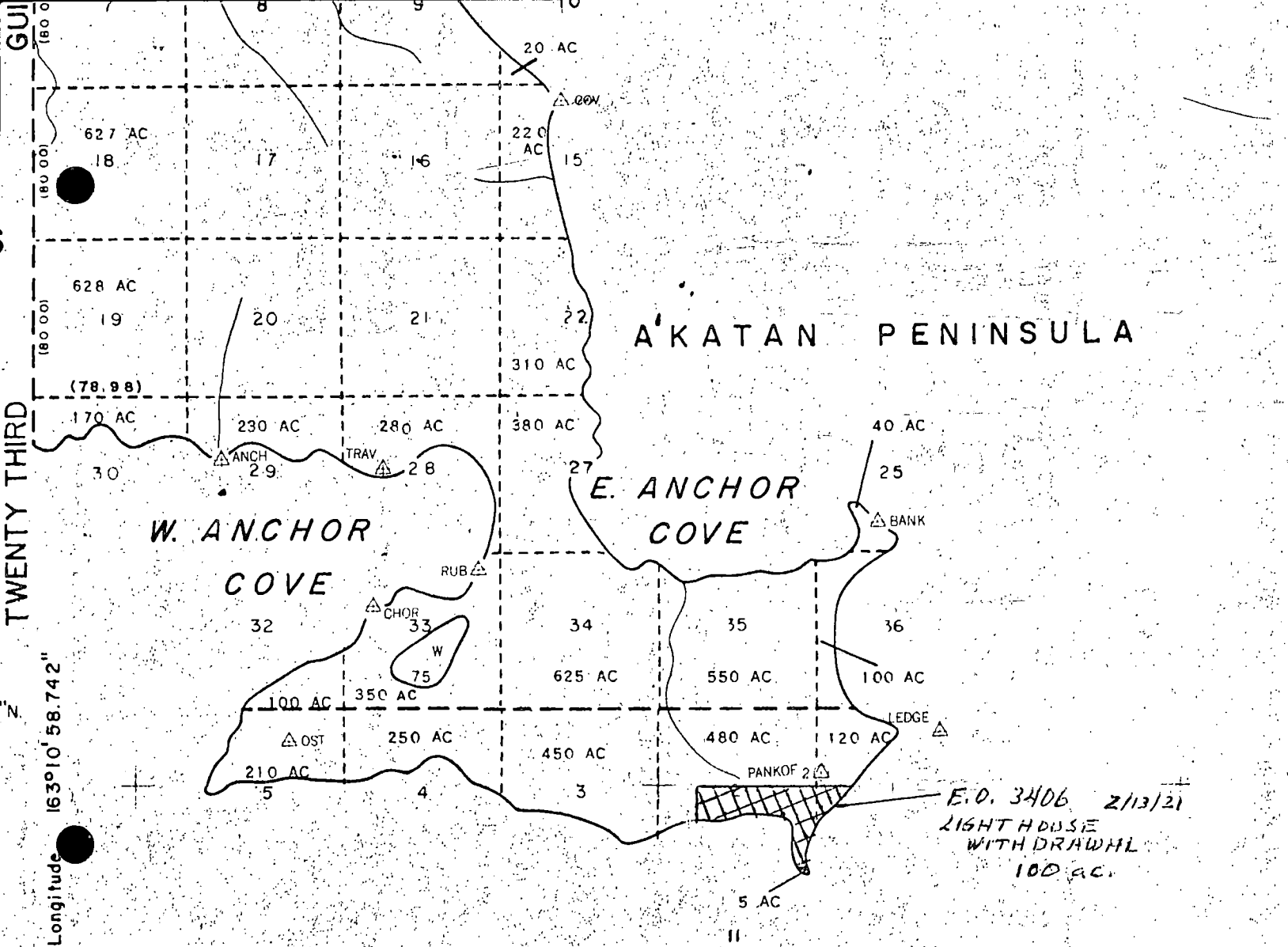
Beginning at a point on low water line 3040 feet northeasterly from the highwater mark at the southernmost extremity of Ikatan Peninsula; thence west true 4560 feet; thence south true 1000 feet; more or less, to an intersection with low water line; thence easterly and northeasterly, following the windings of the low water line to point of beginning; including all islets and rocks adjacent to above described area not covered at low water.

(Approx. Long. 163° 04' W. Lat. 54° 40' N.)

*Rec. number 101  
ref. to Alaska  
sheets*  
EO 3406  
2-13-21

1840+1863

100 A.  
✓



P

# Executive Order

## ALASKA

Executive order of March 3, 1913 (No. 1733), withdrawing all islands of the Aleutian chain, Alaska, for a preserve and breeding ground for native birds, for the propagation of reindeer and fur-bearing animals, and for the encouragement and development of fisheries, is hereby revoked in so far as it affects the tracts of land, on Unimak Island, lying within the following described boundaries, heretofore occupied for fish cannery purposes, which are hereby restored to entry under the applicable public land laws:

### Tract "A"

Beginning at Corner No. 1, located on the western shore of Isanotski Strait at mean high tide line, approximately in latitude 54° 51' N. and longitude 163° 22' 30" W., thence west 800 feet to Corner No. 2; thence north 1270 feet to mean high tide of Isanotski Strait to Corner No. 3; thence by meanders along line of mean high tide on said strait to Corner No. 1, the place of beginning, containing approximately 19 acres;

### Tract "B"

Beginning at Corner No. 1, a point on the eastern end of Unimak Island on the  $\frac{3}{4}$  line of Tract "A" 110 feet south of Corner No. 3 of said Tract "A", thence west 745 feet to Corner No. 2; thence north 800 feet to Corner No. 3; thence east 150 feet to mean high tide line of Isanotski Strait to Corner No. 4; thence by meanders along line of mean high tide of said strait to Corner No. 5, identical with Corner No. 3 of Tract "A"; thence south 110 feet on the  $\frac{3}{4}$  line of said Tract "A" to Corner No. 1, the place of beginning, containing approximately 8 acres;

### Tract "C"

Beginning at Corner No. 1, a point on Unimak Island near the west shore of Isanotski Strait, and 250 feet inland from Corner No. 3 of Tract "B", thence south 150 feet to Corner No. 2; thence west 150 feet to Corner No. 3; thence north 150 feet to Corner No. 4; thence east 150 feet to Corner No. 1, the place of beginning, containing approximately one-half of an acre.

CALVIN COOLIDGE

THE WHITE HOUSE,

June 10, 1925.

[No. 4251]

## FOURTH EXECUTIVE ORDER

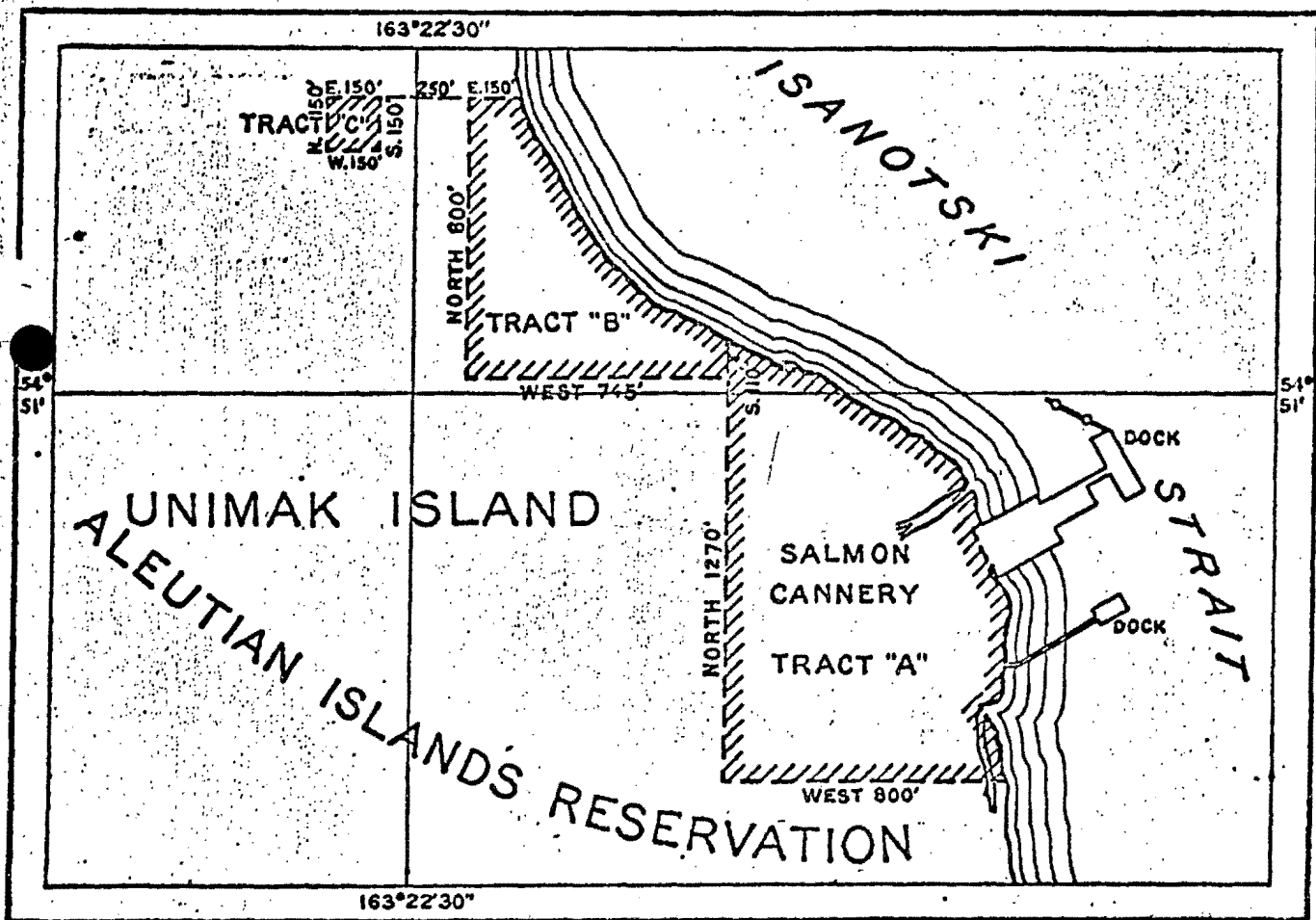
## ALEUTIAN ISLANDS RESERVATION

For the Protection of Native Birds, the Propagating  
of Reindeer and Fur Bearing Animals  
and the Development of Fisheries.

## ALASKA

*Diagram showing those portions of Unimak Island eliminated from the Reservation created by Executive Order No. 1733 dated March 3, 1913, for use of the Salmon Cannery of the P. E. Harris and Company, as indicated by broken lines hereon.*

*Said tracts contain a total of 27½ acres and are approximately in Latitude 54°51' North, Longitude 163°22'30" West from Greenwich.*



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HUBERT WORK, SECRETARY  
GENERAL LAND OFFICE  
WILLIAM SPRY, COMMISSIONER



*Eliminated from Reservation.*

1 K A

2.

1 K A

EO 6/27/192  
Wdl LH Res

330

310446  
10

## Executive Order

### ALASKA

75  
Executive Order of March 3, 1913 (No. 1733), withdrawing all islands of the Aleutian chain, Alaska, for a preserve and breeding ground for native birds, for the propagation of reindeer and fur-bearing animals, and for the encouragement and development of fisheries, is hereby revoked as to the tract of land, on Unimuk Island, lying within the hereinafter described boundaries, heretofore occupied for fish cannery purposes, which is hereby restored to entry under the applicable public land laws:

Beginning at Meander Corner No. 1, located on the south shore of Ikatan Bay at mean high tide line, approximately in latitude  $51^{\circ} 40'$  N. and longitude  $163^{\circ} 25'$  W., from which S. E. corner Cannery Building 60 x 120 ft. bears N.  $36^{\circ} 00'$  E., 6.21 chains; center water tank 16 x 24 ft. bears N.  $71^{\circ} 05'$  E., 7.35 chains; S. W. corner Dock 68 x 192 ft., bears N.  $1^{\circ} 10'$  E., 6.82 chains; thence by meanders along line of mean high tide on Ikatan Bay; approximately N.  $30^{\circ} 20'$  E., 3.85 chains; N.  $16^{\circ} 15'$  E., 1.00 chain; N.  $26^{\circ} 20'$  E., 1.00 chain; N.  $45^{\circ} 05'$  E., 2.50 chains; N.  $51^{\circ} 20'$  E., 1.00 chain; N.  $47^{\circ} 45'$  E., 2.00 chains; N.  $08^{\circ} 50'$  E., 0.50 chains; S.  $89^{\circ} 15'$  E., 3.50 chains; S.  $70^{\circ} 35'$  E., 0.50 chains to Meander Corner No. 2; thence south approximately 10.21 chains to Corner No. 3; thence west approximately 14.10 chains to Meander Corner No. 1, the place of beginning, containing approximately 10.24 acres.

CALVIN COOLIDGE

THE WHITE HOUSE,  
September 20, 1924.

[No. 4076.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

October 4, 1924.

A true copy.

H. S. Dwight  
Ch. of Division of Public Lands

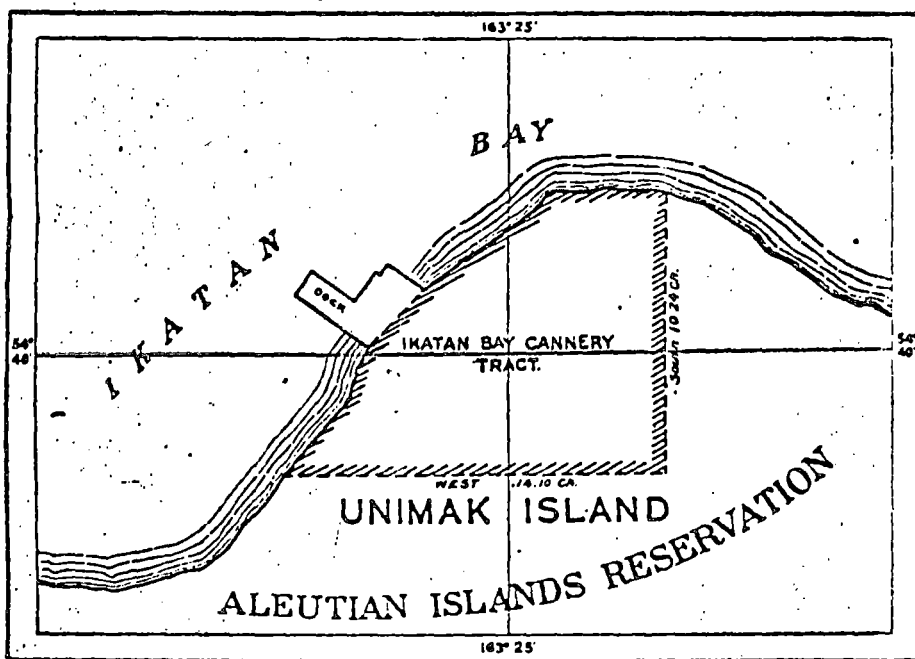
Dec. 11 1924 4/21/13  
11/24/16

THIRD EXECUTIVE ORDER  
**ALEUTIAN ISLANDS RESERVATION**

For the Protection of Native Birds, the Propagating  
of Reindeer and Fur Bearing Animals  
and the Development of Fisheries  
**ALASKA**

*Diagram showing that portion of Unimak Island eliminated  
from the Reservation created by Executive Order No. 1733 dat-  
ed March 3, 1913, for the use of the Ikatan Bay Cannery of the  
Pacific American Fisheries as eliminated by broken line hereon.*

*This tract contains 10.24 acres and is approximately in Lat-  
itude 54° 40' North, Longitude 163° 25' West from Greenwich.*



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HUBERT WORK, SECRETARY  
GENERAL LAND OFFICE  
WILLIAM SPRY, COMMISSIONER.



*Eliminated from Reservation.*

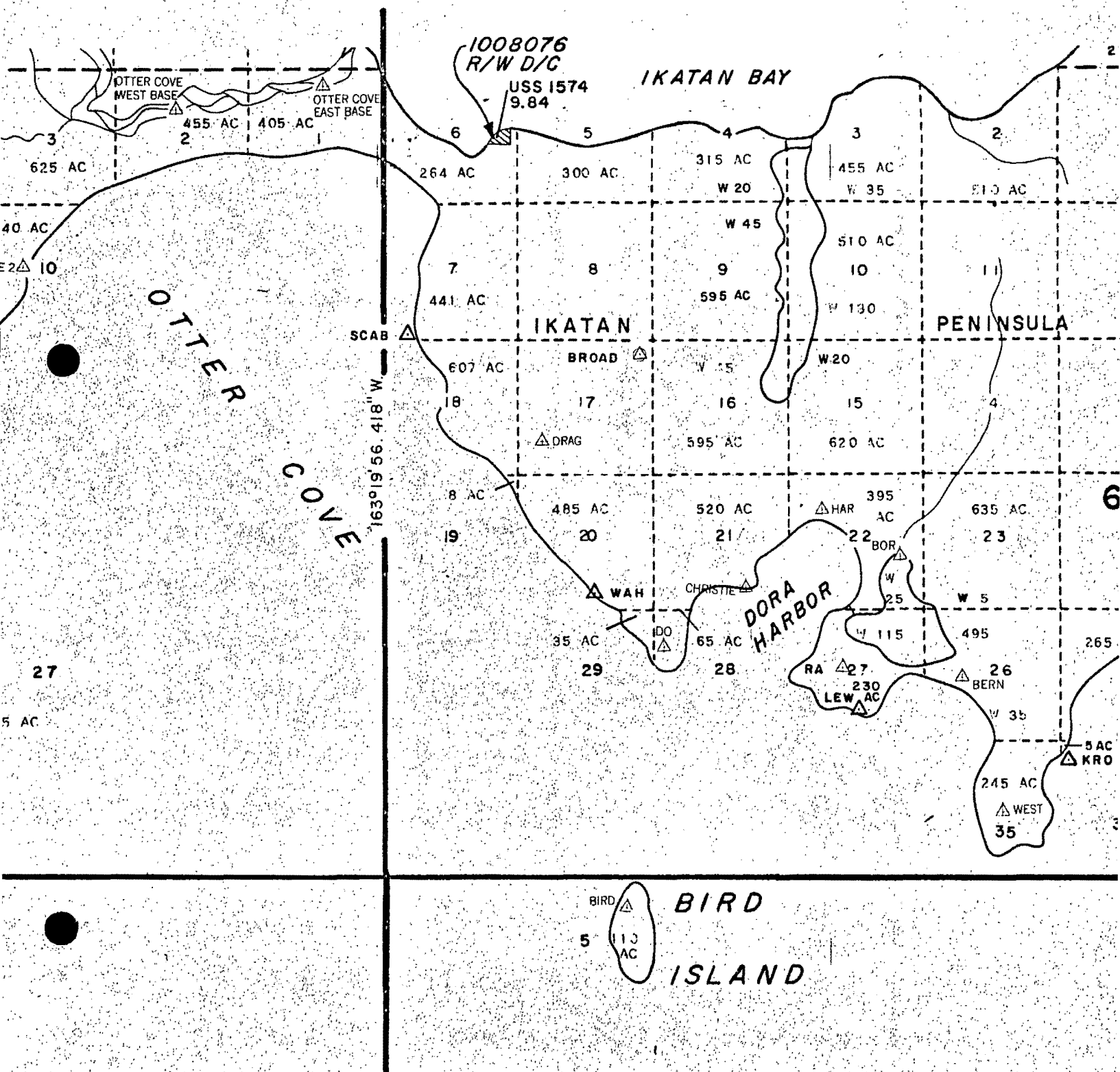
UNREPRODUCED RECORD COPY



WARD

# MERIDIAN, ALASKA

STATUS OF PUBLIC DOMAIN  
LAND AND MINERAL TITLES



Cooperative Agreement  
between  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
and  
Department of the Air Force  
on  
Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska

This cooperative agreement made and entered into under the authority contained in Section 401 of the Act of June 15, 1935 (49 Statute 383), and by the authority contained in Executive Order No. 1733 dated March 3, 1913, by and between the Fish and Wildlife Service, United States Department of the Interior, hereinafter termed the "FWS", and the United States Department of the Air Force, hereinafter termed the "Air Force", for the use of land within the Aleutian Islands National Refuge, hereinafter termed the "Refuge", witnesseth;

Whereas, the Refuge, administered by the FWS for the purposes for which it was reserved and set apart by Executive Order No. 1733 dated March 3, 1913 namely, as a preserve and breeding ground for native birds, for the propagation of reindeer and fur bearing animals, and for the encouragement and development of the fisheries, and

Whereas the Air Force is desirous of using tract B described herein and shown on the attached drawing No. A 3-32-17, for national defense purposes, and

Whereas the FWS wishes to extend full cooperation to the Air Force and has determined that the use of the above described lands for said purposes would not be incompatible with the administration and operation of the Refuge, and

Now, therefore, it is mutually agreed by and between the parties hereto that the FWS hereby grants permission, subject to the following stipulations, to the Air Force to utilize the above described lands:

1. The above described lands shall not be used except by permission of the Regional Director, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, for any purpose other than the construction, operation and maintenance of the defense facilities.

2. The Air Force shall require compliance on the part of all employees, contractors, and agents who are present on the Refuge as a result of this agreement with all Federal laws and regulations applicable to national wildlife refuges.
3. Consistent with the existence and operation of the defense facilities, the use of the lands hereby authorized shall be subject to dominant use of the said premises by the FWS as a national wildlife refuge, and the Air Force shall not do or suffer to be done by any of its employees, agents, or contractors any act which may interfere with the above stated intent and purposes of the premises.
4. The Air Force shall, consistent with the operations of the facility, comply with the restriction of the Refuge Manager designed to protect the facility from damage by wildlife or protect the wildlife from injury by the facility.
5. This cooperative agreement is effective during the period from January 1, 1959 to December 30, 1978, and may be terminated by agreement of the parties hereto. If at any time during the continuance of this agreement the defense facility shall cease to be used as such, the Air Force shall have the right within two (2) years from such cessation to remove any structure which it may have placed on the premises. Unless otherwise agreed to by the parties hereto, any structures not removed within said 2-year period shall become the property of the Fish and Wildlife Service.
6. A sanitary disposal system, adequate to prevent contamination of lands and adjacent waters, shall be established and maintained as part of the facility.
7. The Air Force will furnish the FWS with a scale drawing showing, insofar as practicable, and consistent with the necessity of National Security, the locations of all structures and facilities which it may erect or install, including but not limited to roads, runways, buildings, structures, and utility lines such as water, sewer, electric, telephone.

8. This agreement is executed with the understanding and the express condition that the FWS be and hereby is relieved of any and all responsibility for any and all damages to the persons or property of whatsoever kind which may occur by reason of or be in any way attributable to the construction, use, maintenance, and/or operation of the said facility, or for any other act of the Air Force while exercising the authorization herein contained.
9. The authorization herein contained is subject to discretionary revocation by the Director of the Service for failure to comply with the herein contained conditions and requirements.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Regional Director, Bureau of Sport  
Fisheries & Wildlife, Fish and Wildlife  
Service

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Department of the Air Force

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Description Tract B

### Parcel No. 1

Commencing at U.S.C. & G.S. Monument "Pass", Latitude  $54^{\circ} 35' 46.497''$  N., Longitude  $164^{\circ} 55' 25.267''$  W., 1927 N.A.D.; thence S.  $85^{\circ} 52'$  E., 9172.93 feet; thence East 1000 feet to the Point of Beginning for this description; thence South 1000 feet to a point on the East boundary of Coast Guard withdrawal (E.O. dtd 4 Jan. 1901); thence N.  $22^{\circ} 30''$  W., 2100 feet along said boundary to a point; thence East 660 feet, more or less; South 1000 feet to the Point of Beginning. Containing 15.15 acres, more or less.

### Parcel No. 2

Commencing at U.S.C. & G.S. Monument "Pass", Latitude  $54^{\circ} 35' 46.497''$  N., Longitude  $164^{\circ} 55' 25.267''$  W., 1927 N.A.D.; thence S.  $32^{\circ} 55' 40''$  E., 9200.72 feet, thence N.  $23^{\circ} 05'$  W., 1000 feet, more or less, to the Point of Beginning for this description, thence S.  $82^{\circ} 06' 13''$  W., 750 feet, thence N.  $7^{\circ} 53' 47''$  W., 2600 feet, more or less, to a point on the South boundary of U.S. Coast Guard withdrawal (E.O. dtd 4 Jan. 1901); thence N.  $67^{\circ} 30'$  E., 1525 feet, more or less, along said boundary to a point; thence S.  $7^{\circ} 53' 47''$  E., 2880 feet, more or less; thence S.  $82^{\circ} 06' 13''$  W., 750 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 94.35 acres, more or less.

### Parcel No. 3

An access road, water line and power line right of way, 100 feet wide, 50 feet on either side of the following described center line:

Commencing at U.S.C. & G.S. Monument "Pass", Latitude  $54^{\circ} 35' 46.497''$  N., Longitude  $164^{\circ} 55' 25.267''$  W., 1927 N.A.D.; thence N.  $68^{\circ} 08' 21''$  E., 10,437.24 feet to the Point of Beginning for this description; S.  $29^{\circ} 59' 53''$  W., 187.19 feet; thence S.  $57^{\circ} 33' 47''$  W., 235.73 feet; thence S.  $23^{\circ} 50' 33''$  E., 278.19 feet; thence S.  $30^{\circ} 32' 38''$  W., 777.42 feet; thence S.  $38^{\circ} 34' 17''$  W., 340 feet, more or less, to a point on the East boundary of U.S. Coast Guard withdrawal (E.O. dtd 4 Jan. 1901). Containing 4.00 acres, more or less.

### Parcel No. 4

A water line right of way, 20 feet wide, 10 feet either side of the following described center line:

Commencing at U.S.C. & G.S. Monument "Pass", Latitude  $54^{\circ} 35' 46.497''$  N., Longitude  $164^{\circ} 55' 25.267''$  W., 1927 N.A.D.; thence S.  $85^{\circ} 52'$  E., 9172.93 feet; thence N.  $1^{\circ} 39' 23''$  W., 2220 feet, more or less, to a point on the East boundary of U.S. Coast Guard withdrawal (E.O. dtd 4 Jan. 1901), the Point of Beginning for this description; thence continuing N.  $1^{\circ} 39' 23''$  W., 755 feet, more or less, to a point on the South right of way line of an access road. Continuing 0.35 acres, more or less.

Amendment to Cooperative Agreement  
between

Fish and Wildlife Service

and

Department of the Air Force

on the

Aleutian National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska

dated April 25, 1959

This amendment covers an area not included in the original agreement. The location is shown on Tract B, Parcel 55, on attached drawing #A3-32-17 and covers a cross-wind runway at the Cape Sarichef Air Force Station. The area to be added by this amendment is as follows:

Cape Sarichef Air Force Site

Tract B - Parcel No. 5

An airstrip being 200 feet wide, 100 feet on either side of the following described center line:

Commencing at U. S. C. & G. S. Station "Pass",  
Latitude  $54^{\circ} 35' 46.497''$  N, Longitude  $154^{\circ} 55' 23.267''$  W, 1927 N. A. D.; thence  $S 59^{\circ} 46' 04''$  E, 4,595.80 feet; thence  $S 7^{\circ} 50' 37.8''$  E, 1840 feet, more or less, along the center line of an existing runway; thence  $N 72^{\circ} 04' 43.9''$  E, 770 feet, more or less, to the True Point of Beginning for this description; thence continuing  $N 72^{\circ} 04' 43.9''$  E, 2,822.89 feet, to a point.

Containing 12.96 acres, more or less.

URBAN C. NELSON  
Regional Director, BSW,  
U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service

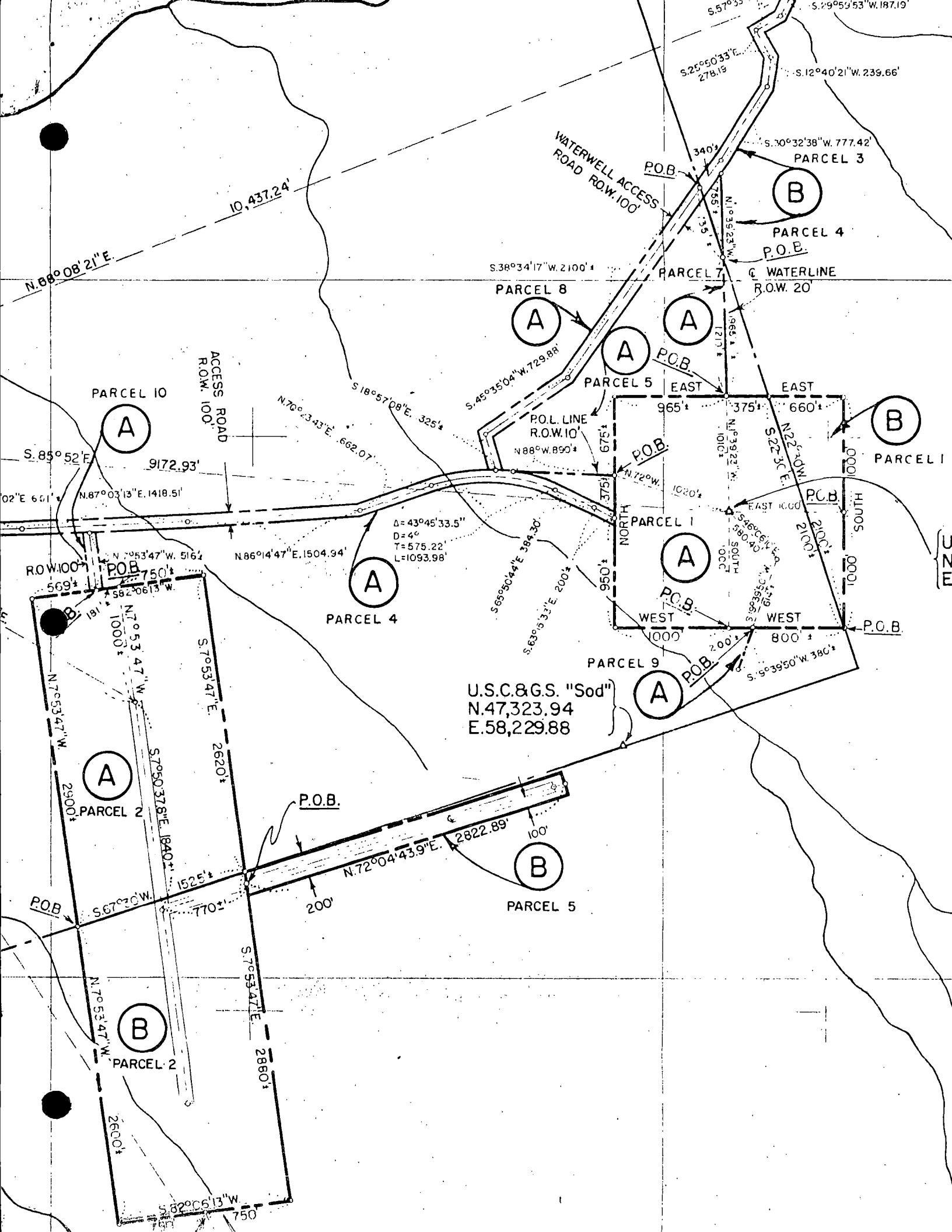
*David L. Spencer*  
David L. Spencer  
Refuge Supervisor

10/19/59  
Date

Department of the Air Force  
*By George S. Wright*

21 October 1959

GEORGE S. WRIGHT Date  
Chief, Real Estate Division  
U. S. Army Engineer District, Alaska  
CONTRACTING OFFICER



Legal Reference No Count Act of 9/19/64 (78 Stat. 586; 43 USC 1411-18) (Quit Claim Deed)	File Code 75.0	Serial Number AA-5709
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Name and Mailing Address Peter Pan Seafoods, Inc. 1220 Dexter Horton Bldg. Seattle, Washington 98104
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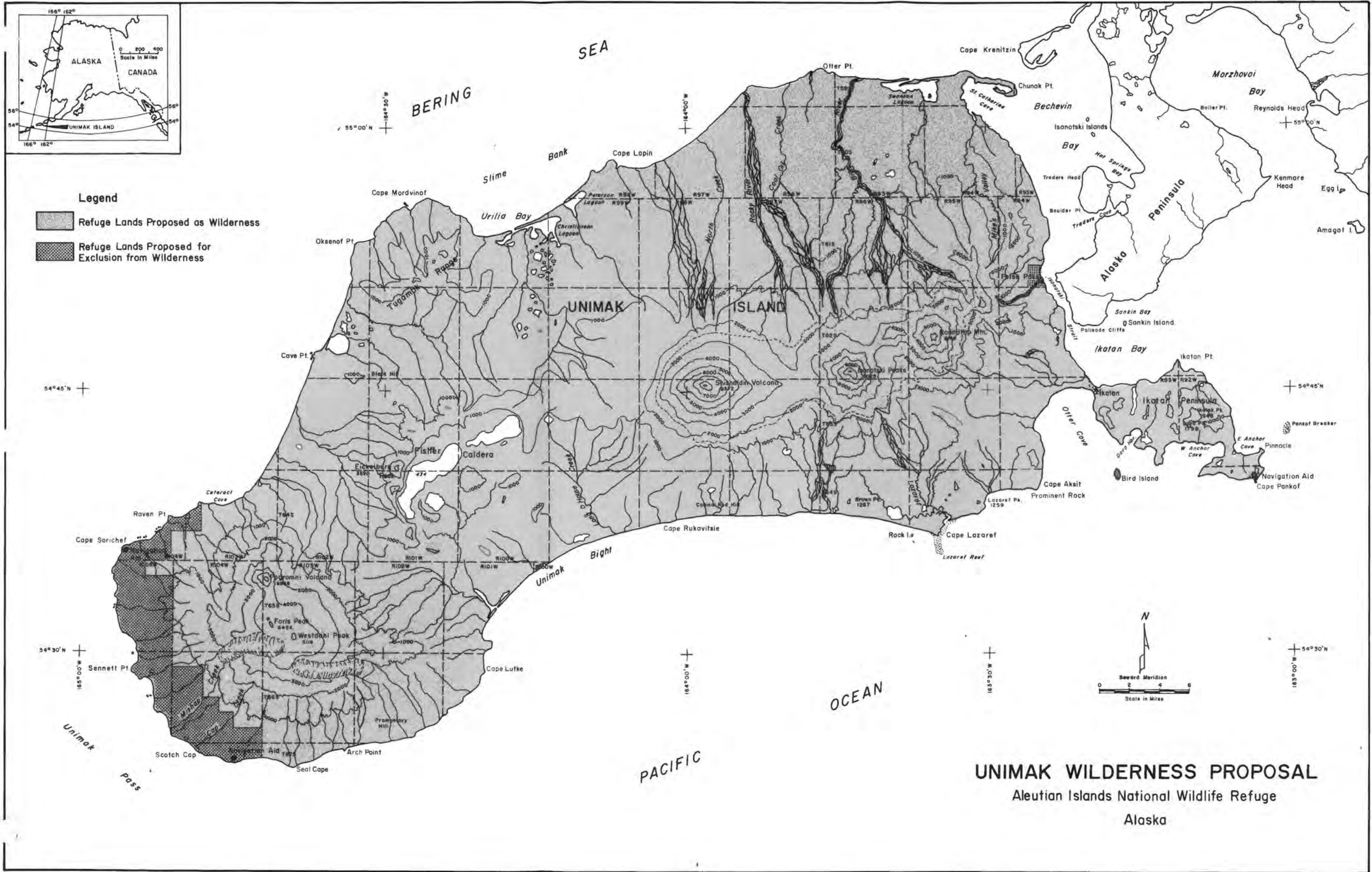
Description of Land A parcel of land identified as the Vanner Tract on the west shore of Isanotski Strait, Unimak Island, Alaska and more particularly described as: Beginning at Corner 1 Tract 1 which is also Corner 5 USS 1589, thence East 745.14 feet to Corner 10 Tract 1, which is also Corner 1 USS 1589, thence South 1, 124.64 feet along a common boundary to Corner 9 Tract 1 which is also Corner 3, USS 1588, thence East 1,000 feet more or less along a common boundary to Corner 1 which is also Corner 8 Tract 1 on the shore of Isanotski Strait and the true point of beginning. Thence West approximately 547.08 feet along the south boundary line of USS 1588 to Corner 2, from which Corner 9 Tract 1 bears West 459.88 feet. Thence S.30°17'E. 416.90 feet to Corner 3, thence East 432.87 feet more or less to Corner 4 on the shore of Isanotski Strait, thence northerly along the shore of Isanotski Strait at the line of mean high tide to Corner 1, which is also Corner 8 Tract 1 and the true point of beginning.  (Con't on reverse)
---

DATE OF ACTION	ACTION TAKEN
Aug. 4, 1969	Correspondence received ml

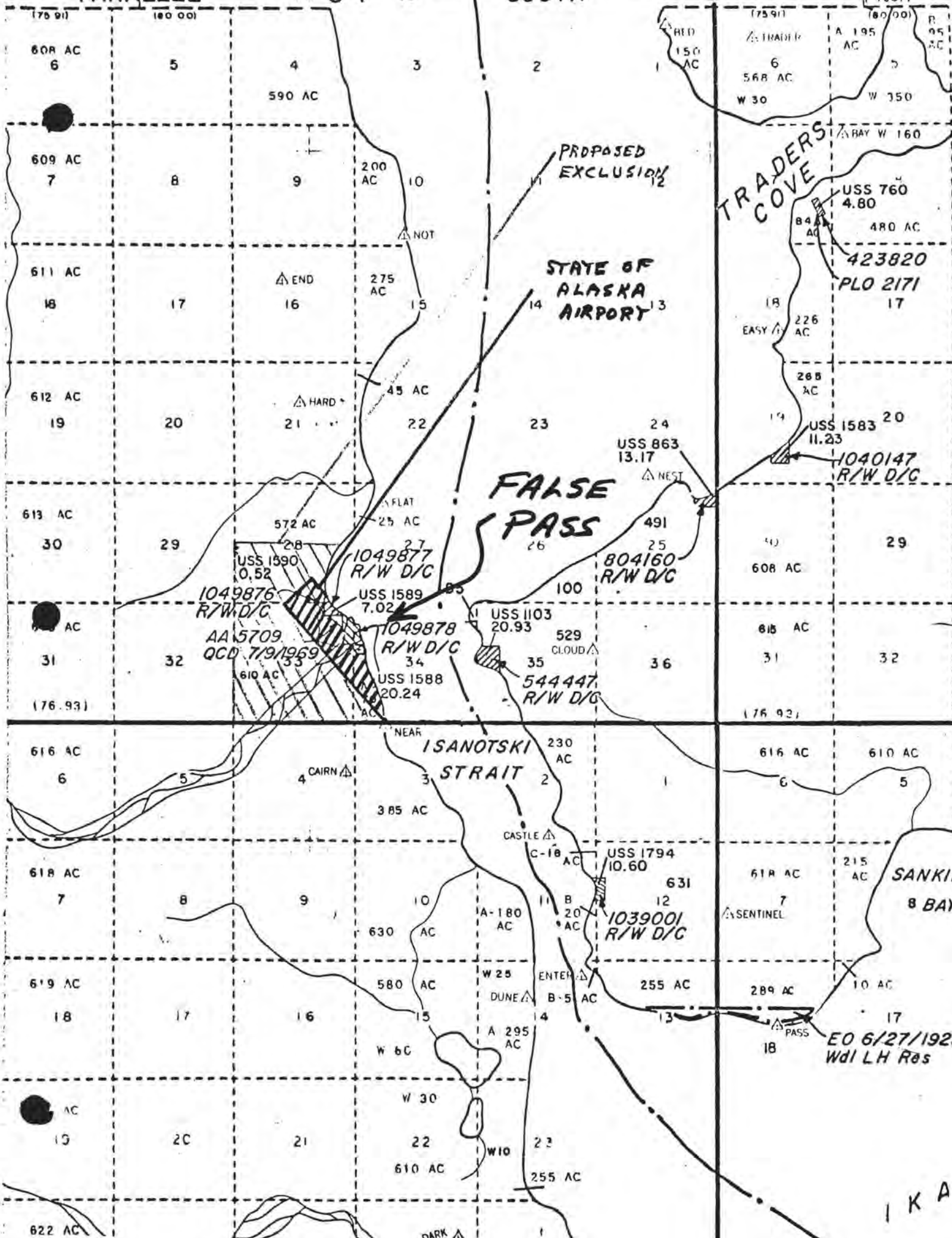


STATE OF ACTION	ACTION TAKEN
<p>(Cont' Description)</p> <p>AND</p> <p>A perpetual easement for the right to enter and maintain, repair, replace, rebuild, operate and patrol an existing water supply line in, on, over, under and across two strips of land, 20 feet in width, 10 feet on each side of the following described centerlines: Beginning at Corner 1 Tract 1, which is also Corner 5 USS 1589, thence East 188.18 feet along the south boundary of USS 1589 to a point marked "Station 7/27.42A" which point marks the centerline of a 10 inch pipeline lying on the surface of the ground. Thence along said centerline S.49°58'E. 727.42 feet to a point on the west boundary line of USS 1588 marked "Station 0/00A", which point is situated North 656.74 feet from corner 9 Tract 1, which is also Corner 3 USS 1588.</p> <p>AND</p> <p>Beginning at Corner 1 Tract 1, which is also Corner 5 USS 1589, thence North along the West line of USS 1589 170.0 feet to a point marked "Station 0/00B" which point marks the centerline of a 10 inch pipeline lying on the surface of the ground. Thence along said centerline N.35°43'W. 488.18 feet to a point marked "Station 4/88.18B" on the south boundary line of USS 1590, which point is situated West 35.26 feet from Corner 1 USS 1590.</p> <p>SUBJECT TO existing rights contained in Executive Order No. 1733 dated March 3, 1913.</p>	
Date of Action	Action Taken
<p>(over no 100)</p>	

PROPOSED EXCLUSIONS



PARALLEL R 94 W SOUTH



PROPOSED EXCLUSION

STATE OF ALASKA AIRPORT

FALSE PASS

ISANOTSKI STRAIT

TRADERS COVE

SANKII BAY

EO 6/27/192 Wdl LH Res

USS 760 4.80

USS 863 13.17

USS 1583 11.23

USS 1103 20.93

USS 1794 10.60

1049876 R/W D/C  
AA 5709  
QCD 7/9/1969

1049877 R/W D/C

1049878 R/W D/C

804160 R/W D/C

544447 R/W D/C

1039001 R/W D/C

608 AC

590 AC

200 AC

275 AC

45 AC

572 AC

USS 1590 0.52

610 AC

611 AC

612 AC

613 AC

614 AC

616 AC

618 AC

619 AC

620 AC

622 AC

150 AC

568 AC

195 AC

480 AC

423820 PLO 2171

226 AC

268 AC

608 AC

615 AC

616 AC

618 AC

619 AC

215 AC

289 AC

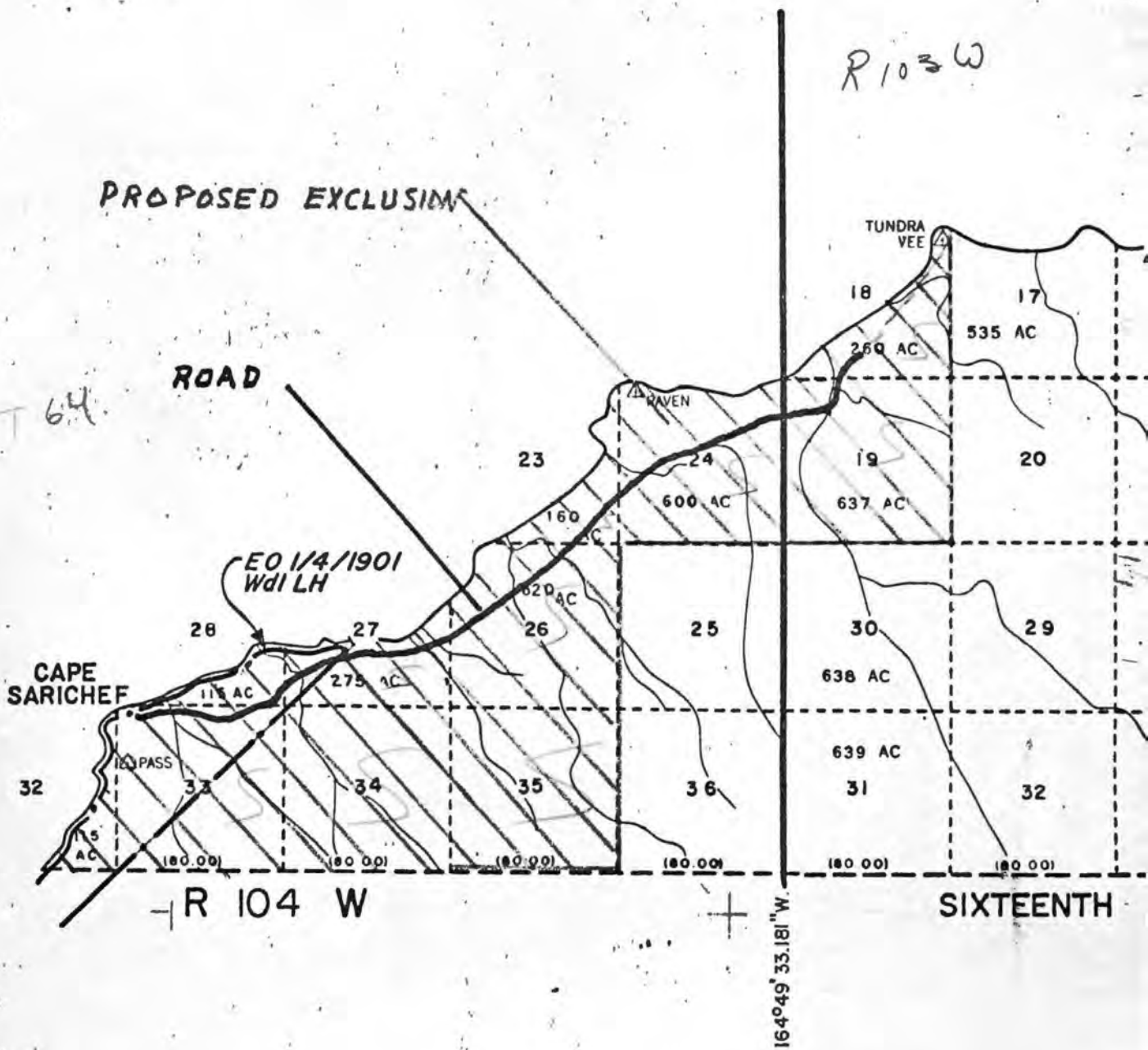
10 AC

610 AC

255 AC

DARK

1 K A



All Tps West of PYK Line,

All Tps within EO 1733 National Wildlife Refuge.

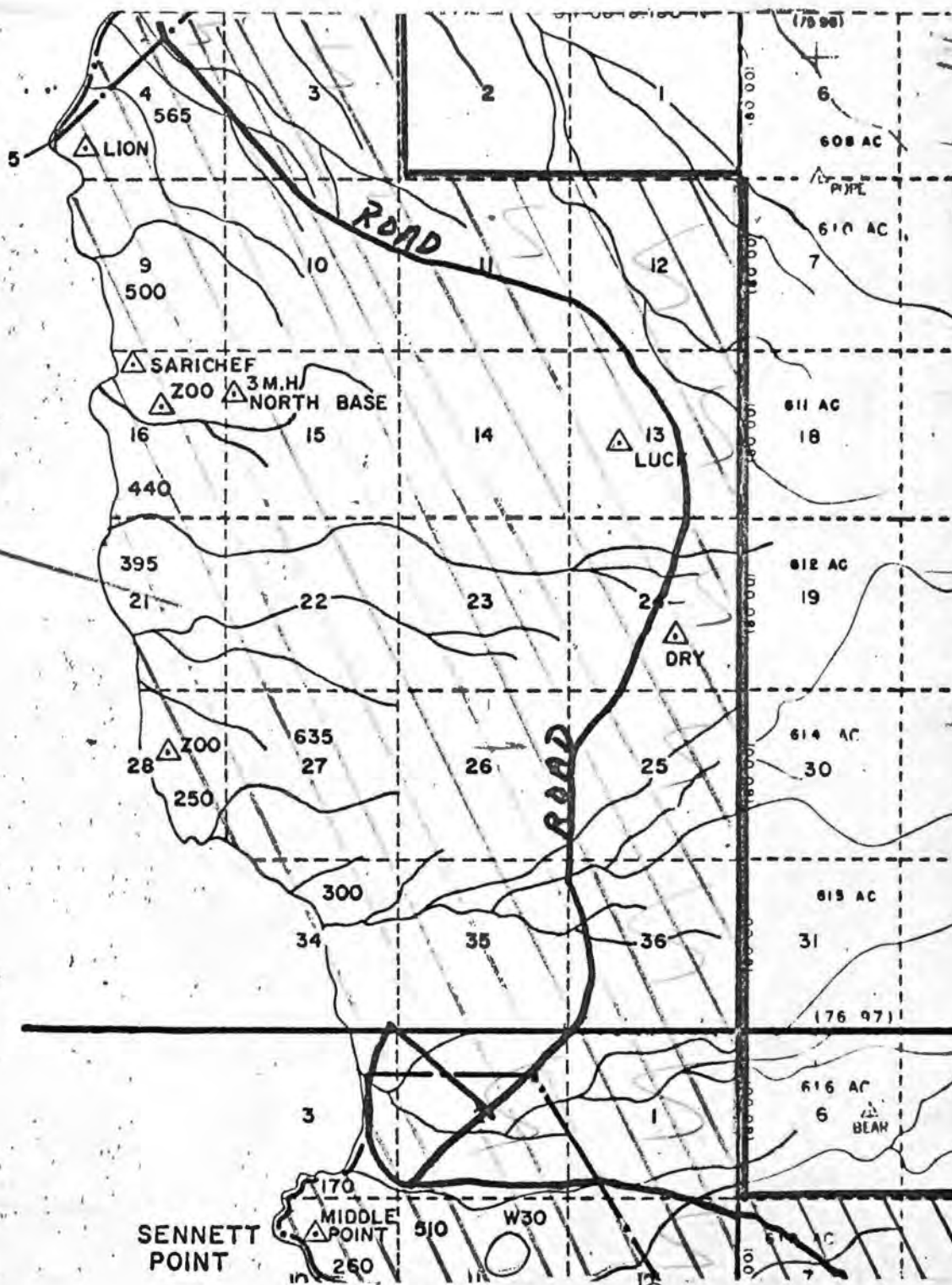


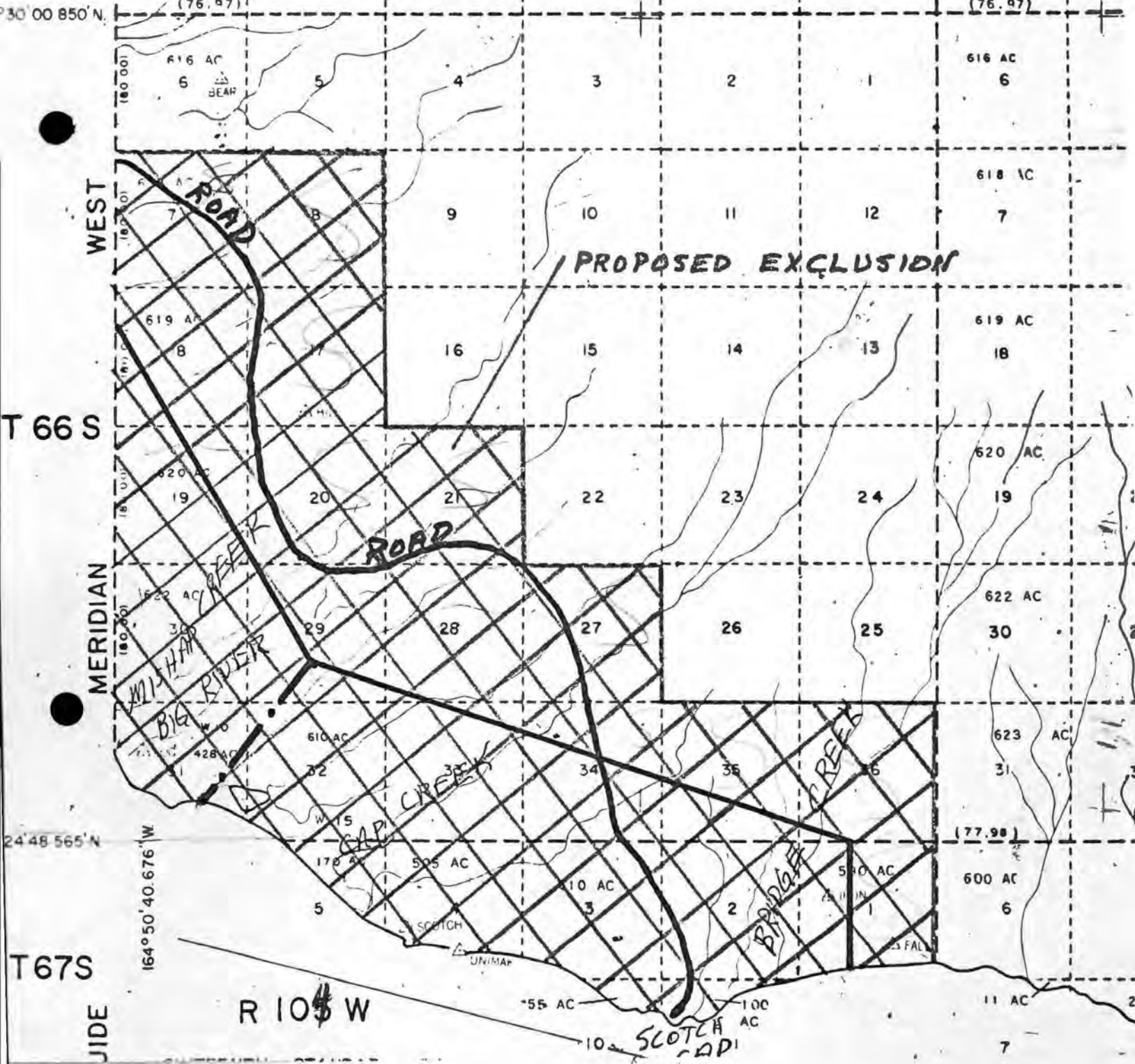
PROPOSED  
EXCLUSION

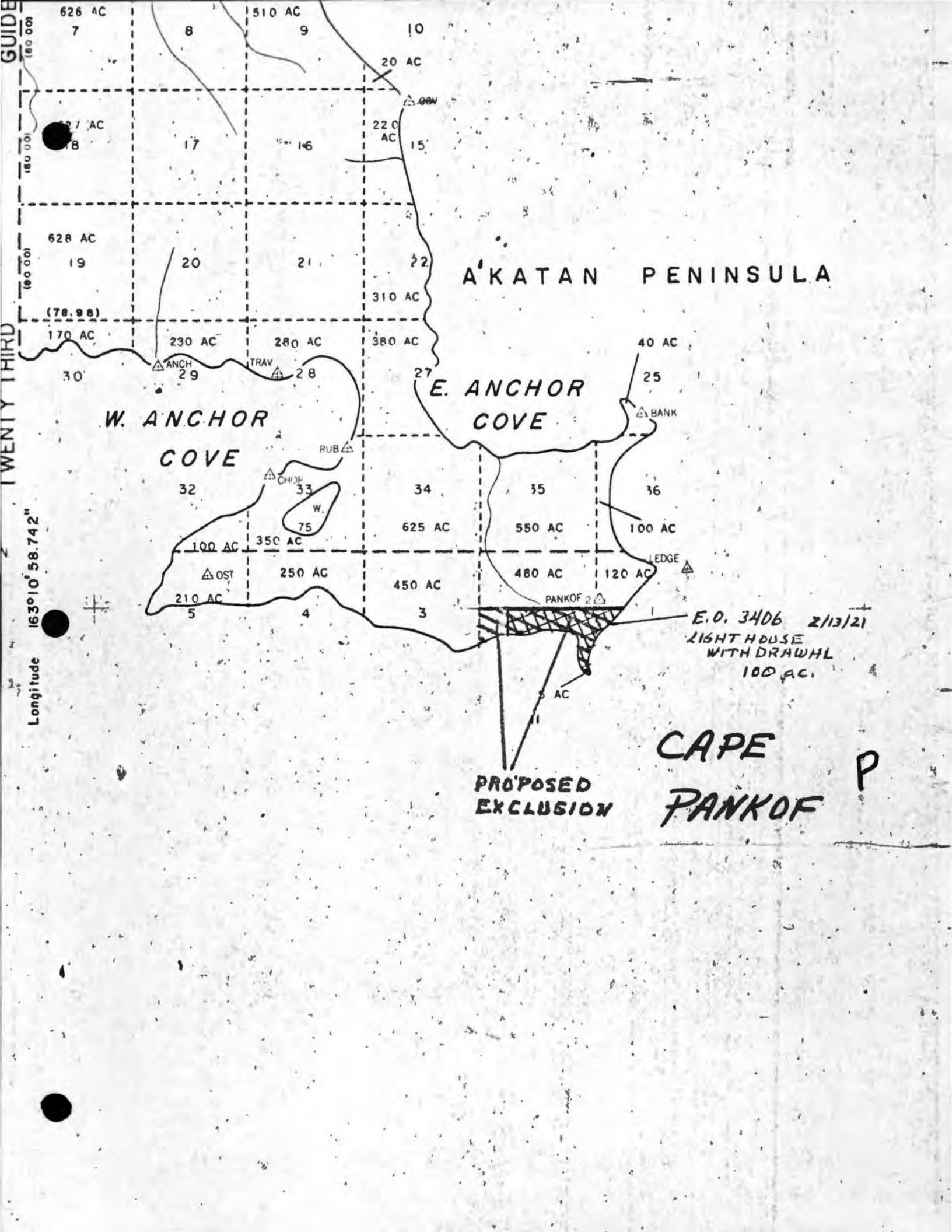
T 65

SENNETT  
POINT

R 105W













UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR

Anchorage Region  
P. O. Box 166  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
 Mr. [unclear]  
 Mrs. [unclear]  
 Mr. [unclear]  
 Mrs. [unclear]  
 Mr. [unclear]  
 Mrs. [unclear]  
 Mr. [unclear]  
 Mrs. [unclear]

February 22, 1971

# Memorandum

**To:** Area Director, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Anchorage, Alaska

**From:** Regional Solicitor, Anchorage

**Subject:** Jurisdictional Boundaries - Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge

In a memorandum dated October 2, 1970, you pointed out that it was now necessary to determine the correct boundaries of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, inasmuch as the agency was making a study and a report on the advisability of making the refuge a wilderness area under the Wilderness Act. In the same memorandum you point out that you have received conflicting advice from the Regional Solicitor's Office in Portland and this office. Actually, I do not believe that there is a conflict of opinion--it is more of an interpretation of the two opinions that needs to be made. For this reason, this office has taken considerable time to research the question of the boundaries of withdrawn areas such as the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge.

I am forwarding to you a memorandum that was prepared by the Assistant Regional Solicitor, Anchorage Office, dated February 22. Our file does not indicate that your office received a copy of the memorandum that the Regional Solicitor's Office in Portland wrote us in early January; therefore I am attaching a copy of this memorandum for your files.

As you can see from the attached material, this office is firmly of the opinion that the boundary line of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge is the mean high tide of the water line on each of the islands in the Aleutian Chain. We are further of the opinion that the law is very clear that reefs that extend out from the islands that are covered by the ebb and flow of the tide are submerged lands and therefore State owned and not within the exterior boundaries of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge.

Hugh J. Wade

Enclosures (2)



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR

Anchorage Region  
P. O. Box 166  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

February 22, 1971

Memorandum

To: Regional Solicitor, Anchorage

From: Assistant Regional Solicitor, Anchorage

Subject: Jurisdictional boundaries of Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge

Reference is made to the memorandum of October 2, 1970, to you from the Acting Area Director, BSF&W, Anchorage, requesting your opinion as to the correct boundary of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge in order to satisfy the study and report requirements of the Wilderness Act. The request stems from a conflict between (1) Solicitor's Opinion, M-36562 (August 21, 1959) holding that the area of water and submerged land from mean high tide line to the three-mile limit was under State jurisdiction, except for retention by the United States of a navigational servitude and certain other rights and powers, and (2) an opinion of the Assistant Regional Solicitor, Portland, holding among other things that the Aleutian Island National Wildlife Refuge includes, in addition to certain described islands, "such reasonable water area in and around each island as may be necessary to carry out the purposes for which the refuge was created." Management of the Refuge has proceeded in accordance with the aforementioned Solicitor's Opinion by treating the mean high tide line as the boundary line of the Refuge. The conflict between the two opinions is over the management of the indefinable "reasonable water area" seaward beyond the mean high tide line.

The Assistant Regional Solicitor premises his conclusion that a "reasonable water area" of sufficient size was impliedly included in the original 1913 withdrawal of "all islands of the Aleutian chain" on the presumption that such appurtenant water area was necessary to carry out the purposes for which the refuge was created, since otherwise the islands, rocks, and reefs could not be effectively utilized as part of the refuge. Such a presumption is questionable as a factual matter, especially in view of the Refuge's management since 1959 of land within the mean high tide line as boundary in accordance with the Solicitor's 1959 opinion above mentioned.



While perhaps the Refuge can be more effectively managed by regulation of the appurtenant water areas serving as the habitat or migrating areas of various fish and wildlife species (e.g., sea otters), this is not to say that the Refuge cannot be effectively managed in the absence of administrative jurisdiction over such water areas. It would appear that the management functions prescribed by the 1913 withdrawal order (Ex. Ord. No. 1733) can to a very substantial degree be performed on upland within the mean high tide line. Under the order, the islands were set apart as a preserve for (1) native birds, (2) propagation of reindeer and fur-bearing animals, and (3) encouragement and development of the fisheries. Jurisdiction over those functions was divided so that the Department of Agriculture had jurisdiction over the "wild birds and game and the propagation of reindeer and fur-bearing animals," and the Department of Commerce and Labor had jurisdiction over "the fisheries, seals, sea otter, cetaceans and other aquatic species." It appears that only the latter jurisdictional function might to some extent necessitate the use of adjacent water areas below the mean high tide line, although it is recognized that such function would also entail management of upland areas (e.g., spawning beds) above such tide line. Therefore, it cannot be concluded unequivocally that the islands in the refuge cannot be effectively utilized for any purpose intended by the withdrawal order if the adjacent water areas are not included in the Refuge. Even without such water areas, the intended objectives of the withdrawal order can be served to a very substantial degree by management of the islands above the mean high tide line. This being so, the adjacent water areas are not absolutely essential to effective management of the Refuge substantially in the manner intended by the 1913 withdrawal order. For such reason, it cannot be said with great assurance that under the circumstances surrounding the withdrawal, the President plainly intended to withdraw the adjacent water areas, although he did not expressly say so in the withdrawal order.

Although there is disagreement with the Assistant Solicitor's "presumption" as to the necessity of the adjacent water areas for effective management of the Refuge, there is no disagreement as to applicable principle of construction for interpretation of the withdrawal order. The Assistant Solicitor borrowed from the law of conveying the rule that in construing a deed in order to determine the identity of property, the court will ascertain the intention of the parties by placing itself as nearly as possible in their position and interpret the language of the deed in light of the surrounding circumstances (Kilfoyle v. Wright, 300 F.2d 626, 627 (5th Cir. 1962)). Somewhat the same principle is applied to treaties, laws or orders withdrawing and reserving Government land prior to statehood in order to determine whether they also included lands under navigable waters. As comprehensively stated in United States v. Holt State Bank, 270 U.S. 49, 54-55 (1926) --

"It is settled law in this country that lands underlying navigable waters within a State belong to the State in its sovereign capacity

and may be used and disposed of as it may elock, subject to the paramount power of Congress to control such waters for the purposes of navigation in commerce among the States and with foreign nations, and subject to the qualification that where the United States, after acquiring the territory and before the creation of the State, has granted rights in such lands by way of performing international obligations, or effecting the use or improvement of the lands for the purposes of commerce among the States and with foreign nations, or carrying out other public purposes appropriate to the objects for which the territory was held, such rights are not cut off by the subsequent creation of the State, but remain unimpaired, and the rights which otherwise would pass to the State in virtue of its admission into the Union are restricted or qualified accordingly . . . . But, . . . the United States early adopted and constantly has adhered to the policy of regarding lands under navigable waters in acquired territory, while under its sole dominion, as held for the ultimate benefit of future States, and so has refrained from making any disposal thereof, save in exceptional instances when impelled to particular disposals by some international duty or public exigency. It follows from this that disposals by the United States during the territorial period are not lightly to be inferred, and and should not be regarded as intended unless the intention was definitely declared or otherwise made very plain."

(Emphasis supplied)

There have been situations where the courts have held that although withdrawal language did not expressly declare that submerged land was also intended to be included, such intention was "otherwise made very plain" by the circumstances under which the withdrawal was made. As was noted in the recent case of Choctaw Nation v. Oklahoma, 397 U.S. 620, 634 (1970), reversing 402 F.2d 739 (10th Cir. 1968), the policy underlying the above rule of construction enunciated in the Holt State Bank case does not require that "courts blind themselves to the circumstances of the grant in determining the intent of the grantor." This has been particularly true in construing provisions of treaties, statutes, and executive orders establishing Indian reservations where the requisite implied intent to also reserve adjoining submerged land was determined from the attendant circumstances coupled with the rule of construction that such provisions "for the benefit of dependent Indian tribes or communities are to be liberally construed, doubtful expressions being resolved in favor of the Indians." Alaska Pacific Fisheries v. United States, 248 U.S. 78, 89 (1918). Also, Choctaw Nation v. Oklahoma, supra, p. 634. Accordingly, in the Alaska Pacific Fisheries case, supra, it was

hold that the setting aside by statute (26 Stat. 1101; 48 U.S.C. sec. 352) of the Annette Islands as a reservation for the use of the Metlakatla Indians embraced the adjacent waters and submerged land because they were the principal source of the fish so essential to the Indians' subsistence and industry which the reservation was intended to encourage and protect.<sup>1/</sup> A similar implied reservation of tidal land for Indian fishing grounds was judicially determined in Moore v. United States, 157 F.2d 760, 763 (9th Cir. 1946) ("It is the consideration of such circumstances which determines the government's intent in making a reservation whether by Congressional Act . . . or a departmental reservation . . ."). Although the liberal rule of construction for Indian reservations is not available in construing withdrawals or reservations for non-Indian purposes, the latter are still to be construed in accordance with the Holt State Bank rule that a withdrawal or reservation of submerged land during the territorial period "are not lightly to be inferred and should not be regarded as intended unless the intention was definitely declared or otherwise made very plain" by the circumstances surrounding the withdrawal. A recent case in point is United States v. State of Alaska, 423 F.2d 764 (9th Cir. 1970), wherein it was held that the Kenai Moose Range Order withdrawing "land and water" for the sole purpose of protecting the natural breeding and feeding range of the giant Kenai moose not only withdrew such "water" as was navigable but also land under such water, including the bottom of Lake Tustumena. In reaching this decision, the Court reasoned that the President must have intended to include in the withdrawal

<sup>1/</sup> In the Alaska Pacific Fisheries case, *supra*, the Court held that the "geographical name" of Annette Islands in the statute creating the reservation "was used, as is sometimes done, in a sense embracing the intervening and surrounding waters as well as the upland—in other words as descriptive of the area comprising the islands." This holding was arrived at without any reference to a previous proclamation of President Wilson (39 Stat. 1777) declaring the waters within 3,000 feet of certain of those islands to be a part of the Metlakatla Reserve to serve as a fishery in connection with a proposed cannery on Annette Island. Metlakatla Indian Community, Annette Island Reserve v. Egan, 369 U.S. 45, 48-49 (1962). It is interesting to note that when the last cited case was decided in the Alaska State Supreme Court prior to its appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court, the State Court stated:

"The issue now is not whether the Metlakatlans have a right of possession to the waters surrounding their upland reservation superior to that of a corporate trespasser, but whether sovereignty over its inland waters has by inference been withheld from a state of the Union. The presumption is that it was not. Such a withholding is not lightly inferred." Metlakatla Indian Community, Annette Island Reserve v. Egan, 362 P.2d 901, 923 (1961).



navigable waters and submerged land thereunder which provide the moose with "the aquatic vegetation so essential to their continued existence"; otherwise, the intended purpose of the withdrawal would be defeated and the withdrawal would amount to a "sterile," "impotent gesture" for the protection of the moose as a "semi-aquatic" animal. In this regard, the Court said as follows:

" . . . Simply stated, the problem before us is whether the questioned Executive Order was intended to include the land under the water of Lake Tustumena. We believe such intention is quite clearly expressed in the language of the Order. We commence with the fundamental premise that one of the most important factors in resolving the meaning of the pertinent language is to place ourselves, insofar as possible, in the posture of the President and surround ourselves with the factual atmosphere in which the Kenai Moose Range was created . . . .

"The argument that the Order, in withdrawing the "water", did not withdraw the "navigable water", is patently unsound. If all navigable waters, lakes and streams are beyond the effect of the order, only mountains, hills, ridges, valleys and barren areas would remain for the moose to feed and breed. Appellees would have the male and female of this semi-aquatic animal find each other and mate in dense woods and thickets, and on precipitous mountains and cliffs, rather than in or around the tranquil waters of their natural habitat. President Roosevelt never intended such a result, nor did he envision the bulls and cows of this noble group standing on the shores of streams and lakes and there extending their necks to giraffelike proportions in order to enjoy the aquatic vegetation so essential to their continued existence. Water, in other words, is just as essential to the continued existence of the moose as it is to any other semi-aquatic animal in Alaska. If the Order failed to withdraw the navigable water in the designated area, it amounted to nothing more than an impotent gesture. If it failed to withdraw the land under the water, it would be just as sterile. In neither case would this magnificent animal be the beneficiary of the declared design of the Order.

" . . . disposals (of submerged land) by the United States during the territorial period are not lightly to be inferred and should not be regarded as intended unless the intention was definitely

declared or otherwise made very plain. We have no difficulty in placing the language of the withdrawal Order within the meaning of 'or otherwise made very plain' . . . ." (pp. 766-767) (Emphasis by Court)

The Court further pointed out that the Submerged Lands Act (67 Stat. 29; 43 U.S.C. secs. 1301 et seq.) had no application to such reserved submerged land inasmuch as such land was excluded by Section 5 of such act (43 U.S.C. sec. 1313) and Section 6(a) of the Statehood Act (72 Stat. 339, 341). 423 F.2d 768.

Unlike the Kenai Moosa Range Order, the Aleutian Refuge order does not specifically withdraw "water," nor is the inclusion of the adjoining submerged land so "essential" to the effective management of the Refuge that without it the "declared design of the Order" would be substantially defeated or impaired and the order nothing more in effect than a "sterile," "impotent gesture." Therefore, as previously stated, it cannot be said that the circumstances surrounding the Refuge withdrawal very clearly compel the conclusion that the President of necessity must have intended to include such submerged land in the withdrawal as an essential element in the fulfillment of the avowed purpose of the withdrawal order. Since such Presidential intent was not "made very plain," the presumption against withholding submerged land from the State upon its admission is not overcome. United States v. Holt State Bank, supra, p. 55. Accordingly, the Submerged Lands Act of 1953 is applicable to the water areas adjoining the islands in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, and the Area Director, BSF&W, Anchorage, should continue to follow Solicitor's Opinion, M-36562 (August 21, 1959) by treating the mean high tide line as the Refuge boundary and the area of water and submerged land from such line to the three-mile limit as being under State jurisdiction. The import of such a stance is descriptively summarized in Solicitor's Opinion, 70 I.D. 107, 111-112 (1963), dealing with regulation of sea otters in Alaska, as follows:

"Congress, by enactment of the Submerged Lands Act, has, in effect, relinquished to the coastal States the paramount sovereign right and title of the United States in the submerged lands of the territorial sea to the extent and within the limits stated, in the Act. United States v. Louisiana, 363 U.S. 1 (1960). Included in this grant are the natural resources of the lands and waters within the areas covered thereby, together with '\*\*\* the right and power to manage, administer, lease, develop, and use the said lands and natural resources all in accordance with applicable State Law \*\*\*.' (43 U.S.C., sec. 1311(a)(2).) As indicated above, the term 'natural resources,' as defined in the Submerged Lands Act (43 U.S.C.,



sec. 1301(a)), is not limited to oil and gas, but includes the fisheries and other marine life.

"The power to manage, administer and develop must of necessity include the power to regulate. The State of California has in fact regulated the taking of sea otter . . . by prohibiting the taking of sea otters at any time . . . (p. 111)

"In conclusion, we believe that Alaska may regulate the taking of sea otters within the three-mile limit. Since proper management or regulation of the resource includes the harvesting of the resource, such action by the State is within the purview of the applicable statutes. However, such State management or regulation does not extend to areas above the mean high water line within National Wildlife Refuges where Federal laws are paramount." (p. 112)  
(Emphasis supplied)<sup>2/</sup>

In his memorandum of October 2, 1970, the Acting Area Director, BSE&W, Anchorage, also requests some clarification as to the incidental matter of determining what rocks and reefs are deemed islands which are a part of the Refuge. He correctly assumes that any land area (or rock) which extends above the mean high tide line is an island and thus a part of the Refuge. As stated in United States v. Ray, 294 F. Supp. 532, 538 (S.D. Fla. 1969), aff'd 423 F.2d 16 (5th Cir. 1970), to wit:

"The Supreme Court has held that an island is a 'naturally-formed area of land surrounded by water, which is above the level of mean high tide' United States v. California, 382 U.S. 448, 86 S.Ct. 607, 15 L. Ed. 517 (1966). Mean high water was earlier defined by the Court to be the average height of all high waters over a given location during a span of 18.6 years. Borax Consolidated, Ltd., et al. v. City of Los Angeles, 296 U.S. 10, 56 S. Ct. 23, 80 L. Ed. 9 (1955). Since the evidence in this case overwhelmingly established that these reefs are completely submerged at mean high water, they cannot be islands."

<sup>2/</sup> Fur seals, however, are fully protected under Federal law both on the high seas and within the territorial waters of the State pursuant to the Government's international obligations under the Interim Convention on Conservation of North Pacific Fur Seals (8 UST 2283), as implemented by the Fur Seal Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. secs. 1151 et seq.). Solicitor's Opinion, 70 I.D. 107 (1963).

The foregoing judicial definition was adopted from the Convention on the Territorial Sea and the Contiguous Zone, adopted by the United Nations Conference at Geneva on April 27, 1958. With respect to this Convention, it is stated in *Shore and Sea Boundaries*, Shalowitz, Vol. 1, pp. 225-227, as follows:

"(a) Definition of Island. - Article 10 of the convention defines an island as 'a naturally-formed area of land, surrounded by water, which is above water at high-tide' . . . .

"To fall within the definition, the land must be surrounded by water and must be above water at high tide. On the face of it, this would seem to raise the question whether it must be surrounded by water at high tide only or also at low tide. But a little reflection will show that insofar as the territorial sea is concerned it must be surrounded by water at all stages of the tide.<sup>40</sup> Although not specifically provided for, it must be assumed that neither habitability, shape, area, nor texture is a necessary ingredient of an island for the purpose of delimiting the territorial sea.<sup>41</sup>

"40. The reason for this is that if it were not also surrounded at low tide it would be within the low-water of the mainland coast, and since that line is the baseline for drawing the territorial sea, the question of islands would not arise. It could only arise where the low-water line around the island is completely detached from the mainland low-water line. That could only occur where the area of land under consideration is surrounded by water at low water. The fact that within the low-water line there is an area of land exposed at high tide does not affect the drawing of the territorial sea boundary.

"41. . . . That texture is no criterion would follow the rule laid down in the case of the American ship The Anna, which was seized by a British privateer in the Gulf of Mexico at a place more than 3 miles from the mainland but approximately 2 miles from small, mud islands composed of earth and driftwood off the mouth of the Mississippi River. It was held that they were the natural appendages of the coast and 'whether they are composed of earth or solid rock, will not vary the right of dominion, for the right of dominion does not depend upon the texture of the soil,' even though it was contended that they were 'not of consistency enough to support the purposes of life, uninhabited, and resorted to, only, for shooting and taking birds' nests.' The Anna, 5 Rob. 373, 385 c, d (1805)."

In consideration of the foregoing, It is concluded as follows: (1) any naturally-formed area of ground, soil, earth, rock or reef, which is surrounded by water and above the level of mean high tide is deemed an "island"; (2) any island, as so defined, within the area set aside by Executive Order No. 1733 and not later excepted by Executive Orders Nos. 5000 and 5243 is a part of the Aleutian Island National Wildlife Refuge to the extent of the upland enclosed by the mean high tide line of the island; and (3) all water and submerged land seaward from such mean high tide line to the three-mile limit is outside the Refuge and under the jurisdiction of the State of Alaska, incidental to which is the right of the State to manage, administer, regulate and develop the natural resources in such area, including the fisheries and other marine life.

James R. Mothershead



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR  
PORTLAND REGION, 1002 N. E. HOLLADAY ST.  
P.O. Box 3621, Portland, Oregon 97208

January 7, 1971

In reply refer to:

RECEIVED  
REGIONAL SOLICITOR  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
JAN 8 1971

## Memorandum

To: Regional Solicitor, Anchorage, Alaska

From: Office of the Regional Solicitor, Portland

Subject: Jurisdictional boundaries of Aleutian Islands  
National Wildlife Refuge

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

Reference is made to your memorandum dated October 5, 1970. Your memorandum refers to our opinion dated March 5, 1970, and inquires as to the following statement contained in said opinion:

"In addition to the islands, the refuge includes such reasonable water area in and around each island as may be necessary to carry out the purposes for which the refuge was created."

Our opinion is based on the following rule in the law of real property (Kilfoyle v. Wright, 300 F.2d 626, 627 (5th Cir. 1962)):

"In determining the identity of the property, as with other terms of a deed, the purpose and end of construction and of rules of construction is to ascertain what the parties intended. The general rule is thus expressed in 26 C.J.S. Deeds § 100g:

"In construing the deed to determine the identity of the property, reference may be had to the state of facts existing when the deed was made, to ascertain the intention of the parties, and the court will place itself as nearly as possible in the position of the parties and interpret the language in the light of the surrounding circumstances."

It is our opinion that, applying the foregoing rule by analogy,



a Presidential order creating a refuge includes sufficient area so that it is possible to administer the refuge in the manner intended. Otherwise, of course, the islands, rocks and reefs cannot be effectively utilized as part of the refuge.

The opinion to which you refer of Edmund T. Fritz, then Deputy Solicitor (No. M-36562, August 21, 1959), expressly "goes only to the question of authority of the Secretary to issue an order creating a new wildlife refuge out of tidal and submerged lands title to which has vested in the state under the Submerged Lands Act of 1953 and section 6(m) of the Statehood Act" (page 3, emphasis added). "No opinion is expressed as to the applicability of section 6(e) of the latter act to such lands" (page 3). The opinion also states that if section 6(e) does apply to the lands in question, it does not support a conclusion that the Secretary "now may withdraw and create a wildlife refuge out of a portion of those lands" (page 3).

Section 6(e) of the Alaska Statehood Act provides in part as follows (72 Stat. 339, 340-341):

"All real and personal property of the United States situated in the Territory of Alaska which is specifically used for the sole purpose of conservation and protection of the fisheries and wildlife of Alaska under the provisions of the Alaska game law of July 1, 1943 . . . as amended, and under the provisions of the Alaska commercial fisheries laws of June 26, 1906 . . . and June 6, 1924 . . . as supplemented and amended, shall be transferred and conveyed to the State of Alaska by the appropriate Federal agency . . . Provided, That such transfer shall not include lands withdrawn or otherwise set apart as refuges or reservations for the protection of wildlife nor facilities utilized in connection therewith, or in connection with general research activities relating to fisheries or wildlife."

We believe that under the foregoing statute, our opinion is not contrary to that of Mr. Fritz. Thus, construing the two together the following principles would be applicable: The original withdrawal included sufficient area to manage the refuge in the manner intended. Under the provisions of the Alaska Statehood Act, the transfer to the State of Alaska would not have included this area. However, no new withdrawal could be made now of lands which were transferred to the state.

Our opinion does not purport to enlarge the withdrawn area, but merely to define that area in terms of administrative necessity.

For the Regional Solicitor

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Omar W. Halvorson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "O".

Omar W. Halvorson  
Assistant Regional Solicitor

October 2, 1970

Memorandum

To: Regional Solicitor, Anchorage, Alaska

From: Acting Area Director, BSF&W, Anchorage, Alaska

Subject: Jurisdictional Boundaries - Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge

Before this Area Office was established as a separate administrative area, the BSF&W Regional Office in Portland initiated a review of the jurisdictional status and boundaries of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge. By memorandum dated March 5, 1970, the Portland Regional Solicitor's office rendered an opinion on the Land status determination--Aleutian Island (attached).

The action was prompted by a previous review of the analogous Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge wherein the Regional Solicitor in Portland offered the opinion that the Presidential Order which created the refuge also included within it sufficient seaward area to make it possible to administer the area in the manner intended. (Mr. Halvorson's memo May 10, 1969 attached). Mr. Halvorson reached a similar conclusion in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge.

Management of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge has proceeded under the assumption that the Refuge boundary was the mean high tide line and that the area of water and submerged land from mean high tide to the three mile limit was under State jurisdiction. In this assumption we have been guided in part by an opinion of Deputy Solicitor Edmond T. Fritz dated August 21, 1959 (attached). He indicates that the State of Alaska has title to the area in question in accordance with the Submerged Lands Act.

There is an apparent disagreement in the two opinions noted above. However, it is now necessary to determine the correct boundary of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge to meet the study and report requirements of the Wilderness Act. Can you resolve this matter for us or advise as to the procedure that should be followed?

The related matter of rocks and reefs in the Aleutians would benefit by further clarification. We are assuming that any land area (or rock) that extends above the mean high tide line is an island and thus a part of the Aleutian Refuge.

There is attached material from our files that may have some bearing on this problem.

Melvin A. Monson

Encls

DLS:ro

cc: Dir of Realty, Burtland





Wide, gently sloping black sand beaches are common on the Bering Sea side of Unimak Island.



Located on the eastern end of Unimak is the salmon cannery community of False Pass, facing the end of the Alaska Peninsula across Isanotski Strait.



The Bering Sea lowland constitutes a gently sloping plain that rises gradually from the sea to merge either imperceptibly with the mountain slopes, or in places, to intersect them sharply.



Dense growths of alder are common in the False Pass and Pacific lowland areas.





The rugged and beautiful Tugamak Range dominates the Cape Mordvinof area.



The Island's glaciated center displays awesome and spectacular beauty.



Coal Oil Creek on the Bering Sea side. This stream has a minor run of silver salmon.



Seven old village sites, such as the one shown, have been found on the Island's coastlines.





A picture from the past when fox trappers had many such cabins on the Islands periphery.



An estimated 1,000 red fox pelts were harvested annually during the peak ten years. Pelt income averaged in the low thirty dollar range with top prices reaching \$42 - \$46.



The access road from the Cape Sarichef Loran Station to the water supply dam north of the station. This area is proposed for exclusion.



The access road from the Cape Sarichef Loran Station to the water supply dam north of the station. This area is proposed for exclusion.





Cape Sarichef - the White Alice Site with the Coast Guard Loran station on the bluff in the background.



Brown bear are common throughout the Island's lowlands.



Large numbers of lesser Canada geese utilize the Island's water and heath during the fall migrations.



Caribou graze placidly in the shadows of the Tugamak Range.





Whistling swan nest on the Island with many remaining year round.  
Winter concentrations of up to 146 have been observed.



The heath provides a lush growth of berries that are greatly used by migrating waterfowl.



Bird Island south of the Ikatan Peninsula. Such rocks provide excellent nesting areas for kittiwakes, cormorants, and murre.



The Bering Sea beach is a Utopia for the beachcomber.



The robin-egg blue waters of Fisher Caldera are the result of the collapsed summit of a large cone, possibly as a result of a colossal eruption. This area is located in the middle of Unimak Island.





This uniquely beautiful Island is dominated by the active Shishaldin Volcano, a classic cylindrical cone rising to 9,978 feet, the highest mountain in the Aleutians. Isanotski and Roundtop are the peaks to the left.



Typical access road in the Cape Sarichef area. Note ancient village site in foreground and White Alice site in background.



The Swanson Lagoon kitchen midden is the largest village site on the Island.





The freighter Oduna went aground near Cape Pankof in 1965. Now at the mercy of the sea and winds it is an item of interest for the beachcomber. Ships such as this containing quantities of oil create a potential pollution problem.

SECTION II. MINERAL  
APPRAISAL REPORT



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF MINES

P. O. Box 550  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

November 29, 1971

Mr. Loren W. Croxton  
Deputy Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries  
and Wildlife--Alaska Area  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 1 1971

Biological Resources -- Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Dear Loren:

We appreciate your recent letter and copy of the public notice regarding hearings on a proposal to classify as wilderness most of Unimak Island in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge.

The proposed classification of 965,042 acres on Unimak Island as wilderness would not affect any mineral or coal deposits known to us. Available information indicates the potential for petroleum occurrences on the island are remote.

No record was found indicating that the geology of the island has been investigated and mapped in sufficient detail to form a judgment on its possibilities for deposits of sulfur, perlite, or pumice.

Shishaldin Volcano may be strategically situated as a site for studies on volcanism in the Aleutian Arc. Geological Survey Bulletin 974-B lists reported volcanic activity between the years 1760 and 1948 at four of the six volcanoes on Unimak Island. There were 25 periods of activity reported for Shishaldin. Four of the reported events occurred during 1946, 1947, and 1948. The last year covered in the Bulletin is 1948.

Appropriate instrumentation could be installed on Shishaldin Volcano with remote monitoring at established administrative sites at False Pass, Scotch Cap or Cape Serichef. The information obtained would enhance the scientific and educational value of the area without detracting from the primary refuge objectives.

If we can be of further service please call on us.

Sincerely yours,

W. E. Eckard  
Chief  
Alaska Field Operation Center

SECTION III. MASTER  
PLAN

### SECTION III: MASTER PLAN

No Master Plan for the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife  
Refuge has been prepared at the present time.



## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### UNIMAK ISLAND

#### Notice of Public Hearing Regarding Wilderness Proposal

Notice is hereby given in accordance with provisions of the Wilderness Act of September 3, 1964 (Public Law 88-577; 78 Stat. 890-896; 16 U.S.C. 1131-1136), that a public hearing will be held beginning at 9 a.m. on December 14, 1971, in the COMSERFAC Theater, Cold Bay, Third Judicial District, Alaska, and continuing at 7 p.m. on December 17, 1971, at the Alaska Methodist University Auditorium, Anchorage, Third Judicial District, Alaska, on a proposal leading to a recommendation to be made to the President of the United States by the Secretary of the Interior, regarding the desirability of including a portion of Unimak Island within the National Wilderness Preservation System. The wilderness proposal consists of approximately 965,042 acres of Unimak Island in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska.

Information including a map about the proposal may be obtained from the Refuge Manager, Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, Cold Bay, Alaska 99571, or from the Alaska Area Director, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, 6917 Seward Highway, Anchorage, Alaska 99502.

Individuals or organizations may express their oral or written views by appearing at this hearing, or they may submit written comments for inclusion in the official record of the hearing to the Regional Director at the above address by January 17, 1972.

SPENCER H. SMITH,  
*Acting Director, Bureau of  
Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.*

[FR Doc.71-15102 Filed 10-15-71;8:46 am]







DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
Fish and Wildlife Service Regional Information

BUREAU OF SPORT FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

REFER: Gordon Watson  
344-2503  
Will Troyer  
272-5561 x 312

PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULED ON WILDERNESS PROPOSAL  
Anchorage, Alaska

The Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife in the Department of the Interior has scheduled a public hearing to consider a proposal to include approximately 965,042 acres of Unimak Island, Alaska, in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

The Hearing will begin in Cold Bay, Alaska, on December 14, 1971, and continue in Anchorage, Alaska, on December 17, 1971, at 7:00 p.m.

All citizens wishing to express their views on this proposal are cordially invited to attend.

Unimak is the first and largest island in the Aleutian Chain and was included in the Executive Order of 1913 that established the Aleutian Island National Wildlife Refuge. This nearly one-million-acre island possesses many striking physical features. The most outstanding of these are scenic snow-capped mountains, snowfields, glaciers, active volcanoes, sparkling lakes, sweeping tundra supporting a rich variety of plants and animals, productive lagoons and salmon-spawning streams, and beautiful windswept sand beaches.

The 9,978-foot active Shishaldin Volcano is the highest peak in the Aleutians and one of the most perfect cones in the world. It was dedicated as a Natural History Landmark in 1970.

Wildlife is varied and abundant on the island and in the surrounding seas. Brown bear, gray wolf, wolverine and caribou prosper because of the wilderness environment. Offshore waters harbor a variety of interesting marine mammals such as whales, porpoises, seals, sea lions and walrus. The once-rare sea otter now inhabits kelp beds in good numbers.

Migrating birds including ducks, geese and swans, and various shorebirds, songbirds and seabirds are seasonally very abundant. Endangered species like the bald eagle and peregrine falcon are year-round residents, and the Aleutian Canada goose may occur on occasion.

Opportunities for outdoor enjoyment in the solitude of this remote and scenic wilderness are excellent. Activities such as hiking, camping, nature study, photography, mountain climbing, beachcombing, hunting and fishing would continue to be allowed with official wilderness designation.

An informational brochure describing the proposal is available on request from the Area Director, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, 6917 Seward Highway, Anchorage, Alaska 99502 or the Refuge Manager, Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, Cold Bay, Alaska 99571.

Citizens are invited to express their views on this proposal pertaining to their public lands. Oral or written statements may either be presented at the public hearing, or submitted in writing to the Area Director, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, 6917 Seward Highway, Anchorage, Alaska 99502 by January 17, 1972, when the hearing record will be closed.

Notice of the hearing, which begins on December 14, 1971, in the COMSERPAC Theater, Cold Bay, Alaska, and continues on December 17, 1971, in the Alaska Methodist University Auditorium at 7:00 p.m. was published in the Federal Register on October 16, 1971.

# Hearings To Discuss Unimak Island Status

Unimak Island -- the first rocky link in the 1,100-mile Aleutian Chain -- will be the subject of wilderness-area hearings next month.

Public hearings have been scheduled for Dec. 14 in Cold Bay and Dec. 17 in Anchorage.

A newly released report by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service says that about 965,042 acres of the 998,260-acre island "appear suitable" for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Only the island's eastern-most tip -- "where man and his works dominate the landscape" -- is unsuitable for the

wilderness designation, the Fish and Wildlife Service report says.

The area proposed for exclusion includes 42 acres of private lands and 33,218 acres in the vicinity of False Pass, Scotch Cap and Cape Sarichef.

Small aircraft and motorboats, the established means of access to the remote, sparsely populated island, would be permitted under a wilderness classification.

However, power boats would not be allowed on Unimak's interior lakes, and all motorized land vehicles would be prohibited within the wilderness area.

Non-motorized recreational activities such as beachcombing, camping, hiking, mountain climbing, berry picking, nature study, photography and wildlife observation would be encouraged.

Construction of roads or permanent buildings would be prohibited, as would petroleum and mineral exploration. The wildlife service report says Unimak -- 670 air miles from Anchorage -- "lies outside the petroleum provinces of Alaska and has no known mineral deposits."

What it does have, the report says, is barren natural beauty and an abundance of wildlife.

Twenty-five species of land and marine mammals, a "rich variety" of birdlife and 29 species of fish are found on Unimak, the wilderness study report says.

Mammals include brown bear, caribou and gray wolves, while the fish include four native species of salmon and dolly varden trout.

Tall, snow-capped mountains, active volcanoes, glaciers and lush tundra also are a part of Unimak Island. The 9,978-foot Shishaldin

Volcano, one of the most perfect volcanic cones in the world, is the highest peak in the Aleutians.

Most of the island's 265-mile coastline consists of broad, black-sand beaches, with some jagged cliffs and promontories.

According to the report less than 100 persons, mostly native Aleuts, live in the village of False Pass, and a "very small" resident work force occupies the Scotch Cap and Cape Sarichef stations.

The island's tidelands seaward from the mean high-tide line are owned by the State of Alaska, and the report suggests a lease agreement to provide a "buffer zone" around any wilderness area.

Although Unimak currently is under federal protection as part of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, the wildlife service report says a wilderness designation is necessary to guard against future development.

Unimak's value as a wilderness area "will undoubtedly increase" as the country's rising population becomes more urban and mobile, the report says.

"Although most of Unimak Island is a 'defacto' wilderness at present," the report concludes, "official designation as such by Congress would assure that this unique island would remain in a near pristine condition..."

The Cold Bar hearing will begin at 9 a.m. in the COMSERFAC Theater. In Anchorage the hearing will be at 7 p.m. in the Alaska Methodist University auditorium.

Thomas Jefferson was governor of Virginia from 1779 to 1781. He died July 4, 1826, the same day as second president John Adams died.

## Unimak Island: 'No Wilderness'

Testimony heard yesterday in Cold Bay on the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife proposal to include the largest of the Aleutian Islands, Unimak, in the national wilderness system was unanimous in its opposition to the plan.

A hunting guide and a local pilot both told the bureau's David Spencer they didn't like the idea of adding Unimak Island's 965,042 acres to the wilderness system. And Bob Reeve, the president of the Aleutian airline that carries his name, reportedly sent written testimony supporting the establishment of wilderness areas so long as they don't collide with the philosophy and day to day operations of free enterprise.

The hearings on Unimak Island, being conducted under the 1964 Wilderness Act, are scheduled to move to Anchorage Friday night when the second and final round of oral testimony will be heard at 7 p.m. in Alaska Methodist University's Grant Hall Auditorium. The Wilderness Act calls for the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife and other federal agencies to evaluate and then propose for withdrawal as wilderness any roadless area or island under their supervision bigger than 5,000 acres. The bureau has already conducted hearings on several small, isolated Alaskan tracts and last June conducted hearings on its plan to select one million of the Kenai National Moose Range's 1.7 million acres as wilderness.

Following public hearings, the wilderness proposals will be examined within the Interior Department. They will then be subject to final congressional approval before inclusion within the wilderness system.

Five hundred miles southwest of Anchorage, Unimak is the nearest and largest of the Aleutian Islands that sweep

across the North Pacific in a gently curving arc.

Written testimony not delivered at Friday night's hearing may be included in

the record if received by the area director of the bureau

before Jan. 17, 1972 at the bureau offices, 6917 Seward Highway.

## Wilderness hearings set for Unimak Island refuge

The U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife in Alaska studies show that some 965,042 acres of the 998,260 acre Unimak Island is suitable for classification as wilderness.

The federal government would like Unimak, in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, made part of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Alaskans will get a chance to say how they feel about this proposal at public hearings Dec. 14 at Cold Bay and Dec.

17 in the auditorium of Alaska Methodist University in Anchorage.

Under the Wilderness Act of Sept. 3, 1964, the secretary of the Interior is required to review every roadless area of 5,000 contiguous acres or more and every roadless island, regardless of size, within the National Wildlife Refuge System with ten years after the effective date of the act and report his recommendations as to the suitability or nonsuitability of each such area for preservation as wilderness.

The act also defines as wilderness areas of less than 5,000 acres that are of sufficient size to make preservation and use in an unimpaired condition practicable.

## Wilderness areas get no from Chamber

The Greater Anchorage Chamber of Commerce Monday issued a position opposing the proposed Unimak Island wilderness area and all other wilderness areas in Alaska proposed by federal agencies.

The position, drafted by Thomas E. Kelly, former commissioner of natural resources, supports multiple use concepts for lands "unless it can be unequivocally determined that restrictive, single purpose classification ... constitutes the highest and best use of lands and natural resources."

The chamber letter said withdrawal of National Forest lands restricts the state's right to select land granted under the Statehood Act.

It also said wilderness classification should not be applied to Alaska because of the lack of surface transportation that would permit reasonable access.

"The physiography of the state creates 'de facto wilderness,' and denial of principal means of travel other than on foot, canoe, or horseback will prevent the majority of people from deriving any use or enjoyment from such areas designated 'wilderness,'" the letter said.

The chamber charged that all wilderness proposals submitted to date "are insufficient to justify wilderness designation, are biased in content and violate the intent of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969."

The letter said the chamber's opposition to the Unimak Island was identical to positions on the proposals for the Kenai National Moose Range, the Katmai National Monument and the Glacier Bay National Monument. Claire Banks, executive vice president of the chamber, said the position would be used for future wilderness area proposals.

2 Anchorage Daily Times, Friday, December 17, 1971

## Sees Little Talk On Unimak Island

A second hearing on the proposal to make Unimak Island a wilderness area will be held at 7 o'clock tonight in Alaska Methodist's University's Grant Hall.

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife personnel who drafted the plan to add Unimak's 965,042 acres to the national wilderness expect a small turnout and little objection.

"We don't expect too much excitement," said Will Troyer who helped draw up the proposal. "Because of its remoteness and because the island doesn't have oil deposits or minerals of value."

The island is at the tip of the Alaska Peninsula about 500 miles southwest of Anchorage.

Troyer suspects, "We won't have as much interest in Unimak as we did on the Kenai" when conservationists and developers butted heads last summer over canoe trails and oil deposits on the Moose Range. "There are very few people in this area who have personal knowledge of the area and there are no known deposits of oil or gas."

Troyer said, "The usually controversial subjects aren't going to come up."

Without the economic potential of concern to developers, Unimak's Sishaldin Volcano, its

glaciers, bear, caribou and migratory birds are likely to share a wilderness sanctuary without objection from the business quarter.

Troyer doesn't expect opposition from Aleut Indians who, he thinks, "will probably get three townships in the area." He thinks the natives will select sites with good potential for fishing, cannery or harbor sites, "so this will remove some of the controversy." While the aboriginal claims were still pending in Congress, Troyer said the natives had opposed wilderness withdrawals.

The Sierra Club, the Alaska Conservation Society and the Wilderness Society are expected to deliver favorable testimony. And even the state, represented by Gov. William Egan's research and planning chief, Robert Pavitt, who served a similar role for the Anchorage Borough before moving to Juneau, is expected to deliver at least lukewarm support.

# Conservationists, State air feelings

By MARGIE BAUMAN  
Daily News Staff Writer

Members of the Wilderness Society, the Alaska Conservation Society and the Sierra Club spoke out Friday night in support of the Unimak Island Wilderness proposal, but state officials continued to oppose the idea.

The conservation groups held with their arguments at a hearing on the proposal at Alaska Methodist University that there is little wilderness left and it should be preserved, but a representative of Gov. William A. Egan's office urged a longer, further study of the proposal.

**WALT PARKER**, of the Alaska Conservation Society, urged that points of access to the wilderness area be very carefully considered, warning that too much access might result in the area being destroyed.

He warned that Alaska must not look to the rest of the world for examples but must "create our own models."

It may be that this area will receive very little use over the next 50 years, Parker said. But that is the very concept of wilderness, that it should remain much as it always has been for as long as it continues to exist, he said.

**CELIA HUNTER**, of Fairbanks, a member of the governing council of the Wilderness Society and executive secretary of the Alaska Conservation Society, said that Unimak Island is a unique wilderness and fully deserving

of the statutory protection that the Wilderness Act provides.

"The Wilderness Society feels that future administration of the national wildlife refuge and the wilderness area for the purposes for which they are established will be strengthened by amending the proposal to assure that Unimak Island and the wilderness will not be subjected to military intrusion in the future.

The executive order establishing the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge said in part that establishment of the refuge shall not interfere with use of the islands for lighthouse, military or naval purposes.

**THE BUREAU** of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife proposes to designate as wilderness area nearly one million acres in the national wildlife refuge on Unimak Island.

In a hearing Tuesday at Cold Bay two persons testified. Both expressed opposition to the plan to include 965,042 acres under provisions of the 1964 Wilderness Act.

Located 670 miles southwest of Anchorage, Unimak is the first and largest island of the Aleutian Chain. It includes 25 species of mammals, including Alaskan brown bear, wolverine, river otters, red fox, mink, weasel, grey wolves and caribou. A variety of sea mammals, fish and birds also inhabit the island.

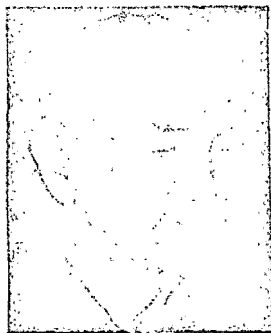
**BUREAU** officials said about 33,000 acres of land on the island is unsuitable for wilderness area status because it is privately owned or occupied by villages. The rest of the land would be closed to development and access would be limited.

A spokesman said six other areas in Alaska under Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife domain have been approved by Congress for wilderness classification. Hearings have been held on five more areas, including the 1.7 million acre Kenai wilderness proposal. The next area scheduled for hearings is the nine-million-acre Arctic Wildlife Refuge in the northwest tip of the state.



urged that a longer, further study of the proposal be made. An analysis of the testimony here and at Cold Bay will be made and the proposal submitted to the Secretary of the Interior. If he approves it, the proposal will be sent to the President and to Congress, which has the final say on wilderness areas under the Wilderness Act of 1964.





# Plea for a paradise

By Calvin Rutstrum

*Calvin Rutstrum, of Marine-on-St. Croix, is the author of a number of books about outdoor living, including The New Way of the Wilderness, Paradise Below Zero, The Wilderness Route Finder, and, most recently the autobiographical Challenge of the Wilderness.*

LET'S SUPPOSE for a moment that in the United States with its onrushing population increases, there is a wilderness area of nearly a million acres that has been left just about as wild and untrammelled as it was a thousand years ago. In the play of our imagination consider that only the rare individual has ever visited this grand expanse of nature. Further to improve our hypothesis consider that it has the most beautiful crater lakes in the world, set in spectacular mountains from which flow numerous cold mountain streams. To give the streams greater interest, punctuate their routes to the sea with scenically awesome waterfalls. To cap off the physiological nature of the almost million acres, add to its magnificent coastline 200 or more miles of wide sandy beach.

So much for its physiological features. To complete the wilderness paradise, suppose that we also add about 25 species of wild mammals, bear, wolves, fox, otter, wolverine, and members of the deer family. And in order to make a long coast fascinating beyond words, throw in a population of seals, sea lions, and other deep sea creatures. In our generosity, let's add geese by the tens of thousands, whistling swans, ducks galore: even throw in a generous share of eider ducks and scoters. We might as well go all out and add cormorants, kittiwakes, murre, shearwaters for the shores; for the uplands, ptarmigan and songbirds. And we can't afford to leave out the bald eagle. Here in this natural wonderland, we will not consider him, as we must in other areas, an endangered species.

INCREDIBLE EVEN to the imagination? It seems so today. It's like the fellow who said, "Imagine it: a thick steak, salad, baked potato, beverage and dessert all for 35 cents." A bystander remarked, "Where can I get this meal for 35 cents?" The reply, "I don't know, but just imagine it!"

Should we be as facetiously speculative about the dream wilderness described? It is a wonderful prospect, but who is interested in an imaginative wilderness wonderland? Where in a world environment caught up in an industrial obsessionism could we imagine such an area?

We don't have to imagine it. It actually does exist. Every phase described above is factual on Unimak Island—the first, largest and nearest to Alaska of the Aleutian chain. In fact, Unimak is so close to the Alaskan Peninsula, it seems almost to touch it.

the Unimak Wilderness Proposal, can be destroyed unless you, the citizen, step in to help preserve it.

What can we do immediately about saving Unimak from general ravage?

The groundwork, fortunately, has been laid. It needs only the voice of every concerned citizen to back up the Unimak Wilderness Proposal now being considered.

Official meetings were held in Alaska, Dec. 14 and 17, 1971. Letters from citizens are now needed to conclude preservation proceedings. Letters should be sent to:

Alaska Area Director,  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife,  
6917 Seward Highway,  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

It will also help if a copy of the letter is sent to elected state and federal congressmen and senators.

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS of the Unimak proposal will be made by the Secretary of the Interior to the President of the United States when the hearing record is closed. Results will be based on a study and on citizens' response to the proposal. Letters that one planned to write but got put off, can never save this natural island. A flood of letters now will save it.

It is quite true that many people living today and generations to come, may not in their lives observe an area of inviolate wilderness. This can become a serious cultural degeneration in any civilization. We could arrive at such ecological disaster in a relatively short time only by neglect.

Unimak, of course, is a long way off from most states, but it is, we need to remind ourselves, a part of the United States, which makes travel to it a lot more technically feasible. A journey to Unimak can be as enriching as the arrival itself, since travel en route is through that part of the North American continent possessing some of the most magnificent scenery. In a jet flight age, distance no longer poses the problem it once did. To leave a hurly-burly world of business and industry to arrive at an inviolate wilderness paradise, to camp, hike, climb, pick berries in endless profusion, beachcomb on hundreds of miles of beach, hunt, fish, study nature, observe and photograph wildlife, ought to hold enchantment enough.

Once you as citizen help to preserve Unimak as a wilderness by law, some practical means of travel to the island will, no doubt, be provided. Right now it lies there a bit inaccessible in all its pristine grandeur, waiting for

SECTION VI. PUBLIC  
HEARING PACKAGE



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
BUREAU OF SPORT FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

A PUBLIC NOTICE

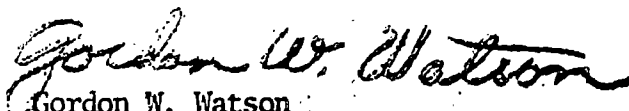
This is to bring to your attention a public hearing which will be held beginning on December 14, 1971, at Cold Bay, Alaska, and continued on December 17, 1971, in Anchorage, Alaska. The hearing concerns a wilderness proposal on Unimak Island within the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge. Copies of the public notice and wilderness brochure are enclosed.

Your views may be presented prior to, during, or after the public hearing. Your written statement, if submitted after the hearing, must be sent to this office at the above address by January 17, 1972, in order to be included in the official hearing record.

To insure that statements will be properly recorded, you are urged to clearly print or type your full name and address on the letter or statement submitted.

If we can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us at any time.

Sincerely,

  
Gordon W. Watson  
Area Director

Enclosure

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
BUREAU OF SPORT FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

# UNIMAK ISLAND

ALEUTIAN ISLANDS  
NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

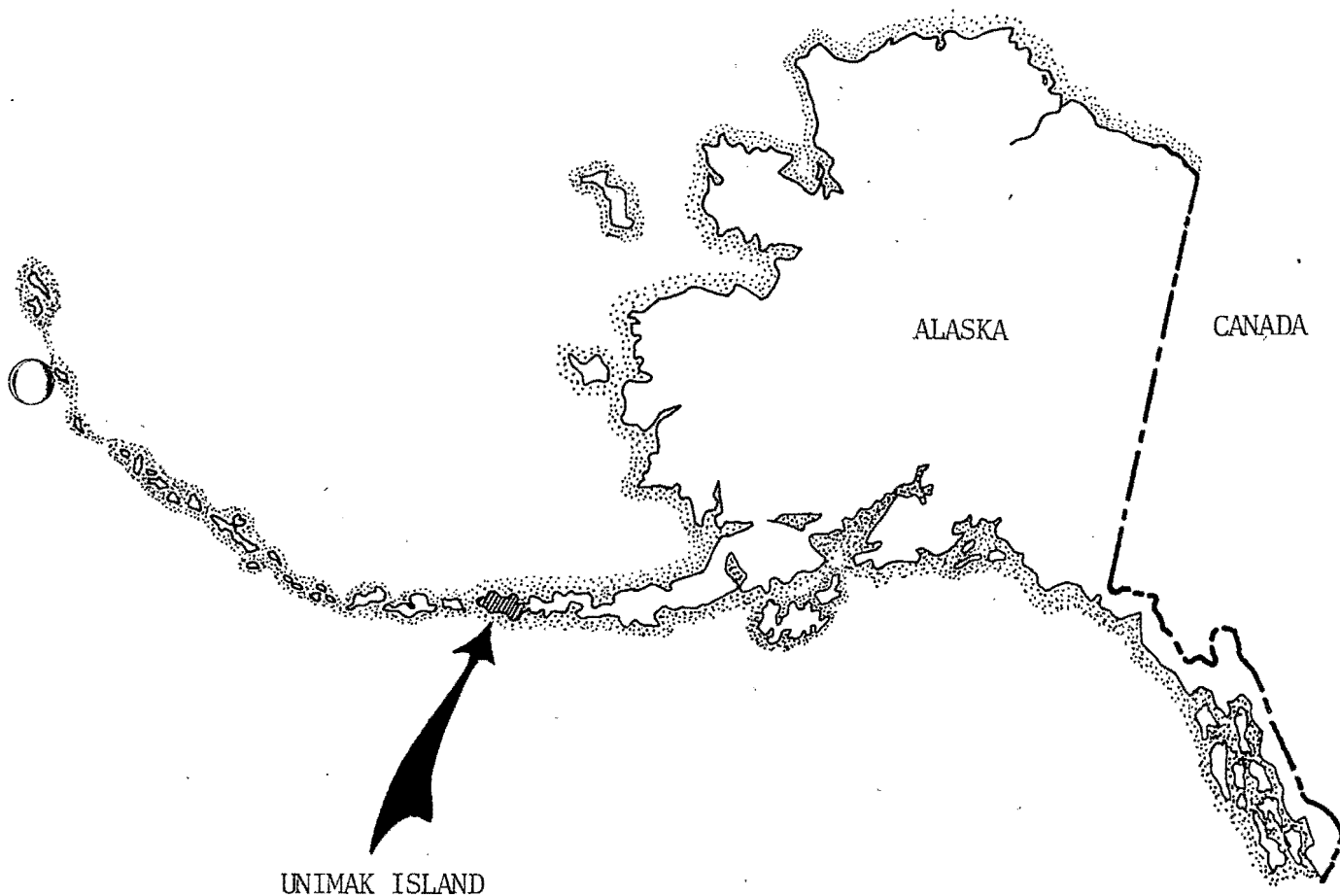
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ALASKA

# WILDERNESS PROPOSAL



This report was prepared pursuant to the Wilderness Act, Public Law 88-577. Publication of the findings and recommendations herein should not be construed as representing either the approval or disapproval of the Secretary of the Interior. The purpose of this report is to provide information and alternatives for further consideration by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Secretary of Interior, and other Federal agencies.



wilderness proposal - preliminary - subject to change



Shishaldin Volcano With  
Isanotski Peak Beyond

Photo by Palmer Sekora  
Fish and Wildlife Service



## SUMMARY - UNIMAK WILDERNESS STUDY

### PREFACE

Portions of Unimak Island in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska, are being proposed for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System. This brochure explains the proposal, and summarizes a study of the island made by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife at the direction of the Secretary of the Interior. Its aim is to acquaint the reader with this remote fogbound island and provide information to help concerned Americans decide the island's fate in western civilization.

The Wilderness Act of September 3, 1964 (Public Law 88-577) requires that the Secretary of the Interior review every roadless area of 5,000 contiguous acres or more and every roadless island, regardless of size, within the National Wildlife Refuge System within ten years after the effective date of the Act, and report to the President of the United States his recommendations as to the suitability or unsuitability of each such area or island for preservation as wilderness. A recommendation of the President for designation as wilderness does not become effective unless provided by an Act of Congress.

In defining wilderness, the Act also included areas of less than 5,000 acres that are of sufficient size to make preservation and use in an unimpaired condition practicable.

Sections 4(a) and (b) of the Wilderness Act provide that: (1) The Act is to be within and supplemental to the purposes for which National Wildlife Refuges are established; and (2) Wilderness areas shall be administered so as to preserve their wilderness character and shall be devoted to the public purposes of recreational, scenic, scientific, educational, conservation and historical use insofar as primary refuge objectives permit. Wilderness designation does not remove or alter an area's status as a National Wildlife Refuge.



False Pass in Isanotski Strait

Photo by  
Fish and Wildlife Service

## INTRODUCTION

Westward from the tip of the Alaska Peninsula the wind-swept and fogbound Aleutian Islands reach out toward Asia in an 1100-mile sweeping arc. The first and largest island in the chain is Unimak.

Much of the grandeur that typifies Alaska is found on this unique island; towering snow-capped mountains, active volcanoes, living glaciers, and expansive tundra supporting a rich variety of wildlife.

President William H. Taft included Unimak in his Executive Order of 1913 that established the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge as "a preserve and breeding ground for native birds, for the propagation of reindeer and furbearing animals, and for the encouragement and development of the fisheries."

Refuge goals have been refined through the years and today the primary objective of management is to insure the survival, in a natural state, of the many unique ecological values of the Aleutian Islands.

Current refuge status provides important protection to island resources, particularly wildlife. Such status does not, however, prohibit future developments from occurring which could jeopardize the island's unique wilderness qualities. Activities such as road building or dock construction, widespread use of motorized vehicles, or intrusion by commercial interests are examples of developments that could legally occur under existing National Wildlife Refuge policy. All of these are, however, incompatible with wilderness and would be prohibited in those areas of the island included in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Unimak is 670 air miles southwest of Anchorage, Alaska's largest city. It is administered as an integral part of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge from Refuge headquarters at the village of Cold Bay, 35 miles distant on the mainland.



Interior of Aleut "Barabara"

Drawing by John Webber  
On Captain Cook's Third  
Circumnavigation of the  
Globe

## HISTORY

When Russian explorers first landed on Unimak Island in the 18th century, they found native Aleuts living in underground lodges called "barabaras." Although the explorers treated these hardy seafaring Natives with respect, the Russian fur traders who arrived later virtually enslaved them and forced the Native men to hunt down sea otters in their kayak-like "bidarkas."

Today several old Aleut village sites are of great archeological value on Unimak, while a new generation of Natives resides in the small village of False Pass on Isanotski Strait.

The famous explorers Vitus Bering and James Cook sailed past Unimak in 1741 and 1778, respectively, but did not land. In 1768 a ship of the Russian Krenitsyn expedition entered Isanotski Pass and wintered on the island's shore. St. Catherine Cove is named for Captain Krenitsyn's ship.

For many years following discovery of the Aleutians, furbearing animals were plundered by fur traders from Kamchatka in Siberia. Although some conservation practices were eventually instituted, the over-exploitation continued with the purchase of Alaska by the United States in 1867. Not until about 1910 were stringent harvest regulations adopted to better protect this valuable natural resource.

Lighthouses were constructed at Scotch Cap in 1903 and Cape Sarichef in 1904 to guide ships through Unimak Pass. A tidal wave destroyed the Scotch Cap station in 1946 with the loss of several lives. The lighthouse was later rebuilt and is still manned today by the U. S. Coast Guard. The Cape Sarichef facility, however, has been converted to a "LORAN" communications station.

In the 1920's the Aleutian Islands were leased for fox farming. Trapping permits were issued for Unimak and the taking of fox pelts remained a lucrative business until falling fur prices made the venture unprofitable about 1940.

Although military training exercises were conducted in the mountains of Unimak during World War II, the Aleutian Campaign largely bypassed the island.



Serenity of the Bering Sea Beach

Photo by David Cline  
Fish and Wildlife Service



## PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Unimak first appeared as an island following the great Pleistocene glaciation of North America. Through the centuries it has been shaped by volcanism, glaciation and by the sea. Today, approximately 965,042 acres of this nearly one-million-acre island appear suitable for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Rugged, snow-capped mountains dominate the island's interior. Here Shishaldin Volcano rises to 9,978 feet and is the highest peak in the Aleutians and one of the most perfect volcanic cones in the world. The Aleuts called Shishaldin "Sisguk" meaning "mountain which points the way when I am lost." It has been used as a landfall by mariners for centuries and is listed in the National Registry of National Natural Landmarks.

High in the mountains is the awesomely beautiful Fisher Caldera. This crater lake was formed following the collapse of an extinct volcano's cone.

Numerous "braided" streams flow seaward from the mountain foothills. On the island's Bering Sea side they cross vast expanses of lush green tundra. Relief on the Pacific side is steeper and several scenic waterfalls occur along streams rushing down to the sea.

Broad, black sand beaches comprise most of the 265-mile-long coastline. Occasionally jagged and precipitous cliffs and promontories appear. Prominent and ever-shifting sand dunes lie between the Bering Sea beaches and several large biologically productive lagoons. In the Uria Bay area, freshwater lakes and marshes are numerous.

The island's weather is characterized by frequent cloudiness, fog, high humidity and gale-force winds. Temperatures range from 70 degrees in summer to -10 degrees in winter. Precipitation occurs throughout the year and averages 30 inches.

## Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge

Alaska





Barren Ground Caribou

Photo by  
United States Navy

## RESOURCES

Twenty-five species of mammals inhabit the island. Among these is the Alaskan brown bear, largest of the land carnivores. The less conspicuous wolverine and river otter are present, and red fox, mink and weasel are frequently encountered. Grey wolves occur and are partially dependent on the island's herd of approximately 2,500 caribou.

The surrounding stormy seas harbor a variety of interesting marine mammals. Sea lions and harbor seals are abundant and Pacific walrus can be observed. The once-rare sea otter is again present in good numbers. Northern fur seals migrate annually through the turbulent and fog-shrouded waters of Unimak Pass to and from their ancestral breeding grounds on the Pribilof Islands.

The diverse habitats of Unimak attract a rich variety of birdlife. Spectacular concentrations of waterfowl occur during migration, especially in the island's larger lagoons where the nutritious eelgrass is abundant. Black brant, lesser Canada geese, and Emperor geese appear by the tens of thousands, and the endangered Aleutian race of Canada goose may again frequent the island on occasion. Whistling swans are present year-around and thousands of ducks, including eiders and scoters, winter in the shelter of the biologically productive lagoons.

Unusually large numbers of migrating shorebirds frequent island beaches, tide flats and shallow-water areas. Sea birds such as pelagic cormorants, black-legged kittiwakes and common murrelets rest on rocky promontories and cliffs. Several million slender-billed shearwaters have been sighted in Unimak Pass where they constitute one of the most spectacular assemblages of seabirds in the world.

American bald eagles and peregrine falcons occupy aeries on the island. These raptors are now endangered in the United States outside of Alaska. Willow and rock ptarmigan are upland game birds which nest on the tundra in company with a variety of interesting songbirds.

Four native species of salmon and the Dolly Varden trout are among 29 species of fish known to frequent inshore waters. The salmon spawn in island streams where they constitute an important food source for brown bear and bald eagles. These fish also contribute to a local multimillion-dollar fishery. King and tanner crabs occur in marine waters and are also harvested commercially.

Unimak Island lies outside the petroleum provinces of Alaska and has no known mineral deposits.



Beachcombing

Photo by David Cline  
Fish and Wildlife Service

## PUBLIC USE

Unimak's sheer remoteness has kept it from the public eye. Population in the area is sparse and travel to the island still quite expensive. Adverse weather conditions can limit local excursions by small boat or plane.

Most visitations are by local residents who hunt brown bear, caribou, ptarmigan and waterfowl. A limited amount of trapping, sport fishing, clam digging and berry picking is also done. Visitors from outside are generally hunters who come to pursue the majestic brown bear.

Some future increase in public use can be anticipated as the nation's population grows and becomes more mobile. For people seeking a true wilderness experience, excellent opportunities exist on the island for such varied activities as hiking, camping, beachcombing, mountain climbing, nature observation and study, photography, hunting, fishing and other such non-motorized pursuits compatible with wilderness.



Sea Otter and Pup

Photo by Ed Klinkhart  
Alaska Department of Fish  
and Game

## MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Management on Unimak is currently directed at insuring the survival of the island's many unique ecological values. No artificial manipulation of habitats has been undertaken or deemed necessary. With wilderness designation the area will be maintained in its present near-pristine condition.

Periodic administrative patrols by airplane and boat will continue to adequately inventory wildlife populations, to enforce regulations, and for search and rescue operations.

Small aircraft and motor-powered boats are the safest and most dependable means of providing access to this remote and stormy island. Their use would continue to be permitted with wilderness designation; but other means of motorized travel incompatible with wilderness would be prohibited above the mean high-tide line.

Aircraft can be landed on the small airfields at False Pass and Cape Sarichef, on island beaches, and, when equipped with floats, on certain of the larger lagoons and interior lakes. Motorboats can be used to reach safe and convenient beach areas.

Tidelands seaward from the mean high-tide line are the property of the State of Alaska. The Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, therefore, has no jurisdiction over these ecologically important insular lands. It is conceivable that activities incompatible with wilderness could eventually occur there unless a tidelands lease is negotiated with the State to provide a buffer zone around the Unimak wilderness area.

Existing major developments on Unimak include the village of False Pass, and the Scotch Cap and Cape Sarichef installations with their connecting roads. There are a number of old hunting and trapping cabins on the periphery of the island, but most of these are in a state of disrepair and are seldom used. It is anticipated that the 33,218-acre exclusion area will accommodate future developments that may become necessary.



## SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS

At present less than 100 people, mostly native Aleuts, reside in the island village of False Pass. Summer employment at the local salmon cannery may raise this total to 200. Only a very small resident work force occupies the Scotch Cap and Cape Sarichef stations.

Most of the villagers rely on the local fisheries for their livelihood, and some use the island for recreation and subsistence purposes.

Opportunities for sport fishing and hunting are excellent and wildlife observation and study can be particularly rewarding in the Urilia Bay and Swanson Lagoon areas. Although at present few people from outside travel to the island to participate in these activities, anticipated future increases in the number of visitations could have positive effects on the local economy.

The island's value to science is also expected to increase as most of the world's major insular ecosystems are severely altered by man. The varied natural communities on Unimak and in its adjacent seas have been little studied and offer many fine opportunities for research in terrestrial, marine, and freshwater ecology.

Unimak's value as a wilderness will undoubtedly increase as the nation's population grows and becomes more urban. The excellent opportunities it affords for recreation, stress removal, personal achievement and creativity in the solitude of a clean and scenic environment are becoming of increasing importance to many people.



Commercial salmon fishing

Photo by Alaska  
Department of Fish and Game

Construction of roads, buildings or other permanent structures would be prohibited within the wilderness area, as would exploration for minerals or oil and gas.

The Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife has no jurisdiction over State lands below the mean high-tide line. These lands have high wildlife values and are of great ecological importance to the entire insular ecosystem. The negotiation of a State tidelands lease out to one-fourth mile or more would provide a valuable buffer zone around the island's wilderness area.

The Executive Order which established the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge stated in part, "The establishment of this reservation shall not interfere with the use of the islands for lighthouse, military, or naval purposes." There is now a need to amend this Executive Order 1733 to either exclude this clause or have it apply to specific islands or portions thereof only.

Although most of Unimak Island is a defacto wilderness at present, official designation as such by Congress would assure that this unique island would remain in a near pristine condition "...untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain."



## CONCLUSIONS

Approximately 965,042 acres of the nearly one-million-acre Unimak Island appear suitable for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System. Included in the proposal are most of the island's outstanding recreational, historic, geologic, archeological, educational, scientific, scenic and ecological values.

Areas deemed unsuitable for wilderness designation include 42 acres of private lands, and 33,218 acres of land in the vicinity of False Pass, Scotch Cap and Cape Sarichef where man and his works dominate the landscape. Any future developments that may become desirable or necessary on the island would be accommodated on these excluded acreages.

Alternatives to the proposed action have been explored, and an Environmental Impact Statement prepared for review by the Council of Environmental Quality as required by the Environmental Quality Act of 1969 (Public Law 90-190).

Non-motorized recreational pursuits such as camping, hiking, mountain climbing, sport hunting and fishing, beachcombing, picnicking, berry picking, nature study, outdoor photography, and wildlife observation and study would be encouraged in the Unimak wilderness.

Small aircraft and motorboats are the established means of access to the island and would continue to be permitted with wilderness designation. In addition to the airstrips at False Pass and Cape Sarichef, aircraft could be landed on the safest ocean beaches, or on the larger lagoons and certain designated lakes. Motorboats could continue to be used to reach island beaches and lagoons, but would not be allowed on the interior lakes.

Because they are incompatible with wilderness, vehicles such as jeeps, trail bikes, snowmobiles, dune buggies and all-terrain vehicles would be prohibited within the Unimak wilderness area.

Persons interested in the proposal are encouraged to inspect Unimak Island. Additional information may be obtained from the Refuge Manager, Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, Cold Bay, Alaska 99571 or from the Area Director, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, 6917 Seward Highway, Anchorage, Alaska 99502.

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The Public Hearing Package was sent from Cold Bay to the following people:

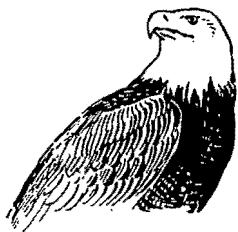
Herold, E. H.; 1526 I. Piikoi St.; Honolulu, Hi. 96829

Weggel, Mrs. Vee; Sierra Club; S. E. Chapter; Editor,  
Mountain Laurel; 5307 Nevada Ave. NW; Washington,  
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Wilhelm, B. E.; Chief, Property Mgt. Branch; U. S.  
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SECTION VIII. PUBLIC HEARING  
HANDOUT MATERIALS





## Birds Of The **ALEUTIAN ISLANDS** National Wildlife Refuge

The Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, established in 1913 and administered by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, includes all of the Aleutian Islands except Umnak, Unalaska, Akun, Akutan, and Tigalda. Amak Island, Caton Island, and the Sanak Reefs, slightly to the east of Unimak Island, are also part of the refuge. It is one of the most extensive areas in the National Wildlife Refuge System, comprising 2,720,235 acres and stretching westward from the tip of the Alaska Peninsula for 1,100 miles to include Attu Island. It is administered from a headquarters at Cold Bay, which also supervises the Izembek National Wildlife Range.

Commonly known as The Chain, the Aleutian Islands are the emergent peaks of the Aleutian Ridge, a submarine mountain range. The Aleutian climate is maritime, and while all the factors are not fully understood, its low summer temperature is the main reason for the lack of trees. Principal plants of the tundralike ground cover are grasses, sedges, lichens, dwarf willows, and members of the heath family.

The Aleuts, the earliest people to inhabit the area, appear to have numbered about 16,000 at the time the Russians occupied the Islands. Since the great decline of that population there have never been more than a few widely scattered people resident in The Chain. Sea otter

hunting, cod fishing, and, finally, fox farming were the chief economic pursuits; and, except for the decimation of the sea otter populations by hunting and the bird populations by introduced foxes and rats, the wildlife has been largely undisturbed. Certain islands now have military installations and atomic energy operations, and extensive alteration of wildlife habitat has occurred on them.

In a refuge of such extent, physically linking the Asiatic and North American continents, bird life varies considerably from one end to the other. In the Aleutians, the willow ptarmigan is found only on Unimak Island, at the eastern end of The Chain. In the western Aleutians, wintering swans previously assumed to be whistling swans are now known to be Asiatic whooper swans. In the eastern Aleutians, the black brant is an abundant migrant both spring and fall, and winters in parts of the refuge, whereas a thousand miles westward, but still within the refuge, it is a rare bird.

The yellow-billed loon has been recorded, from Little Kiska, only on the basis of bones recovered from an Aleut kitchen midden. It can be expected to appear in the Aleutians, but it is easily confused with the common loon, which is numerous. The short-tailed albatross, once abundant in the Aleutians, may still occur but is almost extinct. It apparently approached

land closely in numbers, for its remains (principally the upper mandible and long wing bones) are common in kitchen middens. Happily, however, the infinitely graceful black-footed and Laysan albatrosses can still be found offshore in all seasons, soaring on motionless wings. The slender-billed and sooty shearwaters that nest in the Antipodes migrate to the North Pacific at the approach of Antarctic winter and are very numerous on the refuge in the Aleutian summer. Also once abundant, the Aleutian Canada goose (*Branta canadensis leucopareia*) is now dangerously near extinction as a result of fox introductions. Today an observer can count on finding this goose only on Buldir, where foxes have never been introduced.

The teal most often seen in the Aleutians is a subspecies of the common teal of Europe. It is found on the refuge throughout the year. The king eider, winging south from its Arctic nesting grounds after winter is well advanced, appears in numbers as far west as Atka Pass. The black oystercatcher, common west to Kiska, does not appear at Buldir nor in the Near Islands. Though successful in crossing 60-mile wide Amchitka Pass, it apparently does not make the two 60-mile passages to Buldir and the Near Islands. In late July and August, throughout The Chain, hundreds of dainty phalaropes appear offshore feeding in the upwellings produced by tidal currents. These had been assumed to be northern phalaropes, but we now know they are predominantly red phalaropes in nonbreeding plumage. The diminutive winter wren apparently inhabited all the rocky beaches of the Aleutians at one time and literally filled the landscape with its rollicking call. It still occurs on certain islands, but on those where the Norway rat has established itself the wren has nearly or entirely disappeared.

As these examples illustrate, the present population of birds in the Aleutians has a varied historical and geographical background. The migrations, too, coming as they do from all around the compass, are distinctly varied. An observer equipped with only an undifferentiated list of the known species of the refuge would have difficulty knowing just what birds to expect. The list has therefore been broken into three parts. The first is a list of what might be called the "regular" birds of the refuge, which can predictably be expected in some part of the refuge even though some are rare. The second consists of Asiatic birds that seem to be accidentally carried off their normal migration route by strong westerly winds that develop at the time the birds are ready to migrate. A third, short list comprises birds whose occurrence is considered hypothetical, and is offered to stimulate investigation.

The list contains 141 species that have been definitely recorded on the refuge. In the first part of the list, those species marked with an \* are known to breed on the refuge. Also in the first part, abundance symbols are grouped in four seasonal columns and present the seasonal status of each species in the refuge insofar as possible, considering that many species vary in abundance and seasonally, or both, in various islands of the refuge. These are coded as follows:

S—April-May	a—abundant
S—June-August	c—common
F—September-November	u—uncommon
W—December-March	o—occasional
	r—rare



	S	S	F	W
Common Loon*	c	c	c	c
Arctic Loon				r
Red-throated Loon*	c	c	c	c
Red-necked Grebe	r	r	u	u
Horned Grebe			o	o
Western Grebe				r
Short-tailed Albatross			uncertain	
Black-footed Albatross	c	c	c	c
Laysan Albatross	c	c	c	c
Fulmar*	a	a	a	a
Sooty Shearwater		a	a	
Slender-billed Shearwater		a	a	
Scaled Petrel		r	r	
Cook's Petrel		r	r	
Fork-tailed Petrel*	a	a	a	a
Leach's Petrel*	c	c	c	c
Double-crested Cormorant*	o	o	o	o
Pelagic Cormorant*	a	a	a	a
Red-faced Cormorant*	c	c	c	c
Whooper Swan				u
Whistling Swan*	o	o	o	o
Canada Goose, Aleutian*	r	r		
Canada Goose, Cackling			c	
Canada Goose, Taverner's			c	
Black Brant	a		a	u
Emperor Goose	r	r	a	a
White-fronted Goose			r	
Mallard*	c	c	c	c
Gadwall*	o	o	o	o
Pintail*	u	u	u	u
Common Teal (Aleutian)*	a	a	a	a
Green-winged Teal*	o	o	o	o
Blue-winged Teal			r	
European Widgeon*	r	r		
American Widgeon			r	r
Shoveler	r			r
Canvasback			r	
Greater Scaup*	u	u	u	u
Tufted Duck	r	r		

	S	S	F	W
Common Goldeneye				u
Barrow's Goldeneye				r
Bufflehead	u			u
Oldsquaw	a			a
Harlequin Duck*	a	a	a	a
Steller's Eider	c			c
Common Eider*	c	c	c	c
King Eider	a			a
Spectacled Eider				r
White-winged Scoter				c
Surf Scoter				r
Common Scoter*	o	o	o	o
Common Merganser*	o	o	o	o
Red-breasted Merganser*	u	u	u	u
Rough-legged Hawk*	o	o	o	o
Bald Eagle*	c	c	c	c
Marsh Hawk			r	
Osprey			r	
Gyr Falcon*	o	o	o	o
Peregrine Falcon*	c	c	c	c
Pigeon Hawk	r			r
Willow Ptarmigan*	c	c	c	c
Rock Ptarmigan*	c	c	c	c
Sandhill Crane	r	r		
Black Oystercatcher*	c	c	c	c
Semipalmated Plover*	o	o		
American Golden Plover	o	u		
Ruddy Turnstone	u	a	a	
Whimbrel			r	
Wandering Tattler*	u	u		
Lesser Yellowlegs	o	c		
Rock Sandpiper*	c	c	c	c
Pectoral Sandpiper				r
Baird's Sandpiper			o	
Least Sandpiper*	r	r	r	r
Dunlin	r			r
Semipalmated Sandpiper				r
Western Sandpiper	o	o		
Bar-tailed Godwit	u			

	S	S	F	W
Sanderling -----	u			u
Red Phalarope -----		a		
Northern Phalarope* -----	c	c	c	
Pomarine Jaeger -----	o	o		
Parasitic Jaeger* -----	u	u	u	u
Long-tailed Jaeger -----		r	r	
Glaucous Gull -----	r	r	r	r
Glaucous-winged Gull* -----	a	a	a	a
Herring Gull -----				r
Mew Gull* -----	r	r	r	r
Bonaparte's Gull -----		o	r	
Black-legged Kittiwake* -----	a	a	a	a
Sabine's Gull -----	u	u	u	u
Arctic Tern* -----	c	c		
Aleutian Tern* -----	r	c	r	r
Common Murre* -----	a	a	a	a
Thick-billed Murre* -----	a	a	a	a
Pigeon Guillemot* -----	c	c	c	c
Marbled Murrelet* -----	o	o	o	o
Kittlitz's Murrelet* -----	u	u	u	u
Ancient Murrelet* -----	c	c	u	u
Cassin's Auklet* -----	u	u	u	u
Parakeet Auklet* -----	u	u	u	u
Crested Auklet* -----	c	c	c	c
Least Auklet* -----	a	a	a	a
Whiskered Auklet* -----	c	c	c	c
Rhinoceros Auklet* -----	o	o	o	o
Horned Puffin* -----	a	a	u	u
Tufted Puffin* -----	a	a	u	u
Snowy Owl* -----	u	u	u	u
Short-eared Owl* -----	c	c	c	c
Belted Kingfisher -----	r	r	r	r
Bank Swallow* -----	u	u		
Barn Swallow* -----	o	o		
Common Raven* -----	c	c	c	c
Dipper* -----	c	c	c	c
Winter Wren* -----	a	a	a	a
Hermit Thrush* -----	c	c	c	c
Water Pipit* -----	c	c	c	c
Northern Shrike -----	r	r	r	r

	S	S	F	W
Yellow Warbler* -----	c	c	c	c
Wilson's Warbler* -----	u	u		
Gray-crowned Rosy Finch* -----	a	a	a	a
Common Redpoll* -----	c	c	c	c
Savannah Sparrow* -----	a	a		
Slate-colored Junco -----				r
Golden-crowned Sparrow* -----	c	c		
Fox Sparrow* -----	a	a		
Song Sparrow* -----	a	a	a	a
Lapland Longspur* -----	a	a		
Snow Bunting* -----	a	a	a	a
McKay's Bunting -----				a

Asiatic birds occurring casually or accidentally on the Aleutian Islands Refuge:

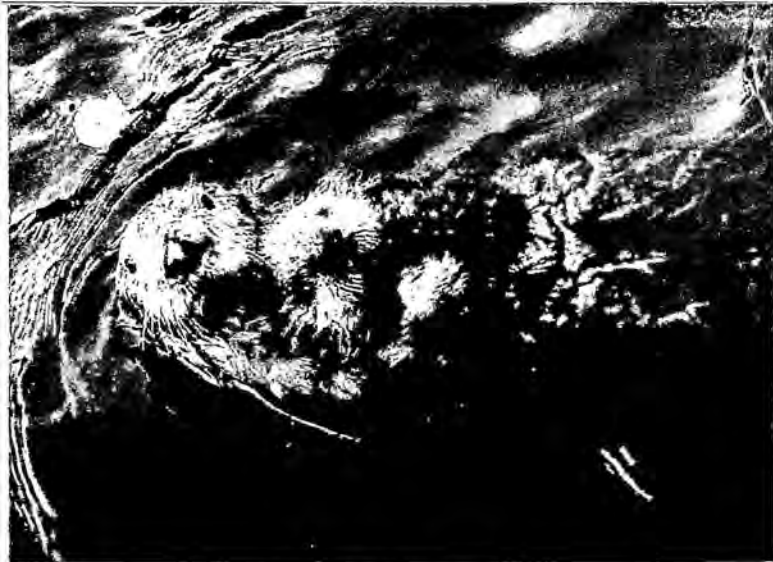
Falcated Teal	Arctic Warbler
Steller's Sea Eagle	Siberian Rubythroat
Wood Sandpiper	Gray-spotted Flycatcher
Black-tailed Godwit	White Wagtail
Slaty-backed Gull	Yellow Wagtail
Black-headed Gull	Gray Wagtail
Red-legged Kittiwake	Brambling
Oriental Cuckoo	Rustic Bunting
Eye-browed Thrush	

Species whose occurrence on the Aleutian Islands Refuge is not yet based on valid records:

Goshawk	Rufous Hummingbird
Golden Eagle	Hoary Redpoll
Gray Sea Eagle	Oregon Junco
Short-billed Dowitcher	Harris' Sparrow

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
BUREAU OF SPORT FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE**

Refuge Leaflet 148-R2 • October 1969



Sea otter mother and pup.

Military clearance is necessary to visit defense installations. Information concerning the refuge not available in this leaflet may be obtained from the Refuge Manager, Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, Cold Bay, Alaska 99571.

IZEMBEK NATIONAL WILDLIFE RANGE lies just to the east of the Aleutian Island Refuge, along the north shore of the western tip of the Alaska Peninsula, and is administered from the same Cold Bay headquarters as the Aleutian Islands Refuge. It was established in 1955 and comprises 415,000 acres, a valuable waterfowl feeding area with vast eelgrass beds and bordering upland tundra. The tidal lagoons of this refuge support the continent's entire black brant population for 2 to 3 months each year, providing a unique migration feeding area essential to the survival of this species.

BOGOSLOF NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, established in 1909, is also administered from the Cold Bay headquarters. It consists of two rocky islands totaling 390 acres lying about 30 miles north of Umnak Island. It has a northern sea lion herd of about 800 animals and contains important sea-bird rookeries.

All photographs by Karl W. Kenyon, BSFW.



*In its assigned function as the Nation's principal natural resource agency, the Department of the Interior bears a special obligation to assure that our expendable resources are conserved, that renewable resources are managed to produce optimum yields, and that all resources contribute their full measure to the progress, prosperity, and security of America, now and in the future.*



☆ GPO : 1970 O-386-416

# ALEUTIAN ISLANDS

## NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE



Upper—Mount Gareloi, an active volcano on Gareloi Island (west of much larger Tanaga Island).

Lower—Northern sea lions on Sea Lion Rock, Amak Island.

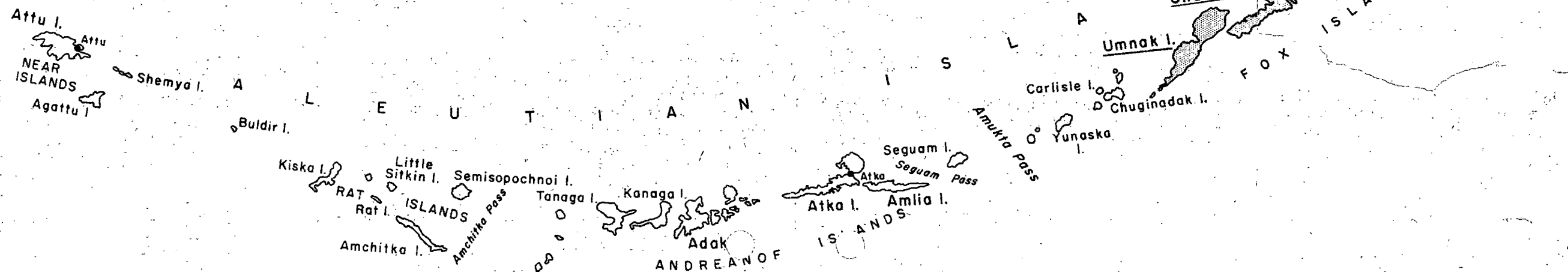
**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
BUREAU OF SPORT FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE**

Washington • Issued 1966 • RL-522

# ALEUTIAN ISLANDS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

ALASKA  
80 0 80  
STATUTE MILES

(Stippled areas are not part of the refuge)



ALEUTIAN ISLANDS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE consists of all but seven of that chain of steppingstone islands reaching out from the Alaska mainland for a thousand miles into the North Pacific toward Kamchatka Peninsula of the Soviet Union. The nearly 70 named islands in the refuge aggregate 2,720,235 acres, making it one of the largest units in the National Wildlife Refuge System. The refuge was established in 1913 by Executive order of President William Howard Taft.

Most of the islands are mountainous, the emergent peaks of a submarine mountain range. Many have active volcanoes towering into the arctic sky; one of these, Shishaldin on Unimak Island, reaches a height of more than 9,000 feet. The larger islands are dotted with lakes and cut by streams. Irregular shorelines have boulder beaches, sand beaches, rocky cliffs, and offshore islets and reefs.

The climate is characterized by fog and clouds; a day with sunshine is almost a rarity. Rain in summer is abundant. The Aleutian Islands are noted for fre-

quent and violent wind squalls that make boating hazardous. Summer temperatures range only into the sixties; in winter the temperature generally hangs near the freezing point but sometimes drops to below 10° F.

Snow is prevalent in winter, although it is apt to be wet and slushy except at higher elevations.

The Aleutians are treeless, supporting a dwarfed flora of willow and alder and alpine heaths and meadows. Some taller shrub growths occur on Unimak and Attu. A stand of beach grass marks shorelines, and offshore waters support great beds of kelp. Copious summer rains keep the islands emerald green at that season; in spring and fall the vegetation is brown and sere.

The Aleutian Islands Refuge is largely an uninhabited wilderness. Once the home of thousands of Aleuts, it now has only two villages, Atka on Atka Island and False Pass on Unimak Island. Disease decimated these people following the arrival of the Russian pioneers, and many of the survivors disappeared or left during American and Japanese military occupation of

the islands in the Second World War. There are a few active military and Coast and Geodetic Survey installations, but they occupy little of the refuge's total space. Cold Bay, an aeronautical navigation center and headquarters of the Aleutian Islands Refuge, is near the tip of the Alaska Peninsula, close to the eastern end of the refuge.

Some of the islands have large areas covered by abandoned military installations—hundreds of quonset huts, miles of roads, old landing strips, warehouses, telephone lines, and piles of trash of every description.

Islands not within the refuge are all in the eastern third of the island chain. They are Akun, Akutan, Sanak, Sedanka, Tigalda, Umnak, Unalaska. Parts of Attu and Adak are under primary jurisdiction of the Department of Defense.

The Aleutian Islands are rich in wildlife. Birds especially are much in evidence at all times. The easternmost islands have a fauna typical of the Alaskan mainland to the east; the western islands have Asiatic features. Olaus Murie described the Aleutians as a

"melting pot for faunal elements from two continents not yet reaching an equilibrium."

The sea otter, a marine mammal that bears the world's most valued fur, makes its principal home in the waters off islands in the central part of the chain, from Adak to Kiska. Once almost extinct from years of overhunting, strict protection has brought its numbers back to nearly 20,000. Another and much larger sea mammal, the northern sea lion, is common.

Unimak Island, an ecological extension of the Alaska Peninsula, is a closely managed stronghold of the brown bear. The island has over 1,000 caribou, and wolves and wolverines are common. More than 2,000 wild reindeer live on Atka, and caribou have been introduced on Adak. Except for the tundra vole, small mammals like voles, shrews, lemmings, ground squirrels, and weasels are scarcely to be found west of Unimak.

Foxes have an interesting history in the islands. Formerly, the blue phase of the arctic fox was found only on Attu, and the red fox from Umnak east. Prin-





Aleutian Canada geese on the steep slopes of Buldir Island.

cipally during the 1915-25 period and later, blue foxes were introduced on most of the Aleutians, converting them into a commercial fur farming enterprise utilizing wildlife for food. Their pelts now have no value, and complete removal of the introduced foxes is necessary to restore native bird life. This has already been done on Amchitka, with a prompt and striking increase in wildlife of the island.

Another unfortunate result of modern occupation of the islands has been the introduction of Norway rats on many islands, probably chiefly during World War II. These voracious rodents have a serious effect on nesting birds. The possibility of eliminating them seems remote.

The most obvious feature of Aleutian wildlife is the large quantities of colonial sea birds. Hundreds of thousands, perhaps millions, congregate in vast nesting rookeries—fulmars, two species of petrels, three species of cormorants, black-legged kittiwakes, glaucous-winged gulls, guillemots, murre and murrelets, six species of auklets, and two species of puffins. Three species of loons are easily found—common, arctic, and red-throated.

Great numbers of waterfowl winter in and among the islands, mostly oldsquaws, king eiders, and harlequin ducks. Of all the emperor geese in the world, about half winter on the refuge. During the summer, common teal (a Eurasian bird), mallards, pintails, greater scaups, mergansers, and common eiders nest on the islands. Formerly the Aleutian Canada goose lived on all the islands from Amlia west; now it is found only on tiny Buldir Island, which escaped fox introductions. It is now one of the world's rarest

birds, but habitat restoration is progressing toward ultimate restocking of its former breeding range.

The bald eagle is resident in substantial numbers. The peregrine falcon is common, and some gyrfalcons are to be found. Some shorebirds nest in very large numbers, primarily black oystercatchers, rock sandpipers, and northern phalaropes. The rock ptarmigan is found throughout the refuge, and there are willow ptarmigans on Unimak. Among the small land birds, winter wrens, gray-crowned rosy finches, Savannah, fox and song sparrows, Lapland longspurs, and snow buntings are abundant. A number of Asiatic birds have been found, including the whooper swan, falcated teal, Steller's sea eagle, wood sandpiper, black-tailed godwit, slaty-backed gull, black-headed gull, oriental cuckoo, eyebrowed thrush, arctic warbler, Siberian rubythroat, gray-spotted flycatcher, white, gray, and yellow wagtails, brambling, and rustic bunting.

Streams issuing from the islands are used by large numbers of spawning salmon, and make a significant contribution to the numbers of these valuable food fish.

Owing to their isolation and the lack of commercial travel service, the Aleutian Islands are difficult to visit. There is scheduled air service to Cold Bay, Unalaska, Umnak, Adak, Shemya, and Attu. Hotel and restaurant accommodations are found only at Cold Bay.

Thick-billed murre are among the sea birds that nest abundantly on the Aleutian Islands.



## UNIMAK ISLAND WILDERNESS PROPOSAL

PUBLIC HEARING STATEMENT  
BY

BUREAU OF SPORT FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE REPRESENTATIVE

GOOD EVENING, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. I AM GORDON WATSON, ALASKA AREA DIRECTOR FOR THE BUREAU OF SPORT FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE. I WANT TO EXPRESS MY APPRECIATION FOR YOUR INTEREST IN COMING TO THIS HEARING ON THE UNIMAK ISLAND WILDERNESS PROPOSAL WITHIN THE ALEUTIAN ISLANDS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE.

THE WILDERNESS ACT, PASSED BY CONGRESS IN 1964, DIRECTED THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR TO REVIEW ALL ROADLESS AREAS OF 5,000 ACRES OR MORE, AND EVERY ROADLESS ISLAND WITHIN THE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE SYSTEM, TO DETERMINE THEIR SUITABILITY OR NONSUITABILITY AS WILDERNESS. FURTHER, REGULATIONS OF THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR PUBLISHED ON FEBRUARY 22, 1966, REQUIRE THIS BUREAU TO REVIEW THOSE AREAS QUALIFYING FOR STUDY UNDER THE WILDERNESS ACT THAT (1) POSSESS THE GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF WILDERNESS, (2) ARE REASONABLY COMPACT, (3) ARE UNDEVELOPED, AND (4) ARE WITHOUT IMPROVED ROADS SUITABLE FOR PUBLIC TRAVEL BY CONVENTIONAL AUTOMOBILE.

THE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE SYSTEM IS COMPRISED OF MORE THAN 300 UNITS CONTAINING NEARLY 30 MILLION ACRES. UNITS OF THE SYSTEM ARE LOCATED ON LANDS EXTENDING FROM THE ARCTIC OCEAN SHORES TO ISLANDS IN THE CENTRAL PACIFIC OCEAN, AND FROM THE FLORIDA KEYS TO MAINE. ONE OR MORE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES ARE LOCATED IN EACH OF THE 17 MAJOR LIFE ZONES OF NORTH



AMERICA. THE ECOLOGY OF EACH NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE DIFFERS FROM THAT OF ANY OTHER REFUGE, ALTHOUGH SOME ARE SIMILAR. BECAUSE OF THESE ECOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES, MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES OF INDIVIDUAL REFUGES ARE OFTEN QUITE DIFFERENT.

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REVEALS THAT ABOUT 90 WILDLIFE REFUGES IN 32 STATES CONTAINING NEARLY 25 MILLION ACRES QUALIFY FOR STUDY AS WILDERNESS. THE WILDERNESS REVIEW PROGRAM OF THE BUREAU OF SPORT FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE, OF WHICH THIS PROPOSAL IS A PART, ENCOMPASSES A WIDE SPECTRUM OF LANDS WITHIN NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. ONLY THROUGH CAREFUL STUDY AND ANALYSIS CAN A PROPER DETERMINATION BE MADE REGARDING WHETHER A NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE OR A PORTION OF A NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE QUALIFIES FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR AS WILDERNESS.

TODAY WE ARE PUBLICLY PRESENTING THE RESULTS OF OUR STUDY OF UNIMAK ISLAND IN THE ALEUTIAN ISLANDS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE. AN INFORMATIONAL BROCHURE SUMMARIZING THE STUDY AND EXPLAINING THE WILDERNESS PROPOSAL IS AVAILABLE IN THE HEARING ROOM IF YOU DO NOT YET HAVE A COPY. THE COMPLETE STUDY REPORT IS ALSO AVAILABLE HERE FOR YOUR EXAMINATION. PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE IT, FOR THE NUMBER OF COPIES IS VERY LIMITED. COPIES OF THE STATEMENT THAT I AM MAKING HERE TODAY ALSO ARE AVAILABLE FOR YOUR USE.

WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO POINT OUT THAT THE PRESIDENT'S SIGNATURE TO THE NATIVE LAND CLAIMS LEGISLATION WILL TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER THIS WILDERNESS PROPOSAL. IN OTHER WORDS, ANY LAND THAT MAY BE WITHDRAWN FOR NATIVE USE IN THE VICINITY OF FALSE PASS ON UNIMAK ISLAND WILL REQUIRE THAT OUR WILDERNESS PROPOSAL BE

REVISED TO ACCOMMODATE THESE NATIVE-SELECTED AREAS. THE FINAL ACREAGE PROPOSED FOR WILDERNESS DESIGNATION COULD THEN BE CONSIDERABLY LESS THAN WHAT WE ARE PROPOSING TODAY.

A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDY PERTAINING TO THIS WILDERNESS PROPOSAL HAS BEEN PREPARED AND SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY FOR REVIEW. THIS ACTION IS REQUIRED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT OF 1969 (PUBLIC LAW 90-190).

IN BRIEF, THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT EXPLAINS THE ALTERNATIVES THAT WERE EXPLORED BEFORE THE PROPOSAL WE ARE PRESENTING HERE WAS PREPARED. THE IMPACT STATEMENT ALSO DESCRIBES THE POSSIBLE EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT IF WILDERNESS DESIGNATION FOR PORTIONS OF UNIMAK IS GRANTED BY CONGRESS. BUT I MUST EMPHASIZE THAT THIS IS A WILDERNESS PROPOSAL HEARING, AND NOT AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT HEARING AS MAY BE PROVIDED FOR UNDER THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT.

IT SHOULD BE CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD THAT THE PROPOSAL WE ARE PRESENTING IS PRELIMINARY. ONLY AFTER YOUR EXPRESSED VIEWS HAVE BEEN THOROUGHLY STUDIED WILL OUR FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS BE MADE TO THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR. IT WILL THEN BE NECESSARY FOR THE CONGRESS TO ENACT LEGISLATION THAT WILL OFFICIALLY DESIGNATE PORTIONS OF UNIMAK ISLAND AS WILDERNESS, AND INCLUDE THEM IN THE NATIONAL WILDERNESS PRESERVATION SYSTEM.

THE ALEUTIAN ISLANDS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, OF WHICH UNIMAK ISLAND IS AN INTEGRAL PART, WAS ESTABLISHED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER IN 1913 BY PRESIDENT WILLIAM

H. TAFT AS "A PRESERVE AND BREEDING GROUND FOR NATIVE BIRDS, FOR THE PROPAGATION OF REINDEER AND FUR-BEARING ANIMALS, AND FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE FISHERIES."

ALTHOUGH UNIMAK ISLAND IS ESSENTIALLY A WILDERNESS AT PRESENT, THERE IS NO ASSURANCE THAT THIS CONDITION WILL ALWAYS REMAIN. WITHOUT LEGISLATIVE PROTECTION THROUGH OFFICIAL WILDERNESS DESIGNATION, THE ISLAND'S WILDERNESS QUALITIES COULD EVENTUALLY BE LOST AS THE NATION'S POPULATION GROWS AND MAN'S TECHNOLOGY HAS EVEN MORE WIDESPREAD INFLUENCE ON WILD AREAS.

MUCH OF THE GRANDEUR THAT TYPIFIES ALASKA CAN BE FOUND ON UNIMAK ISLAND: RUGGED SNOW-CAPPED MOUNTAINS, ACTIVE VOLCANOES, MOUNTAIN GLACIERS AND SNOWFIELDS, AND EXPANSES OF TUNDRA SUPPORTING A RICH VARIETY OF WILDLIFE. OTHER PROMINENT FEATURES ARE THE EXTENSIVE BLACK SAND BEACHES AND SAND DUNES, THE BEAUTIFUL FISHER CALDERA, FRESHWATER LAKES AND MARSHES, AND NUMEROUS SALMON SPAWNING STREAMS, AND BIOLOGICALLY PRODUCTIVE LAGOONS.

A VARIETY OF WILDLIFE INHABITS THE ISLAND, INCLUDING 25 SPECIES OF MAMMALS AND AT LEAST 91 KINDS OF BIRDS. DESERVING SPECIAL MENTION ARE SEVERAL SPECIES THAT REQUIRE WILDERNESS TO MAINTAIN THEIR POPULATIONS. AMONG THESE ARE THE ALASKA BROWN BEAR, WOLVERINE, AND GRAY WOLF. THIS IS ALSO TRUE OF THE AMERICAN BALD EAGLE AND PEREGRINE FALCON, BOTH OF WHICH HAVE BEEN CLASSIFIED AS RARE AND ENDANGERED SPECIES IN THE UNITED STATES OUTSIDE ALASKA.

UNIMAK'S DIVERSITY OF HABITAT ATTRACTS A RICH VARIETY OF BIRDLIFE. SPECTACULAR CONCENTRATIONS OF WATERFOWL OCCUR IN MIGRATION. BLACK BRANT, LESSER CANADA GEESE, AND EMPEROR GEESE APPEAR BY THE TENS OF THOUSANDS TO FEED IN THE LAGOONS

WHERE NUTRITIOUS EELGRASS IS ABUNDANT. WHISTLING SWANS ARE YEAR-ROUND RESIDENTS AND MANY SPECIES OF DUCKS INCLUDING EIDERS AND SCOTERS UTILIZE THE ISLAND'S VARIOUS WATER AREAS IN COMPANY WITH LOONS, GULLS, AND TERNS.

TWENTY-NINE SPECIES OF FISH ARE KNOWN TO FREQUENT INSHORE WATERS. INCLUDED ARE FOUR SPECIES OF SALMON WHICH SPAWN IN ISLAND STREAMS AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE AREA'S VALUABLE SALMON FISHERY.

REMOTENESS AND THE SEVERITY OF LOCAL WEATHER LIMIT THE NUMBER OF VISITORS TO UNIMAK. AS THE NATION'S POPULATION GROWS AND BECOMES MORE MOBILE, THIS SITUATION COULD CHANGE.

MANY EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITIES EXIST ON THE ISLAND FOR SUCH RECREATIONAL PURSUITS AS CAMPING, HUNTING, FISHING, HIKING, MOUNTAIN CLIMBING, BEACHCOMBING, PHOTOGRAPHY AND WILDLIFE OBSERVATION AND STUDY. ALL OF THESE ACTIVITIES ARE COMPATIBLE WITH WILDERNESS.

WE WILL RECOMMEND ALLOWING AIRCRAFT TO USE SPECIFICALLY DESIGNATED INTERIOR LAKES. THERE WOULD BE NO PROHIBITIONS AGAINST MOTOR-POWERED BOATS OR AIRCRAFT LANDING ON LAGOON AND OCEAN BEACHES. AIRCRAFT WOULD BE PERMITTED TO CONTINUE USING LAGOON AND OCEAN BEACHES BELOW MEAN HIGH-TIDE LINE, SINCE THESE AREAS ARE NOT SUBJECT TO WILDERNESS CLASSIFICATION.

MOTORIZED VEHICLES SUCH AS JEEPS, SNOWMOBILES, TRAILBIKES, DUNE BUGGIES AND ALL TYPES OF ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES WOULD BE PROHIBITED WITHIN THE WILDERNESS AREAS ABOVE THE MEAN HIGH-TIDE LINE, HOWEVER. THE USE OF SUCH VEHICLES DISTRACTS FROM THE SOLITUDE OF WILDERNESS AND CAN BE DISTURBING TO WILDLIFE

AND DAMAGING TO PLANT COMMUNITIES. IN ADDITION, THEIR USE INEVITABLY CAUSES CONFLICTS TO DEVELOP WITH PEOPLE SEEKING PEACE AND RELAXATION IN A WILDERNESS ENVIRONMENT.

THE WILDERNESS ACT OF 1964 DIRECTS THAT THERE WILL BE NO BUILDING OF ROADS OR ANY TYPE OF PERMANENT STRUCTURE IN WILDERNESS AREAS, AND THAT SURFACE EXPLORATION AND MINING OF MINERALS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED.

OUR PRELIMINARY PROPOSAL SUGGESTS, THEN, THAT APPROXIMATELY 965,000 ACRES OF THIS NEARLY ONE-MILLION-ACRE ISLAND BE PROPOSED FOR INCLUSION IN THE NATIONAL WILDERNESS PRESERVATION SYSTEM. INCLUDED WOULD BE MOST OF THE ISLAND'S OUTSTANDING RECREATIONAL, HISTORIC, GEOLOGIC, ARCHEOLOGICAL, EDUCATIONAL AND SCIENTIFIC VALUES. THIS ACTION WOULD ASSURE SURVIVAL OF THE WILDLIFE WHICH INHABIT THE ISLAND AND PROVIDE A WIDE VARIETY OF RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES TO PEOPLE SEEKING A TRUE WILDERNESS EXPERIENCE.

THE REMAINDER OF THE ISLAND, ABOUT 33,218 ACRES, IS PROPOSED FOR EXCLUSION FROM WILDERNESS DESIGNATION. THIS COMPRISES LANDS IN THE VICINITY OF THE VILLAGE OF FALSE PASS AND THE CAPE SARICHEF AND SCOTCH CAP STATIONS, PLUS 42 ACRES OF PRIVATE LAND. PUBLIC OR PRIVATE DEVELOPMENTS THAT SHOULD BECOME NECESSARY OR DESIRABLE ON THE ISLAND IN THE FUTURE COULD PROBABLY BE ACCOMMODATED WITHIN THIS EXCLUDED ACREAGE.

I THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING THIS HEARING AND FOR EXPRESSING AN INTEREST IN THE UNIMAK ISLAND WILDERNESS PROPOSAL. I ASSURE YOU THAT YOUR VIEWS, WHETHER EXPRESSED ORALLY OR IN WRITING, WILL BE CAREFULLY STUDIED BEFORE THE BUREAU OF SPORT FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE SUBMITS ITS FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

SECTION IX. PUBLIC HEARING  
ATTENDANCE LIST

PUBLIC HEARING ATTENDANCE RECORD

Please print  
name

Mailing address

(street, post office box or route)

(city and state)

Representing (check one)

(check one)

☐ Governor

☐ U.S. Senator or  
Congressman

☐ State official

☐ State agency

☐ County official

☐ City official

☐ Association, organi-  
zation or business

☐ Civic groups

☐ Federal agency

☐ Individual

☐ I want to make a state-  
ment.

☐ I will hand in a state-  
ment.

☐ I do not plan to make  
a statement.

Name of official, agency, association, organization, business, firm or  
group you represent:

## SECTION IX

## ALPHABETICAL LISTING OF PERSONS IN ATTENDANCE AT PUBLIC HEARING

COLD BAY

Name and Address	Representing	Type of Testimony
C. S. Christenson 46-142 Nahihu St. Kaneohe, Hawaii	Self	None
Leslie E. Dhabolt Box 66 Cold Bay, Alaska	Self	None
David H. Krueger c/o Reeve Aleutian Airways Cold Bay, Alaska	Self	Oral
Marvin F. Mack Box 1 Cold Bay, Alaska	Self	None
Joe C. Mitchell, Capt. USN NAVCOMMSTA Box 30 FPO Seattle 98791	U. S. Navy	None
Isaac C. Norman Box 21 FPO Seattle 98791	U. S. Navy	None
William E. Quick 1338 W. 15th Ave. Anchorage, Alaska 99501	Self	None
Robert E. Schmidt Box 2 Cold Bay, Alaska 99571	Self	None
Kenneth L. Sterling Box 41 FPO Seattle, 98791	U. S. Navy	None
Mike Uttecht Box 55 Cold Bay, Alaska	Self	Oral



## SECTION IX

## ALPHABETICAL LISTING OF PERSONS IN ATTENDANCE AT PUBLIC HEARING

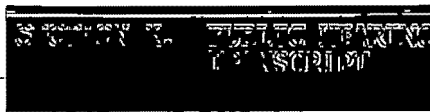
ANCHORAGE

Name and Address	Representing	Type of Testimony
John Baxandall 4200 E. 4th A12 Anchorage, Alaska 99504	Self	None
Peggy Baxandall 4200 E. 4th Ave. Spc. A-12 Anchorage, Alaska	Self	None
Joseph R. Blum RR4, Box 4670-3 Juneau, Alaska	Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game	None
Jay Brause 2602 Maplewood St. Anchorage, Alaska	Self	None
Ted Burton Star Rt. A, Box 256 Anchorage, Alaska 99507	Self	Oral
C. S. Christensen 46-142 Nahiku St. Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744	Self	None
James L. Davis Box R Soldotna, Alaska	Self	None
Charles D. Evans Box 1621, S R A Anchorage, Alaska	Self	None
Wm. H. Fuld Box 1178 Anchorage, Alaska	Aleuts	None
Mr. and Mrs. Dick Glasheen 2604 W. 33rd, Apt. 7 Anchorage, Alaska	Self	None

Name and Address	Representing	Type of Testimony
Jack Hession 326 E. 10th, Apt. 5 Anchorage, Alaska	Sierra Club	Oral
Celia M. Hunter Backwoods Trail Fairbanks, Alaska 99701	The Wilderness Society	Oral and Written
Neil and Betty Johannsen 2610B Lee St. Anchorage, Alaska 99504	Self	None
L. R. Johnson 1338 West 15th Avenue Anchorage, Alaska	Self	Oral and Written
James W. Kross 3401 East 15th Anchorage, Alaska	Fairbanks Environmental Center	Oral and Written
Mr. and Mrs. Gene Kvalvik Box 404B, Rte. A Anchorage, Alaska 99502	Wolverine Guide Service	Oral and Written
Denison Lane P. O. Box 354 Kodiak, Alaska	Self	None
Ron, Kathy, & Aaron Lautaret 1807 W. 36th, Apt. 4 Anchorage, Alaska 99503	Self	None
Robert LeResche Box 265 Soldotna, Alaska	Self	None
Paul A. LeRoux Box 689 Soldotna, Alaska	Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game	None
James Lethcoe SRA Box 402E Anchorage, Alaska	Self	None
Nancy Lethcoe SRA Box 402E Anchorage, Alaska 99502	Self	Oral and Written

Name and Address	Representing	Type of Testimony
Morris Lowman P. O. Box 2380 Anchorage, Alaska 99510	Marathon Oil Co.	None
Lillie H. McGarvey 4230 Tahoe Drive Anchorage, Alaska 99502	The Aleut League	Oral
Francis S. Moore Box 274 Soldotna, Alaska	Self	None
Walter B. Parker 3724 Campbell Airstrip Rd. Anchorage, Alaska	Upper Cook Inlet Chapter Alaska Conserv. Soc.	Oral
M. G. Parrish 4005 Arkansas Dr. Anchorage, Alaska	Self	None
R. W. Pavitt Pouch AD- Off. of the Gov. Juneau, Alaska 99801	State of Alaska	Oral and Written
William C. Richardson 2701 E. 46th, #19 Anchorage, Alaska 99507	Self	None
Robert K. Riddle 2024 Saratoga Anchorage, Alaska	Humble Oil & Ref. Co. and A.O.G.A.	None
Howard A. & Elinore Schuck 2701 Valley Forge Circle Anchorage, Alaska 99502	Self	None
James H. Shaw Box 52C SRA Anchorage, Alaska	Unnamed Federal Agency	None
James V. Sheridan 2205 Boniface, #27 Anchorage, Alaska 99504	Self	None
Roger B. & Janet L. Smith P. O. Box 8664 Mountain View, Alaska	Self	None

Name and Address	Representing	Type of Testimony
Richard J. Stenmark 4161 Tahoe Dr. Anchorage, Alaska 99502	Self	None
Richard C. Taylor Audio-Visual Communications College, Alaska 99701	Aleutian Film Project University of Alaska	None
Lt. Col. W. C. Tomsen Alaskan Command (J4) Elmendorf AFB 99506	Dept. of Defense	None
Chris E. Tomsen 112-B Gulkana Ft. Richardson, Alaska	Self	None
Barbara Winkley 915 W. 25th, #8 Anchorage, Alaska	Self	Oral and Written
Sam & Billie Wright 1005 W. 27th Anchorage, Alaska 99503	Self	Oral and Written



1  
2  
3  
4  
5 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
6 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
7

8 PUBLIC HEARING  
9  
10 UNIMAK ISLAND  
11 ALEUTIAN ISLAND NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE  
12 WILDERNESS PROPOSAL  
13

14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20 DECEMBER 14 AND 17, 1971  
21 COMSERFAC THEATER, AT COLD BAY, ALASKA  
22 ALASKA METHODIST UNIVERSITY AT ANCHORAGE, ALASKA  
23  
24  
25

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR PANEL

HEARING EXAMINER

MR. ROBERT PRICE

Regional Solicitor for Department  
of Interior, Anchorage, Alaska

DAVID SPENCER

Supervisor of the National  
Wildlife Refuges, Alaska

GORDON WATSON

Area Director of the Bureau of  
Sport Fisheries and Wildlife

PALMER SEKORA

# I N D E X

		<u>Page</u>
3	<u>COLD BAY, ALASKA, DECEMBER 14, 1971</u>	
4	OPENING REMARKS BY CHAIRMAN PRICE	2 -- 6
5	OPENING REMARKS BY DAVID SPENCER AND	
6	GORDON WATSON STATEMENT READ BY DAVID SPENCER	6 -- 13
7	ROBERT C. REEVE LETTER READ BY CHAIRMAN	14 -- 15
8	MIKE UTTECHT	15 -- 19
9	DAVID KRUEGER	19 -- 22
10	<u>ANCHORAGE, ALASKA, DECEMBER 17, 1971</u>	
11	OPENING REMARKS BY CHAIRMAN PRICE	24 -- 28
12	OPENING REMARKS BY GORDON WATSON	28 -- 35
13	ROBERT PAVITT	36 -- 44
14	CELIA M. HUNTER	45 --- 49
15	JAMES CROSS --STATEMENT FOR MR. KOWALSKI	49 -- 52
16	JACK HESSION	53 -- 64
17	WALTER PARKER	64 -- 69
18	NANCY LETHCOE	69 -- 74
19	TED BURTON	75 -- 80
20	L. R. JOHNSON	80 -- 81
21	BARBARA WINKLEY	81 -- 85
22	SAM WRIGHT	86 -- 86
23	GENE KVALIK	87 -- 88
24	LILLIE MCGARVEY	88 -- 93
25	CLOSING REMARKS AND QUESTIONS	94 -- 96



E X H I B I T S

ROBERT C. REEVE LETTER, December 9, 1971

GORDON WATSON STATEMENT

BARBARA WINKLEY STATEMENT

GENE KVALVIK STATEMENT

LLEWELLYN R. JOHNSON STATEMENT

DR. NANCY LETHCOE STATEMENT

FAIRBANKS ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER STATEMENT

TESTIMONY OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

STATEMENT OF THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA - OUTLINE OF ALEUTIAN FILM PROJECT

WILDERNESS STUDY REPORT

REPORTERS NOTE: Through error in numbering, there are no  
Pages 38 and 39. Page 40 is a  
continuation of Page 37.

P R O C E E D I N G S

The Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal hearing convened at 9:00 a.m., December 14, 1971.

CHAIRMAN PRICE: I would like to say good morning to everybody, and first introduce myself. I am going to be the Hearing Officer and my name is Robert Price, and I am the Regional Solicitor for the Department of the Interior in Anchorage; I have been designated by the Secretary to conduct this hearing.

Many of you have filled out an attendance card as you entered the door. If you have not done so, I would request that all of the adults fill out the attendance card.

I am going to make a formal statement and then Mr. Spencer will also make a statement. After that, I am going to attempt to conduct the hearing as informally as possible in order to elicit the best possible testimony I think that we can have. I would like to have the hearing informal for the reason that I think the people will be able to speak more freely and more easily. And I would like to emphasize to everyone that each one who wants to testify, should testify. The Secretary of the Interior is going to have to make the ultimate recommendation to the Congress on the Wilderness Proposal, and

1 it is necessary that he have a record before him upon which  
2 he can make his decision. Therefore, I recommend your  
3 testimony very strongly.

4 At this time, I would like to thank the Federal  
5 Aviation Agency for their assistance in making the facilities  
6 available to us today.

7 As announced in the Notice of Public Hearing issued on  
8 October 15th, 1971 this hearing is being held to obtain  
9 information relating to the desirability of establishing a  
10 unit of the National Wilderness Preservation System on Unimak  
11 Island. As background information, I should like to explain  
12 that in arranging this hearing notices were sent to the  
13 United States Senators and Congressmen, the Governor of the  
14 State of Alaska, and other elected officials. Replies which  
15 have been received from them will be read later and  
16 incorporated into the transcript of this hearing. We also  
17 sent notices to Federal and State agencies and organizations,  
18 and individuals known to be interested in the matter.

19 Now for a few words about procedure. This hearing is not  
20 a debate, a trial, or a question and answer assembly but an  
21 advisory hearing whereby all interested persons may present  
22 statements, written or oral, or other information pertinent  
23 to the Wilderness Proposal we are considering today. If  
24 anyone fails to understand the statement of any person,  
25 appropriate questions may be asked for the purpose of

1 clarifying such a statement. All questions will be directed  
2 to me and I shall determine whether they are pertinent. This  
3 may seem a little technical or strict, but it is intended to  
4 facilitate an orderly presentation of views and assure a fair  
5 and reasonable opportunity for all to be heard.

6 The Wilderness Act, Public Law 88-577, provided the  
7 authority and outlined the procedure by which a National  
8 Wildlife Refuge, or Game Refuge, or portion of a National  
9 Wildlife Refuge or Game Range, meeting the necessary  
10 requirements is to be considered for inclusion in the National  
11 Wilderness Preservation System. The law directed the study  
12 and review within ten years after September 3d, 1964 of every  
13 roadless island and every roadless area of five thousand  
14 acres or more within the National Wildlife Refuge System. I  
15 wish to point out that the eventual inclusion of a game range,  
16 or portion of a game range, within the National Wilderness  
17 Preservation System does not remove the area from the game  
18 range status. The area we are considering today within the  
19 Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, is classified as  
20 wilderness, still will be administered as an integral part of  
21 a wildlife refuge. The intent of the Wilderness Act along  
22 these lines is clear. The provisions of Section 4(a) and 4(b)  
23 of the Act state that the purposes of the Wilderness Act are  
24 to be within, and supplemental to, the purpose for which game  
25 ranges are established and administered. Also, each agency

1 administering any area designated as Wilderness shall be  
2 responsible for preserving the wilderness character of the  
3 area and for such other purposes for which it may have been  
4 established, as also to preserve its wilderness character.  
5 Therefore, Unimak Island will still be a part of the National  
6 Wildlife Refuge System but with the added feature of a  
7 National Wilderness area.

8 After this public hearing, a thorough review will be made  
9 of this Wilderness Proposal, but this is not the last  
10 opportunity for public expression. The record of this public  
11 hearing and all other information on the proposal will be  
12 transmitted to the Secretary of the Interior. After study and  
13 consultation, the Secretary will transmit his recommendations  
14 regarding the proposal to the President. The President will  
15 transmit his recommendations to the Congress. After  
16 appropriate consideration, which will include hearings, the  
17 Congress will accept, reject, or modify the proposal as a  
18 unit of the National Wilderness Preservation System. When  
19 after hearings and study, the proposal is accepted by the  
20 Congress, appropriate legislation is transmitted to the  
21 President; when signed by the President, the Wilderness Area  
22 becomes a part of the National Wilderness Preservation System.  
23 As you can see, there is a comprehensive review process of  
24 each wilderness proposal of which public hearings and your  
25 views are a most important part.

1           Now I ask David Spencer, representative of the Alaska  
2 Area Director of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
3 of the Department of the Interior, to explain the Wilderness  
4 Proposal to you. Before Mr. Spencer presents the statement,  
5 however, I should like to explain again that this is not an  
6 adversary proceeding. If you want to ask a question in order  
7 to clarify a certain point, please feel free to do so. All  
8 questions, however, will be directed to me and I shall  
9 determine whether they are pertinent.  
10

11                               DAVID SPENCER

12           Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. My name is David  
13 Spencer. I am the supervisor of the National Wildlife Refuges  
14 in Alaska. I want to express my appreciation for your interest  
15 in coming to this hearing this morning. I am appearing here  
16 for Mr. Gordon Watson, the Area Director of our Bureau here  
17 in Alaska. I have his written statement here which I will  
18 read.

19           "The Wilderness Act, passed by Congress in 1964, directed  
20 the Secretary of the Interior to review all roadless areas of  
21 5,000 acres or more, and every roadless island within the  
22 National Wildlife Refuge System, to determine their  
23 suitability or unsuitability as wilderness. Further,  
24 regulations of the Secretary of the Interior published on  
25 February 22, 1966, require this Bureau to review those areas

1 qualifying for study under the Wilderness Act that (1) possess  
2 the general characteristics of wilderness, (2) are reasonably  
3 compact, (3) are undeveloped, and (4) are without improved  
4 roads suitable for public travel for conventional automobile.

5 "The National Wildlife Refuge System is comprised of more  
6 than 300 units containing nearly 30 million acres. Units of  
7 the system are located on lands extending from the Arctic  
8 Ocean shores to islands in the central Pacific Ocean, and from  
9 the Florida Keys to Maine. One or more National Wildlife  
10 Refuges are located in each of the 17 major life zones of  
11 North America. The ecology of each National Wildlife  
12 Refuge differs from that of any other refuge, although some are  
13 similar. Because of these ecological differences, management  
14 objectives of individual refuges are often quite different.

15 "Preliminary examination reveals that about 90 wildlife  
16 refuges in 32 states containing nearly 25 million acres  
17 qualify for study as wilderness. The Wilderness Review  
18 program of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, of  
19 which this proposal is a part, encompasses a wide spectrum of  
20 lands within National Wildlife Refuges throughout the country.  
21 Only through careful study and analysis can a proper  
22 determination be made regarding whether a National Wildlife  
23 Refuge or a portion of a National Wildlife Refuge qualifies  
24 for consideration by the Secretary of the Interior as  
25 wilderness.

1 "Today we are publicly presenting the results of our  
2 study of Unimak Island in the Aleutian Islands National  
3 Wildlife Refuge. An informational brochure summarizing the  
4 study and explaining the Wilderness Proposal is available in  
5 the hearing room if you do not yet have a copy. The complete  
6 study report is also available here for your examination.  
7 Please do not remove the one copy, for the number of copies is  
8 very limited. Copies of the statement that I am making here  
9 today are also available for your use.

10 "We would also like to point out that final settlement  
11 of pending Native Land Claims legislation will probably take  
12 precedence over this Wilderness Proposal. In other words, any  
13 land that may be withdrawn for native use in the vicinity of  
14 False Pass on Unimak Island will require that our Wilderness  
15 Proposal be revised to accommodate these Native-selected area.  
16 The final acreage proposed for wilderness designation could  
17 then be considerably less than what we are proposing today.

18 "A preliminary Draft Environmental Impact Study  
19 pertaining to this Wilderness Proposal has been prepared and a  
20 formal Draft Study will soon be submitted to the Council of  
21 Environmental Quality for review. This action is required by  
22 the Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (Public Law 90-190).

23 "In brief, the Environmental Impact Statement explains  
24 the alternatives that were explored before the proposal we  
25 are presenting here was prepared. The Impact Statement also



1 describes the possible effects on the environment if  
2 wilderness designation for portions of Unimak is granted by  
3 Congress.

4 "It should be clearly understood that the proposal we are  
5 presenting is preliminary. Only after your expressed views  
6 have been thoroughly studied will our final recommendations  
7 be made to the Secretary of the Interior. It will then be  
8 necessary for the Congress to enact legislation that will  
9 officially designate portions of Unimak Island as wilderness,  
10 and include them in the National Wilderness Preservation  
11 System.

12 "The Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, of which  
13 Unimak Island is an integral part, was established by  
14 Executive Order in 1913 by President William H. Taft as 'a  
15 preserve and breeding ground for native birds, for the  
16 propagation of reindeer and fur-bearing animals, and for the  
17 encouragement and development of the fisheries'.

18 "Although Unimak Island is essentially a wilderness at  
19 present, there is no assurance that this condition will  
20 always remain. Without legislative protection through  
21 official wilderness designation, the Island's wilderness  
22 qualities could eventually be lost as the nation's population  
23 grows and man's technology has even more widespread influence  
24 on wild areas.

25 "Much of the grandeur that typifies Alaska can be found

1 on Unimak Island: Rugged snow-capped mountains, active  
2 volcanoes, mountain glaciers and snowfields, and expanses of  
3 tundra supporting a rich variety of wildlife. Other  
4 prominent physical features are the extensive black sand  
5 beaches and sand dunes, the beautiful Fisher Caldera, fresh-  
6 water lakes and marshes, and numerous salmon spawning streams,  
7 and biologically productive lagoons.

8 "A variety of wildlife inhabits the island, including 25  
9 species of mammals and at least 91 kinds of birds. Deserving  
10 special mention are several species that require wilderness  
11 to maintain their populations. Among these are the Alaska  
12 brown bear, wolverine, and grey wolf. This is also true of  
13 the American bald eagle and peregrine falcon, both of which  
14 have been classified as rare and endangered species in the  
15 United States outside Alaska.

16 "Unimak's diversity of habitat attracts a rich variety  
17 of birdlife. Spectacular concentrations of waterfowl occur  
18 in migration. Black Brant, lesser Canada geese, and Emperor  
19 geese appear by the tens of thousands to feed in the lagoons  
20 where nutritious eelgrass is abundant. Whistling swans are  
21 year-round residents and many species of ducks including  
22 eiders and scoters utilize the island's various water areas in  
23 company with loons, gulls, and terns.

24 "Twenty-nine species of fish are known to frequent  
25 inshore waters. Included are four species of salmon which

1 spawn in island streams and contribute to the area's  
2 valuable salmon fishery.

3 "Remoteness and the severity of local weather limit the  
4 number of visitors to Unimak. As the nation's population  
5 grows and becomes more mobile, this situation could change.

6 "Many excellent opportunities exist on the island for  
7 such recreational pursuits as camping, hunting and fishing,  
8 hiking, mountain climbing, beachcombing, photography and  
9 wildlife observation and study. All of these activities are  
10 compatible with wilderness.

11 "Remoteness and often severe weather conditions dictate  
12 the need for motorized access to the island. With wilderness  
13 designation, small aircraft could continue to land on the  
14 island beaches and lagoons, since these areas are outside the  
15 jurisdiction of the Federal Government. We propose to  
16 recommend to Congress that aircraft also be permitted to use  
17 designated interior lakes. There would be no prohibitions  
18 against motor-powered boats landing on lagoon and ocean  
19 beaches.

20 "Motorized vehicles such as jeeps, snowmobiles,  
21 trailbikes, dune buggies and all types of all-terrain  
22 vehicles would be prohibited within the wilderness areas above  
23 the mean high-tide line, however. The use of such vehicles  
24 distracts from the solitude of wilderness and can be  
25 disturbing to wildlife and damaging to plant communities. In

1 addition, their use inevitably causes conflicts to develop  
2 with people seeking peace and relaxation in a wilderness  
3 environment.

4 "The Wilderness Act of 1964 directs that there will be no  
5 building of roads or any type of permanent structure in  
6 wilderness areas, and that surface exploration and mining of  
7 minerals will not be allowed.

8 "Our preliminary proposal suggests, then, that  
9 approximately 965,000 acres of this nearly one-million-acre  
10 island be proposed for inclusion in the National Wilderness  
11 Preservation System. Included would be most of the island's  
12 outstanding recreational, historic, geologic, archeological,  
13 educational and scientific values. This action would assure  
14 survival of the wildlife which inhabit the island and  
15 provide a wide variety of recreational opportunities to people  
16 seeking a true wilderness experience.

17 "The remainder of the island, about 33,218 acres, is  
18 proposed for exclusion from wilderness designation. This  
19 comprises lands in the vicinity of the village of False Pass  
20 and the Cape Sarichef and Scotch Cap stations, plus 42 acres  
21 of private land. Public or private developments that should  
22 become necessary or desirable on the island in the future  
23 could probably be accommodated within this excluded acreage.

24 "I thank you for attending this hearing and for  
25 expressing an interest in the Unimak Island wilderness

1 proposal. I assure you that your views, whether expressed  
2 orally or in writing, will be carefully studied before the  
3 Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife submits its final  
4 recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior."

5 I might also add that your verbatim testimony will become  
6 a part of the record all through the review process and will  
7 be available to Congress as they make the final decision on  
8 this proposal. Thank you.

9 CHAIRMAN PRICE: In opening the meeting to public  
10 discussion, I ask that all pertinent information be presented  
11 as completely as possible. If anyone wishes to summarize  
12 his statement for the benefit of those present and submit a  
13 written statement for the record, you may do so.

14 I shall now call on certain persons in order of priority  
15 in order to expedite and clarify the proposal. After they  
16 have completed their statements the meeting will continue to  
17 be open to the public. Anyone present who desires to make a  
18 statement, may do so. I wish to remind you again that  
19 statements will not be made under oath, and since this is not  
20 an adversary proceeding, there will be no cross examination.  
21 Anyone desiring to question the person making a statement for  
22 clarification purposes only, will direct their questions to  
23 me. In order to permit the conduct of the meeting and oral  
24 comments to become a matter of record, I ask that all speakers  
25 come to the microphone to make their statements. This has

1 several advantages, but principally allows everyone in the  
2 room to hear and also the recording secretary to take down  
3 what you have to say. I ask you to give your name and address,  
4 and also spell your name for the convenience of the reporter.  
5 If you represent an organization, so state which organization  
6 it is. The order of priority, although I do not believe such  
7 representatives are going to be here today, but I will call  
8 them out for the record. Is there a representative of the  
9 Governor, or a member of Congress, or a representative of a  
10 member of the State Legislature, or a representative of any  
11 body of local government, is there a representative of a  
12 State Agency, or is there an official representative of a  
13 Federal Agency, is there a representative of an organization?

14 The next order of priority will be the individual  
15 testimony. Before beginning the individual testimony, I have  
16 one letter which I would like to read into the record, a  
17 letter from Robert C. Reeve, president of Reeve Aleutian  
18 Airways, directed to the Area Director:

19 "Dear Sir: Please refer to the Unimak Project -

20 "I approve of the conservation aspects if it proposes to  
21 contribute to the good of wildlife of the area. At the same  
22 time, I should remind you that the brown bear crop has  
23 suffered as a result of Government supervision in the past.  
24 I hope you will do better if this is approved.

25 "I do approve this movement only if the withdrawal is

1 limited to a minimum of 5 and not more than 10 years total.  
2 Then take a final look at it.

3 "Sincerely yours, Robert C. Reeve".

4 I have two cards and after that I will ask if anyone  
5 else would like to testify. The first card is Mike Uttecht.

6  
7 MIKE UTTECHT

8 My name is Mike Uttecht, U-t-t-e-c-h-t. My address is  
9 Box 55, Cold Bay, Alaska. I represent myself.

10 First, on your thirty-three hundred and some acres  
11 withdrawal here, a large part of that -- the largest by far,  
12 almost the entire amount of that is in the Unimak Pass area.  
13 There is a very, very small part in the False Pass where the  
14 people live. Now, how many acres is there in this False Pass  
15 area that would be excluded from the Wilderness?

16 MR. SEKORA: Palmer Sekora. The total acreage of the  
17 False Pass Area I believe includes 32 acres of private  
18 land and 745 acres of Aleutian Islands Refuge land.

19 MR. UTTECHT: The way this is set up you have  
20 excluded almost all harbors. The reason I say this is this  
21 is primarily the economy of this part of the country --  
22 primarily based on fishing. Fishing boats need harbors.  
23 There are no harbors in the Unimak Pass area; there is  
24 absolutely nowhere where you could think about keeping a  
25 boat. So you have excluded a small pass where False Pass

1 Cannery is. Now, there is nothing in here that states that  
2 there is another cannery at Ikatan which is also on Unimak  
3 Island. It is a village, people still have houses there all  
4 along the beach from Ikatan to False Pass, a distance of six  
5 or seven miles there are scattered houses. There is nothing  
6 in this brochure that mentions these. It mentions trapping  
7 cabins which are in a state of poor repair. Certainly the  
8 people do not live at the present time in these houses I am  
9 talking about. Ikatan Cannery has been abandoned, it is an  
10 old cannery. But were any other fishing industries to move  
11 in, there is no place to build docks for -- to get fresh  
12 water and so on if this were all taken into a wilderness; I  
13 feel it would impose a great hardship on these people.

14 Also, years ago at Dora's Harbor there was a codfish  
15 station. There is no mention of that in the brochure. This --  
16 Dora Harbor would be included in this wilderness withdrawal.

17 There are several discrepancies in here. For one thing,  
18 just for instance, you have Mount Shishaldin listed as -- oh,  
19 ninety-nine hundred and some odd feet I believe. Actually, it  
20 is ninety-three hundred feet.

21 There is one picture of unloading salmon off a scow.  
22 These salmon are dead. It says commercial fishing. The  
23 caption should be unloading commercially caught salmon. You  
24 don't fish among dead fish off of a scow.

25 I feel that some parts of this brochure are misleading



1 for these reasons.

2 Also, there is a photograph of a person with a glass  
3 ball on their back, a man and a woman I take it, and a beach  
4 stump in the foreground and Unimak Island in the background.  
5 Now, that picture is not taken on Unimak Island. I think  
6 the things in here should represent Unimak Island which we  
7 are discussing.

8 That's about all I have.

9 CHAIRMAN PRICE: Do you have any comments, Mr.  
10 Sekora, or Mr. Spencer, on any of the points that were  
11 raised by Mr. Uttecht?

12 MR. SEKORA: The village of Ikatan is private land.  
13 In the brochure it states that there are forty-two acres  
14 of private land. It does neglect to mention Ikatan on  
15 this.

16 MR. UTTECHT: It does not show it here.

17 MR. SEKORA: On the small map. It is such a small  
18 dot that evidently the shading does not show up on the  
19 small map. But there are approximately ten acres here  
20 that is owned by the Peter Pan Fisheries, Inc. These  
21 are excluded from the Wilderness Proposal.

22 MR. UTTECHT: Well then, the houses, the homes of  
23 these people are they in this ten acres or not?

24 MR. SEKORA: Yes, they are. The cabins that you are  
25 talking about along the strait at False Pass have been

1 recorded in the field study report, but we are awaiting  
2 the passage of the Native Lands Claim Act on the  
3 determination of the sites.

4 MR. UTTECHT: Well, if none of this land is withdrawn  
5 by the natives, it would stand as is then. I mean you  
6 would then recommend what you show on this map except for  
7 the ten acres at Ikatan as wilderness area. Is that  
8 right?

9 MR. SEKORA: Yes.

10 MR. UTTECHT: As I said, all the harbors, any  
11 shelter of any kind, other than these two that we have  
12 mentioned now are in the wilderness area and, of course,  
13 wilderness -- it states here you do not want docks built, and  
14 if you do start a fish processing plant of any kind you must  
15 have fresh water. This would -- you would have to go inland.  
16 One other thing, I sort of disagree that brown bear need  
17 wilderness as a habitat. Here we have a lot of roads and it  
18 was proven last summer that the bear were very, very thick,  
19 right in town, at the site and different places. So  
20 wilderness, to my way of looking, is not absolutely necessary  
21 to raise the brown bear population.

22 MR. SPENCER: There are a number of specific  
23 harbors, Mike, that you think should be excluded?

24 MR. UTTECHT: Well, I feel that from Ikatan up into  
25 St. Catherine's Cove, anywheres along in there, there are

1 potentials where fish processing plants or other things could  
2 be built, and these are the only harbors. There are none  
3 other except East Anchor, Dora Harbor, West Anchor Cove which  
4 are clear out. If the area is ever going to develop, I think  
5 it will develop in commercial fishing.

6 CHAIRMAN PRICE: Thank you for your testimony.

7 David Krueger.

8  
9 DAVID KRUEGER

10 Mr. Chairman, my name is David Krueger, K-r-u-e-g-e-r.  
11 I live here in Cold Bay.

12 I question this proposal. In fact, I am strongly against  
13 it because I can see where all it is going to do is put added  
14 restrictions upon an area which is not utilized at all other  
15 than one particular spot, or maybe two. One by the military  
16 and one by a fish company.

17 As I have read through this brochure, I see that your  
18 intent is to restrict travel, which is not restricted in  
19 certain respects as of now. Presently the law states that  
20 you may use all of the lakes, bays, estuaries, False Pass,  
21 Cape Sarichef, to land an aircraft. And here in your brochure  
22 you say on certain of the larger lagoons and interior lakes.  
23 Who is going to determine what "certain" means, or where  
24 these lakes are? And it just looks to me like it's a  
25 continuation, or putting more restrictions upon an area which

1 is hardly utilized at all, or even comes close to being  
2 utilized. People don't get there. There are very, very few  
3 people who can afford to travel out there and go camping and  
4 hunting. In fact, there is probably an over population of  
5 caribou and they aren't even hunted where they should be. In  
6 fact, I have heard people from the Fish and Game encourage  
7 people to go out there and hunt, but they can't afford to go  
8 out there and hunt.

9 And I might add, like Mike said, that the wilderness  
10 certainly isn't going to help the bear population.

11 The restriction of landing the aircraft, wheel aircraft,  
12 light aircraft, above the high-water mark has probably done  
13 more to protect the bear than has the wildlife refuge. And  
14 also the expense of getting to the area.

15 All I would like to understand is, who -- why are we  
16 trying to put more restrictions upon a place that is doing  
17 quite well as it is? And is it really going to be beneficial  
18 to the area? That is all I have.

19 CHAIRMAN PRICE: Mr. Krueger, I believe you had two  
20 questions and I am not going to take them as rhetorical  
21 questions, but perhaps request either Mr. Spencer or Mr.  
22 Sekora to answer your questions. The first question  
23 which I thought that you raised was the possibility of  
24 further restrictions on the landing of aircraft. And  
25 then the second question just seemed to be the general

1 nature of restrictions in general and what benefit they  
2 would be. As I take it, those are the two questions.

3 MR. KRUEGER: Yes, that would be correct.

4 MR. SPENCER: Well, relating to the designation of  
5 lakes for aircraft landing, currently the landing of aircraft  
6 on the island is restricted for brown bear hunting purposes  
7 to just water areas. You can land otherwise for other  
8 purposes on other areas. The lakes that would be designated,  
9 the ones that we would recommend to Congress be designated as  
10 landing areas would include those that are suitable for the  
11 safe landing of aircraft.

12 MR. KRUEGER: Well now, Mr. Spencer, this brings to  
13 mind who is going to determine what is a safe landing area for  
14 an aircraft? The Government, or the pilot.

15 MR. SPENCER: Well, I think that we would call on  
16 the experience of the pilots who are familiar with the area to  
17 aid in making the determination.

18 MR. KRUEGER: Well, it seems to me it boils down to  
19 the pilot would be the one that would determine what is a safe  
20 area to land his aircraft in, wouldn't it?

21 MR. SPENCER: To some extent, yes.

22 MR. KRUEGER: I think I see what you're driving at.  
23 You're trying to protect the Government from suits because if  
24 you say, "Well, you can go land on this lake" and some idiot  
25 goes in there and lands and he's got no business landing there,

1 you're trying to protect the Government. I think it should be  
2 worded such that -- leave it as it is, and then it's up to the  
3 individual. They've got no recourse. If they make a mistake,  
4 it's their own fault.

5 MR. SPENCER: You would prefer to see any water  
6 areas open to landing.

7 MR. KRUEGER: Well, leave it as it is. It says any  
8 lakes, bays, lagoons, and any of the beaches below high-water  
9 mark and False Pass and Cape Sarichef. And there is two  
10 existing old strips, one at Scotch Cap down here and then  
11 there's another one right in this area which they used to use  
12 but very unsuitable. You can go in there but it's doubtful  
13 that you will end up in the upright position. And that's all  
14 I have. I mean it's doing quite well as it is and I just  
15 can't see any more restrictions until it is really deemed that  
16 it is necessary to improve the area. Thank you.

17 CHAIRMAN PRICE: Thank you for your statement, Mr.  
18 Krueger. Is there anyone else who wishes to make a  
19 statement?

20 There being no further statements, I am going to  
21 recess this hearing until Anchorage on Friday when this  
22 hearing will reconvene at the auditorium of Anchorage  
23 Methodist University at seven o'clock in the evening. Before  
24 doing so, let me remind you that the hearing record will be  
25 kept open until February 1, 1972, which is forty-five days

1 after the hearing, for the filing of written statements or  
2 other material. While the Department of Interior invites  
3 written expression on this proposal at any time, in order to  
4 be made a part of the official hearing record, all written  
5 expressions must be in the office of the Area Director,  
6 Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Anchorage, Alaska by February 1,  
7 1972. After that date, written advice should be sent to the  
8 Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C., or the  
9 Director of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Washington, D. C.

10 I wish to thank everyone for the cooperation given during  
11 this hearing. Since there is nothing further in connection  
12 with this hearing and no more testimony or evidence to be  
13 offered, the hearing will be in recess until Friday. Thank  
14 you very much.

15  
16 HEARING RECESSED AT 10:45 A.M., DECEMBER 14,  
17 1971, TO BE RECONVENED AT 7:00 P.M. DECEMBER  
18 17, 1971, IN ANCHORAGE, ALASKA  
19  
20  
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P R O C E E D I N G S

The public hearing on Unimak Island reconvened in the auditorium at the Alaska Methodist University, Anchorage, Alaska, at 7:00 p.m., December 17, 1971.

CHAIRMAN PRICE:

We have called a meeting at this time. What it actually is, is we had begun the hearing at Cold Bay on Monday, and we aren't-- we had gone into recess at that time, and so what we are doing is reconvening the hearing that was begun at that time.

First, I'd like to introduce myself. I'm Robert Price. I'm a Regional Solicitor here in Anchorage for the Department of the Interior. I have been designated by the Secretary of the Interior to conduct this hearing.

Most of you undoubtedly filled out an attendance card as you entered the door. If you have not done so, I would like to ask that you complete one. If those of you who have not filled out cards will please raise your hands, we will distribute them to you.

At this time, I should like to thank Alaska Methodist University for their assistance in making this place available to us this evening.

As announced in the Notice of Public Hearing issued on



1       October 15, 1971, this hearing is being held to obtain  
2       information relating to the desirability of establishing a  
3       unit of the National Wilderness Preservation Society on  
4       Unimak Island.

5               As background information, I should like to explain that  
6       in arranging this hearing, notices were sent to the United  
7       States Senators and Congressmen, the Governor of the State  
8       of Alaska, and other elected officials. Replies which have  
9       been received from them will be read later and incorporated  
10      into the transcript of this hearing. We also sent notices  
11      to the federal and state agencies and to organizations and  
12      individuals known to be interested in the matter.

13             Now for a few words about procedure. This hearing is  
14      not a debate, a trial, or a question and answer assembly --  
15      but an advisory hearing whereby all interested persons may  
16      present statements, written or oral, or other information  
17      pertinent to the wilderness proposal we are considering  
18      today. If anyone fails to understand a statement of any  
19      person, appropriate questions may be asked for the purpose  
20      of clarifying such a statement. All questions will be  
21      directed to me and I shall determine whether they are  
22      pertinent. This may seem a little technical or strict,  
23      but it is intended to facilitate an orderly presentation  
24      of views and assure a fair and reasonable opportunity for  
25      all to be heard.

1           The Wilderness Act (Public Law 88-577) provided the  
2 authority and outlined the procedure by which a national  
3 wildlife refuge or game range or a portion of a national  
4 wildlife refuge or game range meeting the necessary  
5 requirements, is to be considered for inclusion in the  
6 National Wilderness Preservation System. This law directed  
7 the study and review within ten years after September 3,  
8 1964, of every roadless island and every roadless area of  
9 five thousand acres or more within the National Wildlife  
10 Refuge System. I wish to point out that eventual inclusion  
11 of a game range or a portion of a game range within the  
12 National Wilderness Preservation System does not remove the  
13 area from the game range status. The area we are considering  
14 today within the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge,  
15 if classified as wilderness, still will be administered as  
16 an integral part of the wildlife refuge. The intent of the  
17 Wilderness Act along these lines is clear. The provisions  
18 of Section 4-A and 4-B of the Act state that the purposes  
19 of the Wilderness Act are to be within and supplemental to  
20 the purpose for which game ranges are established and  
21 administered. Also, each agency administering any area  
22 designated as wilderness shall be responsible for preserving  
23 the wilderness character of the area and for such other  
24 purposes for which it may have been established as also  
25 to preserve its wilderness character. Therefore, Unimak

1 Island will still be a part of the National Wildlife Refuge  
2 System, but with the added feature of a National Wilderness  
3 Area.

4 After this public hearing, a thorough review will be  
5 made of this wilderness proposal. But this is not the last  
6 opportunity for public expression. A record of this public  
7 hearing and all other information on the proposal will be  
8 transmitted to the Secretary of the Interior. After study  
9 and consultations, the Secretary will transmit his recommend-  
10 ations regarding the proposal to the President. The  
11 President will transmit his recommendations to the Congress.  
12 After appropriate consideration, which will include hearings,  
13 the Congress will accept, reject, or modify the proposal as  
14 a unit of the National Wilderness Preservation System. When  
15 after hearings and studies, the proposal is accepted by  
16 Congress, appropriate legislation is transmitted to the  
17 President. When signed by the President, the wilderness  
18 area becomes a part of the National Wilderness Preservation  
19 System.

20 As you can see, there is a comprehensive review process  
21 of each wilderness proposal of which public hearings and  
22 your views are most important.

23 Now I ask Gordon Watson, Alaska Area Director for the  
24 Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Department of the  
25 Interior, to explain the wilderness proposal to you. Before

1 Mr. Watson presents his statement, however, I should like to  
2 explain again that this is not an adversary proceeding. If  
3 you want to ask a question in order to clarify a certain  
4 point, please feel free to do so. All questions, however,  
5 will be directed to me and I shall determine whether they  
6 are pertinent. Mr. Watson.

7 GORDON WATSON:

8 Good Evening, ladies and gentlemen. I am Gordon Watson,  
9 Alaska Area Director for the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and  
10 Wildlife. I want to express my appreciation for your  
11 interest in coming to this hearing on the Unimak Island  
12 Wilderness Proposal within the Aleutian Islands National  
13 Wildlife Refuge.

14 The Wilderness Act, passed by Congress in 1964, directed  
15 the Secretary of the Interior to review all roadless areas  
16 of five thousand acres or more, and every roadless island  
17 within the National Wildlife Refuge System, to determine  
18 their suitability or unsuitability as wilderness. Further,  
19 regulations of the Secretary of the Interior published on  
20 February 22, 1966, require this Bureau to review those areas  
21 qualifying for study under the Wilderness Act that (1)  
22 possess the general characteristics of wilderness, (2) are  
23 reasonably compact, (3) are undeveloped, and (4) are without  
24 improved roads suitable for public travel by conventional  
25 automobile.

1           The National Wildlife Refuge System is comprised of  
2 more than three hundred units containing nearly thirty  
3 million acres. Units of the system are located on lands  
4 extending from the Arctic Ocean shores to islands in the  
5 central Pacific Ocean, and from the Florida Keys to Maine.  
6 One or more national wildlife refuges are located in each  
7 of the seventeen major life zones of North America. The  
8 ecology of each national wildlife refuge differs from that  
9 of any other refuge, although some are similar. Because  
10 of the ecological differences, management objectives of  
11 individual refuges are often quite different.

12           Preliminary examination reveals that about ninety  
13 wildlife refuges in thirty-two states containing nearly  
14 twenty-five million acres qualify for study as wilderness.  
15 The wilderness review program of the Bureau of Sport  
16 Fisheries and Wildlife, of which this proposal is a part,  
17 encompasses a wide spectrum of lands within national wildlife  
18 refuges throughout the country. Only through careful study  
19 and analysis can a proper determination be made regarding  
20 whether a national wildlife refuge or a portion of a  
21 national wildlife refuge qualifies for consideration by the  
22 Secretary of the Interior as wilderness.

23           Today we are publicly presenting the results of our  
24 study of Unimak Island in the Aleutian Islands National  
25 Wildlife Refuge. An informational brochure summarizing the

1 study and explaining the wilderness proposal is available in  
2 the hearing room if you do not yet have a copy. The complete  
3 study report is also available here for your examination.  
4 Please do not remove it, for the number of copies is very  
5 limited. Copies of the statement that I am making here today  
6 are also available for your use.

7 I would also like to point out that the President's  
8 signature to the Native Land Claims legislation will take  
9 precedence over this wilderness proposal. In other words,  
10 any land that may be withdrawn for Native use in the vicinity  
11 of False Pass on Unimak Island will require that our  
12 wilderness proposal be revised to accommodate these Native-  
13 selected areas. The final acreage proposed for wilderness  
14 designation could then be considerably less than what we are  
15 proposing here today.

16 A draft Environmental Impact Study pertaining to this  
17 wilderness proposal has been prepared and submitted to the  
18 Council of Environmental Quality for review. This action is  
19 required by the Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (Public Law  
20 90-190).

21 In brief, the Environmental Impact Statement explains  
22 the alternatives that were explored before the proposal we  
23 are presenting here was prepared. The Impact Statement also  
24 describes the possible effects on the environment if  
25 wilderness designation for portions of Unimak is granted by

1 by Congress. But I must emphasize that this is a wilderness  
2 proposal hearing, and not an Environmental Impact Statement  
3 hearing as may be provided for under the National Environ-  
4 mental Policy Act.

5 It should be clearly understood also that the proposal  
6 we are presenting is preliminary. Only after your expressed  
7 views have been thoroughly studied will our final  
8 recommendations be made to the Secretary of the Interior.  
9 It will then be necessary for the Congress to enact  
10 legislation that will officially designate portions of Unimak  
11 Island as wilderness, and include them in the National  
12 Wilderness Preservation System.

13 The Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, of which  
14 Unimak Island is an integral part, was established by  
15 Executive Order in 1913 by President William H. Taft as  
16 "a preserve and breeding ground for native birds, for the  
17 propagation of reindeer and fur-bearing animals, and for  
18 the encouragement and development of the fisheries."

19 Although Unimak Island is essentially a wilderness at  
20 present, there is no assurance that this condition will  
21 always remain. Without legislative protection through  
22 official wilderness designation, the island's wilderness  
23 qualities could eventually be lost as the nation's population  
24 grows and man's technology has even more widespread influence  
25 on wild areas.

1           Much of the grandeur that typifies Alaska can be found  
2 on Unimak Island: rugged snow-capped mountains, active  
3 volcanoes, mountain glaciers and snowfields, and expanses of  
4 tundra supporting a rich variety of wildlife. Other prominent  
5 features are the extensive black sand beaches and sand dunes,  
6 the beautiful Fisher Caldera, freshwater lakes and marshes,  
7 and numerous salmon spawning streams, and biologically  
8 productive lagoons.

9           A variety of wildlife inhabits the island, including  
10 twenty-five species of mammals and at least ninety-one kinds  
11 of birds. Deserving special mention are several species  
12 that require wilderness to maintain their populations. Among  
13 these are the Alaska brown bear, wolverine, and gray wolf.  
14 This is also true of the American bald eagle and peregrine  
15 falcon, both of which have been classified as rare and  
16 endangered species in the United States outside Alaska.

17          Unimak's diversity of habitat attracts a rich variety  
18 of birdlife. Spectacular concentrations of waterfowl occur  
19 in migration. Black brant, lesser Canada geese, and Emperor  
20 geese appear by the tens of thousands to feed in the lagoons  
21 where nutritious eelgrass is abundant. Whistling swans are  
22 year-round residents and many species of ducks including  
23 eiders and scoters utilize the island's various water areas  
24 in company with loons, gulls, and terns.

25          Twenty-nine species of fish are known to frequent inshore



1 waters. Included are four species of salmon which spawn in  
2 island streams and contribute to the area's valuable salmon  
3 fishery.

4 Remoteness and the severity of local weather limit the  
5 number of visitors to Unimak. As the nation's population  
6 grows and becomes more mobile, this situation could change.

7 Many excellent opportunities exist on the island for  
8 such recreational pursuits as camping, hunting, fishing,  
9 hiking, mountain climbing, beachcombing, photography and  
10 wildlife observation and study. All of these activities  
11 are compatible with wilderness.

12 We will recommend allowing aircraft to use specifically  
13 designated interior lakes. There would be no prohibitions  
14 against motor-powered boats or aircraft landing on lagoon  
15 and ocean beaches. Aircraft would be permitted to continue  
16 using lagoon and ocean beaches below mean high-tide line,  
17 since these areas are not subject to wilderness classification.

18 Motorized vehicles such as jeeps, snowmobiles, trailbikes,  
19 dune buggies and all types of all-terrain vehicles would be  
20 prohibited within the wilderness areas above the mean  
21 high-tide line, however. The use of such vehicles distracts  
22 from the solitude of wilderness and can be disturbing to  
23 wildlife and damaging to plant communities. In addition,  
24 their use inevitably causes conflicts to develop with people  
25 seeking peace and relaxation in a wilderness environment.

1           The Wilderness Act of 1964 directs that there will be  
2 no building of roads or any type of permanent structure in  
3 wilderness areas, and that surface exploration and mining  
4 of minerals will not be allowed.

5           Our preliminary proposal suggests, then, that  
6 approximately nine hundred sixty-five thousand acres of  
7 this nearly one-million-acre island be proposed for inclusion  
8 in the National Wilderness Preservation System. Included  
9 would be most of the island's outstanding recreational,  
10 historic, geologic, archeological, educational and scientific  
11 values. This action would assure survival of the wildlife  
12 which inhabit the island and provide a wide variety of  
13 recreational opportunities to people seeking a true wilderness  
14 experience.

15           The remainder of the island, about thirty-three thousand  
16 two hundred eighteen acres, is proposed for exclusion from  
17 wilderness designation. This comprises lands in the vicinity  
18 of the village of False Pass and the Cape Sarichef and Scotch  
19 Cap stations, plus forty-two acres of private land. Public  
20 or private developments that could become necessary or  
21 desirable on the island in the future could probably be  
22 accommodated within this excluded acreage.

23           I thank you for attending this hearing and for  
24 expressing an interest in the Unimak Island wilderness  
25 proposal. I assure you that your views, whether expressed

1 orally or in writing, will be carefully studied before the  
2 Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife submits its final  
3 recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior.

4 HEARING OFFICER:

5 Thank you, Mr. Watson. In opening the meeting for public  
6 discussion, I ask that all pertinent information be presented  
7 as completely as possible. If anyone wishes to summarize  
8 their statement for the benefit of those present and submit  
9 a written statement for the benefit of those present and  
10 submit a written statement for the record, you may do so.  
11 In the event that time becomes a factor, I may have to request  
12 that you limit your oral remarks. I shall now call on  
13 certain persons in order of priority to expedite and clarify  
14 the proposal. After they have completed their statements,  
15 the meeting will continue to be open to the public. Anyone  
16 present who desires to make a statement may do so. I wish  
17 to remind you again that statements will not be made under  
18 oath and, since this is not an adversary proceeding, there  
19 will be no cross-examination. Anyone desiring to question  
20 a person making a statement for clarification purposes only,  
21 will direct their questions to me. If I deem them pertinent,  
22 I will request the person making the statement to answer the  
23 question. In order to permit the conduct of the meeting  
24 and oral comments to become a matter of record, I ask that  
25 all speakers come to the microphone to make their statements.

1 This has several advantages, but principally allows everyone.  
2 in the room to hear, and also the recording secretary to take  
3 down what you have to say. I ask that you give your name  
4 and address and the interest which you represent. You may,  
5 of course, represent yourself. I ask you to speak slowly  
6 and distinctly. If you have a written statement, you may  
7 elect to read it for the record or leave it for the record.  
8 It has equal effect either way so far as the record is  
9 concerned.

10 The first person that I would like would be the  
11 representative of the Governor of Alaska, Mr. Robert Pavitt.

12 ROBERT PAVITT:

13 Mr. Price, Mr. Watson, my name is Bob Pavitt. I'm  
14 Director of Planning and Research for the State of Alaska.  
15 My address is the Office of the Governor, Pouch AD, Juneau,  
16 Alaska, 99801.

17 My purpose here this evening is to submit both orally  
18 and in written form, the testimony of the State of Alaska  
19 regarding the Unimak Island wilderness proposal that has been  
20 put forth by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.

21 The State of Alaska subscribes to the basic principles  
22 expressed in the Wilderness Act of 1964 (Public Law 88-577).  
23 In a rapidly urbanizing nation, it is vital that lands be  
24 designated for preservation and protection in their natural  
25 condition, so that the soul-satisfying wilderness experience  
will not be lost to future generations.

1           Despite the fact that much of the scenic grandeur of  
2           Alaska will, as a matter of reality, remain forever untouched  
3           by the works of man, it is yet wise that the Federal and  
4           State Governments, as trustees of the public lands, should  
5           be jointly and comprehensively analyzing and evaluating  
6           these lands so that formal wilderness designations may be  
7           proposed.

8           Surely the windswept islands of the one thousand two  
9           hundred mile Aleutain Chain already protected from man's  
10          exploitive tendencies as a National Wildlife Refuge,  
11          constitute one of this nation's magnificent defacto  
12          wilderness resources. Yet, the State must vigorously object  
13          to the proposal before us at this hearing.

14          Unimak Island is far removed from any known oil and gas  
15          provinces of Alaska. It is extremely unlikely that any  
16          valuable mineral deposits exist there. The likelihood of  
17          urban development occurring much beyond the fishing-oriented  
18          village of False Pass is not seriously regarded as a  
19          probability. The few acres of private land plus that portion  
20          of the western coastline devoted to navigational and  
21          meteorological aids have already been excluded from the  
22          wilderness proposal. The State feels, though, that this  
23          and all similar proposals of this nature can and should be  
24          discussed calmly, dispassionately and comprehensively;  
25          hopefully without the emotion-charged polarization of

1 positions that all too frequently accompany such dialogue.

2 The Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge consists  
3 of a chain of islands extending westward from the southern  
4 tip of the Alaska peninsula. They stretch in a one thousand  
5 two hundred mile saucer-shaped arc to within five hundred  
6 miles of the Kamchatka Peninsula in Soviet Asia, separating  
7 the Bering Sea on the north from the Pacific Ocean on the  
8 south. The Refuge includes fourteen large islands, fifty-five  
9 small islands, and innumerable islets. While the Wilderness  
10 Act calls for a study of all roadless islands in the refuge  
11 system, it seems highly improbable that the Bureau actually  
12 contemplates a separate study for each of the many islands  
13 of the Aleutian Island Refuge. How then does the Unimak  
14 proposal fit in with the requirements for study within the  
15 refuge as a whole? The State feels that it could very  
16 likely support a series of wilderness units representative  
17 of the ecotypes found on the various island groupings  
18 throughout the longitudinal span of the Aleutian Chain. It  
19 is, however, impossible to comment intelligently and  
20 positively on the part without seeing the whole.

21 The language of the Presidential Executive Order  
22 creating the refuge includes as a purpose the "encouragement  
23 and development of the fisheries". There is language within  
24 both the Wilderness Act and the Bureau wilderness regulations  
25 stipulating that designation as wilderness will not interfere

1 with the purposes of the refuge. Therefore, we feel language  
2 included in any wilderness proposal for the refuge must allow  
3 for fisheries rehabilitation and development by reasonable  
4 means.

5 During October, 1971, the Alaska Department of Fish and  
6 Game flew aerial surveys over Unimak Island as a part of its  
7 management program. Department personnel counted in excess  
8 of four thousand four hundred caribou between Rocky River -  
9 Isanotski Peaks/Lazarez River on the east, and Cape Lutke/  
10 Cove Point on the west. In addition, twenty-six thousand  
11 waterfowl were counted in Christianson Lagoon and Swanson  
12 Lagoon, and thirty-seven brown bear were sighted.

13 The Bureau encourages non-motorized recreational  
14 activities as proper and compatible with wilderness status.  
15 The State feels it imperative that wilderness areas allow  
16 for reasonable access. This does not mean a road every  
17 quarter-mile, but it also should not be interpreted as  
18 including only a few designated lakes and beaches, as the  
19 Bureau suggests. The potential wilderness areas in Alaska  
20 are very remote, and any area safe to land on that does not  
21 injure habitat should be made available as an access route.

22 We find the absence of an Environmental Impact Statement  
23 distressing. If, in fact, Environmental Impact Statements are  
24 for the purpose of rationalizing proposals, exploring all  
25 possible alternatives, and evaluating their potential affects

1 on man and his environment, would it not seem reasonable that  
2 such a statement would be submitted for public scrutiny? Or  
3 is there in fact a double standard that is to be applied,  
4 whereby a private sector development requires an exhaustive  
5 and comprehensive analysis, while a major federal action that  
6 might include multi-million acre wilderness proposals can  
7 get by with no Environmental Impact Statement at all?

8 Nowhere in the proposal do we find any evidence that the  
9 Fish and Wildlife Service has made a serious attempt to work  
10 with the State, the Aleut League, or even with the other  
11 federal agencies having substantive programs and interests  
12 in the Aleutians. Time is needed to do an adequate job of  
13 intergovernmental and multi-disciplinary land use planning.  
14 Time that could not possibly have been devoted by an  
15 under-staffed and under-funded Bureau faced with a rapidly  
16 approaching deadline for the review of nearly twenty million  
17 acres of refuge lands. Cognizant of these constraints on  
18 the proper coordination of land use planning, Governor  
19 William A. Egan, following up on earlier correspondence  
20 with Secretary of the Interior Rogers Morton, has requested  
21 the State's congressional delegation to seek a five to ten  
22 year extension of the reporting requirements of the Wilderness  
23 Act of 1964 as they pertain to lands in Alaska. Unlike most  
24 of our sister states, Alaska is not faced with the rapid  
25 diminution of its potential for wilderness areas, nor is



1 urbanization threatening to run rampant through the great  
2 land. Furthermore, the ten years allotted by the provisions  
3 of the Wilderness Act has now shrunk to something less than  
4 three years, and the review of qualifying areas in Alaska  
5 has barely begun.

6 At the State level, the machinery has now been achieved  
7 for effective and meaningful state-federal land use planning.  
8 Governor Egan proposed, and the legislature adopted a bill  
9 establishing a Joint State-Federal Natural Resources and  
10 Land Use Planning Commission. The State delegation to the  
11 Commission has now been appointed, and its work program has  
12 begun. The State hopes that the proposed federal legislation  
13 on which its actions were based will soon become a reality,  
14 and that the Joint Commission will be perfected. I might  
15 add parenthetically that with the passage of the Native Land  
16 Claims, that there is, indeed, a provision setting up just  
17 precisely such a Joint State-Federal Natural Resources and  
18 Land Use Planning Commission which will become effective  
19 its signature -- the President's signature. A land use  
20 planning unit is now serving as staff to the Commission,  
21 and is already participating jointly with the planning staff  
22 of the Bureau of Land Management in active work on the  
23 Northern Alaska Planning Study.

24 The State of Alaska must oppose this wilderness proposal  
25 and all future proposals unilaterally advanced by a federal

1 agency where the State's sole input must be based on a  
2 cursory review of an already firm and printed presentation.

3 It is misleading, melodramatic and patently false to  
4 assert that a nine-page brochure, which does not even comment  
5 on the relationship of Unimak to its sister islands in the  
6 Fox group, should purport to be the document that helps  
7 concerned Americans decide the island's fate in western  
8 civilization. Surely, concerned Americans deserve a more  
9 comprehensive look at their potential wilderness resource  
10 than this.

11 We would respectfully submit that only through the  
12 mechanism of joint state-federal planning, and the involvement  
13 of all concerned parties in a comprehensive study of the  
14 Aleutian Island National Wildlife Refuge can be a meaningful  
15 wilderness proposal be put forth. One that can be  
16 enthusiastically supported by the State of Alaska as being  
17 in the best interests of the people of the state and of the  
18 nation.

19 Thank you, Mr. Price.

20 HEARING OFFICER:

21 Thank you from the staff and from Governor Egan, Mr.  
22 Pavitt.

23 Are there any representatives of the congressional  
24 delegation present who wish to give a statement? Are there  
25 any members of the State Legislature? Are there any officials

1 of a state agency who desire to give a presentation? Or  
2 officials of a federal agency?

3 The next order of testimony will be the testimony of  
4 organizations. I have received cards marked by three persons  
5 who state that they represent organizations. The first  
6 witness is Celia M. Hunter.

7 CELIA M. HUNTER:

8 My name is Celia M. Hunter. I reside on Back Woods Trail  
9 in Fairbanks, Alaska. I am representing the Wilderness  
10 Society of which I am a member of the governing council. I  
11 would like to have this statement included in the hearing  
12 record.

13 The Wilderness Society, a national conservation  
14 organization with headquarters in Washington, D. C., wishes  
15 to go on record in strong support of the conclusion of the  
16 Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife that Unimak Island,  
17 in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, is fully  
18 qualified for admission into the National Wilderness  
19 Preservation System.

20 The Wilderness Society and its seventy thousand members  
21 feel that Unimak Island, one of the world's most spectacular  
22 and scenic wilderness islands, is not only eminently qualified  
23 as wilderness, but is one of the very few wilderness areas  
24 in the nation encompassing in its entirety a viable ecosystem  
25 of national importance.

1 Unimak Island, one million acres in size, typifies much  
2 of the grandeur of Alaska. Containing towering snow-capped  
3 mountains, active volcanoes, living glaciers, and expansive  
4 tundra supporting a rich variety of wildlife, Unimak is a  
5 unique wilderness and fully deserving of the statutory  
6 protection that the Wilderness Act provides.

7 While fully supporting the recommendations of the Bureau  
8 of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife that approximately nine  
9 hundred sixty-five thousand forty-two acres of the nine  
10 hundred ninety-eight thousand two hundred sixty acre island  
11 be classified as wilderness, the Wilderness Society feels  
12 that future administration of the national wildlife refuge  
13 and the wilderness area for the purposes for which they are  
14 established will be strengthened by the Bureau of Sport  
15 Fisheries and Wildlife adopting the following actions in  
16 its final recommendations:

17 1. The western tip of the island has been excluded by  
18 the Bureau from proposed wilderness because of the presence  
19 of an active lighthouse and communications stations, several  
20 miles apart and connected by roads. This exclusion is  
21 delineated on maps by section lines when actually a more  
22 recognizable wilderness boundary could be placed along roads  
23 or topographical features. The increase in acreage would  
24 be small but significant if this improved method of locating  
25 the wilderness boundary is adopted in final recommendations.

1           2. The Executive Order which established the Aleutian  
2 Islands National Wildlife Refuge stated, in part, "The  
3 establishment of this reservation shall not interfere with  
4 the use of the islands for lighthouse, military, or naval  
5 purposes". The Wilderness Society urges that the Secretary  
6 of the Interior amend the Order to eliminate this clause to  
7 assure that Unimak Island and the wilderness will not be  
8 subjected to military intrusion in the future.

9           3. The Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife has no  
10 jurisdiction over State lands below the mean high-tide line.  
11 These lands have high wildlife values and are of great  
12 ecological importance to the entire insular ecosystem. In  
13 order to assure that these important values are not jeopardized  
14 in the future, the Secretary of the Interior should recommend  
15 to Congress that an appropriate buffer of state-owned  
16 bottom-lands be included in the refuge and wilderness. Or,  
17 as a less desirable alternative, the negotiation of a State  
18 tidelands lease by the Secretary out to one-fourth mile or  
19 more would provide a valuable buffer zone around the island,  
20 provided the lease was in perpetuity.

21           The inclusion of the Unimak Island in the National  
22 Wilderness Preservation System will not change its status  
23 as a unit of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge.  
24 Nor does consideration as wilderness interfere with proposed  
25 land grants to Native Alaskans, since these lands will be

1 excluded from the refuge and wilderness at the time such  
2 grants, whatever they might be, are awarded. But wilderness  
3 classification would assure that this unique and wonderful  
4 island would remain in a pristine condition for the enjoyment  
5 and inspiration of future generations and continue to  
6 contribute to the maintenance of a natural biotic community,  
7 so necessary for man's survival on earth.

8 At the conclusion of the prepared statement, I would  
9 like to make a couple of comments on my own concerning the  
10 -- some of the points that were brought up by Mr. Pavitt.

11 I think that one thing that troubles me -- I have been  
12 in Alaska twenty-five years. And I'm really troubled by the  
13 attitude of the State of Alaska in its stand on wilderness  
14 at the present time. They have gone on record in every one  
15 of the major wilderness hearings now conducted, and stated  
16 that they are completely in accord with the statements in the  
17 Wilderness Act. And then proceed to disagree completely with  
18 each proposal as it is made. There is no way under the  
19 letter of the Wilderness Act that the agencies can do any  
20 differently than present the proposals for each area as a  
21 unit. It has to be done individually. It is not a unilateral  
22 sort of thing. Each one of them must prepare the presentations  
23 for its own individual organization -- the Park Service, the  
24 Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, and -- the Forest  
25 Service. Those are the three which have this mandate.

1 I don't know whether the State of Alaska intends in --  
2 when it maintains the statement of the possibility of  
3 reviewing these, that they are going to attack the whole  
4 system of wildlife refuges, national forests, and national  
5 parks in the State of Alaska. This seems to be the assumption  
6 that they can question the basic provisions which have set up  
7 this system. Because, what is being asked as far as the  
8 actual -- the proposals are concerned, is simply that these  
9 lands be safeguarded in perpetuity within the National  
10 Wilderness Preservation System. They are not adding new  
11 land to the system. They are not in any way changing the  
12 status of the unit of land. And, it seems to me that each  
13 one of us is sitting here -- every person in the United  
14 States of America has a real stake in seeing that this  
15 wilderness is given permanent status. At present, it can  
16 be changed by administrative edict many times. And I  
17 personally feel very strongly that we must have a permanent  
18 status for the wilderness that we now have. Because it's  
19 all that we're going to have.

20 HEARING OFFICER:

21 Thank you for your comments.

22 James Cross.

23 JAMES CROSS:

24 My name is James Cross. I live in Anchorage, Alaska.  
25 I'm making a statement for Mr. Kowalski. Mr. James Kowalski

1 Kowalski of Fairbanks, Alaska.

2 Mr. Solicitor and members of the audience. I appreciate  
3 having this opportunity to comment on the Unimak Wilderness  
4 Proposal for this unit of the Aleutian Islands National  
5 Wildlife Refuge in Alaska, on behalf of the Fairbanks  
6 Environmental Center.

7 The Fairbanks Environmental Center would like to support  
8 this proposal by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
9 as strongly as it is possible to do. The Bureau is to be  
10 commended for setting forth this proposand and for its forward  
11 looking attitude as regards the need for wilderness with  
12 statutory protection in a narrow, crowded, urban-based  
13 society. The value of wilderness for recreation and to  
14 science is well stated in the Bureau's proposal. As it points  
15 out, the island has outstanding recreational, historic,  
16 geologic, archeological, educational, scenic and ecological  
17 values.

18 It should also be emphasized that alternatives to this  
19 proposed action have been prepared in an Environmental  
20 Impact Review for the Council of Environmental Quality as  
21 required by the Environmental Quality Act of 1969.  
22 Additionally, the activities which come under a general  
23 regional heading and which are permitted under wilderness  
24 classification are numerous and the access to the wilderness  
25 area as proposed is adequate. In no way is it reasonable



1 or even possible to classify this wilderness as proposed to  
2 be inaccessible or not open to people.

3 The Center would like to see some slight changes in this  
4 proposal. The order which established the Aleutian Islands  
5 National Wildlife Refuge gives land use priorities on Unimak  
6 Island to that used for lighthouse, naval and other military  
7 purposes. The Secretary of the Interior should amend this  
8 Order so as to not allow military intrusions in the future.  
9 The Center also believes that wilderness boundaries along the  
10 western end of the island would be more easily identified if  
11 they were placed along the existing road systems.

12 In conclusion, the Center is pleased to be able to  
13 respond positively to such an excellent wilderness proposal.  
14 It is unfortunate but not hopeless that the administration  
15 of the State of Alaska has demonstrated such poor understanding  
16 of the 1964 Wilderness Act's requirements and of the National  
17 Wilderness System. It will be to the advantage of the future  
18 of Alaska and its people if the Governor, and especially his  
19 Commissioner of Natural Resources were to gain a better  
20 understanding of the meaning of wilderness with statutory  
21 protection to the future well-being of our state. It is no  
22 wonder that there is confusion. The problems facing this  
23 state are pressing hard for answers. It is easy to understand  
24 for example, that the Governor's statement on wilderness  
25 proposals for Katmai and Glacier Bay National Monuments as

1 it was first written was in support of those proposals, and  
2 that his second statement, redrafted at the insistence of  
3 his Resource Commissioner to reflect the exact opposite of  
4 the first draft, was the one finally submitted by the  
5 Governor.

6 The Fairbanks Environmental Center understands this  
7 confusion and misunderstanding. It is willing and able to  
8 help the Governor and his staff reach a better understanding  
9 of the goals of the Wilderness Act and its positive value  
10 to the State.

11 HEARING OFFICER:

12 Thank you for your statement. We have one question,  
13 I believe. Just one moment.

14 QUESTION FROM FLOOR: Could you tell us what the  
15 Fairbanks Environmental Center is?

16 JAMES CROSS:

17 Surely. It's a non-profit organization specifically  
18 set up to inform and to assist people in finding information  
19 about environ relations. It's basically supported by  
20 individuals. It has no government subsidies or any corporate  
21 subsidies. Mr. Kowalski is the director and in this position  
22 responds to virtually all comments from all individuals,  
23 government agencies and what have you. It is not legislative  
24 lobbying agency and does not actively participate with any  
25 lobbying efforts of that nature.

1 QUESTION FROM FLOOR: May I ask one more question?

2 HEARING OFFICER:

3 Yes, you may.

4 QUESTION FROM FLOOR: Does it have national  
5 organization support?

6 JAMES CROSS:

7 No, this is strictly an Alaskan organization. It is  
8 based solely in Fairbanks and is specifically Alaska's  
9 representative.

10 HEARING OFFICER:

11 Thank you for your --. Just one minute. We have one  
12 more question.

13 QUESTION FROM FLOOR: I don't think I quite  
14 understand the crux of your statement about not allowing  
15 the military access. Did you mean in the wilderness area  
16 or did you mean the excluded areas on the western --?

17 JAMES CROSS:

18 No. Specifically in the wilderness area. Not in the  
19 proposed area that's outside the wilderness.

20 HEARING OFFICER:

21 Jack Hession.

22 JACK HESSION:

23 Mr. Price, Mr. Watson, ladies and gentlemen. I'm Jack  
24 Hession, Alaska representative for the Sierra Club, on whose  
25 behalf I am testifying here tonight.

1           It is a pleasure to testify here this evening in support  
2 of the Unimak Island Proposal. This is the second major  
3 wilderness proposal by the Bureau to date, the other being  
4 the Kenai National Moose Range. Mr. Watson and his staff  
5 have responded to the mandate of the Wilderness Act with  
6 another fine proposal. The one hundred thirty five thousand  
7 members of the Sierra Club, including five hundred here in  
8 Alaska, are grateful to the Bureau and look forward to many  
9 more excellent wilderness proposals in the months to come.

10           It is unlikely that most of us here tonight have not  
11 been to Unimak. Pardon me. It is likely that most of us  
12 here tonight have not been to Unimak. But it is also likely  
13 that most of us, along with many citizens living in the other  
14 forty nine states hope to visit the island someday. I have  
15 not been there myself, but after reading the description of  
16 the island and talking with those who have seen it, it is  
17 clear that Unimak Island fully deserves the permanent  
18 protection quoted by the National Wilderness Preservation  
19 System.

20           Unimak is home to many species of mammals, both  
21 terrestrial and marine, has major concentrations of bird  
22 life, and supports its crab and salmon fisheries. It is  
23 also scenically magnificent and thus offers the opportunity  
24 to view and study wildlife in a unique island setting.

25           As published, the Unimak Wilderness Proposal calls for

1 classification of wilderness of nine hundred sixty-five  
2 thousand acres of the nine hundred ninety-eight thousand  
3 two hundred sixty acre island. This week, the Alaska Native  
4 Land Claims Settlement Act passed Congress and awaits the  
5 President's signature. Assuming final enactment, sixty-nine  
6 thousand one hundred twenty acres will eventually be patented  
7 to the village of False Pass. There is no conflict between  
8 Native land collections and the wilderness proposal for  
9 Unimak. The nine hundred sixty-five thousand forty-two acres  
10 proposed for wilderness status will simply be reduced by  
11 sixty-nine thousand acres.

12 Because Unimak Island is so remote and thus far so little  
13 visited, we might be asked, "Why a need for Wilderness Act?  
14 Will not the island always be protected as a wildlife refuge?"  
15 The Bureau has provided the answer in its wilderness proposal.  
16 "Current refuge status provides important protection to island  
17 resources, particularly wildlife. Such status does not,  
18 however, prohibit future developments from occurring which  
19 could jeopardize the island's unique wilderness qualities.  
20 Activities such as road building or dock construction, the  
21 use of motorized vehicles, or intrusions by commercial  
22 interests are examples of development that could legally  
23 occur under existing national wildlife refuge policies. All  
24 of these, however, are incompatible with wilderness and would  
25 be prohibited in those areas of the island included in

1 National Wilderness Preservation System." A preference for  
2 maintaining the status quo and thus the possibility of future  
3 developments is behind opposition wilderness proposals such  
4 as the one for Unimak and previous proposals for the Kenai  
5 National Range, Glacier Bay and Katmai National Monuments.  
6 Opponents recognize that if the refuges and monuments remain  
7 in their present status, which is protected by Executive  
8 Order, there is always the chance that the Executive will  
9 -- under political pressure, or, less likely, under its own  
10 initiative permit developments that may be incompatible with  
11 the purpose for which the refuges, parks and monuments were  
12 established. In the case of the refuges in Alaska, these  
13 have been managed for protection of wilderness habitat and  
14 inclusion into the National Wilderness System would strengthen  
15 the hands of the refuge managers by giving these lands  
16 permanent protection.

17 As an example of the kind of development that would  
18 destroy the wilderness character of existing refuges and  
19 national park system units in Alaska, consider the desire  
20 of the present State Administration for the Kenai Moose Range  
21 and Glacier Bay and Katmai National Monument. Under the  
22 general heading of the Governor's quote -- "I have hopes  
23 for the wilderness", we are offered the problem -- new  
24 highways into and across wilderness portions of these units,  
25 additional oil and gas prospecting, mechanized access to

1 wilderness areas, float plane and light plane landing areas,  
2 intensive fisheries management, future air and marine  
3 navigational aid stations, intensive game management for  
4 maximum sustained yield in preference to the Bureau of  
5 Trophy Hunting objectives, and continuation of mining,  
6 including the construction of deep water harbors. All this  
7 adds up to usage extended to all lands in Alaska, federal  
8 or state.

9       Clearly, the State's position is an extreme one.  
10 Tonight we have heard a familiar theme from the State  
11 Administration. There's no Environmental Impact Statement,  
12 no joint states of the land use planning, and the State  
13 prefers more access in fisheries and game management. There  
14 is another familiar theme and that is that Alaska's  
15 wilderness resource is not threatened -- that we have  
16 nothing to worry about, that there is an infinite supply.  
17 I think this overlooks the fact that we're on the threshold  
18 perhaps of a major development in form of the largest private  
19 construction project in history. And also that the national  
20 forests in Southeast Alaska are directly threatened. I  
21 could sight an account, but --.

22       In light of this intense opposition from the State  
23 Administration and other groups and the patenting of sixty  
24 nine thousand one hundred twenty acres to the village of  
25 False Pass, the Bureau's recommendation that thirty-three

1 thousand acres be excluded from the wilderness proposal --  
2 from the wilderness, pardon me, should be reconsidered and  
3 all possible acreage should be proposed for wilderness  
4 designation. As a justification for this exclusion, the  
5 wilderness proposal sights the presence of False Pass and  
6 the Scotch Pass and Cape Sarichef installations and  
7 connecting roads. "It is anticipated that the thirty-three  
8 thousand two hundred acre exclusion area will accomodate  
9 future developments that may become necessary." (Quoted  
10 from the Wilderness Proposal.) It is doubtful, however,  
11 that future developments at the existing installations would  
12 require an additional thirty thousand or more acres. The  
13 boundary of the western exclusion runs along township and  
14 section lines on the east and along the coast line on the  
15 west. We would prefer that the exclusion be limited to a  
16 road corridor connecting the installations, and the immediate  
17 area surrounding the installations. This would enable the  
18 coast line and much of the upland remain in wilderness status.  
19 Permitting the exclusion of road corridor and enclaves around  
20 the installation would also preclude future developments  
21 that may become necessary.

22 Although the wilderness proposal is ambiguous on what  
23 kind of developments may be anticipated, the presence of a  
24 thirty-three thousand acre exclusion could permit future  
25 development of fairly elaborate visitors' facilities in the



1 west end of the island. This would be undesirable. As a  
2 general principle, all visitor facilities in wilderness areas  
3 should preferably be located on the periphery of the area  
4 and in a single location. An example of this principle is  
5 the park service's wilderness proposal for Glacier Bay for  
6 all visitor facilities, interpretive services, and other  
7 accommodations are restricted to the Gustavus-Bartlett Cove  
8 area. A lapse from that general principle is the park  
9 service's proposed lodge and visitor complex -- five of them  
10 in all for Katmai National Monument. Especially the two  
11 contemplated on the eastern coast at Kukak Bay and Geographi-  
12 Harbor.

13 We urge the Bureau to exclude only what is absolutely  
14 necessary and not leave open the opportunity for some future  
15 unnecessary development.

16 There are numerous opponents of wilderness and we have  
17 heard from representatives of them here tonight who would  
18 very much like to surround it and then destroy it. Moreover,  
19 the village of False Pass will soon have title to an  
20 additional sixty-nine thousand acres, thus rendering  
21 unnecessary the exclusion of a large block of land for refuge  
22 or other developmental purposes. These developments should  
23 be located on or adjacent to False Pass lands where they  
24 may contribute to the economy of that community.

25 The Bureau suggests that President Taft's Executive

1 Order establishing the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife  
2 Refuge should be amended to exclude the clause permitting  
3 continued lighthouse, military and naval purposes. or have  
4 the clause apply only to specific islands or portions thereof.  
5 Conservationists wholeheartedly agree. It was under this  
6 clause that the AEC used Amchitka Island, also a part of the  
7 Ocean Islands National Wildlife Refuge, as a nuclear weapons  
8 test site. As a result of the AEC experiments, much of  
9 Amchitka Island will not likely be recommended for inclusion  
10 in the wilderness system and the marine otter life will be  
11 some time in recovering from the effect of Cannikin.

12 It is also preferable to the Bureau of Sports Fisheries  
13 and Wildlife have jurisdiction over the lands and waters along  
14 the mean high-tide line out to a quarter of a mile. These  
15 tide lands contain important beach and eelgrass habitat that  
16 form a crucial part of the island's ecosystem. These areas  
17 are especially important to migrating water fowl which use  
18 Unimak and other lagoons along Bristol Bay Flyway as stepping  
19 stones. At present, these intertidal areas are under the  
20 jurisdiction of the State of Alaska and it is not clear  
21 whether the present State Administration can adequately  
22 protect or even desires to protect the wildlife resources  
23 along the Bristol Bay side of the Alaska Peninsula. Bills  
24 to place limitations on oil and gas leasing in the Bristol  
25 Bay area and another bill in the State Legislature to

1 establish what is called "Critical Habitat Area", including  
2 two major estuaries along the Alaska Peninsula, have  
3 apparently run aground on the treacherous show of the oil  
4 lobby. And this at a time when increased value of exploration  
5 activities is taking place along the Alaska Peninsula. Much  
6 of which has just become patented state land under the terms  
7 of the Native Land Claims Settlement Act. The State  
8 Administration can show us good faith by negotiating joint  
9 management plans with the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and  
10 Wildlife that would give the Unimak Island tide lands  
11 increased protection. Alternatively, the state could grant  
12 a lease to these tide lands to the Bureau in perpetuity.  
13 Still another possibility is for the administration to fully  
14 support State Legislation that would strengthen the  
15 protection given wildlife habitat in the area below the  
16 mean high-tide line.

17 A note on the relationship of Native Land Ownership to  
18 Wilderness Proposals. During the congressional consideration  
19 of the Native Claims Bill, much discussion was given to the  
20 idea of "subsistence or permit lands". Going into the  
21 conference committees, one option in the Senate bill would  
22 have provided for twenty million acres of such subsistence  
23 land over and above the lands granted in title to native  
24 corporations. That option did not survive the conference  
25 committee. But Wilderness System designation for refuge

1 lands remaining after Native selections is that possible  
2 protection for subsistence hunting and fishing. Wilderness  
3 protection for refuge lands has not changed existing gishing  
4 and hunting rights.

5 About twenty million acres of refuge lands are subject  
6 to review under the Wilderness Act in Alaska. Most of this  
7 is deep actual wilderness. In whatever amount is finally  
8 included in Wilderness System by Congress will be permanently  
9 available as subsistence land.

10 Objections by the State Administration of Wilderness  
11 Proposals has thus far been based on the alleged inadequacy  
12 of Environmental Impact Statements on these proposals and  
13 have thus formed double standards. There is some question  
14 as to whether Congress in its legislative history intended  
15 the National Environmental Policy Act to apply to wilderness  
16 proposals. Logically, it does not make much sense to apply  
17 one of two statements in the proposal that would have no  
18 impact whatsoever on the environment. Repeated calls for  
19 elaborate impact statements for wilderness proposals suggests  
20 that those making such requests are using the National  
21 Environmental Policy Act in an attempt to delay and  
22 ultimately prevent the establishment of wilderness areas.  
23 Nevertheless, conservationists have no objection to  
24 Environmental Statements. It was through their efforts  
25 that NEFA, as it's called, was passed. And we are confident

1 that a thorough impact statement would strengthen the  
2 wilderness proposals and in the event that the proposal's  
3 inaccurate, point out their shortcomings. It is unfortunate  
4 that the Bureau of Impact Statements on Unimak did not  
5 return from Washington, D.C. in time for comment at this  
6 hearing tonight.

7 One final observation. We have all heard many times at  
8 hearings like this that wilderness system protection will  
9 deny access to these areas -- "only the robust and hearty  
10 few" will be able to visit these areas. Even if this  
11 argument were true, which it obviously isn't, it is disturbing  
12 for the implications for the outdoor abilities of Alaska  
13 and for its lack of comprehension of the issue. And this  
14 is an assertion you have heard from the highest elected  
15 officials in the state. Alaska's history is one of very  
16 vigorous men and women in the Alaska wilderness. Arguments  
17 that access must be provided by mechanized means is an insult  
18 to past and present Alaskans, and more importantly, to the  
19 meaning of Alaska to this nation and the world. Thank you.

20 HEARING OFFICER:

21 Thank you for your statement, Mr. Hession. Walter  
22 Parker.

23 QUESTION FROM FLOOR:

24 HEARING OFFICER: Just a moment. We have one  
25 question, Mr. Hession.

1 QUESTION FROM FLOOR: I'd like to ask clarification

2 HEARING OFFICER: If you would return to the  
3 microphone and I will, perhaps, repeat the question this time  
4 for the recorder. The recorder did have a problem last time  
5 on the questions.

6 QUESTION FROM FLOOR: Concerning the recommendation  
7 to amend the act of 1913 which includes military use of the  
8 island. Is it intended by this statement that military would  
9 be denied use of the island as may be necessary for the  
10 defense of Alaska or the defense of the United States and  
11 the North American Continent?

12 HEARING OFFICER: Did you get the question -- for  
13 the reporter?

14 JACK HESSION: I would say that we recommend that  
15 the island not be used for military purposes during the  
16 peace time.

17 QUESTION FROM FLOOR: During peace time?

18 JACK HESSION: Yes.

19 HEARING OFFICER: Walter Parker.

20 WALTER PARKER:

21 I'm Walt Parker. I'm president of the Upper Cook Inlet  
22 Chapter of the Alaska Conservation Society. 3724 Campbell  
23 Airstrip Road, Anchorage, 99504.

24 I believe it's important for us to remember what we're  
25 here to discuss. We are trying to discuss inclusion of

1 wildlife refuge in the wilderness system. And I will not  
2 repeat the many things that have been said before, but address  
3 myself as to why such an act is necessary at this time.

4 The erosion of quality in the United States, of course,  
5 is reflected in the erosion of quality in Alaska. And that  
6 depends on what you mean by quality. There has to be  
7 provisions for quality for all of us. And if one man's  
8 quality is to be deposited by a helicopter along side a  
9 grizzly bear in order to make his kill, why probably you must  
10 provide areas for that. Another man's quality to walk fifty  
11 miles in order to make his kill and pack it out -- we must  
12 provide quality for that. And I think in twenty-five years  
13 of hunting, and I don't hunt anymore, but I still think about  
14 it, in twenty-five years of that, why I witnessed an erosion  
15 on the practice of hunting and a degradation of the ethics  
16 of that profession in Alaska. I think that only through  
17 wilderness and like areas can we maintain what ethics are  
18 left to hunting. I, for one, would be very amiss if I were  
19 to climb to the ten thousand foot level on Mt. Shishaldin  
20 in search of McCracken's legendary flaming bear and was to  
21 have someone deposit a hunter immediately alongside of me  
22 by any mechanical means.

23 I believe that the point of access to wilderness areas  
24 is one that must be very carefully thought out for each area  
25 and that if too much access is provided, the area can be

1 destroyed. I think that in this proposal the provision of  
2 access to allowing the beaches below the high-tide mark and  
3 allowing the lagoons the necessary compromise which is built  
4 into the law, I would like to see it removed as rapidly as  
5 possible through an institutional change. I would urge the  
6 State of Alaska to impress itself to that. In the line of  
7 this, if there are oil spills in the Bering Sea and if they  
8 do happen to wind up on the beaches of Unimak Island, why,  
9 of course, if the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife has  
10 responsibility for those beaches, why the would be responsible  
11 seeing that the spill was removed. Otherwise it would be a  
12 state responsibility. I think we have to remember that in  
13 our evaluation of all of these areas. What the ultimate use  
14 of the area is going to be and how much of the cost of  
15 maintaining the quality of that area and how much of the cost  
16 of managing those areas should be borne by the citizens of  
17 Alaska.

18 The question of fisheries development is one that is  
19 not easy to decide. I firmly believe that any fisheries  
20 development would be necessary to improve spawning in the  
21 streams on Unimak could be done by non-mechanized means and  
22 in line with the principles of wilderness. In other words,  
23 by men going in on foot and doing it with hand tools. I  
24 think that anything other than that is a problem moving into  
25 those violations of bait to catch a logical principle that



1 we can manage those ecological systems somehow better than  
2 they have been managed by millennium. If Mt. Shishaldin  
3 chooses to erupt again, which it has little likelihood of  
4 doing, but if it should choose to do that, why there is very  
5 little that we could do to restore the environment of Unimak.  
6 We would simply have to let nature take its course and I  
7 think it could do that best in the wilderness status.

8 In regards to the future of wilderness in Alaska and how  
9 much time we have left -- I think all we have to do is look  
10 around us in the rest of the world and see how much time we  
11 have left. You can go into the valleys in the Alps now that  
12 ten years ago were pristine rural valleys with small villages  
13 cultivated mainly by the old peasant standards. Most of those  
14 valleys, or a good many of them, now have been sacrificed to  
15 the needs not particularly of Swiss industry, although many  
16 cases it is Swiss industry -- but of French and German  
17 industry. They have power lines marching across them. And  
18 the same thing is occurring very rapidly in Scandinavian  
19 north. The road systems are being improved at a very rapid  
20 rate. And I don't think that we should look to others for  
21 our models in this. I think we have to create our own models  
22 of what we want in Alaska -- how much wilderness we want.  
23 We, so far, have asked for very little of it and we have to  
24 remember that wilderness is the easiest and the most  
25 inexpensive means of land management. As we move into

1 development of our resources, there are going to be public  
2 costs involved here which may or may not be returned in the  
3 way of taxation.

4 I would like to address myself to one final point. That  
5 in the comparison of major private developments requiring  
6 environmental impact statements -- compare these with the  
7 requirement for environmental impact statements for wilderness.  
8 It is totally invalid. The impact of wilderness on the  
9 environment is by its very definition, zero. Now, this is  
10 assuming that we were starting with an area that qualifies  
11 for wilderness. We are not taking agricultural lands and  
12 creating wilderness from them. We are not taking flourishing  
13 oil fields and creating wilderness from them. We are only  
14 taking those lands which already qualify as wilderness or,  
15 ergo, have not been developed or at least not developed in  
16 the recent past. So, there is simply no comparison to be  
17 made here, and I don't think it's a -- I would like to see  
18 a point that we would drop this because I don't think it  
19 will stand up to close analysis under neutral or partially  
20 neutral sources in Washington or elsewhere. I was glad to  
21 see my friend, Bob Pavitt, point out that in this area there  
22 is little likelihood of oil and gas development; little  
23 likelihood of mineral development. The points which Mr.  
24 Hession made on the Native Claims. I would subscribe to.  
25 It may be that this wilderness area on Unimak will receive

1 very little use in the immediate future. It may receive very  
2 little use over the next fifty years. But it's the whole  
3 concept of wilderness that that island should be there in  
4 something approaching its present state from now as long as  
5 Unimak Island exists. Thank you.

6 HEARING OFFICER:

7 Thank you for your statements. Is there any other person  
8 at this time who would like to give testimony on behalf of  
9 an organization? If not, we'll take a ten minute recess  
10 before the testimony of the individuals begins.

11  
12 HEARING RECESSED FOR TEN MINUTES.

13  
14 HEARING OFFICER: The hearing will come to order  
15 again, please. The first individual witness will be Nancy  
16 Lethcoe.

17 NANCY LETHCOE:

18 I am Nancy Lethcoe of Anchorage, Star Route A, Box 402E.  
19 I am not a member of any wilderness or environmental  
20 organization, but I do wish to add my comments on the Unimak  
21 Island Wilderness Proposal.

22 I wish to thank the Fish and Wildlife Service for  
23 providing such a picturesque brochure describing the Unimak  
24 Island Wilderness Proposal. Although I have not yet had an  
25 opportunity to visit this first, largest, and possibly most

1       spectatular island of the Aleutian chain, I wish to assure  
2       you that my family and I are planning to do so within the  
3       next few years.

4               By avocation we are sailors. We are concerned that  
5       yearly more and more coastal areas, which were formerly quiet  
6       coves, now are rapidly becoming busy marinas. Throughout the  
7       coastal United States, private property signs and no  
8       trespassing signs are emerging side by side with commercial  
9       developments which are ruining what has hitherto been public  
10      property open to entry for all who wish to make the extra  
11      effort necessary to enjoy their treasures. Between the  
12      development of anchorage sites into marinas by the various  
13      states and government agencies and the commercial use of the  
14      coastal lands very few areas remain today where the boating  
15      public can seek the solitude which used to be one of the  
16      chief advantages of owning a boat.

17             Therefore, I strongly support the Fish and Wildlife  
18      Service's proposal to reclassify nine hundred sixty-five  
19      thousand forty-two acres of the Unimak Island Refuge as part  
20      of the National Wilderness Preservation System. Such  
21      classification is imperative if there are to remain for  
22      future generations any untrammeled areas of coastal  
23      wilderness where the cruising family may enjoy the thrill  
24      of sighting land, selecting an anchorage, and going ashore  
25      to hike, beachcomb, camp, mountain climb, fish, hunt, and

1 observe the innumerable birds, mammals, and wild flowers  
2 without encountering the scars of ATV tracks, oil barrels,  
3 estuaries ruined by gravel operations for road building,  
4 canneries, and so forth. There is a place for commercial  
5 enterprises and motorized vehicles, but there are also needs  
6 to be a place to escape from them.

7 For the sailor, Unimak Island is special not only because  
8 of its abundant wildlife, but also because of its long and  
9 rich history as an important landmark in the exploration  
10 of the North Pacific, and because it marks the first western  
11 pass connecting the Gulf of Alaska with Bristol Bay. Vitrus  
12 Bering sailed past Unimak Island in 1741. Later Captain Cook  
13 on the Discovery, following Staehlin's Map of the "New  
14 Northern Archipelago," spent approximately a week in this  
15 area where he was so impressed by Mt. Shishaldin that he  
16 honored it with the following journal entry: "The most  
17 southwest hill was discovered to have a volcano which  
18 continually threw up vast columns of black smoke. It is a  
19 complete cone and the volcano is at the very summit, but we  
20 seldom saw it wholly clear of clouds. At times both the base  
21 and summit would be clear, when a narrow cloud, sometimes two  
22 or three, one above the other, would embrace the middle like  
23 a girdle. With the column of smoke issuing perpendicular to  
24 a great height out of its top, and spreading before the wind  
25 into a tail of vast length, it made a very picturesque

1 appearance. The wind at the height to which the smoke of  
2 this volcano reached moved sometimes in a direction contrary  
3 to what it did at sea, even when it blew a fresh gale." The  
4 first photograph in the Fish and Wildlife brochure could have  
5 been taken by Captain Cook - the description fits so  
6 perfectly.

7 After the explorers, came the fur hunters, and later  
8 still, the great whaling ships from New Bedford whose captains  
9 maneuvered their square-riggers through Unimak Pass.  
10 Fortunately, some of these adventurous captains had brave  
11 and daring wives who preferred the rigors and hardships of  
12 the Bering Sea whaling grounds to waiting anxiously at home.  
13 Mary Chipman Lawrence was one of these. In November, 1856,  
14 she and her five year old daughter boarded the Addison, a  
15 typical middle-sized shaler, one hundred and eight feet long,  
16 with two decks, three square-rigged masts, a square stern,  
17 and the figurehead of a woman. In her diary she describes  
18 her first of several passes through Unimak Pass. "August 15.  
19 We were nearly through the passage, (or I suppose we were  
20 through the passage, but nearby the land), when it became  
21 calm, so much so, that we could not steer, with a strong  
22 current drifting us directly into the land, which made our  
23 situation anything but pleasant, and some part of the time  
24 -- a thick fog. In the course of the night we let go the  
25 small anchor. This afternoon, while we were at anchor, the

1 mate, third mate, and boat's crew went onshore. They had  
2 just landed when a slight breeze sprang up, and they were  
3 obliged to return after just taking a look around. They saw  
4 about a dozen underground huts, a hole dug in the ground with  
5 a door just large enough to crawl in on all fours. The  
6 inhabitants probably had seen them coming and made their  
7 escape, as the huts were all desolate but looked as if they  
8 had just been deserted. Saw the tracks of bears and foxes.  
9 Procured a large bunch of flowers for Minner (her five year  
10 old daughter) and myself, which delighted us very much. Also  
11 about a dozen strawberries, blackberries and huckleberries."

12 The area they visited is, of course, excluded from the  
13 wilderness area because of existing development. However,  
14 there are a number of adequate-to-good anchorages along the  
15 coast bordering the wilderness area so that boatsmen can go  
16 ashore. The Coast Pilot 9 covers anchorages and navigational  
17 aids and hazards on Unimak Island on pages 158-161, 165-169,  
18 and 241-243. There are at least eight anchorages suitable  
19 for recreational size craft with East Anchor Cove on the  
20 Ikatan Peninsula facing the Pacific Ocean and Cape Mordvinog  
21 near the Tugamak Range facing the Bering Sea probably being  
22 the best. Additional information is provided by U.S. & G.S.  
23 Charts 8860, 8705, and 8701.

24 As the unimak Wilderness Proposal states, weather in  
25 this area can be extremely adverse. Many people like to

1 refer to the coastline from Shelikof Straights out to the  
2 Aleutians as the Northern Cape Horn. Coast Pilot 9 states,  
3 "The weather of the Aleutians is characterized by persistently  
4 overcast skies, high winds, and violent storms. No other  
5 area of the world is recognized as having worse weather in  
6 general than that which the Aleutian Islands experience."

7 (Page 165). Such weather is a challenge to accept and meet  
8 just as the many sailors before us have done. I'd like to  
9 add that one of the latest cruises was by a thirty-five  
10 foot sailing craft that came from Japan via the Aleutians  
11 down to Ketchikan and back to San Francisco. This is written  
12 up in the September, 1971 Yachting magazine. And like them,  
13 we hope to find a wilderness remaining for us at the end of  
14 our journey or as we stop over on our way to even remoter  
15 anchorages. Classification of this area as part of the  
16 Wilderness Preservation System will assure that we and future  
17 boatsmen who cruise for solitude and adventure will have a  
18 destination worth achieving at the other end of our journey.

19 I do not feel that wilderness classification will  
20 exclude me or anyone else who wishes a recreational  
21 wilderness experience from enjoying this area. Instead,  
22 it will assure that we will be able to do so.

23 Thank you.

24 HEARING OFFICER:

25 Thank you for your statement. Ted Burton.



1                                    TED BURTON:

2                    My name is Ted Burton. I have a business address at  
3                    825 West Eighth Avenue in downtown Anchorage, I reside at  
4                    Star Route A, Box 256, on DeArmoun Road.

5                    I am speaking solely for myself tonight, although I do  
6                    belong to two organizations which from time to time have  
7                    expressed interest in the matters of this variety. One of  
8                    them is the Alaska Chapter of the Sierra Club. The other  
9                    is the Greater Anchorage Chamber of Commerce.

10                   I wish to speak to what I've identified as a variety of  
11                   fallacies which have been presented in the testimony of  
12                   those opposed to wilderness, at this and at other hearings.  
13                   To the refrain of which in slightly more diplomatic terms,  
14                   we heard again from the State of Alaska today.

15                   One of these is the fallacy that wilderness designation  
16                   has an impact on the land or environment. That the act of  
17                   designation is some kind of act which in some way has an  
18                   impact on the environment. As so ably pointed out by Mr.  
19                   Parker, the designation of land as wilderness, if it is  
20                   eligible for such designation, merely assures that it will  
21                   receive no impact until such time one would suppose as study  
22                   developed evidence of such oppressing national need existed  
23                   as required the use of this land in some pressing fashion.  
24                   I have little or no doubt that the combined wisdom of the  
25                   Pentagon and of the Bureau of Land Management and of the

1 United States Seal or Shell Oil, or whoever it might turn out  
2 to be, would be perfectly accurate to reverse wilderness  
3 designation, in the event that wilderness designation turned  
4 out to be in error. But neither God nor man can return this  
5 land to wilderness status in the event that the act of the  
6 military or of the Department of the Interior or Shell Oil  
7 or the United States' Seal changes the land in the interim  
8 while we wonder what we should probably do with it.

9 I would like also to speak to the fallacy of endless  
10 wilderness. The State of Alaska tells us time and again that  
11 in our five hundred eighty-six thousand square miles we have  
12 several hundred thousand square miles of de facto wilderness.  
13 This is entirely true. Didn't we at one time have fifty  
14 whole states of wilderness? My family first settled in the  
15 mainland in 1636. At that time, the community of Providence  
16 in which they settled was a little fishing village and farming  
17 town on the edge of a salt cove. The cove no longer exists  
18 and the river which fed it is a flowing sewer. And I have  
19 no doubt that someone who, at that time, in that place, said,  
20 "Let's not fill in that cove, or let's not build that factory,  
21 or let's not reserve that park", -- I'm sure that that person  
22 was told, "Move west to Connecticut. The wilderness is  
23 endless."

24 I have been asked, "Why Unimak?" Of all the islands  
25 in the Aleutian Chain, why should we pick Unimak? Now, I am

1 not a wildlife biologist, I am not a marine biologist, I am  
2 not an ecologist by training -- I am only an attorney, and  
3 being an attorney, I am accustomed to calling on others as  
4 witnesses. And, in this regard, I will have to do so again.  
5 I know from these witnesses of extensive studies which have  
6 gone on in the Aleutian Islands under the aegis of this Bureau  
7 to determine what wildlife and what vegetation resources we  
8 do have in the Aleutians. I know of people who have traveled  
9 between those islands in relatively open boats over the course  
10 of summers who spent quite some time away from the comforts  
11 of civilization trying to find out the answers to these  
12 questions. And I know from these people that the island of  
13 Unimak has a relatively unique flora and fauna population  
14 for the Aleutians, and as such, is worthy of being singled out.

15 As a casual tourist and taker of photographs, I can  
16 recognize the inestimable value of Shishaldin Volcano. Indeed,  
17 I think Shishaldin Volcano was one of the first mountain names  
18 I ever learned in Alaska, because it combines in itself a  
19 certain romance of history and a certain massive presence  
20 of the present day.

21 I would like to join the earlier statements concerning  
22 what an insult to Alaska and to Alaskans, and, indeed to all  
23 other Americans it is to state that in some way this proposal  
24 and other like proposals would deny access to the American --  
25 would keep the American citizen from enjoying his country-side.

1 It's a shocking thing, indeed, to feel that in 1970 the  
2 American citizen is incapable of going to point A to point B  
3 without aid of machine. It's shocking to think that when we  
4 hiked across the continent -- went from the east coast to  
5 the west coast in horse-drawn wagons, purchased Alaska,  
6 admitted California to the Union and various other actual  
7 steps -- all without aid of the automobile, the snowmachine,  
8 and the airplane, I'd like to think that America still has  
9 the men who can figure out someway to get from here to Unimak  
10 and enjoy Unimak on foot or on horse-back. And I do not feel  
11 that the entire North American Continent must be subjected  
12 to those who are incapable of getting there without aid of  
13 automobile, airplane, snowmachine, trail-bike, etc.

14 With particular reference to Native Land Claims, I would  
15 urge the Bureau to examine this island most carefully in the  
16 light of Section 22 and Section 17 of the Conference Committee  
17 version of the Land Claims Bill. Section 22 relating to  
18 exchange authority of other public lands for lands which may  
19 be selected by villates. Section 17 relating to the Joint  
20 Federal-State Planning Commission commenting on proposed  
21 village selections. I would hope very much that when the  
22 time comes for planning that the Bureau will have developed  
23 and have ready for submission its input into that process.

24 Insofar as defense is concerned, I recall with  
25 considerable amusement how General Buckner managed to

1 establish an Army foothold in the Aleutians, virtually under  
2 the nose of the Navy and without benefit of specific  
3 authorization from the Pentagon. I recall directly spending  
4 money on Aleutian airfields which was budgeted for mainland  
5 airfields. Such inventiveness on the part of the military  
6 when the enemy has a foothold in the Aleutians, I trust, is  
7 not limited to past generations. And I'm sure that if the  
8 enemy had a foothold in the Aleutians, that no one would  
9 object to a sound military decision that Unimak was essential  
10 to the defense effort in some way. However, I'm sure there  
11 are also those who would say that we are presently in a war  
12 of sorts or in hostilities. And that the use of Amchitka  
13 Island in the fashion to which it was put, is a perfectly  
14 reasonable military decision which was absolutely essential  
15 in the view of the crisis with which we are faced. I would  
16 hope this island can be shielded against that degree of  
17 military intelligence.

18 I would, then, in summary, respectfully submit that the  
19 State policy which proceeds from the fallacy that wilderness  
20 designation is a commitment or irrevocable commitment of lands  
21 from the fallacy of endless wilderness, from the fallacy that  
22 while we study the thing, somehow it will remain available  
23 for ultimate disposition - from these fallacies, the State  
24 is proceeding to a policy which is directly contrary to its  
25 express belief in wilderness. A policy of somewhere, sometime,

1 perhaps -- if it's still there. Thank you.

2 HEARING OFFICER:

3 Thank you for your statement, Mr. Burton. L. R. Johnson.

4 L. R. JOHNSON:

5 My name is Llewellyn Johnson. My residence is 1338 West  
6 15th Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska.

7 I support the recommendations of the Bureau of Sport  
8 Fisheries and Wildlife for Unimak Island to be included in  
9 the National Wilderness Preservation System.

10 I recognize that this is only giving a new legal status  
11 to an existing fact of wilderness and existing legal status  
12 of wildlife preserve. The wilderness has been there since  
13 time immemorial -- the wildlife preserve since 1913. Thus,  
14 the only new development is the giving of a more enlightened  
15 recognition of existing facts. My real thanks go to the  
16 Aleuts who have given us this opportunity in the first  
17 instance.

18 Since other islands of the Aleutian Chain fit the same  
19 criteria and need the same protection as Unimak, I regret that  
20 the step taken is such a timid one.

21 The marine and bird life are the chief reasons for the  
22 existence of the wildlife preserve. Therefore, it becomes  
23 mandatory that every effort be made to protect the total  
24 ecological system involved here. Wilderness is but a plastic,  
25 human shadow if all the life systems sustained by it are not

1       protected.

2           It is unfortunate that there is no specific proposal in  
3       the Bureau's report for tideland management which we Alaskans  
4       might use in urging our representatives and administrators to  
5       respond to as their duties and obligations relative to the  
6       tidelands. We are fully aware of the State Government's claim  
7       to sovereignty and desires for responsibility in tidelands  
8       where oil is a subject.

9           Since the government of Alaska, by its official acts and  
10       its official spokesmen, does not provide us Alaskans with any  
11       alternatives, we support the efforts of the Bureau as the  
12       only really new policy which considers all Alaskans and all  
13       Americans.

14       Thank you.

15                       HEARING OFFICER:

16       Thank you for your statement, Mr. Johnson. Barbara  
17       Winkley.

18                       BARBARA WINKLEY:

19       Mr. Chairman, my name is Barbara Winkley and I reside at  
20       915 West 26th, and I speak solely for myself. And I have  
21       written testimony I will recite from paper.

22       I imagine that one of the greatest arguments against  
23       this Unimak Wilderness Proposal is that it is so far away  
24       and isolated that no one can get to it. Well, the proposed  
25       Kenai Wilderness is as accessible to everyone as their car

1 and still the State opposed it. Hurrah for isolation! Had  
2 this area been a little closer to civilized Anchorage, as well  
3 as being under State control, I feel quite confident that by  
4 this time it would have been criss-crossed by ATV tracks and  
5 that swamp buggies would have wiped out the eelgrass beds.

6 Nature and environment have been extremely generous to  
7 Alaska for whilst the majority of the United States is so far  
8 ahead technically, she is actually behind environmentally;  
9 whereas Alaska is behind enough technically to gain a head  
10 start on environmental problems.

11 The swarming family of man has made great and permanent  
12 changes in his environment since he emerged as the dominant  
13 species in the animal kingdom about forty thousand years ago.  
14 To preserve that dominance and increase it, men have demolished  
15 mountains, linked oceans and turned rivers from their courses.  
16 The speed at which alteration is being made seems constantly  
17 to accelerate and every technique of manipulations is described  
18 as progress. But is this really true? How can we distinguish  
19 between the changes which increase the statute and security  
20 of humanity and those which diminish them? Is it only  
21 possible to determine the impact of man changes by preserving  
22 -- it is only possible to determine the impact of man-made  
23 changes by preserving points of reference to insure a control.  
24 Only if parts of the natural earth are set aside and protected  
25 from human interference, can man-made change be measured and



1 evaluated with accuracy. Only then can progress be  
2 distinguished from retrogression.

3 The National Wilderness Areas are then invaluable  
4 reference points from which performance in land utilization  
5 may be judged. Therefore, they have everyday, down to earth,  
6 bread and butter significance in the lives of even those who  
7 may never see or use them, and just as importantly, constitute  
8 a heritage of beauty in which every American should find  
9 inspiration.

10 Dr. Max Brewer made the comment at the Environmental  
11 Center Seminar last weekend that he had spent "x" number of  
12 years north of the Arctic Circle. Perhaps he is an expert  
13 on the Arctic, but how can we -- how can any of us realize  
14 what unique treasures we have in Alaska if we close our eyes  
15 to the rest of the world and certainly to the rest of the  
16 country. Ecology has no geographical boundaries.

17 Perhaps we could observe one particular case -- that of  
18 the Whooping Crane and Aransas National Wildlife Refuge  
19 along the Gulf of Mexico in Texas. About one hundred years  
20 ago, the range of the whooping crane was from the Arctic  
21 Coast to central Mexico and from Utah to South Carolina.  
22 Although these birds were never very numerous, they needed  
23 considerable area for their winter grounds and nesting during  
24 the summer. Settlement and other activities of man, including  
25 draining of wetlands and coastal marshes reduced their range.

1 As the range shrank, so did the bird numbers until in the  
2 1920's there were less than fifty remaining birds. Today  
3 the Aransas Wildlife Refuge is the only remaining winter  
4 range for these magnificent birds. This refuge covers  
5 forty-seven thousand acres. Alaska has three hundred  
6 seventy-five million acres. Can the majority of Alaskans  
7 really agree with the State Government that we don't want  
8 or need any wilderness areas?

9 Not too long ago I received a publication on a wilderness  
10 proposal within the Desert National Wildlife Range in Nevada.  
11 I studied the proposal and observed the location. The  
12 location looked suspicious, so I made inquiries. This was  
13 the reply. "You are correct in your assumption that the  
14 Atomic Energy Commission has used portions of the Wildlife  
15 Range. Currently, that agency maintains a well for purposes  
16 of monitoring ground water for possible radiation leaks, and  
17 provisions are made for AEC access to the Wildlife Range."

18 Many areas in the lower 48 states, such as this one in  
19 Nevada, are rejects after certain governmental agencies have  
20 no further use for them. Perhaps this area cannot tolerate  
21 any additional radiation. Can we afford to wait any longer  
22 -- even with the Island of Unimak while the AEC and its  
23 by-products are already infiltrating at the other end of the  
24 Chain?

25 I feel that these factors should be given consideration

1 as well as the unique qualities which Unimak Island possesses.  
2 There are twenty-five species of mammals which inhabit the  
3 island, twenty-nine species of fish which frequent the inshore  
4 waters, and many, many species of waterfowl which frequent  
5 the area, both resident and migratory.

6 I would urge that the nutritious eelgrass beds of Urilia  
7 Bay and Swanson Lagoon and other shallow water areas of the  
8 Bering Sea side of the island be given protection by the State  
9 of Alaska below mean-tide level to ensure protection as these  
10 complement the areas of Izembek to the northeast, and these  
11 beds are some of the richest in the world.

12 In conclusion, I would like to read a quote from the  
13 New York Times of April 23, 1967. (Not all newspapers are  
14 opposed to the wilderness areas.) "The wild places are now  
15 seen not as an enemy, but as a vanishing resource. As the  
16 neon lights glare ever brighter and the miles of paved roads  
17 wind ever onward, the chance to escape to the solitude of  
18 the roadless area and unspoiled forest, or an untamed river,  
19 becomes ever more precious. Congress recognized the  
20 importance of preserving this chance for today's Americans  
21 when it passed the Wilderness Act in 1964." I support this  
22 proposal.

23 Thank you.

24 HEARING OFFICER:

25 Thank you for your statement. Sam and Billie Wright.

1                                    SAM AND BILLIE WRIGHT:

2                    My name is Sam Wright. Billie is my wife and we would  
3                    sing a duet, so I'm speaking for both of us at her request..  
4                    We reside at 1005 West 27th Avenue here in Anchorage.

5                    I am a resident of Alaska, a human ecologist and presently  
6                    Minister of the Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.

7                    In speaking for the Wilderness Proposal for Unimak Island,  
8                    I am confining my brief comments to what I consider the most  
9                    important issue which initiated the National Wilderness  
10                    Preservation System. There are, and will be, many who will  
11                    never know this wilderness of Unimak Island first hand, but  
12                    to assure that it will be there for our children is the  
13                    greatest gift we can bestow.

14                    I am speaking not only for myself and Billie, but for my  
15                    species, man, because the most important human resources are  
16                    endangered today. Without serenity, beauty and solitude we  
17                    cannot survive.

18                    In assuring the preservation of the wilderness of Unimak  
19                    Island, we will have saved one of the few places left in the  
20                    world where these human resources can still be found.

21                    Therefore, I strongly endorse the proposal of the Bureau  
22                    of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife for the inclusion of most of  
23                    Unimak Island in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

24                                    HEARING OFFICER:

25                    Thank you for your statement, Mr. Wright. Mr. and Mrs.

1 Gene Kvalvik.

2 MR. AND MRS. GENE KVALVIK:

3 I am Gene Kvalvik. I'm a registered guide, a ten-year  
4 resident of Alaska and about six years guiding. I'm a Board  
5 Member of the Alaska Professional Hunter's Association, but  
6 I'm speaking strictly for myself and my family.

7 I fully support the inclusion of Unimak Island in our  
8 Wilderness System, as it is a unique small portion of our  
9 land.

10 With an eye to the future generations, let us preserve  
11 as much of Alaska as possible in its natural state. Let's  
12 remember that in 1872 when the Yellowstone became a park,  
13 most of those opposed to it believed people would never visit  
14 such a remote area. However, this park will probably soon  
15 have to be visited by appointment only.

16 If our State's Fish and Game Department does not soon  
17 change its meat market approach to game management, I'll  
18 probably have to resort to taking sportsmen down to that  
19 island to find a fully-developed caribou, as their favorite  
20 management tool seems to be the wild-eyed snowmachine hunter  
21 and he will not be able to drive his camping car down there.

22 Opponents of wilderness, such as the respected Mr. Kelly,  
23 should not oppose this proposal, as there is no immediate  
24 financial gain to be made on this island. Let we who need  
25 wilderness and travel as a way of life have it.

1 I believe those who oppose wilderness no doubt must have  
2 a personal, political, or financial axe to grind, though  
3 perhaps some of them consider a stroll across a camper park  
4 to the beer cooler, a safari of importance fraught with peril  
5 from piles of easy-opening pudding cans.

6 There is a lot of us in this state and a lot of us in  
7 this world that need as much of the state as possible  
8 preserved as wilderness.

9 Thank you..

10 HEARING OFFICER:

11 Thank you for your statement, Mr. Kvalvik. I have two  
12 signed cards of people who indicated that they may wish to  
13 testify with no specific statement that they would like to  
14 testify. Is there anyone at this time that would like to  
15 testify? It appears then --. Would you like to testify?

16 LILLIE MCGARVEY: I didn't prepare a statement  
17 tonight.

18 HEARING OFFICER: Pardon me. Would you state your  
19 name, please?

20 LILLIE MCGARVEY:

21 My name is Lillie McGarvey. I live at 4230 Tahoe Drive  
22 in Anchorage. I am the Secretary-Treasurer of the Aleut  
23 League, although tonight I do not speak for the Aleut League.  
24 We have not had time to go over the proposal and talk about  
25 it together. Of late, we've been busy on the land claims.

1 I don't know whether I'm for this Wilderness Act or not.  
2 But, I felt that somebody who was born and raised in the  
3 Aleutians should talk about it tonight.

4 I don't know if all of you picked up this pamphlet or  
5 not. It was out in the lobby and it shows a good map of the  
6 Aleutian Island -- the Aleutian Chain -- just the Aleutian  
7 Chain. Most maps, like this one, make me mad because the  
8 Aleutian Chain is put on the bottom as a sort of an after-  
9 thought.

10 The Aleutian Islands are mostly a wildlife refuge,  
11 except for three or four. It starts way out here at Attu.  
12 That was once a very peaceful island. It had a nice little  
13 village there. And I think the people were very happy. They  
14 mostly fished and hunted. And they lived off the land. And  
15 for them it was a good life.

16 Then along came World War II and all hell broke loose  
17 out there. There's no more village there. The people are  
18 gone. They were taken prisoners like the Japanese. After  
19 the war, those who survived came back. The United States  
20 Government said, "Oh, you don't want to go back to that  
21 island. We're going to put you on Atka", with the rest of  
22 the villagers from Atka who had also been evacuated and  
23 their village burned, so that the Japanese enemy couldn't  
24 use the live village facilities.

25 Attu is now covered with the wreckage of World War II --

1 quonset huts that the wind has blown all over the island.  
2 Agattu, which is the next island in from Attu, is also a mess  
3 of leftovers -- military junk. And then from there, Shemya --  
4 well, maybe you don't call it a mess, but there's just a  
5 military base there. It's not messy yet. It's still  
6 utilized -- that base.

7 On eastward from there is Kiska. Kiska is a mess.  
8 There is all sorts of quonsets strung all over the island.  
9 Strewn all over the island by the winds that hit that  
10 country. There's Jap ships caught in the bay; there's bomb  
11 craters pockmarked all over the island.

12 I'm going to skip the next island for a little bit. I  
13 get too emotional when I speak of Amchitka.

14 Then there is Tanaga and Kanaga. The military didn't  
15 do much there. And they are still beautiful, peaceful  
16 islands.

17 There's a big military base on Adak right now. A Navy  
18 base, which is being utilized. But the parts of the island  
19 that have been abandoned by the military are a mess.  
20 There's debris strewn all over.

21 The next island in is Atka. Like I said, there was a  
22 village at Atka before the war too. They evacuated all the  
23 people who lived there, burned their homes and sent them  
24 down to Southeastern Alaska somewhere. After the war they  
25 brought them back, built a few houses for them to live in



1 to make up for the houses that they had burned and gave them  
2 a church to replace the one that they had burned. That  
3 church had had icons that the Russians had brought over.  
4 They didn't put the village where the military put in an  
5 installation there after the people were evacuated. They  
6 put the people in a separate part. The buildings were still  
7 there on the other part of the island that the military had  
8 built, but it was too far for the people to make any use  
9 of that material. There was a huge dock at that military  
10 base, but they didn't put the village there so that the  
11 people could make use of the dock, beautiful dock at Atka.

12 The next island in -- oh, the part of the island that  
13 was the military base is on Umnak. The next island in is  
14 Umnak. There was a big military base there. Umnak was a  
15 military base during the war. There's a lot of debris  
16 strewn all over that island.

17 Unalaska is the next island in. I have a special  
18 feeling about that island. I was born and raised there.  
19 It was also a military base. The people there were  
20 evacuated during the war also. It was a nice, peaceful  
21 village before the war. I do know more about this village  
22 than any of the rest. I know what happened to the people  
23 during the war. We were evacuated by Navy transport from  
24 Unalaska to Southeastern Alaska. We were put ashore at  
25 Wrangell. In Wrangell, the BIA took over, put them through

1 a line, made them all take showers, put DDT in their hair,  
2 gave them some food and sent them on another boat, and took  
3 them to an abandoned fishing cannery that had one bare  
4 warehouse left. The whole village slept in this one  
5 warehouse together. The BIA says, "Here's some lumber --  
6 build your houses, your schools and your churches". Unalaska  
7 -- the part that the military had is a mess. Quonset hut  
8 wrecks all over the island. The people came back after the  
9 war. Their homes were ransacked. The things that they had  
10 been forced to leave behind because they could only take so  
11 much with them on the boat were gone. The people -- the  
12 Native people had houses built by BIA to replace those that  
13 had been damaged by the looters, or whoever damaged them  
14 during the war. They gave them some furniture to make up  
15 for the furniture that was destroyed. But -- they said  
16 nobody could go on the territory that had been the base.  
17 Nobody could go and take away lumber, or windows, wiring.  
18 The people had asked if they could go into some of the  
19 damaged buildings that probably wouldn't be used again, to  
20 improve their homes or build onto their homes. But the  
21 Army-Navy forbade it. Looters remained. Those who had  
22 boats, those who had ships, those who had planes got lumber  
23 and what have you. But it's still a mess. Old, wrecked  
24 buildings all over the place. Things that could have been  
25 used aren't worth even using now, but they still stand.

1 It's really an eyesore.

2 And the next island up is Unimak. And you're supposing  
3 that if these meet, these meet the wilderness areas also.  
4 How much money has been spent on the study of make a  
5 wilderness of it? I don't know whether I want the wilderness  
6 area or not. These other islands I've been talking of have  
7 been made a wilderness area as part of the Wildlife Refuge.  
8 Well, what's the good of making it a wilderness area?  
9 Amchitka was made a wild bird refuge. But the AEC could  
10 come in and blast three pockets of radiation. The last one,  
11 they say some of the radiation will be down there for  
12 ten thousand years. It's not only going to affect our  
13 generation, but it will affect generations to come for many  
14 years.

15 So what are you talking about when you say "Make it a  
16 wilderness area"? What good does it do to make a wild bird  
17 refuge out of an island when the AEC, people like them come  
18 in and destroy the wildlife? They say they're not, but do  
19 you think all their building of roads, all their building  
20 of buildings, all their hammering and pounding, and planes  
21 coming and going didn't disturb the bird life and the wild  
22 life on that island? That's all I have left to ask -- is  
23 what good does it do? Thank you.

24 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you for your statements,  
25 Mrs. McGarvey. Is there anyone else who wishes to present

1 testimony? There is probably time left for some questions for  
2 Mr. Watson and Mr. Sekora. If there is a question -- if the  
3 person who wishes to ask the question would stand. You need  
4 not identify yourself, but speak slowly so that the reporter  
5 will be able to record the question. Thank you.

6 QUESTION FROM AUDIENCE: Well, I would like to ask  
7 Gordon Watson if he'll reply to Mrs. McGarvey as to what the  
8 difference is between the wilderness that has been left  
9 behind by the military on the Aleutian Chain and the  
10 wilderness which is contemplated in the plan that is being  
11 proposed tonight.

12 GORDON WATSON: I believe that Mrs. McGarvey's  
13 testimony is the most eloquent case that I have heard for  
14 wilderness of all the proposals and all the testimonies  
15 that I have ever sat through.

16 Mrs. McGarvey, wilderness classification is an act of  
17 Congress that would protect Unimak from the rape that has  
18 occurred on all the other islands you have just described.  
19 The refuge is by Executive Order. By one man. But a  
20 wilderness designation assures you and your people and all  
21 Americans everywhere that what happened at Amchitka; what  
22 has happened at other places in the Aleutians would not  
23 happen on Unimak.

24 I would hope that it would be a piece of real estate  
25 left for the Aleuts to say, "This what our land is".

1 HEARING OFFICER: Is that answer clear? Are there  
2 any other questions?

3 QUESTION FROM AUDIENCE: I would like to ask,  
4 since I was not present at the hearing in Cold Bay, if  
5 anyone who is a resident of the village of False Pass was  
6 present and/or testified at the hearing?

7 PALMER SEKORA: At the hearing at Cold Bay, two  
8 people testified. Both were residents of Cold Bay. There  
9 were no people from False Pass present. These people had  
10 this proposal discussed with them by a representative,  
11 myself. They were informed of the hearings, but they are  
12 also cognizant of the fact that they may write in within  
13 the time period, until January 17th, so that they can air  
14 their views on this proposal and they do have the  
15 understanding that that is just as important as any oral  
16 testimony presented at the hearing.

17 HEARING OFFICER: Would you please stand and state  
18 your question?

19 QUESTION FROM AUDIENCE: I guess the next question  
20 is then, why not False Pass which is the initial village?

21 PALMER SEKORA: Why not the hearing at False Pass?  
22 We realized that because of manpower, money limitations --  
23 such as every government agency has, that we would have to  
24 hold this at a centralized location. Cold Bay on the Alaska  
25 Peninsula is the transportation hub for this area. It

1 serves not only False Pass, but Unalaska, Akutan, Polyp  
2 Harbor, Uposki, King Cove, Sand Point -- all the villages  
3 found on the Alaska Peninsula. So we felt that this would  
4 enable people who use Unimak or the waters or islands  
5 adjacent to Unimak -- would afford them equal opportunity  
6 to come into the public hearings.

7 HEARING OFFICER: If there is no further testimony  
8 and no questions, it is now my duty to close the hearing.  
9 Before doing so, let me remind you that the hearing record  
10 will be kept open until January 17, 1972, which is thirty  
11 days from today, for the filing of written statements or  
12 other material. While the Department of the Interior  
13 invites written expression on this wilderness proposal at  
14 any time, in order to be made a part of the official  
15 hearing record, all written expressions must be in the  
16 office of the Area Director, Anchorage, Alaska, by January  
17 17, 1972. After that date, written advice should be sent  
18 to the Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C., 20240,  
19 of the Director of Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife,  
20 Washington, D. C. Also, anyone wishing a copy of the  
21 transcript, should make personal arrangements with the  
22 reporter.

23 I wish to thank everyone for your cooperation given  
24 during this hearing. Since there is nothing further in  
25 connection with the hearing, and no more testimony or

1 evidence to be offered, the hearing stands adjourned.  
2

3 HEARING ADJOURNED AT 9:55 P.M.  
4 DECEMBER 17, 1971  
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-97-

CERTIFICATE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA )  
STATE OF ALASKA ) ss.

I, Patricia Kling, Notary Public in and for the State of Alaska, residing at Anchorage, Alaska, and Verbatim reporter for Pat Kling Court Reporting Service, do hereby certify:

That the annexed and foregoing transcript was taken on the 14th day of December, 1971, and the 17th day of December, 1971, at Cold Bay, Alaska, and at Anchorage, Alaska.

That this transcript of the proceedings, as heretofore annexed, is a true and correct transcription of the testimony of said witness, taken by me electronically, and Glenda McCarthy and thereafter transcribed.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this 15th day of January, 1972.

*Patricia Kling*  
Notary Public in and for Alaska

(SEAL)

My commission expires: 8-1-74

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VOLUME II  
TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Section
Communications from Elected Officials.....	XI
Communications from State and Local Officials, Departments, and Agencies.....	XII
Communications from Federal Officials, Departments, and Agencies.....	XIII
Communications from Organizations.....	XIV
Communications from Citizens.....	XV
Prior to Public Hearing	
At Public Hearing	
After Public Hearing	
After Close of Hearing Record	

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SECTION XI. COMMUNICATIONS FROM  
----- ELECTED OFFICIALS

SECTION XI  
COMMUNICATIONS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

INDEX

PART A: LETTERS RECEIVED PRIOR TO HEARING

Testimony No.

Begich, Nick; Congressman; House of Representatives; Washington, D. C. 20515	1
Egan, William A.; Governor; State of Alaska, Juneau, Alaska 99801	3
Stevens, Ted; Senator; United States Senate; Washington, D. C. 20515	2

PART B: TESTIMONY RECEIVED AT HEARING

Pavitt, R. W.; Pouch AD; Office of the Governor; Juneau, Alaska 99801 (Representing Governor Egan)	4
---	---

PART C: TESTIMONY RECEIVED AFTER HEARING

None

Sample of letters of notification sent to officials prior to hearing  
Listing of officials who received letters of notification

179-1419

NOV 22 1971

#1

CONGRESSMAN NICK BEGICH

ALASKA

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

November 17, 1971

Mr. Gordon W. Watson  
Area Director, Alaska  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

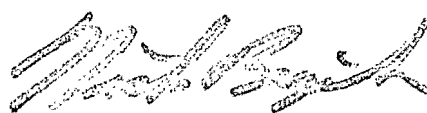
Dear Mr. Watson:

Thank you for informing me of the public hearing slated next month to ascertain public opinion on the proposed wilderness area classification of Unimak Island in the Aleutians.

If it is possible, I would like to have my Anchorage Office representative, Mr. Russel Brown, accompany members of the Interior Department to Cold Bay next month for the hearing there. I would appreciate having first hand knowledge of the public testimony because it will not be possible for me to attend personally.

Again, many thanks for your information and brochure concerning the Unimak Island Wilderness proposal.

Sincerely,



NICK BEGICH

6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Honorable Nick Begich  
U. S. Representative  
House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Begich:

Reference is made to your letter of November 17, 1971.

We certainly appreciate your interest in the Unimak Wilderness hearing scheduled for Cold Bay December 14 and Anchorage December 17.

Your Anchorage office representative Mr. Russel Brown is more than welcome to accompany our team to the Cold Bay hearing. However, the team will be traveling to Cold Bay via Reeve Aleutian Airways, since our aircraft is in the shop for repairs. We have informed Mr. Brown by phone of our planned travel arrangements, so that he may still accompany us if he so desires.

Thanks again for your interest in the Wilderness hearings, and if we can be of further assistance, please feel free to call on us.

Sincerely yours,

Alaska Area Director

WILLIAM A. EGAN  
GOVERNOR



STATE OF ALASKA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
JUNEAU

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

NOV 24 1971

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

November 18, 1971

Mr. Gordon W. Watson  
Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries  
and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Mr. Watson:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter concerning the public hearing to ascertain public views on a proposal to classify as wilderness 965,042 acres on Unimak Island in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge.

I appreciate your informing me of this matter and will be prepared to present comments at the appropriate time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "William A. Egan".

William A. Egan  
Governor

HENRY M. JACKSON, WASH., CHAIRMAN  
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LEE METCALF, MONT.  
MIKE GRAVEL, ALASKA  
GORDON ALLOTT, COLO.  
LEN B. JORDAN, IDAHO  
PAUL J. FANNIN, ARIZ.  
CLIFFORD P. HANSEN, WYO.  
MARK O. HATFIELD, OREG.  
TED STEVENS, ALASKA  
HENRY BELLMON, OKLA.

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON  
INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

JERRY T. VERKLER, STAFF DIRECTOR  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

NOV 4 3 1971

November 17, 1971

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Mr. Gordon W. Watson  
Area Director  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Gordon:

Thank you for your courtesy in providing me with several copies of the Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal and for advising me of the public hearings to be held on December 14 and December 17th.

This brochure is most informative and will serve to alert Alaskans and non-Alaskans alike of the results of such a designation.

I would appreciate being advised of any further developments which may occur in this regard.

With best wishes,

Cordially,

TED STEVENS  
United States Senator

## TESTIMONY OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF SPORT FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE PUBLIC HEARING  
REGARDING UNIMAK ISLAND WILDERNESS PROPOSAL

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA DECEMBER 17, 1971

THE STATE OF ALASKA SUBSCRIBES TO THE BASIC PRINCIPLES EXPRESSED IN THE WILDERNESS ACT OF 1964 (PUBLIC LAW 88-577). IN A RAPIDLY URBANIZING NATION, IT IS VITAL THAT LANDS BE DESIGNATED FOR PRESERVATION AND PROTECTION IN THEIR NATURAL CONDITION, SO THAT THE SOUL-SATISFYING WILDERNESS EXPERIENCE WILL NOT BE LOST TO FUTURE GENERATIONS.

DESPITE THE FACT THAT MUCH OF THE SCENIC GRANDEUR OF ALASKA WILL, AS A MATTER OF REALITY, REMAIN FOREVER UNTOUCHED BY THE WORKS OF MAN, IT IS WISE THAT THE FEDERAL AND STATE GOVERNMENTS, AS TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LANDS, SHOULD BE JOINTLY AND COMPREHENSIVELY ANALYZING AND EVALUATING THESE LANDS SO THAT FORMAL WILDERNESS DESIGNATIONS MAY BE PROPOSED.

SURELY THE WINDSWEEP ISLANDS OF THE 1,200 MILE ALEUTIAN CHAIN ALREADY PROTECTED FROM MAN'S EXPLOITIVE TENDENCIES AS A NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, CONSTITUTE ONE OF THIS NATION'S MAGNIFICENT DEFACTO WILDERNESS RESOURCES. YET, THE STATE MUST VIGOROUSLY OBJECT TO THE PROPOSAL BEFORE US AT THIS HEARING.



UNIMAK ISLAND IS FAR REMOVED FROM THE KNOWN OIL AND GAS PROVINCES OF ALASKA. IT IS EXTREMELY UNLIKELY THAT ANY VALUABLE MINERAL DEPOSITS EXIST THERE. THE LIKELIHOOD OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT OCCURRING MUCH BEYOND THE FISHING-ORIENTED VILLAGE OF FALSE PASS IS NOT SERIOUSLY REGARDED AS A PROBABILITY. THE FEW ACRES OF PRIVATE LAND PLUS THAT PORTION OF THE WESTERN COASTLINE DEVOTED TO NAVIGATIONAL AND METEOROLOGICAL AIDS HAVE ALREADY BEEN EXCLUDED FROM THE WILDERNESS PROPOSAL. THE STATE FEELS, THOUGH, THAT THIS AND ALL SIMILAR PROPOSALS OF THIS NATURE CAN AND SHOULD BE DISCUSSED CALMLY, DISPASSIONATELY AND COMPREHENSIVELY; HOPEFULLY WITHOUT THE EMOTION-CHARGED POLARIZATION OF POSITIONS THAT ALL TOO FREQUENTLY ACCOMPANY SUCH DIALOGUE.

THE ALEUTIAN ISLANDS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE CONSISTS OF A CHAIN OF ISLANDS EXTENDING WESTWARD FROM THE SOUTHERN TIP OF THE ALASKA PENINSULA. THEY STRETCH IN A 1,200 MILE SAUCER-SHAPED ARC TO WITHIN 500 MILES OF THE KAMCHATKA PENINSULA IN SOVIET ASIA, SEPARATING THE BERING SEA ON THE NORTH FROM THE PACIFIC OCEAN ON THE SOUTH. THE REFUGE INCLUDES 14 LARGE ISLANDS, 55 SMALL ISLANDS, AND INNUMERABLE ISLETS. WHILE THE WILDERNESS ACT CALLS FOR A STUDY OF ALL ROADLESS ISLANDS IN THE REFUGE SYSTEM, IT SEEMS HIGHLY IMPROBABLE THAT THE BUREAU ACTUALLY CONTEMPLATES A SEPARATE STUDY FOR EACH OF THE MANY ISLANDS OF THE ALEUTIAN ISLAND REFUGE. HOW THEN DOES THE UNIMAK PROPOSAL FIT IN WITH THE REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDY WITHIN

THE REFUGE AS A WHOLE? THE STATE FEELS THAT IT COULD VERY LIKELY SUPPORT A SERIES OF WILDERNESS UNITS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ECOTYPES FOUND ON THE VARIOUS ISLAND GROUPINGS THROUGHOUT THE LONGITUDINAL SPAN OF THE ALEUTIAN CHAIN. IT IS, HOWEVER, IMPOSSIBLE TO COMMENT INTELLEGETLY AND POSITIVELY ON THE PART WITHOUT SEEING THE WHOLE.

THE LANGUAGE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL EXECUTIVE ORDER CREATING THE REFUGE INCLUDES AS A PURPOSE THE "ENCOURAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE FISHERIES". THERE IS LANGUAGE WITHIN BOTH THE WILDERNESS ACT AND THE BUREAU WILDERNESS REGULATIONS STIPULATING THAT DESIGNATION AS WILDERNESS WILL NOT INTERFERE WITH THE PURPOSES OF THE REFUGE. THEREFORE, WE FEEL LANGUAGE INCLUDED IN ANY WILDERNESS PROPOSAL FOR THE REFUGE MUST ALLOW FOR FISHERIES REHABILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT BY REASONABLE MEANS.

DURING OCTOBER, 1971, THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME FLEW AERIAL SURVEYS OVER UNIMAK ISLAND AS A PART OF ITS MANAGEMENT PROGRAM. DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL COUNTED IN EXCESS OF 4,400 CARIBOU BETWEEN ROCKY RIVER-ISANOTSKI PEAKS - LAZEREZ RIVER ON THE EAST, AND CAPE LUTKE/COVE POINT ON THE WEST. IN ADDITION, 26,000 WATERFOWL WERE COUNTED IN CHRISTIANSON LAGOON AND SWANSON LAGOON, AND 37 BROWN BEAR WERE SIGHTED.

THE BUREAU ENCOURAGES NON-MOTORIZED RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES AS PROPER AND COMPATABLE WITH WILDERNESS STATUS. THE STATE FEELS IT IMPERATIVE THAT WILDERNESS AREAS ALLOW FOR REASONABLE ACCESS.

THIS DOES NOT MEAN A ROAD EVERY QUARTER-MILE, BUT IT ALSO SHOULD NOT BE INTERPRETED AS INCLUDING ONLY A FEW DESIGNATED LAKES AND BEACHES, AS THE BUREAU SUGGESTS. THE POTENTIAL WILDERNESS AREAS IN ALASKA ARE VERY REMOTE, AND ANY AREA SAFE TO LAND ON THAT DOES NOT INJURE HABITAT SHOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE AS AN ACCESS ROUTE.

WE FIND THE ABSENCE OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT DISTRESSING. IF, IN FACT, ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENTS ARE FOR THE PURPOSE OF RATIONALIZING PROPOSALS, EXPLORING ALL POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES, AND EVALUATING THEIR POTENTIAL AFFECTS ON MAN AND HIS ENVIRONMENT, WOULD IT NOT SEEM REASONABLE THAT SUCH A STATEMENT WOULD BE SUBMITTED FOR PUBLIC SCRUTINY? OR IS THERE IN FACT A "DOUBLE STANDARD" THAT IS TO BE APPLIED, WHEREBY A PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT REQUIRES AN EXHAUSTIVE AND COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS, WHILE A MAJOR FEDERAL ACTION THAT MIGHT INCLUDE MULTI-MILLION ACRE WILDERNESS PROPOSALS CAN GET BY WITH NO ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT AT ALL?

NOWHERE IN THE PROPOSAL DO WE FIND ANY EVIDENCE THAT THE FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE HAS MADE A SERIOUS ATTEMPT TO WORK WITH THE STATE, THE ALEUT LEAGUE, OR EVEN WITH THE OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES HAVING SUBSTANTIVE PROGRAMS AND INTERESTS IN THE ALEUTIANS. TIME IS NEEDED TO DO AN ADEQUATE JOB OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MULTI-DISCIPLINARY LAND USE PLANNING ... TIME THAT

COULD NOT POSSIBLY HAVE BEEN DEVOTED BY AN UNDER-STAFFED AND UNDER-FUNDED BUREAU FACED WITH A RAPIDLY APPROACHING DEADLINE FOR THE REVIEW OF NEARLY 20 MILLION ACRES OF REFUGE LANDS. COGNIZANT OF THESE CONSTRAINTS ON THE PROPER COORDINATION OF LAND USE PLANNING, GOVERNOR WILLIAM A. EGAN, FOLLOWING UP ON EARLIER CORRESPONDENCE WITH SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR ROGERS MORTON, HAS REQUESTED THE STATE'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SEEK A FIVE TO TEN YEAR EXTENSION OF THE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS OF THE WILDERNESS ACT OF 1964 AS THEY PERTAIN TO LANDS IN ALASKA. UNLIKE MOST OF OUR SISTER STATES, ALASKA IS NOT FACED WITH THE RAPID DIMINUTION OF ITS POTENTIAL FOR WILDERNESS AREAS, NOR IS URBANIZATION THREATENING TO RUN RAMPANT THROUGH THE GREAT LAND. FURTHERMORE, THE TEN YEARS ALLOTTED BY THE PROVISIONS OF THE WILDERNESS ACT HAS NOW SHRUNK TO SOMETHING LESS THAN THREE YEARS, AND THE REVIEW OF QUALIFYING AREAS IN ALASKA HAS BARELY BEGUN.

AT THE STATE LEVEL, THE MACHINERY HAS NOW BEEN ACHIEVED FOR EFFECTIVE AND MEANINGFUL STATE-FEDERAL LAND USE PLANNING. GOVERNOR EGAN PROPOSED, AND THE LEGISLATURE ADOPTED A BILL ESTABLISHING A JOINT STATE-FEDERAL NATURAL RESOURCES AND LAND USE PLANNING COMMISSION. THE STATE DELEGATION TO THE COMMISSION HAS NOW BEEN APPOINTED, AND ITS WORK PROGRAM HAS BEGUN. THE STATE HOPES THAT THE PROPOSED FEDERAL LEGISLATION ON WHICH ITS ACTIONS WERE BASED WILL SOON BECOME A REALITY, AND THAT THE JOINT COMMISSION WILL BE PERFECTED. A LAND USE PLANNING UNIT IS NOW

SERVING AS STAFF TO THE COMMISSION, AND IS ALREADY PARTICIPATING JOINTLY WITH THE PLANNING STAFF OF THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT IN ACTIVE WORK ON THE NORTHERN ALASKA PLANNING STUDY.

THE STATE OF ALASKA MUST OPPOSE THIS WILDERNESS PROPOSAL AND ALL FUTURE PROPOSALS UNILATERALLY ADVANCED BY A FEDERAL AGENCY WHERE THE STATE'S SOLE INPUT MUST BE BASED ON A CURSORY REVIEW OF AN ALREADY FIRM AND PRINTED PRESENTATION.

IT IS MISLEADING, MELODRAMATIC AND PATENTLY FALSE TO ASSERT THAT A 9 PAGE BROCHURE, WHICH DOES NOT EVEN COMMENT ON THE RELATIONSHIP OF UNIMAK TO ITS SISTER ISLANDS IN THE FOX GROUP, SHOULD PURPORT TO BE THE DOCUMENT THAT HELPS "CONCERNED AMERICANS DECIDE THE ISLAND'S FATE IN WESTERN CIVILIZATION". SURELY, CONCERNED AMERICANS DESERVE A MORE COMPREHENSIVE LOOK AT THEIR POTENTIAL WILDERNESS RESOURCE THAN THIS.

WE WOULD RESPECTFULLY SUBMIT THAT ONLY THROUGH THE MECHANISM OF JOINT STATE-FEDERAL PLANNING, AND THE INVOLVEMENT OF ALL CONCERNED PARTIES IN A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF THE ALEUTIAN ISLAND NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE CAN A MEANINGFUL WILDERNESS PROPOSAL BE PUT FORTH ... ONE THAT CAN BE ENTHUSIASTICALLY SUPPORTED BY THE STATE OF ALASKA AS BEING IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE AND OF THE NATION.

# # #



# United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
BUREAU OF SPORT FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Honorable William A. Egan  
Governor of Alaska  
Pouch A  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Governor Egan:

This will inform you of a public hearing which will be held on December 14, 1971, at the COMSERFAC Theater at Cold Bay, Alaska, and continued on December 17, 1971, in the Alaska Methodist University Auditorium in Anchorage, Alaska. The purpose of the hearing is to ascertain public views on a proposal to classify as wilderness 965,042 acres on Unimak Island in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge.

The Wilderness Act of September 3, 1964 (78 Stat. 890) directs the Secretary of the Interior to review within ten years of the effective date of the Act, every roadless area of 5,000 acres or more and every roadless island within the National Wildlife Refuge System and report to the President his recommendation as to the suitability or non-suitability of each such area as wilderness.

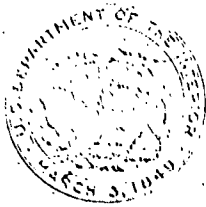
The Wilderness Act also provides that, as Governor of the State in which the national wildlife refuge is located, you are to be advised of the proposed action and that such comments as you may care to make on it will be included by the Secretary of the Interior with any recommendations he may make to the President and which the President may make to the Congress with respect to the proposal. Enclosed is a copy of a brochure describing the proposal and a notice of public hearing on the matter.

You are invited to present your views at the public hearing or to submit them to me in writing by January 17, 1972. Should you wish to discuss the matter, I will be glad to meet with you at a time and place of your choice.

Sincerely yours,

*Gordon W. Watson*  
Gordon W. Watson  
Area Director

Enclosure



# United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
BUREAU OF SPORT FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

Alaska Area  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

November 12, 1971

The Honorable William O. Douglas  
Associate Justice, Court of the United States  
Washington, D. C. 20543

Dear Mr. Justice Douglas:

This will inform you of a public hearing which will be held on December 14, 1971, at the COMSERFAC Theater at Cold Bay, Alaska, and continued on December 17, 1971, at the Alaska Methodist University Auditorium in Anchorage, Alaska. The purpose of the hearing is to ascertain public views on a proposal to classify as wilderness 965,042 acres on Unimak Island in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge.

The Wilderness Act of September 3, 1964 (78 Stat. 890) directs the Secretary of the Interior to review, within ten years of the effective date of the act, every roadless area of 5,000 acres or more and every roadless island within the National Wildlife Refuge System and report to the President his recommendation as to the suitability or non-suitability of each such area as wilderness.

Any comments you may care to make will be included by the Secretary of the Interior with any recommendations he may make to the President and which the President may make to the Congress with respect to the proposal. Enclosed is a copy of a brochure describing the proposal and a notice of public hearing on the matter.

You are invited to present your views at the public hearing or to submit them to me in writing by January 17, 1972. Should you want to discuss the matter, I will be glad to meet with you at a time and place of your choice.

Sincerely yours,

Gordon W. Watson  
Area Director

Enclosure

Alaska Area  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

November 12, 1971

Lieutenant General R. G. Ruegg  
Commander in Chief, Alaska  
Headquarters, Alaskan Command  
Elmendorf AFB, Alaska 99506

Dear General Ruegg:

This will inform you of a public hearing which will be held on December 14, 1971, at the COMSERFAC Theater at Cold Bay, Alaska, and continued on December 17, 1971, at the Alaska Methodist University Auditorium in Anchorage, Alaska. The purpose of the hearing is to ascertain public views on a proposal to classify as wilderness 965,042 acres on Unimak Island in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge.

The Wilderness Act of September 3, 1964 (78 Stat. 890), provides that federal and state agencies concerned be advised of the proposed action. The Secretary of the Interior will consider any views you care to submit with his recommendations to the President and to Congress.

Enclosed for the information of your department are copies of the public notice and brochure regarding the proposal.

We invite you or your authorized representative to present the views of your department at the public hearing or to submit them to me in writing by January 17, 1972.

Sincerely yours,

Loren W. Croxton  
Deputy Area Director

Enclosures



The following people were sent the same letter as Justice Douglas:

Mr. Russel Brown  
Special Assistant  
Office of Representative Nicholas Begich  
209 Federal Building  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Mrs. Adelaide Blomfield  
Special Assistant  
Office of Senator Mike Gravel  
P. O. Box 2283  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Mrs. Barbara Andrews  
Office of Senator Ted Stevens  
P. O. Box 1960  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

The Honorable Wayne Aspinall, Chairman  
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs  
Suite 1324, Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20515

The Honorable Henry M. Jackson, Chairman  
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs  
Suite 3106, New Senate Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20510

Chairman  
Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries  
Suite 1334, Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20515

The Honorable Mike Gravel  
United States Senate  
1251 New Senate Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20510

The Honorable Ted Stevens  
United States Senate  
317 Senate Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20510

The Honorable Nicholas J. Begich  
United States House of Representatives  
1057 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20515

The following people were sent the same letter as General Ruegg:

Mr. Jack G. Webb  
Director, Alaskan Region  
Federal Aviation Administration  
U. S. Department of Transportation  
632 Sixth Avenue  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Mr. Morris Thompson  
Area Director  
Bureau of Indian Affairs  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
P. O. Box 3-8000  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Mr. Charles Yates  
Regional Forester  
Forest Service  
U. S. Department of Agriculture  
Box 1628  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Mr. Ernest J. Borgman  
General Superintendent  
Pacific Northwest Region, Alaska Office  
National Park Service  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
P. O. Box 2252  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Mr. Curtis McVee  
State Director  
Bureau of Land Management  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
555 Cordova Street  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Mr. Barney A. Coster  
Forest Supervisor  
Chugach National Forest  
U. S. Department of Agriculture  
555 Cordova Street  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Mr. Robert Price  
Regional Solicitor  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
Box 166  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
Interior Building  
Washington, D. C. 20240

Honorable Kenneth Kadow, Jr.  
Commissioner  
Department of Commerce  
State Capitol Building  
Pouch A  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Honorable Irene Ryan  
Commissioner  
Department of Economic Development  
State Capitol Building  
Pouch A  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Honorable Frederick McGinnis  
Commissioner  
Department of Health and Welfare  
State Capitol Building  
Pouch A  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Honorable John Havelock  
Attorney General  
Department of Law  
State Capitol Building  
Pouch A  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Honorable Wallace H. Noerenberg, Commissioner  
Alaska Department of Fish and Game  
Subport Building  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Edgar J. Huizer, Deputy Commissioner  
Alaska Department of Fish and Game  
Commercial Fisheries  
Subport Building  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Honorable Bruce Campbell, Commissioner  
Alaska Department of Highways  
Box 1467  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Honorable Charles F. Herbert, Commissioner  
Department of Natural Resources  
Pouch M  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Mr. Homer L. Burrell, Director  
Alaska Department of Natural Resources  
Division of Oil and Gas  
3001 Porcupine Drive  
Anchorage, Alaska 99504

Mr. T. G. Smith, Director  
Alaska Department of Natural Resources  
Division of Parks  
323 E. 4th  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Honorable George W. Easley, Commissioner  
Department of Public Works  
Pouch Z  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Honorable Max Brewer, Commissioner  
Department of Environmental Conservation  
FOSS Building, Pouch O  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Mr. Jim Scott, District Manager  
Anchorage District Office  
Bureau of Land Management  
4700 East 72nd Avenue  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Mr. Bob Krumm, Area Director  
Bureau of Land Management  
P. O. Box 1150  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Mr. Phillip Gum  
Ranger, U.S.F.S.  
P. O. Box 275  
Seward, Alaska 99664

U.S. Geological Survey  
218 E. Street  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Mr. Roy Peratrovich, Superintendent  
Bureau of Indian Affairs  
P. O. Box 120  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Mr. Richard E. Woodrow  
District Ranger  
6927 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Mr. Richard Shepherd  
Field Representative, Alaska Region  
Office of the Secretary  
MacKay Building, Suite 1407  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dr. Oscar E. Dickason, Director  
Alaska Operations Office  
Federal Water Quality Administration  
Room 8, Federal Building  
605 4th Avenue  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Mr. Wayne C. Morgan, District Engineer  
Federal Highway Administration  
U. S. Department of Transportation  
213 Federal Building  
605 4th Avenue  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Mr. Weymeth E. Long, State Conservationist  
Soil Conservation Service  
U. S. Department of Agriculture  
P. O. Box F  
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Mr. G. Douglas Hofe, Jr., Director  
Bureau of Outdoor Recreation  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
Washington, D. C. 20240

Mr. Elburt F. Osborn, Director  
Bureau of Mines  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
Washington, D. C. 20240

Mr. Burton L. Silcock, Director  
Bureau of Land Management  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
Washington, D. C. 20240

Office of the Chief of Engineers  
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Forrestal Building  
Washington, D. C. 20314

Honorable Maurice H. Stans  
Secretary of Commerce  
U. S. Department of Commerce  
Washington, D. C. 20230

Mr. Edward P. Cliff, Chief  
U. S. Forest Service  
U. S. Department of Agriculture  
Washington, D. C. 20250

Mr. George B. Hartzog, Jr., Director  
National Park Service  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
Washington, D. C. 20240

Honorable Rogers C. B. Morton  
Secretary  
Department of the Interior  
Interior Building  
Washington, D. C. 20240

Mr. William T. Pecora, Director  
U. S. Geological Survey  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
GSA Building  
Washington, D. C. 20242

Mr. Walter L. Kubley  
Program Representative  
U. S. Department of Agriculture  
Room 325, 608 G Street  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Rear Admiral J. A. Palmer  
Commander, Seventeenth Coast Guard District  
U. S. Coast Guard  
U. S. Department of Transportation  
P. O. Box 3-5000  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Mr. W. E. Eckard, Chief  
Alaska Field Operation Center  
Bureau of Mines  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
P. O. Box 550  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Mr. Harry L. Rietze  
Regional Director  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
U. S. Department of Commerce  
P. O. Box 1668  
Juneau, Alaska 99801



## SECTION XII

### COMMUNICATIONS FROM STATE AND LOCAL OFFICIALS, DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

#### INDEX

##### PART A. LETTERS RECEIVED PRIOR TO HEARING

##### Testimony No.

Brewer, Max C.; Commissioner, Dept. of Environmental Conservation; State of Alaska; Pouch O; Juneau, Alaska 99801

2

Watson, Gordon W.; Alaska Area Director; Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife; 6917 Seward Highway; Anchorage, Alaska 99502 (letter to Max C. Brewer)

1

##### PART B. TESTIMONY RECEIVED AT HEARING

None

##### PART C. LETTERS RECEIVED AFTER HEARING

None



W  
Wilderness  
P

Alaska Area  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

December 3, 1971

Honorable Max C. Brewer, Commissioner  
Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation  
Pouch 0  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Commissioner Brewer:

This responds to your letter of November 26, 1971. I have attached a copy of our Preliminary Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal.

This draft has been transmitted to, but not yet approved for release by, the Council on Environmental Quality. Once we know their disposition of the draft statement, we will further advise you.

Notwithstanding the status of this statement, we plan on holding the public hearing at Cold Bay on December 14 and at Anchorage on December 17. These hearings are being conducted as part of the Wilderness Act and not on the adequacy of the 102 statement as provided for in the National Environmental Protection Act. If necessary, we will hold future public hearings on the adequacy of the impact statement as provided for by the NEPA.

Sincerely yours,

Gordon W. Watson  
Area Director

cc: Attorney General, State of Alaska, Juneau (w/attach.)  
Regional Solicitor, USDI, Anchorage (w/attach.)  
Dr. Raymond Johnson, Div. of Env., BSF&W, Wash., D. C.

GWW:GWW

# STATE OF ALASKA

DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

WILLIAM A. EGAN, GOVERNOR

POUCH 0 — JUNEAU 99801

DEC 10 1971

December 8, 1971

Regulatory Division — Anchorage, AK  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Mr. Gordon W. Watson  
Area Director  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Bureau of Sports Fisheries  
and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Mr. Watson:

I very much appreciate your forwarding an informal copy of the preliminary draft of the Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed Unimak Wilderness Area, Alaska.

Candidly, I was disappointed by the paucity of data that it contains, but this is understandable in view of the size of your staff, which is far more limited than I had imagined. I also question as to whether it meets the NEPA requirements.

I believe it is an absolute necessity that an extension of time for accomplishing the purposes of the Wilderness Act be obtained, particularly as it applies to Alaska, in order that both the State and Federal Governments can properly carry out a reasonable assessment of the best uses of public lands. The generations to come are going to have to live with the results of our decisions and, thus, to make these decisions based on so little data, is totally unjustified just in order to meet some magic date on the calendar. This becomes even more pressing when we consider that improper decisions now could destroy the whole concept of wilderness at some future date, just as erroneous decisions a century ago fairly effectively destroyed the Indian Reservation concept, as well as damaged the residents thereon.

Mr. Gordon W. Watson

- 2 -

December 8, 1971

This Department would like to work with the FWS to try to obtain the information required to allow a responsible review of lands having potential for wilderness designation.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Max C. Brewer".

Max C. Brewer  
Commissioner

Enclosure

cc: Hon. William A. Egan  
Governor w/encl

Hon. John E. Havelock  
Attorney General w/encl

Mr. Robert Pavitt, Director  
Planning and Research w/encl

Nov. 1971  
Wilderness Times

# Sierrans exclude, Swiss include common man in scenic grandeur

Newport Beach, Calif.—Are ordinary Americans being screened away from their chance to enjoy the country's most magnificent scenery?

They are in the view of a Los Angeles attorney who has compared European handling of majestic countryside with America's. He finds that all kinds of people are invited into the countryside in Europe but are unwanted in America.

Eric Julber, Los Angeles trial lawyer, told the Western Wood Products Assn.'s fall meeting in Newport Beach the 1964 Wilderness Act has been misused. He noted the Act was supposedly for the benefit of all the people but has been made a barrier to exclude most people from the grandeur of America.

## Wilderness access asked

Julber asked for access instead of exclusion, noting the preservationists have successfully kept access available only to the relatively healthy and wealthy who can afford long vacations and hired pack trains.

He pointed out recent interviews of 35,000 families showed 3% were interested in hiking. Julber maintained that only about one million people went any distance into the nation's 30 million acres of legal wilderness last year—about the same as a decade earlier. He charged those who do use wilderness are very hard on it because they oppose toilet and sewage disposal facilities; they encourage so much horse use and they insist on the right to camp and gather wood anywhere that strikes their fancy.

Julber contrasted that with Switzerland, where people are brought into the scenic areas by an elaborate road system, and

where that fails, by aerial tramways. He noted the Swiss pick the most beautiful viewpoints to build restaurants and hotels. "Here's beautiful scenery, used to its fullest for 2000 years, and it's just as beautiful as ever. In contrast, our Wilderness is over-used because all use comes in the summer." He credited Swiss tramway towers (often a full mile apart) with permitting the winter sports fans in when the summer crowd had departed.

Violence of the attacks upon him when he suggested changes in wilderness management convinced Julber "what is involved is not just a debate over land use, but is religious in nature."

He noted 75% of wilderness users already have college degrees, a third have advanced degrees, and 6 to 10% more are current college students. "Surveys show they are also in the financially elite," such as Arthur Godfrey who flew out in his own jet and hired a pack train to spend three days in the Middle Snake.

"Are we for the democratic values for the common man or for turning management over to a small minority who feel they have a right, because of their superior education, intelligence and/or wisdom to determine what's to be done in the country?"

## Contempt for public?

In the "purist" argument, he maintained, there is an irrational element—a dislike for mankind in general and a feeling that man has no business in the wilderness. He said the preservationist apparently feels the American public would come into the wilderness with cameras and loud sports shirts and would be incapable of appreciating the experience.

In the Sierra club types—particularly the educated—Julber found a religious element. He noted the sharp decline in conventional religious belief among the educated classes in America generally. "But they have a need for such a belief as in a Valhalla, an Eden. Even those who never go near a wilderness know that perfect place is there and they COULD go there." Much of the Sierra club's financial strength, he maintained, comes from contributors of that type.

## Swiss open opportunity

In contrast, he noted, the Swiss have invited the common man into the mountain vastness and made of some of those who enter, true lovers of beauty and the outdoors.

Julber predicted the American people will not tolerate the very unfair method of handling their lands which the purists have gotten into law—once the people understand it. "The purist philosophy has outlived its usefulness. It's time for a new philosophy," he concluded.

WESTERN

RECEIVED  
NOV 24 1971

Department of  
Environmental Conservation

SECTION XIII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM FEDERAL  
OFFICIALS, DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

## SECTION XIII

### COMMUNICATIONS FROM FEDERAL OFFICIALS, DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

#### INDEX

##### PART A: LETTERS RECEIVED PRIOR TO HEARING

##### Testimony No.

Eckard, W. E.; Chief, Alask Field Operation Center; U. S. Department of the Interior; Bureau of Mines; P. O. Box 550; Juneau, Alaska 99801	2
Long, Weymeth E.; State Conservationist; United States Department of Agriculture; Soil Conservation Service; P. O. Box F; Palmer, Alaska 99645	1
Rutter, John A.; Director, National Park Service; Pacific Northwest Region; 931 Fourth and Pike Building; Seattle, Washington 98101	3

##### PART B: TESTIMONY RECEIVED AT HEARING

None

##### PART C: LETTERS RECEIVED AFTER HEARING

Christensen, C. S., Jr.; Captain, USN; Cincpac Liaison Officer to Cincal; Headquarters, Alaskan Command; APO Seattle 98742	5
McKelney, V. E.; Director, Geological Survey; United States Department of the Interior; Washington D. C. 20242	7
Palmer, J. A.; Commander, Seventeenth Coast Guard District; P. O. Box 3-5000; Juneau, Alaska 99801	4
Taylor, Quentin S.; Acting Director, Federal Aviation Administration; Alaskan Region; 632 Sixth Avenue; Anchorage, Alaska 99501	6

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

P. O. Box F, Palmer, Alaska 99645

November 23, 1971

Mr. Gordon W. Watson, Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
USDI-Fish and Wildlife Service  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

NOV 26 1971

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Mr. Watson:

Thank you for the Notice of the public hearing and the brochure on the Wilderness Proposal for Unimak Island. From the brochure the proposal to classify the island as a Wilderness Area would not appear to change the management as it is currently being treated as a defacto wilderness.

We would assume this official classification would still permit you to properly manage the island's wildlife resource. This subject and its impact on the wildlife resources undoubtedly is covered in your impact statement.

Since the island is a National Wildlife Refuge and quite remote, we have not provided any technical assistance on its resources nor do we have any information for your consideration. However, we do appreciate the opportunity to review and be informed on proposals of this nature.

Sincerely,



Weymeth E. Long  
State Conservationist

cc: A. Hawk



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF MINES

P. O. Box 550  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

November 29, 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 1 1971

Receives Division -- Anchorage, AK  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Mr. Loren W. Croxton  
Deputy Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries  
and Wildlife--Alaska Area  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Loren:

We appreciate your recent letter and copy of the public notice regarding hearings on a proposal to classify as wilderness most of Unimak Island in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge.

The proposed classification of 965,042 acres on Unimak Island as wilderness would not affect any mineral or coal deposits known to us. Available information indicates the potential for petroleum occurrences on the island are remote.

No record was found indicating that the geology of the island has been investigated and mapped in sufficient detail to form a judgment on its possibilities for deposits of sulfur, perlite, or pumice.

Shishaldin Volcano may be strategically situated as a site for studies on volcanism in the Aleutian Arc. Geological Survey Bulletin 974-B lists reported volcanic activity between the years 1760 and 1948 at four of the six volcanoes on Unimak Island. There were 25 periods of activity reported for Shishaldin. Four of the reported events occurred during 1946, 1947, and 1948. The last year covered in the Bulletin is 1948.

Appropriate instrumentation could be installed on Shishaldin Volcano with remote monitoring at established administrative sites at False Pass, Scotch Cap or Cape Serichef. The information obtained would enhance the scientific and educational value of the area without detracting from the primary refuge objectives.

If we can be of further service please call on us.

Sincerely yours,

W. E. Eckard  
Chief  
Alaska Field Operation Center



P. O. Box 550  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

November 29, 1971

Mr. Loren W. Croxton  
Deputy Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries  
and Wildlife--Alaska Area  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

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If we can be of further service please call on us.

Sincerely yours,

W. E. Eckard  
Chief  
Alaska Field Operation Center



# United States Department of the Interior

## NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Pacific Northwest Region  
931 Fourth and Pike Building  
Seattle, Washington 98101

December 13, 1971

IN REPLY REFER TO:

L48  
(PNR)APP

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 16 1971

Indigo Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Mr. Loren W. Croxton  
Deputy Area Director  
Alaska Area  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Mr. Croxton:

We appreciate the opportunity to review and comment on the wilderness proposal for a portion of Unimak Island in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska.

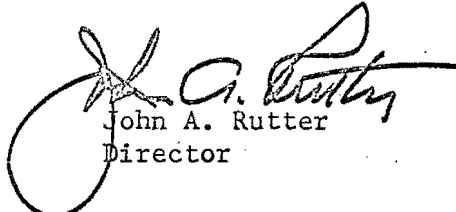
It appears that the proposal has been well prepared with full consideration to management needs and existing land use.

We are in complete support of your efforts to negotiate a State tidelands lease out to one-fourth mile or more to provide a valuable buffer zone around the Island's wilderness area.

We are also in agreement with your recommendation to amend Executive Order 1733. In fact, we believe that this matter deserves special attention and would recommend that it be stated as a conditional element of the wilderness recommendation.

The outstanding wilderness character and qualities of the 965,042 acres proposed are most suitable for inclusion in National Wilderness Preservation System. We are therefore very pleased to offer our endorsement of your well prepared proposal.

Sincerely yours,

  
John A. Rutter  
Director

DEC 27 1971



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

#4  
Address reply to:  
GUAMAKHUB (C)  
Seventeenth Coast Guard District  
P.O. Box 3-5000  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

JAN 7 1972

11015

Estuaries Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

4 DEC 1972

Mr. Loren W. Croxton  
Deputy Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Mr. Croxton:

Thank you for your letter of November 12, 1971, informing me of scheduled hearings on the Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal.

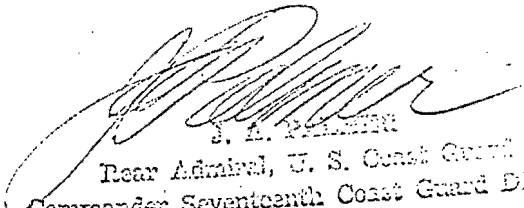
As you know, the major Coast Guard installations on Unimak Island includes the LORAN transmitting station at Cape Sarichef and the unmanned light Station on Scotch Cap. Both of these installations, and the connecting road, are on lands excluded from the proposed wilderness.

In addition, the Coast Guard maintains, in the vicinity of St. Catherine's Cove, False Pass Light and Bechevin Bay Day Beacon. These navigational aids were established under special use permit #RO-90, issued 17 July 1968 by the Regional Director, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Region One. In part, this permit allowed for site clearance as necessary, ingress and egress for maintenance and provision for renewal of the permit at its expiration, 17 July 1988. It is requested that similar provisions be established under the proposed wilderness for these navigational aids and for the light at Cape Pankof, which was established prior to the creation of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge.

While there are no immediate plans for additional Coast Guard use of Unimak Island, it is conceivable that changing traffic patterns may, in the future, require establishment of added navigational aids. It is requested that provisions for such use be incorporated into the Secretary of the Interior's recommendations to the President.

Thank you for inviting the Coast Guard's views on this proposal.

Sincerely,

  
J. A. Pankof  
Rear Admiral, U. S. Coast Guard  
Commander Seventeenth Coast Guard District

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

CINCPAC LIAISON OFFICER TO CINCAL  
HEADQUARTERS, ALASKAN COMMAND  
APO GAITHER, 99742



JAN 10 1972

7 January 1972


Biological Resources — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Mr. Watson,

This statement is submitted for inclusion in the record of the public hearing on the wilderness proposal for Unimak Island.

The Commander-in-Chief, Pacific concurs in the exclusion from wilderness status of land on the western end of Unimak Island as shown in the map accompanying the wilderness proposal. Classified Air Force and Navy uses for sites in the vicinity of Cape Sarichef, Sennett Point and Scotch Cap exist. While the area requirements for each site are relatively small, a maneuver area for their ground defense is needed. This maneuver area should include access to beaches and potential logistic corridors. While the excluded area is not ideal for such operations it should be adequate. In support of the wilderness concept, Commander-in-Chief, Pacific does not wish to see any more land than necessary excluded from the Unimak proposal for defense purposes.

  
C.S. CHRISTENSEN, JR.  
CAPTAIN USN  
For Commander-in-Chief, Pacific  
By direction

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

ALASKAN REGION  
632 SIXTH AVENUE  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501  
TELEPHONE 272-5561



JAN 13 1972

12 JAN 1972

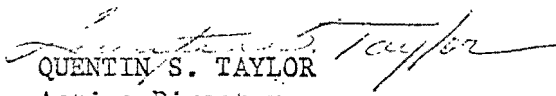
Biological Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Mr. Loren W. Croxton  
Deputy Area Director  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Mr. Croxton:

From a specific aviation viewpoint, we have no objection to the Unimak Wilderness Proposal.

However, we do have one general comment relating to land-use planning that would be applicable to this or other Wilderness Proposals. In our participation with other Federal and State agencies in planning intermodal transportation systems for Alaska, it has become most evident that transportation planning must be closely linked with land-use planning. It is our understanding that a broad scale effort on land-use planning is coming into being through the Joint Federal-State Land-Use Planning Commission for Alaska, established by the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. There would appear to be merit in deferring action on Wilderness Proposals at this time until they can be considered by the Commission as part of total land-use planning for Alaska.

  
QUENTIN S. TAYLOR  
Acting Director



United States Department of the Interior

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 14 1972

JAN 19 1972

Mr. Loren W. Croxten  
Deputy Area Director  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Relays to Fish and Wildlife Service  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Dear Mr. Croxten:

Thank you for the packet of information on Unimak Island of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska, and for the invitation to express our views on the proposal to establish a wilderness area on the Island.

The U. S. Geological Survey has not made a mineral survey of the 965,042-acre area that is being proposed for inclusion in the Wilderness System, nor have we made other geologic studies to any extent; consequently, we have no basis for commenting on the mineral potential of the area. We do not know, however, of any mineral deposits on the Island.

We would appreciate your including this letter in the record of the public hearing that was held on the wilderness proposal.

Sincerely yours,

*U. S. McKelvey*

Director

SECTION XIV. COMMUNICATIONS  
FROM ORGANIZATIONS

SECTION XIV  
COMMUNICATIONS FROM ORGANIZATIONS

INDEX

PART A: LETTERS RECEIVED PRIOR TO HEARING

	Testimony No.
Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc.; 1675 C Street; Anchorage, Alaska 99501	7
The Association of Interpretive Naturalists, Inc.; 6700 Needwood Road; Derwood, Maryland 20855	4
The Colorado Mining Association; 402 Majestic Building; 209 Sixteenth Street; Denver, Colorado 80202	2
Fairbanks Environmental Center; P.O. Box 1796; 529 Fifth Ave., Rm.3; Fairbanks, Alaska 99701	9
Hennepin County Park Reserve District; Route 1, Box 32; Maple Plain, Minnesota 55359	5
KUAC (FM) Radio Station; University of Alaska; College, Alaska 99701	1A
Michigan United Conservation Clubs; P. O. Box 2235; Lansing, Minchigan 48911	3
Montana Wildlife Federation; 410 Woodworth Ave.; Missoula, Montana	1
Pelican Island Audubon Society; P.O. Box 1833; Vero Beach, Florida 32960	8
Peter Pan Seafoods, Inc.; 1220 Dexter Horton Bldg.; Seattle, Washington 98104	6

PART B: TESTIMONY RECEIVED AT HEARING

Fairbanks Environmental Center; P. O. Box 1796; 529 Fifth Ave., Rm. 3; Fairbanks, Alaska 99701	11
Reeve Aleutian Airways, Inc.; 343 W. 6th Ave.; Anchorage, Alaska 99501	10A
The Wilderness Society; 729 Fifteenth Street, NW; Washington, D. C. 20005	10



PART C: LETTERS RECEIVED AFTER HEARING

	Testimony No.
Alaska Conservation Society; Kenai Peninsula Chapter; P. O. Box 563; Soldotna, Alaska 99669	17
Alaska Conservation Society; Kodiak-Aleutian Chapter; Box 1691; Kodiak, Alaska 99615	28
American Mining Congress; 1100 Ring Building; Washington, D. C. 20036	21
The Chemithon Corp.; 5430 West Marginal Way S.W.; Seattle, Washington 98106	20
Committee For The Preservation Of The Tule Elk; 5502 Markland Drive; Los Angeles, California 90022	14
The Conservation League; 110 West 71st St.; New York, New York 10023	24
Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs; Brock Evans, Northwest Conservation Representative; 4534 1/2 University Way, NE; Seattle, Washington	13
Florida Audubon Society; P. O. Drawer 7; Maitland, Florida 32751	26
Four Corners Wilderness Workshop; P. O. Box 998; Shiprock, New Mexico 87420	15
Greater Anchorage Chamber of Commerce; 612 F Street; Anchorage, Alaska 99501	19
The Mountaineers; P. O. Box 122; Seattle, Washington 98111	25
North American Habitat Preservation Society; P. O. Box 869; Adelphi, Maryland 20783	16
Northern Environmental Council; Sixth Floor, Christie Bldg.; Duluth, Minn. 55802	12
Phelps Dodge Corporation; Western Exploration Office; Drawer 1217; Douglas, Arizona 85607	18
SEA; c/o Lathrop High School; 901 Airport Rd.; Fairbanks, Alaska 99701	22
S. E. Washington Junior Sports Council; 2004 Lark Drive; Walla Walla, Washington 99362	27

The Tampa Audubon Society; David W. Pickard; Chairman,  
Conservation Committee; 14502 North 22nd St.; Apt. 240;  
Lutz, Florida

23

PART D: LETTERS RECEIVED AFTER CLOSE OF HEARING

Standard Oil Company of California; Western Operations  
Inc.; 320 Market Street; San Francisco, Calif. 94111

Wildlife Society, Humboldt Chapter; Humboldt State College;  
Arcata, California 95521

#1A



Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

NOV 22 1971

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA  
COLLEGE, ALASKA 99701

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

November 17, 1971

Mr. Gordon W. Watson  
Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Mr. Watson:

Recently, I received a copy of the Unimak Island Wilderness proposal. I would like your permission to do a program on the proposal prior to the hearings which would be distributed throughout the state. The basis of the program would be the printed proposal received here. The objective of the program would be to relay the information contained therein.

Sincerely,

*Tom Duncan*

Tom Duncan  
Program Director  
KUAC (FM)

*Will: please respond for me*  
*JD*

6917 Denali Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Mr. Tom Duncan  
Program Director  
NIAC (FM)  
University of Alaska  
College, Alaska 99701

Dear Mr. Duncan:

Reference is made to your letter of November 17, 1971, regarding the  
Unalak Island Wilderness Proposal.

It would be most appropriate to have your station do a program on  
the Unalak Island Wilderness Proposal. You certainly are welcome to use the  
Bureau for this purpose.

Members of our Bureau's Alaska Wilderness staff would also be available  
to appear on such a program or provide you with additional information.

Sincerely yours,

Alaska Area Director



# Montana Wildlife Federation

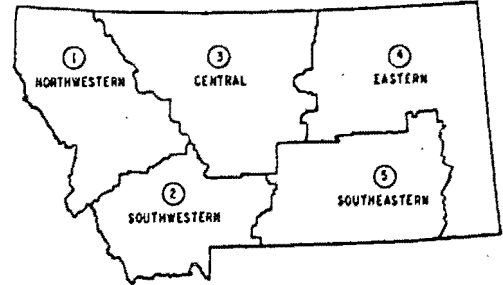
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

AFFILIATE OF NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION

NOV 24 1971

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

410 Woodworth Ave.  
Missoula, Montana  
November 22, 1971



Mr. Gordon W. Watson  
Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Mr. Watson:

I wish to commend you for the excellent brochure explaining the classification proposed for Unimak Island. It is obvious that wilderness classification will assure continuation of the original purpose for which the refuge was established.

Please include in the hearing record the Montana Wildlife Federation's support for inclusion of the described 965,042 acres in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Sincerely,

*Donald Aldrich*

Donald Aldrich  
Executive Secretary  
Montana Wildlife Federation

cc: Senator Mansfield  
Senator Metcalf  
Rep. Melcher  
Rep. Shoup

DEC 8 1971



#2

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

FRANK M. MCKINLEY  
Denver, Colorado  
President

THOMAS C. HEDLUND  
Telluride, Colorado  
President-Elect

WILLIAM T. AHLBORG  
Denver, Colorado  
Vice President  
Membership

HAROLD C. BALLARD  
Golden, Colorado  
Vice President  
Governmental Affairs

C. L. BARKER  
Denver, Colorado  
Vice President  
Education

MAX E. COATS  
Denver, Colorado  
Vice President  
Mine Safety &  
Environmental Control

A. J. HAYES  
Gilman, Colorado  
Vice President  
Metals

ALFRED G. HOVL  
Rollinsville, Colorado  
Vice President  
Independent Operators

T. A. KAUPPILA  
Rifle, Colorado  
Vice President  
Oil Shale

C. P. MARTIN  
Grand Junction, Colorado  
Vice President  
Public Lands

JOHN L. PAYNICH  
Denver, Colorado  
Vice President  
Industry Services

JOHN A. REEVES  
Carbondale, Colorado  
Vice President  
Coal

VINCENT E. WESSELS  
Denver, Colorado  
Vice President  
Non-Metals

JOHN H. FERRY  
Denver, Colorado  
Treasurer

*The Colorado*



**MINING ASSOCIATION**

Founded — 1876

Incorporated — 1897

DAVID R. COLE, Denver  
Secretary and Manager

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
**RECEIVED**

DEC 2 1971

November 29, 1971 *Relays Division — Anchorage, Alaska*  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

*C/12/12/3/71*

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

RE: UNIMAK ISLAND WILDERNESS PROPOSAL

Dear Sir:

The Colorado Mining Association wishes to go on record as opposing the Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal of approximately 965,042 acres.

This opposition is based on the lack of a study of the mineral potential during the study and review of the area.

We urge that any area proposed for withdrawal from location and entry be subjected to a mineral survey prior to withdrawal. Wise land management requires the basic data which such surveys provide. Mineral surveys can never demonstrate conclusively the presence or absence of mineral deposits, but they can provide guidelines for choosing between competing uses of land.

Sincerely yours,

COLORADO MINING ASSOCIATION

David R. Cole  
Secretary & Manager

DC:sh

DEC 3 1971

# MUCC

## MICHIGAN UNITED CONSERVATION CLUBS

2101 Wood Street

Mail Address: P. O. Box 2235, Lansing, Michigan 48911  
Phone (517) 371-1041

### PRESIDENT

Louis B. Michalski, 19604 Justine, Detroit, Michigan 48234

### VICE-PRESIDENTS

Roger Wenk, Byron, Michigan 48418  
Daniel Robbins, 13200 Trist Rd., Grass Lake, Michigan 49240  
Ryan Bontekoe, Marion, Michigan 49665

### TREASURER

Hale Pearce, 71 Edison Court, Coldwater, Michigan 49036



### REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENTS

Gerald Goodman, Route #1, Box 32, Iron River, Michigan 49935  
Earl McNett, Box 201, Gaylord, Michigan 49735  
C. S. McCormack, Route #3, Box 87, Edwardsburg, Michigan 49112

### N.W.F. REPRESENTATIVE AND ALTERNATE

Dr. John H. Kitchel, 414 Franklin, Grand Haven, Michigan 49417  
O. Stewart Myers, 106 Ivanhoe N.E., Grand Rapids, Michigan 49506

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Paul J. Leach, Box 2235, Lansing, Michigan 48911

November 30, 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 6 1971

Mr. Gordon W. Watson, Area Director  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

~~Division of Wildlife Management~~  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Dear Mr. Watson:

Re: Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal

The Michigan United Conservation Clubs is a private, non-profit corporation dedicated to the wise use of Michigan's natural resources and the protection and enhancement of the environment. The MUCC has 360 affiliated conservation and sportsmen's clubs around the State and has a total membership exceeding 130,000.

While basically responsible to the natural resources management within the State of Michigan, MUCC is concerned with conservation on a national level through affiliation with the National Wildlife Federation and also by reason of the fact that thousands of Michigan citizens use and enjoy the natural resources of other States.

We therefore wish to express our support for the establishment of 965,042 acres of Unimak Island, Alaska, within the National Wilderness Preservation System. We are interested in keeping this primitive area and its diverse wildlife populations from the encroachments that are certain to ensue in the coming years without the protection which would be afforded by such wilderness designation.

We believe Unimak Island will provide a great and rewarding wilderness experience for many of our citizens in the future.

Please accept our thanks for the opportunity to present a statement to this effect.

We shall appreciate its incorporation in the record of the hearing which will be held on December 14, 1971 at Cold Bay, Alaska.

Sincerely,

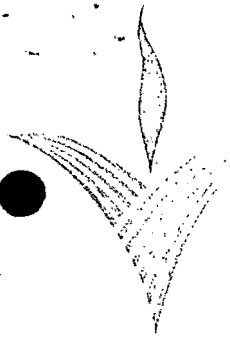
Paul J. Leach  
Executive Director

PJL:mh

"STATEWIDE"

"To Further and Advance Conservation in All of Its Phases"

DEC 9 1971



# The Association of Interpretive Naturalists, Inc.

*For the advancement of education and the development  
of skills in the art of interpreting the natural environment.*

Tel.-Area Code (301)  
948-7494

December 2, 1971

Central Office  
6700 Needwood Road  
Derwood, Maryland 20855

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 6 1971

Mr. Gordon W. Watson  
Alaska Area Director  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Regional Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Dear Mr. Watson:

The Association of Interpretive Naturalists is a professional organization of some seven-hundred members largely employed by local, state and Federal Governmental services and engaged in environmental interpretation activities nation-wide. A number of members are also employed by private foundations and educational institutions.

We would appreciate it if this letter could be made a matter of public record for the Public Hearing to be held on December 14, 1971 at Cold Bay, Alaska in the matter of the Wilderness Proposal for Unimak Island.

We endorse the inclusion of 965,042 acres in the Wilderness designation and support the concept that any further works of man on this Island can be programmed for the 33,000 acre enclave in the western portion of the Island, roughly bounded by Raven Point on the North and Scotch Cap on the South. We recognize that Executive Order #1733 could conceivably pose a threat to the Wilderness Designation and we further support an amendment to this Order, excluding Military or Naval activities and include only necessary navigational additions as shore-line installations as closely located to mean-high tide as possible.

We would also like to endorse further study of the Island's

DEC 8 1971



Mr. Gordon W. Watson  
Alaska Area Director  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
December 2, 1971  
Page 2

ecology with a view to providing passive public use facilities tied to the history and unique physical features of Unimak Island, recognizing that there will, at some future time, likely be increased public visitation.

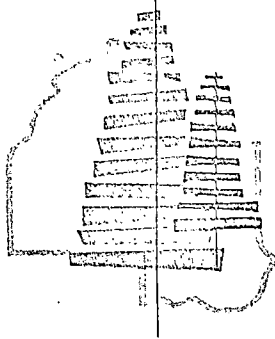
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "SG Ernst", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Stanton G. Ernst  
Associate Director of Parks

SGE:eob

cc:Mr.H.Wallin  
Mr.R.Young



# HENNEPIN COUNTY PARK RESERVE DISTRICT

ROUTE 1, BOX 32 • MAPLE PLAIN, MINNESOTA 55359 • TELEPHONE 473-4693

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 6 1971

November 30, 1971

## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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HOPKINS

\* \* \*

CLIFTON E. FRENCH  
SUPERINTENDENT

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sports Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

Based on the documented information contained in the Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal brochure, which I have reviewed, it is apparent to me, that the 965,042 acres of the island should be included in the Wilderness System.

The rich ecological resources, (as yet largely undeveloped) and the fact that existing protective laws are insufficient to prevent possible future desecration of the primitive type resources makes it imperative that the wilderness area be placed under the umbrella of "Wilderness" classification.

The Bureau would be derelict in failing to recommend this fine wilderness remnant as a unit of the system - future generations must inherit as much of the unspoiled, "undeveloped" outdoor resources as the current agencies can possibly bequeath.

Sincerely,

R. W. Hunt, Director  
Forestry & Wildlife

RWH:pl

DEC 9 1971



Peter Pan

Inc.

1220 DEXTER HORTON BLDG., SEATTLE, WA. 98104

November 23, 1971

Rec'd  
NOV 29 1971  
BSF+u

U. S. Department of the Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Re: Proposed Unimak Island  
Wilderness Proposal

Gentlemen:

This will acknowledge receipt of A Public Notice and Notice of Public Hearing Regarding Wilderness Proposal, to consider whether portions of Unimak Island in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge should be included in the National Wilderness Preservation System. We also appreciated your sending us a copy of the report booklet entitled "Unimak Island ... Wilderness Proposal" with map.

Our company, Peter Pan Seafoods, Inc. owns and leases certain lands in the vicinity of its cannery at False Pass, Unimak Island, Alaska. It also owns two tracts of land at Ikatan which might still be listed under the name of Pacific Alaska Fisheries, Inc., a former subsidiary, now merged into Peter Pan.


If at all possible, it would be a big help to us, and we would appreciate it, if your office could send us a map or otherwise describe in detail what lands the Proposal would include and exclude in the area of our operation. Also, what the Proposal contemplates insofar as continued use or "multiple use" of the area in which we operate (False Pass/Ikatan). The booklet and map are helpful but do not detail this information.

U. S. Department of the Interior  
November 23, 1971  
Page 2

Thank you in advance for your early advice on this  
subject.

Yours very truly,

PETER PAN SEAFOODS, INC.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "S. G. Tarrant".

S. G. Tarrant, Vice President

SGT:fe

6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Peter Pan Seafoods, Inc.  
1220 Dexter Horton Building  
Seattle, Washington 98104

Gentlemen:

Reference is made to your letter of November 23, 1971, regarding the Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal. Attached are maps of the proposed exclusions at False Pass and Ikatan. The False Pass exclusion totals approximately 745 acres of land and water within the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge and 32 acres of private tracts. Following is a legal description of the proposed False Pass exclusion:

Beginning at Near benchmark on the beachline of Isanotski Strait in the southwest corner, SW 1/4, SW 1/4, Section 34, T 61 S, R 94 W, west about 1 1/8 mile to the southwest corner of Section 33; thence 1 1/2 miles north to midway on the western boundary of Section 28; thence east bisecting Section 28 to the mean high-tide line of Isanotski Strait; thence following the coastline south bisecting Sections 28, 33, and 34 to the beginning point of Near benchmark, southwest corner, SW 1/4, SW 1/4, Section 34, T 61 S, R 94 W.

The Ikatan exclusion consists of approximately 10 acres in SE 1/4, SE 1/4, Section 6, T 63 S, R 93 W, as shown on U. S. Survey 1574. The area surrounding this parcel of private land has been found suitable for wilderness designation and is proposed as such.

Those areas, if designated as wilderness, will be managed according to the guidelines set forth in the Wilderness Act of 1964 and any guidelines given by Congress in including the area in the National Wilderness Preservation System. The 745 excluded acres will continue to be managed by the management guidelines of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge.

This wilderness designation is a reclassification of the refuge land and not an additional land withdrawal. The Island, exclusive of private land,

will remain a part of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge.

You are undoubtedly aware of the Native Land Claims Act presently being considered by Congress. They may well affect the eastern third of Unimak Island. The Claims Act will probably take precedence over the Wilderness Act and, if so, the Unimak Wilderness Proposal will be adjusted accordingly.

If we can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely yours,



*Integrity, Pride in Heritage, Progress*

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.

1675 C STREET  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501  
PHONE 279-4578

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 2 1971

Receives Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

November 30, 1971

CAM 12/3/71

Mr. Loren W. Croxton  
Deputy Area Director  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Mr. Croxton:

We would like to receive three draft copies of the Wilderness Study  
Report and Environmental Impact Statement.

Your cooperation in sending these publications will be greatly  
appreciated. Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Harry E. Carter/DK*

Harry E. Carter  
Executive Director  
Alaska Federation of Natives

DONALD R. WRIGHT  
President  
FRANCES DEGNAN  
Secretary

PHILLIP GUY  
1st Vice President  
NELS ANDERSON, JR.  
Treasurer  
HARRY CARTER  
Executive Director

TIM WALLIS  
2nd Vice President  
FRANK DEGNAN  
Sergeant-At-Arms

12/9/71

6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Mr. Harry Carter, Jr.  
Executive Director  
Alaska Federation of Natives  
1675 C Street  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Mr. Carter:

Reference is made to your letter of November 30, requesting a copy of the Environmental Impact Statement on the Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal.

Attached is a copy of our Preliminary Draft Environmental Impact Statement on this proposal. Though prepared some time ago, the Council on Environmental Quality has not yet given final approval for this statement.

Notwithstanding the status of this statement, we plan to hold the public hearing at Cold Bay on December 14 and in Anchorage on December 17. These hearings are being conducted as part of the Wilderness Act and not on the adequacy of the 102 statement as provided for in the National Environmental Protection Act. If necessary, we will hold future public hearings on the adequacy of the impact statement, as provided for by the NEPA.

Sincerely yours,



#8  
PELICAN ISLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY

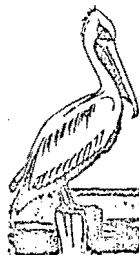
P. O. Box 1833

VERO BEACH, FLORIDA 32960

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
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DEC 10 1971

Biological Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE



December 6, 1971

Mr. Gordon W. Watson  
Area Director,  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska, 99502

Dear Sir:

The Pelican Island Audubon Society, representing almost six hundred members on Florida's East Coast, wishes to go on record as being definitely in favor of including portions of Unimak Island in the National Wilderness Preservation System in accordance with the terms of the proposal recently published in a report on the subject by your Department.

Sincerely yours,

PELICAN ISLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY

By

*Herbert W. Kale, Ph.D.*

President

HWK/aw

DEC 16 1971

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FAIRBANKS ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

P.O. Box 1796 — (907) 452-3312  
529 Fifth Ave., Rm. 3  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

DEC 14 1971

Ecology Division — Anchorage, AK  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Mr. Gordon Watson  
U.S. Dept. of Interior  
Fish & Wildlife Service  
BSPCW  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

December 13, 1971

Dear Mr. Watson,

This is to inform you that the Fairbanks Environmental Center will present a statement at the forthcoming Unimak Wilderness Hearing in Anchorage, December 17, 1971.

Mr. James Kross will read the statement for the Center.

Sincerely,



James E. Kowalsky  
Director

DEC 27 1971

11-30-71

These excerpts and the editorial are typical examples of the proliferation of wilderness opposition published on the occasion of recent wilderness hearings:

Editorial, Anchorage Daily Times 11-24-71

## Ignoring The Issue

THE INTERIOR Department has given a welcome but only partial answer to a reasonable request made last Saturday by Gov. William A. Egan.

In testimony in opposition to two proposed wilderness area withdrawals, Gov. Egan called upon the National Park Service to back away from its requests that more than 4.7 million acres of beautiful Alaska landscape be locked up forever, out of touch of man.

Instead, he asked that the federal government join the state in an intensive two-year planning program in which "wise judgments" on proper use of these areas could be developed — rather than to make a hasty decision based on a "thin and insubstantial collection of information."

The governor's suggestion drew a letter from Assistant Interior Secretary Harrison Loesch which promised that "consultation with the state on wilderness proposals is inherent in our planning effort." And he said the department "will cooperate with the state in the needed planning."

THAT'S GOOD. But under the circumstances, it is not enough.

A critical part of the governor's statement was a request that the two pending wilderness withdrawal proposals be called back — and that the Park Service discontinue efforts at this time to set aside more than 2.5 million acres of the Katmai

National Monument and more than 2.2 million acres in Glacier Bay National Monument.

Mr. Loesch did not respond to this part of the governor's suggestion.

Yet the governor, in outlining the state's opposition to the wilderness withdrawals, gave ample arguments as to why such action was justified.

He flatly described the government's proposals as incredible.

The term is all too mild.

TO BACK UP its proposal that 2.5 million acres of the Katmai be socked away from man forever, the Park Service presented an argument consisting of (as the governor described it) "seven pages of text, a 16-inch map, plus a two-page environmental impact statement."

Compare that, if you will, to the enormous demands made by environmentalists against the proposed

trans-Alaska pipeline — which involves not millions of acres, but instead only some 12,800 acres of Alaska wide open spaces.

Yet the environmental impact statements, the supporting documents, the maps and the related engineering and geological data for the pipeline run to thousands of pages, hundreds of maps, pounds and pounds of back up material, and boxes bulging with files and papers.

ONCE AGAIN, in connection with the proposed eternal wilderness of more than 2.2 million acres at Glacier Bay, the Park Service presented its fantastic plan with, in the words of the governor, "A scant seven-page discussion . . . and a 16-inch map."

The data supplied in support of the withdrawals, Mr. Egan said, was so meager that it was impossible for the state to respond specifically to what the federal government is attempting to do.

But Mr. Egan did respond, in a most positive way — in a manner that makes great good sense.

His suggestion for a joint two-year federal-state study is a proper approach to the problem of developing a sensible land-use program that would meet the needs of wilderness preservation and at the same time permit some areas of those scenic regions to be used for the enjoyment and benefit of man.

But he accompanied that study idea with the request that the wilderness schemes now on the books be withdrawn pending completion of the study.

Mr. Loesch apparently agreed in principle to the first part of the governor's request, but a more complete answer is still required.

He simply ignored the last part of the governor's proposal — and that, too, deserves an affirmative response from Uncle Sam.

## Look it up and throw away the key

By THOMAS E. KELLY

Mr. Kelly was commissioner of natural resources under governors Hickel and Miller and now is a consultant to resource industries.

In our sister states the boundaries of many wilderness areas are reasonably accessible by various modes of transportation. Hiking to visit a wilderness may be arduous — but it can be done. The important thing is that wilderness areas in our sister states are intended to be, and can be visited.

NOT SO IN ALASKA! Since

there is virtually no access to the proposed wilderness areas except by power-boat or aircraft, and these uses are prohibited, few persons will derive any benefit other than

vicarious pleasure from the areas that will be designated. The wilderness concept has one paramount flaw — man, woman, child — people — are given no consideration and are intended to be excluded. Ironically it is not that our social unrest and troubled times are partially blamed on urban problems and overcrowding? Yet, when we might have the

opportunity to avoid this by being able to use and enjoy our open spaces already set aside as national parks, monuments, and wildlife refuges, we move to keep everyone out — lock it up and throw the key away!

Perhaps those of us who oppose the wilderness areas are too crass, or else fail to comprehend the utopian logic expressed in this reasoning; but, in my opinion it falls way short of an adequate explanation for wanting anything as final and absolute as wilderness in Alaska.

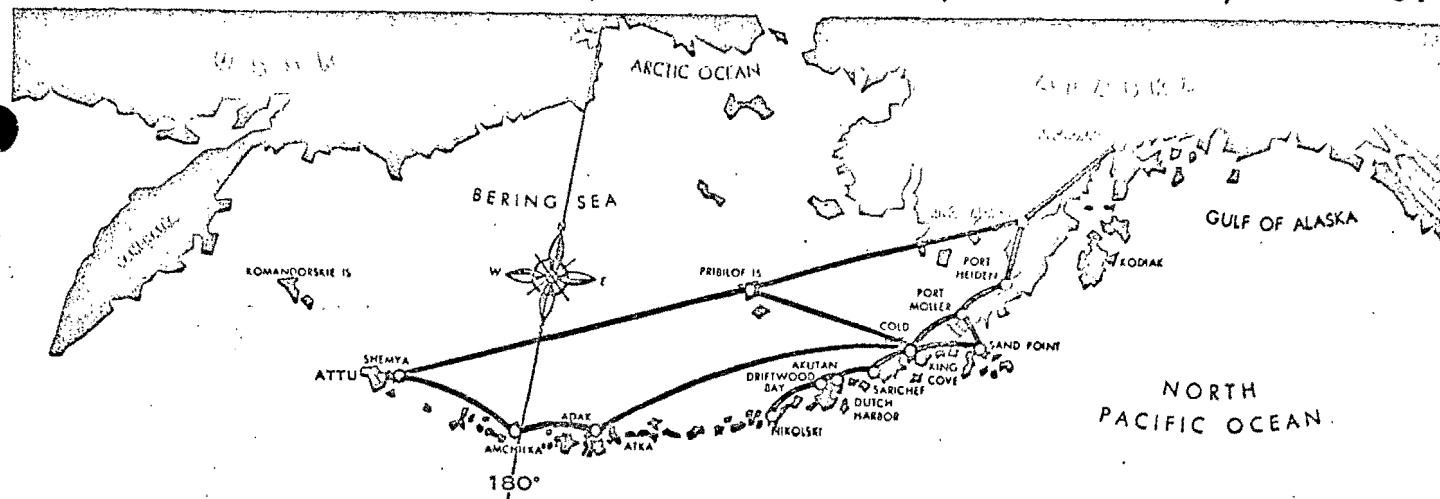
Wilderness excludes any type of commercial interests, including logging, mining, prospecting, grazing of livestock, and water development projects; some of which might make sound economic sense in a state already stagnating for lack of progress. Also excluded are hunting, trapping, improvements for comfort and convenience of visitors, ski-mobility or other motorized vehicles, and the use of aircraft or motorboats except for fire control or rescue mission. Fishing is permitted but only under very rigid restrictions, and the

issue is moot anyway since access by roads or trails is prohibited unless they are essential to visitor safety. It is my hope that many more people will be heard on the issue before a final decision is made to designate most of Alaska's national Parks, monuments, and wildlife refuges as part of the wilderness preservation system.

Among the omissions of opponents' arguments, there has never been any discussion of current management criteria and goals of the Nat. Park Service or BSF&W. Which, with several unusual exceptions, already prohibits commercial exploitation of these de facto

Quest Article, Anchorage Daily News, 11-21-71

TO THE ALASKA PENINSULA, THE ALEUTIANS, SHUMAGINS, PRIBILOFS



## REEVE ALEUTIAN AIRWAYS, INC.

P.O. BOX 559

343 W. 6TH AVENUE  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501

PHONE 272-9426

December 9, 1971

Area Director  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

Please refer to the Unimak Project-

I approve of the conservation aspects if it proposes to contribute to the good of wildlife of the area. At the same time, I should remind you that the brown bear crop has suffered as a result of Government supervision in the past. I hope you will do better if this is approved.

I do approve this movement only if the withdrawal is limited to a minimum of 5 and not more than 10 years total. Then take a final look at it.

Sincerely yours,

Robert C. Reeve  
President

jh Received  
DEC 9 1971

Statement of The Wilderness Society  
on a Proposal to Include Unimak Island,  
within the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska,  
in the National Wilderness Preservation System  
December 17, 1971

The Wilderness Society, a national conservation organization with headquarters in Washington, D.C., wishes to go on record in strong support of the conclusion of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife that Unimak Island, in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, is fully qualified for admission into the National Wilderness Preservation System.

The Wilderness Society and its 70,000 members feel that Unimak Island, one of the world's most spectacular and scenic wilderness islands, is not only eminently qualified as wilderness, but is one of a very few wilderness areas in the Nation encompassing in its entirety a viable ecosystem of national importance.

Unimak Island, one million acres in size, typifies much of the grandeur of Alaska. Containing towering snow-capped mountains, active volcanoes, living glaciers, and expansive tundra supporting a rich variety of wildlife, Unimak is a unique wilderness and fully deserving of the statutory protection that the Wilderness Act provides.

While fully supporting the recommendations of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife that approximately 965,042 acres of the 998,260 acre island be classified as wilderness, The Wilderness Society feels that future administration of the national wildlife refuge and the wilderness area for

the purposes for which they are established will be strengthened by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife adopting the following actions in its final recommendations:

1. The western tip of the island has been excluded by the Bureau from proposed wilderness because of the presence of an active lighthouse and communications station, several miles apart and connected by roads. This exclusion is delineated on maps by section lines when actually a more recognizable wilderness boundary could be placed along roads or topographical features. The increase in acreage would be small but significant if this improved method of locating the wilderness boundary is adopted in final recommendations.

2. The Executive order which established the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge stated, in part, "The establishment of this reservation shall not interfere with the use of the islands for lighthouse, military, or naval purposes." The Wilderness Society urges that the Secretary of the Interior amend the order to eliminate this clause to assure that Unimak Island and the wilderness will not be subjected to military intrusion in the future.

3. The Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife has no jurisdiction over State lands below the mean high-tide line. These lands have high wildlife values and are of great ecological importance to the entire insular ecosystem. In order to assure that these important values are not jeopardized in the future, the Secretary of the Interior should recommend to Congress that an appropriate buffer of state-owned bottomlands be included in the refuge and wilderness. Or, as a less desirable alternative, the negotiation of a State

tidelands lease by the Secretary out to one-fourth mile or more would provide a valuable buffer zone around the island, provided the lease was in perpetuity.

The inclusion of the Unimak Island in the National Wilderness Preservation System will not change its status as a unit of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge. Nor does consideration as wilderness interfere with proposed land grants to native Alaskans, since these lands will be excluded from the refuge and wilderness at the time such grants, whatever they might be, are awarded. But wilderness classification would assure that this unique and wonderful island would remain in a pristine condition for the enjoyment and inspiration of future generations and continue to contribute to the maintenance of a natural biotic community, so necessary for man's survival on earth.

FAIRBANKS ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

P.O. Box 1798 - (907) 452-3312

529 Fifth Ave., Rm. 3

Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

#11

Mr. Chairman and members of the audience. I appreciate having this opportunity to comment upon the Unimak Wilderness Proposal for this unit of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska, on behalf of the Fairbanks Environmental Center in Fairbanks, Alaska.

The Fairbanks Environmental Center, located in downtown Fairbanks at 529 5th Avenue in the Rampart Building in Suite 3 is largely a citizen supported effort, with donations from throughout Alaska as the principal source of support. The Center has a basic conservation library and facilities for research. It is also supported in part by several national conservation organizations and has received support from the Tanana-Yukon Chapter of the Alaska Conservation Society. Its doors and services are open and available to all citizens of the community and of the state. The Center is an information gathering and dispensing agency and has received requests for information and coordination as regards Alaska's environmental problems from within much of Alaska and from many of the lower 48 states.

Mr. James Kowalsky, the Center's full-time director, prepares weekly articles on Alaska's environmental problems and solutions for the local press and also prepares a monthly column on the same subject for a monthly publication in the Outside.

As an example of the Center's educational effort, a mass mailing of more than 150 pieces was recently sent to Alaskans and citizens in the lower 48 states to explain some of the issues surrounding the recent wilderness proposals of the National Park Service for Glacier Bay National Monument and Katmai National Monument, and to urge response to these proposals by asking for written statements for the record of those hearings. A proliferation of anti-wilderness bias had appeared in the Anchorage press at the time of those hearings. Much of it was hysterical in nature with a great deal of misinformation which was to have the effect of confusing the Alaskan general public in addition to the confusion which already surrounds land ownership and selection problems in this period of the settlement of the Native Land Claims. A copy of the November 24, 1971 editorial, "Ignoring The Issue" from the Anchorage Daily Times, and another entitled "Lock It Up And Throw Away The Key" by former Resource Commissioner, Thomas Kelly, was part of the material which was used in this mailing campaign to solicit interest and support for these proposals.

The Fairbanks Environmental Center would like to support this proposal by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife as strongly



it is possible to do. The Bureau is to be complimented for setting forth this proposal and for its forward-looking attitude as regards the need for wilderness with statutory protection in a narrow, crowded, urban-based society. The value of wilderness for recreation and to science as well stated in the Bureau's proposal. As it points out, the island has "outstanding recreational, historic, geologic, archeological, educational, scenic and ecological values."

It should also be emphasized that alternatives to this proposed action have been prepared in an Environmental Impact Review for the Council of Environmental Quality as required by the Environmental Quality Act of 1969. Additionally, the activities which come under a general recreational heading and which are permitted under wilderness classification are numerous and the access to the wilderness area as proposed is adequate. In no way is it reasonable or even possible to classify this wilderness as proposed to be inaccessible or to not be open to people.

The Center would like to see some slight changes in this proposal. The order which established the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge gives land use priority on Unimak Island to that used for lighthouses, naval and other military purposes. The Secretary of the Interior should amend this order so as to not allow military intrusions in the future. The Center also believes that wilderness boundaries along the western end of the island would be more easily identified if they were placed along the existing road system there.

In conclusion, the Center is pleased to be able to respond positively to such an excellent wilderness proposal. It is unfortunate but not hopeless that the Administration of the State of Alaska has demonstrated such poor understanding of the 1964 Wilderness Act's requirements and of the National Wilderness System in the past. It will be to the advantage of the future of Alaska and its people if the Governor and, especially, his Commissioner of Natural Resources were to gain a better understanding of the meaning of wilderness with statutory protection to the future well being of our state. It is no wonder that there is confusion; the problems facing this state are pressing hard for answers. It is easy to understand for example that the Governor's statement on wilderness proposals for Katmai and Glacier Bay National Monuments as it was first written was in support of those proposals, and that his second statement, redrafted at the insistence of his Resource Commissioner to reflect the exact opposite of the first draft, was the one finally submitted by the Governor.

The Fairbanks Environmental Center understands this confusion and

understanding. It is willing and able to help the Governor and his staff reach a better understanding of the goals of the Wilderness Act and its positive value to the state.

Copies of this statement will also be sent to the Alaska Congressional Delegation, to the Governor of the State of Alaska, and to his Commissioner of Natural Resources.

FAIRBANKS ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

P.O. Box 1796 -- (907) 452-3312

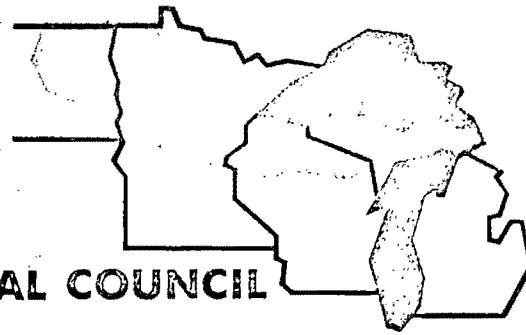
529 Fifth Ave., Rm. 3

Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

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DEC 15 1971

Refuge Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE



**NORTHERN ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL**

December 13, 1971

Mr. Gordon W. Watson  
Area Director  
United States Department of the Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Mr. Watson:

STATEMENT PRESENTED TO BUREAU OF SPORT FISHERIES  
AND WILDLIFE  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
by the  
NORTHERN ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL  
December 13, 1971

The Northern Environmental Council, comprised of thirty-eight conservation organizations in Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Dakota, South Dakota and Michigan, does hereby give support to the proposal to protect and include over 950,000 acres of Unimak Island into the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska, under the Wilderness Act of September 3, 1964.

Because industrial and other developments are taking place so rapidly in Alaska, we strongly urge that this large portion of Unimak Island be incorporated into the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Thank you.

Very sincerely yours,

Milton Pelletier  
Chairman

MP:sf

DEC 29 1971

The Northern Environmental Council is comprised of environmental and citizen organizations banded together to provide constructive solutions to proposals which have a potentially damaging effect on the forests, waters, wildlife and prairielands of Upper Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Paul W. Lukens, Chairman	Martin Hanson
Eileen Mershart, Vice Chairman	Marc J. Imlay
Herbert Bergson, Secretary	Robert Healey
Milton Pelletier, Treasurer	John Filipovich
Arnold Overby	

#### CONSULTANTS

Sigurd Olson	Ecologist, Ely, Minnesota
Charles H. Stoddard	Conservationist, Minong, Wisconsin

#### MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

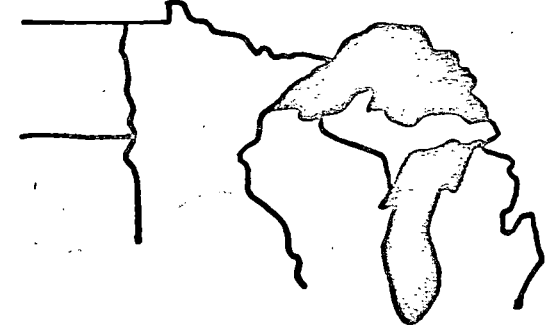
Audubon Society — Duluth Chapter (Duluth Bird Club)  
 Brule River Sportsmen, Incorporated (Wisconsin)  
 Citizens Committee for the Voyageurs National Park (Minnesota)  
 Citizens for Integration of Highways with Environment (Minnesota)  
 Citizens to Save Superior Shoreline (C.S.S.S.)  
 (Save Lake Superior Association, Michigan Chapter)  
 Conservation Committee of the Duluth Central Labor Body, A.F.L. — C.I.O.  
 Douglas County Fish and Game League (Superior, Wisconsin)  
 Ecumenical Co-ordinating Council (Superior, Wisconsin)  
 First Unitarian Church of Duluth — Environmental Action Committee  
 First Unitarian Church of Virginia — Unitarian Environmental Committee  
 Friends of the Wilderness (Minnesota)  
 Izaak Walton League of America — Duluth Chapter  
 Izaak Walton League of America — Fort Wayne, Indiana Chapter  
 Junior League of Duluth  
 Lake Owen Property Owners Association (Wisconsin)  
 Lake Superior North Shore Association  
 Milwaukee Committee of the Northern Environmental Council  
 Minnesota Canoe Association  
 Minnesota Environmental Control Citizens Association (M.E.C.C.A.)  
 North Dakota Natural Science Society (Grand Forks, North Dakota)  
 Northwood High School Conservation Club (Minong, Wisconsin)  
 S A N E — Duluth, Superior Chapter  
 Save Lake Superior Association (Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan)  
 Solway Environmental Planning Committee (Minnesota)  
 South Dakota Environmental Council, Incorporated  
 Spectacle Lakes Association (Michigan)  
 Students for Environmental Defense (S.E.D.) (Minnesota)  
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 Superior Clean Air Committee (Wisconsin)  
 Superior Junior Womens Club (Wisconsin)  
 Swift, Ernie Memorial Conservation Committee (Wisconsin, Minnesota Chapters)  
 Trout Unlimited (Wisconsin)  
 United Northern Sportsmen (Minnesota)  
 University of Wisconsin Forestry Club (Wisconsin)  
 The Wilderness Society (nationwide)  
 Wilderness Watch, Incorporated  
 (Save Our Sylvania) (Michigan, Wisconsin)  
 Wisconsin Bowhunters Association  
 Wisconsin Resource Conservation Council

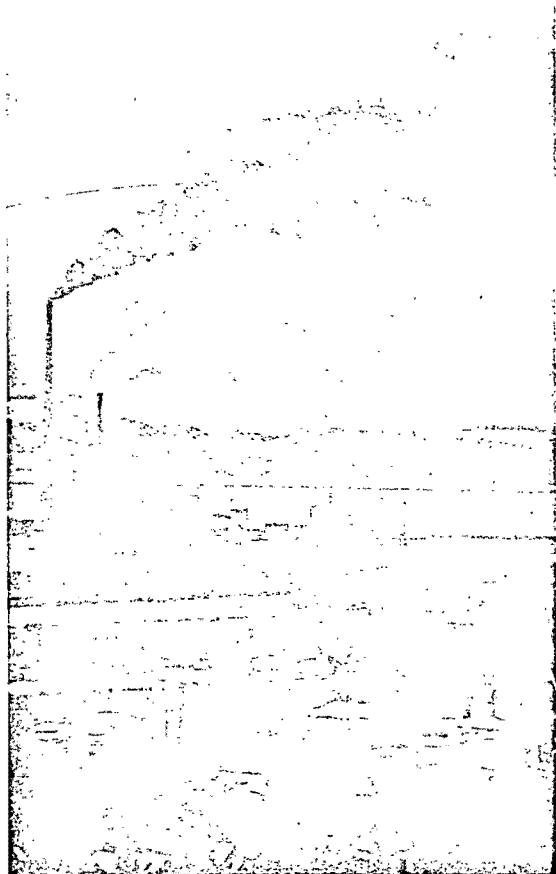


#### NORTHERN ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

601 Christie Building  
 Duluth, Minnesota 55802

## THE NORTHERN ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL





For years experts have pleaded with you to conserve your resources.

Ecologists have warned that your fumes and bulldozers and wastes and chemicals have already tipped the balance of nature against you.

And still, the vast majority of you can't, or won't, comprehend. Clearly, the choice is yours.

To some, this confirmation of widespread ravage of our environment means why try? To the Northern Environmental Council (NOREC), its united front of affiliated organizations and concerned individuals, it is a struggle for survival.

There really is no alternative. Either prevent further desecration and restore salvagable resources, or watch the remainder of our limited, untamed world of contrast and harmony wither and be denied unborn generations. We of the Northwoods are fortunate — we still have relatively clean rivers, lakes and air. However, the time is short. You must act now! For only through a collective force will our voices be heard. Strong and united effort by concerned individuals and groups can bring victory.

Man can, and must, learn to live on this earth in harmony with nature's systems — without further degradation. He can do so only by encouraging clean economic progress, which preserves the quality of life while producing the basic material goods to sustain life — all without taxing the eco-system's carrying capacity. Our goal is to harmonize man's material needs with our natural life support system — and we intend to reach this goal. The alternative — continued mindless industrial and urban development — is totally unacceptable.

NOREC needs your participation and support in its environmental programs. A few of the key regional problems we are focusing on include:

- ☐ Elimination, completely, of Project Sanguine from northern Wisconsin.
- ☐ Prohibition of all nuclear power plants on Lake Superior — the last clean Great Lake — and on all of the Great Lakes.
- ☐ Aggressive Federal-State enforcement of pollution laws on rivers, inland lakes, and the Great Lakes.
- ☐ Preservation of the B.W.C.A., Porcupine Mountains, Sylvania and other remnant wilderness areas from logging and mining.
- ☐ Replacement of clearcutting with conservative forestry practices on all timber lands.
- ☐ Require conservation restoration plans for all strip mining.
- ☐ Require village incorporation, and advanced approval of plans and sanitation facilities on all mass recreational promotions.
- ☐ Enactment and enforcement of stricter regulative ordinances to control water pollution.
- ☐ Land use planning of highways, pipelines, transmission lines, etc. to preserve scenic values.

The Northern Environmental Council's primary function is to provide a service center for member organizations and individuals throughout a region comprised of Upper Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota. Our objective is to aid in the removal of the "isolation" which surrounds so many of our efforts, due principally to lack of information and communication. The Council's role is to provide its members with the knowledge needed for positive problem-solving on issues which effect the environment.

Whether you are an active member, or prefer to offer moral and financial support, it is important to be counted. Only an ecologically informed, literate public will assure the wisest possible use of all our natural resources. Send your membership, today, to NOREC ... There may be no time but the present.

- ☐ Individual membership (\$6.00)
- ☐ Individual life membership (\$100.00)
- ☐ Organization membership (\$25.00)
- ☐ Student organization membership (\$10.00)
- ☐ Contribution

☐ I enclose . . . . . as a contribution to NOREC's Research and Educational Fund\*

NAME .....

ADDRESS.....

.....  
(City) (State) (Zip)

please mail to

NORTHERN ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL  
601 Christie Building  
Duluth, Minnesota 55802

\* Contributions are tax deductible.

# FEDERATION OF WESTERN OUTDOOR CLUBS

*Established in 1932 for Mutual Service and for the promotion of the Proper Use, Enjoyment and Protection of America's Scenic, Wilderness and Outdoor Recreation Resources.*

1971-1972

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O. Box 2067, Carmel, Calif. 93921

Vice President: ROBERT WENKAM  
1372 Kapiolani Blvd., Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

Secretary: ELIZABETH HANDLER  
6634 N. Commercial Ave., Portland, Ore. 97217

Treasurer: KATHERINE MARTIN  
410 Mission St., So. Pasadena, Calif. 91030

Northwest Conservation Representative: BROCK EVANS  
4534 1/2 University Way N.E., Seattle, Wash.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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WY-FAST CLIMBERS  
Portland, Oregon

December 15, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and  
Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

The Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs is an organization of some 50 outdoor groups located from Utah to Southeast Alaska, with a membership in excess of 170,000 individuals. Many of our members are deeply familiar with and have traveled extensively in Alaska and in its great National Parks. Many others either live there now or have been residents in the past. We have had a deep and long-standing interest in the fate of public lands in Alaska for a very long period of time.

With this as a background, we wish to advise you of our strong support for the proposals of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife for an Unimak Island Wilderness, within the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge. This is a truly magnificent area of active volcanoes, living glaciers, and a rich variety of wildlife.

While we support the basic proposal to render all but 34,000 acres of this million-acre island as wilderness, we do think that the proposal can be improved. Specifically, while we do not oppose the elimination of the presently active lighthouse and communications station, together with their interconnecting roads from the wilderness, we do feel that the boundaries proposed for elimination are somewhat arbitrary, since they seem to be basically delineated on section lines. A more suitable boundary could be placed along the road system and we urge you to do so.

Finally, as you are aware, the order which established the National Wildlife Refuge indicated that the reservation of the Refuge should not interfere with the use of the island for lighthouse, military, or naval purposes. We are deeply disturbed by the continuing implications of this order, and we have already seen what can happen from the Amchitka disaster.

We hope that this can never happen here, and therefore we strongly urge that the final recommendations for wilderness

also include a recommendation that this order be amended to eliminate such a clause, to assure that at least Unimak and its wilderness cannot be subject to military intrusion of the Amchitka type in the future.

Very truly yours,



Brock Evans

BE:kk

DEC 29 1971

one hundred years from now. However, with a low discount rate, powerful special interests can concentrate the public works budget in large environmentally destructive water resource projects. By raising the discount rate, the financial benefits which these large projects provide in the distant future are reduced. Thus, if the discount rate is high, these big projects are much more difficult to justify. If expenditures on large public works projects can be discouraged by a high discount rate, the public works budget could be spread among a multitude of small projects to help many more areas of the country with municipal water supplies, sewage treatment plants, and parks. With smaller less expensive projects water resource planners can create considerably less environmental damage.

### Unrealistic Economics

Conservationists should be particularly wary of inclusion of the regional development objective in the WRC standards. Special interests will use the regional development objective to justify many environmentally destructive and economically unsound projects. For example, a Bureau of Reclamation irrigation project in Nevada may have a very favorable cost-benefit ratio when evaluated from the state's point of view because the benefits in the form of increased farm incomes will enrich residents of Nevada. However, the additional agricultural production in Nevada resulting from this federal project can lower farm prices and displace agricultural output in other regions. Thus people in other parts of the country will suffer temporary or long term income losses. So it is not necessarily true that what is good for a given region is good for the United States. The Corps of Engineers even now is including benefits both for the prevention of flood losses and also for the increase in land values in the flood zone after it is protected. Millions of taxpayer dollars are spent on increasing land values in floodplains, thereby enriching the pocketbooks of developers who have purchased the land cheaply. In the San Luis Rey River flood control project in California, 56% of the benefits are obtained by this technique.

### Some Alternatives

In addition to overemphasizing benefits such as regional and private economic gains and neglecting real project costs, such as loss of fish and wildlife habitat, water resource developers rarely consider less ecologically damaging nonstructural methods of

achieving water resource goals. Nonstructural solutions to flood problems include floodplain zoning and floodplain insurance. Project planners must be made to realize that protection of wild and scenic streams and rivers is a recognized national objective. Conservationists must insist on these alternatives to destructive watercourse engineering.

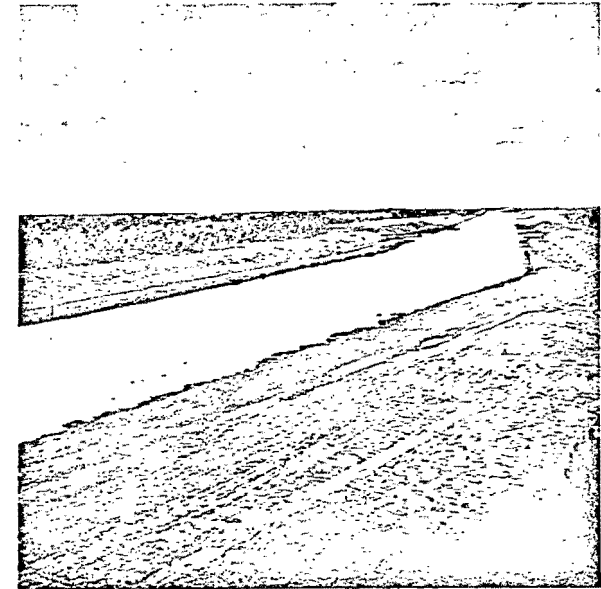
### Alert for Action

Conservationists must be ready to make a big input during the 60-day comment period. We do not know now precisely how OMB will revise the standards which WRC is proposing. Consequently we cannot advise specifically which parts to support and which should be revised. When the standards are published in the Federal Register, we will inform conservationists and will make additional information available. In the meantime, there are some important things to be done. First, alert people to the potential adverse impacts of the proposed standards and get them ready for action. Second, contact competent economists who are concerned about waste of taxpayer money on pork barrel public works projects and ask them if they will prepare a critique after the standards are published.

For further information or for copies of the standards when they are available, contact your organization.

**Citizens Committee on Natural Resources**  
**Friends of the Earth**  
**Izaak Walton League of America**  
**National Wildlife Federation**  
**Natural Resources Defense Council**  
**Sierra Club**  
**Wilderness Society**  
**Wildlife Management Institute**

# It's Your Choice . . . .



*The Corps started to turn part of the Oklawaha River into the canal shown above before being stopped by conservationists. An unharmed portion of the Oklawaha is shown below.*





The Water Resources Council (WRC) is developing new standards for evaluating water resources programs. The final version could bring on a spree of dam building, canal digging, and channelization, or could result in the establishment of parks and the preservation of wild rivers, open space, and scenic areas. Conservationists must act to help determine the direction in which future water resource projects will proceed.

### Background of the Proposed Standards

The proposed new standards were prepared by a special task force assembled in 1969 by the WRC. The WRC is an independent executive agency established in 1965 to coordinate water resource development, to recommend water policy, and to formulate project planning standards. Members of the WRC include the Secretaries of Agriculture, Interior, Health, Education, & Welfare, Transportation, and the Army, and the Chairman of the Federal Power Commission, with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Secretaries of Commerce and Housing & Urban Development as associate members. The Justice Department, the Council on Environmental Quality, the Office of Management and Budget, and the chairmen of the River Basin Commissions are observers. The WRC is chaired by the Secretary of the Interior.

### Importance of the Proposed Standards

The future of our nation's multi-billion dollar public works program will be determined by the form these standards finally take. The proposed new standards will govern the way in which all future dams, canals, and channelization projects of the Corps of Engineers, the Soil Conservation Service (SCS), the TVA, and the Bureau of Reclamation will be justified. Conservationists must press for standards which will sharply curtail the number of environmentally destructive projects.

### Current Status of the Proposed Projects

A struggle is now going on between the WRC and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). OMB which is worried about rising demands on the federal budget would like to see the scope of expensive present water planning policies reduced by more restrictive standards. When the WRC and OMB



*More waste of taxpayer dollars on "channel improvement" will occur unless conservationists make an input into the proposed standards.*

reconcile their differences, the standards will be published in the Federal Register. There will be a comment period of at least 60 days during which the WRC will hold at least one public hearing. At the conclusion of the comment period the WRC will study the criticisms, make revisions, and send the standards to the President for his approval. Conservationists must be ready to make an input during the 60-day hearing period.

### Description of the Proposed Standards

The standards as proposed by WRC would establish four project objectives — national economic development, regional development, environmental quality, and social well-being — no one of which "has any inherently greater claim on water and land use than any other." Planning for the use of water and land resources should be carried out in the context of these four broad objectives. Alternative plans for the water resource project area would be formulated which contribute in varying degrees to the four objectives, and a final plan would be selected.

### Cost-Benefit Ratio

Since Congress has declared that benefits must exceed costs in federal water resource development, these

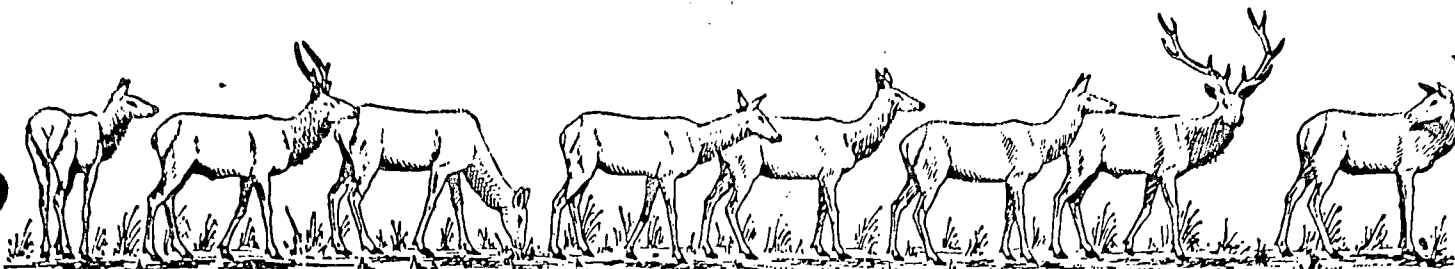
two factors are analyzed in planning each project. A cost-benefit ratio is obtained by adding up the average annual benefits and comparing them to the average annual costs. A cost-benefit ratio of 2.4 to 1 would mean that \$2.40 is returned for every \$1 spent on the project. In order to achieve a favorable cost-benefit ratio, the water development agencies attempt to crank in as many benefits as possible. However, the natural resource values which are destroyed by a project are not computed. Thus the environmental damages or cost of water resource projects are at present almost totally ignored. Furthermore, many projects with favorable cost-benefit ratios should not be built because they destroy valuable natural resource areas. Would we want to allow dams to be built in the Grand Canyon, even if they had favorable cost-benefit ratios? Conservationists must press for strong environmental quality objectives in the new WRC standards.

### The Discount Rate

In computing the cost-benefit ratio a discount rate is used to reduce the financial benefits that the project will return in future years. This helps to assure that the federal budget is spent on projects which people need now rather than what they might need fifty or



*Channelization by the SCS on Ahoskie Creek in North Carolina. Note pipe to drain adjacent wetlands.*



# COMMITTEE FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE TULE ELK

Help Save This Beautiful Animal From Extinction

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Treasurer

Hearing Officer  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Mr. Chairman:

December 12, 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
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Relays Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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JACK C. VON BLOEKER

For the Record of the Hearing re: Wilderness Proposal for Unimak Island within the Aleutian Islands Nat. Wildlife Refuge.

After studying the Wilderness Proposal for Unimak Island, we wish to make the following personal observations which are in line with the basic philosophy of this organization with members in each of the 50 states.

That the many unique ecological values of Unimak Island are protected and insured, in their natural state, is of utmost importance.

Up to now, remoteness and weather conditions, as well as Refuge status, have provided a substantial degree of protection from overuse and abuse. But man's mechanical genius has so far outstripped his understanding of and commitment to the public trust, the Wilderness designation is essential to preclude roads, vehicular inroads, and related environmental degradation.

Natural areas, like wildlife, are becoming rare and endangered. It is commendable that no artificial manipulation of habitats have been undertaken or are planned.

With more and more pressure on less and less land, it is increasingly important to set aside as much wilderness as possible as soon as possible. Man can destroy wilderness but he cannot create it.

Sincerely,

Beula Edmiston

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Bridge Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

FOUR CORNERS WILDERNESS WORKSHOP  
P. O. Box 998  
Shiprock, New Mexico 87420

December 15, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

The Four Corners Wilderness Workshop is interested in the building of a wilderness system valuable not only for varied human recreational experience, but one that is also of great scientific value in environmental studies. Unimak Island certainly encompasses richly varied and unusual country.

We strongly support wilderness proposals of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife with the additional recommendations made by Alaska Conservationists and the Wilderness Society.

Please make this part of the Hearing Record.

Sincerely yours,

*Donavon H. Lyngholm*

Donavon H. Lyngholm

cc:  
Senator Anderson  
Congressman Lujan

DEC 29 1971

North American

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Habitat Preservation Society

P. O. Box 869 - Adelphi, Maryland - 20783

(304) 434-5754

DEC 21 1971

Bering Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

December 17, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir: (Re: Unimak Island, Aleutian Islands, National Wildlife Refuge --  
for entry into official record)

On the basis of the wishes of our 14,000 members, we wish to go on record and have this letter entered into the official hearing record of December 14, 1971 and December 17, 1971 as our backing of the Unimak Island, Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge to be established as wilderness area.

Established in 1913, the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge encompasses most of the islands in the archipelago. Unimak is the first island in the chain and the largest - nearly 1 million acres in size. Much of the grandeur that typifies Alaska is found on this unique island: towering snow-capped mountains, active volcanoes, living glaciers, and expansive tundra supporting a rich variety of wildlife.

The Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife is proposing that all but about 34,000 acres of this magnificent island be included in the Wilderness System. We are extremely pleased with your proposal but we also feel that the wilderness area can be improved by the following:

- 1) the western tip of the island has been excluded by the Bureau from the proposed wilderness because of the presence of an active lighthouse and communications station, several miles apart and connected by roads. This exclusion is delineated on maps by section lines when actually a more recognizable wilderness boundary could be placed along the road system. The increase in acreage would be small but significant if this

North American

## Habitat Preservation Society

P. O. Box 869 - Adelphi, Maryland - 20783

(304) 434-5754

improved method of locating the wilderness boundary is adopted in final recommendations.

- 2) the order which established the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, stated, in part, "The establishment of this reservation shall not interfere with the use of the islands for lighthouse, military, or naval purposes." We are urging the Secretary of the Interior to amend this clause to assure that Unimak Island and wilderness will not be subjected to military intrusion in the future.

We can if we are sagacious enough to act now, preserve an extremely beautiful part of this country for our fellow Americans. The strength of this country and the continuity of our governmental system rests on the fact that we today preserve escape areas for our fellow countrymen born tomorrow.

Thanking you for your time, I remain,

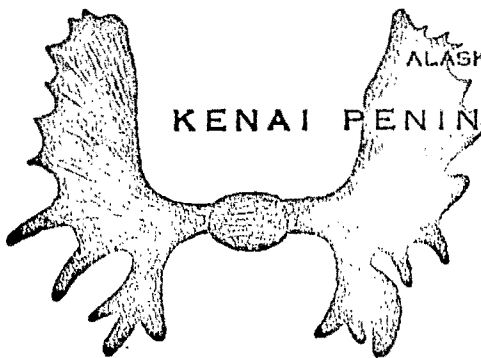
Your most obedient servant,

*R. Doyle Grabarck* (SD)

R. Doyle Grabarck, president  
Executive Administrative Board

RDG/bb

DEC 29 1971



ALASKA CONSERVATION SOCIETY  
KENAI PENINSULA CHAPTER

P. O. BOX 563  
SOLDOTNA  
ALASKA 99669

December 27, 1971

Alaska Area Director, B.S.F.W.  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

The Kenai Peninsula Chapter of the Alaska Conservation Society would like to be put on record as favoring the Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal as set forth by the Bureau. It is a good proposal.

Respectfully,

*Calvin M. Fair*

Calvin M. Fair, Vice President  
Kenai Peninsula Chapter  
Alaska Conservation Society

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Biological Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE



Phelps Dodge Corporation Western Exploration Office, Drawer 1217, Douglas, Arizona 85607 • (602) 384-8414

December 13, 1971

Mr. Gordon W. Watson  
Area Director  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
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DEC 23 1971

Alaska Division — Anchorage, AK  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Dear Mr. Watson:

Please include the following statement in the hearing record for the Unimak Island Wilderness proposal.

The transfer of large areas of the Public Domain from the existing classification to that of wilderness without at least a comprehensive study of the mineral potential is a matter of concern to responsible citizens. Although the Wilderness Act requires review of areas that qualify, it does not require a recommendation for inclusion. In the present case, we believe that the best interest of the people of the United States will be served by continuing the game refuge status.

In the introduction to the brochure the remark is made that activities such as road building or dock construction could legally occur under the present policy. This could only be true if some mineral potential were present or perhaps in connection with the fishing industry. We know of no mineral deposits on the island, but point to the geothermal potential in connection with the volcanic environment as an asset of probably great future value.

An adverse aspect of importance to those wishing to study volcanic phenomena such as the Fisher Caldera will be the restrictions on the use of aircraft for access, as well as on the use of tracked vehicles of all types.

The remoteness of the area bears witness to the lack of need to classify it as a wilderness to preserve it for future generations.

Very truly yours,

W. J. Walker  
Senior Staff Geologist

WJW:g

300 Park Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10022 • (212) 751-3200

cc: JAL  
WKB  
RWL  
GRR  
JLH

DEC 30 1971

#19

Greater Anchorage

CHAMBER of COMMERCE

January 4, 1972

Mr. Gordon Watson, Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sports Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

*Crossroads of the Air World*

Dear Mr. Watson:

Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal

Consistent with the policy declarations of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States of America, the Greater Anchorage Chamber of Commerce advocates and supports multiple use concepts for lands and natural resources unless it can be unequivocally determined that restrictive, single purpose classification, e.g., "wilderness" area, constitutes the highest and best use of lands and natural resources. To this end comprehensive land use and evaluation studies should be developed jointly with State and Federal agencies charged with specific management responsibilities according to their respective disciplines.

The designation of major portions of existing National Parks, Monuments, Wildlife Refuges, Forests, and unreserved or otherwise unappropriated public domain lands in Alaska as Wilderness Areas is deemed contrary to the best interests of the majority of Americans, especially Alaskan residents, for the following reasons:

1. Withdrawal of National Forest lands clearly violates the language, spirit, and intent of paragraph 6.g. of the Alaska Statehood Act (PL 85-508, 72 stat 339) until such time as the State has had the opportunity to select its land entitlement granted thereunder.
2. Alaska, in contrast to other states, lacks surface transportation facilities that would permit reasonable access to boundaries of Wilderness Areas (emphasis on this point is directed to the Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal). The physiography of the State creates "de facto wilderness," and denial of principal means of travel other than on foot, canoe, or horseback will prevent the majority of people from

JAN 5 1972



Mr. Gordon Watson, Alaska Area Director  
January 4, 1972  
Page 2

deriving any use or enjoyment from such areas designated "wilderness."

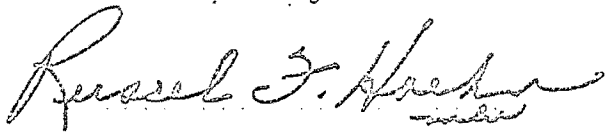
3. The Wilderness proposals submitted to date by the responsible federal agencies charged with review of areas as suitable or unsuitable for wilderness, are insufficient to justify wilderness designation, are biased in content, and violate the intent of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA); which directs all federal agencies with natural resource management responsibilities to provide input into organizations or activities that influence or have an impact on the total environment.

Thus, for the foregoing reasons, the Greater Anchorage Chamber of Commerce stands in opposition to the present WILDERNESS PROPOSAL FOR UNIMAK ISLAND, which is identical in principle to the Chamber's position on THE WILDERNESS PROPOSALS FOR KENAI NATIONAL MOOSE RANGE, THE KATMAI NATIONAL MONUMENT AND THE GLACIER BAY NATIONAL MONUMENT.

Very truly yours,

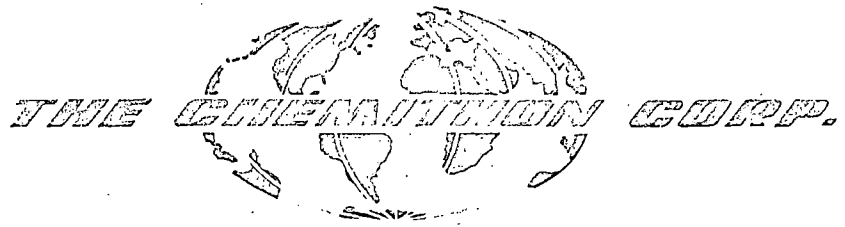
Greater Anchorage Chamber of Commerce

By:



Russel F. Hoehn, President

JAN 8 1972



5430 WEST MARGINAL WAY S.W. ■ SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98106 ■ (206) 937-9954

December 30, 1971

ALASKA AREA DIRECTOR  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

We are excited by the proposal to place Unimak Island, or portions of it, under the wilderness system. We especially wish to see more of the islands protected from military intrusions.

The purpose of this letter is to lend our support to the wilderness proposal.

Very truly yours,

THE CHEMITHON CORPORATION

  
R. J. Brooks

RJB:je

JAN 9 1972



# American Mining Congress

December 30, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

~~Mineral Resources Division~~  
RECEIVED

JAN 4 1972

~~Mineral Resources Division~~  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Dear Sir:

The American Mining Congress, a national trade association whose membership is composed of U. S. companies that produce most of the nation's metals, coal, and industrial and agricultural minerals, wishes to bring to your attention its views regarding the Unimak Island Wilderness proposal.

The Secretary of the Interior is directed by the Wilderness Act of 1964 to review certain lands within the National Wildlife Refuge System and report to the President his recommendation as to the suitability or nonsuitability of these lands as wilderness. Unimak Island was studied by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife; however, the study did not include a mineral survey.

The American Mining Congress believes that a wilderness should only be established after thorough study and review. Review procedures followed by the Secretary of the Interior prior to making wilderness recommendations should include mineral studies by the U. S. Geological Survey and U. S. Bureau of Mines so that Congress can have the benefit of professional technical advice as to the presence or absence of minerals in proposed wilderness areas. If the United States is to maintain a strong minerals position, large areas of public domain should not be withdrawn from exploration and development without a thorough assessment of mineral potential. In its recent report to the President and Congress, the Public Land Law Review Commission stated:

Continued...

JAN 9 1972

1100 RING BUILDING • WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036 • TELEPHONE 202/338-2900 • TELEX 99-2745

W. A. MARTING  
PRESIDENT

#### DIRECTORS

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N. T. CAMICIA, NEW YORK, N. Y.  
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JOHN N. PHILIPS, BOSTON, MASS.  
ROBERT H. ALLEN, HOUSTON, TEXAS  
STONIE BARKER, JR., CLEVELAND, OHIO  
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H. S. HARRISON, CLEVELAND, OHIO  
PLATO MALOZEMOFF, NEW YORK, N. Y.

L. J. RANDALL  
FRANK R. MILLIKEN  
JOHN CORCORAN  
E. W. LITTLEFIELD  
VICE PRESIDENTS  
  
J. ALLEN OVERTON, JR.  
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT  
  
HENRY I. DWORSHAK  
SECRETARY AND TREASURER

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
Page 2  
December 30, 1971

In connection with consideration of statutory exclusion of mineral activity from designated public land areas, Federal agencies should make mineral examinations which will provide reliable information concerning their mineralization. Too often in the past exclusions have been accomplished with little or no knowledge of mineral values. Since it is often essential to act promptly in deciding whether mineral activity should be excluded, we urge dispatch in making these mineral surveys before an urgent situation arises.

It is the opinion of the American Mining Congress that portions of Unimak Island should not be considered for designation as wilderness until such time as a thorough mineral survey has been completed and the results reported.

We would appreciate it if this letter could be included in the hearing record.

Sincerely,

*W. Howard Gray*  
W. Howard Gray  
Chairman  
AMC Public Lands Committee

JAN 9 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 12, 1972

Range Division — Anchorage, AL.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

SEA  
Stallcup High School  
901 Airport Rd.  
Fairbanks, Ak 99701

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sirs:

Students for Environmental Action (SEA) supports the proposed inclusion of Unimak Island into the National Wilderness Preservation System. We feel that certain of American wilderness should be preserved for the use and enjoyment of future generations, and we believe that Unimak Island is one of these areas.

Its importance as a nesting area for endangered bird species makes it necessary for this Island to be included in the system.

The use of mechanized vehicles would detract from the natural state of the island, and protection is needed to preserve this natural state. We hope that the Secretary of the Interior and Congress will give Unimak

Ireland the protection it needs and  
deserves by including it in the Wilderness  
Preservation System.

Sincerely  
Dave Anderson  
SEA

JAN 13 1972



# *The Tampa Audubon Society*

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 18 1972

Alaska Division — Anchorage, AL  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

David W. Pickard  
14502 North 22nd St.  
Apt. 240  
Lutz, Florida  
January 10, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

We of the Tampa Audubon Society support the wilderness designation for Unimak Island. We urge that the proposal be ammended to assure there will be no military intrusion in the future.

Sincerely yours,

*David W. Pickard*

David W. Pickard  
Chairman  
Conservation Committee  
Tampa Audubon Society

DP:bjp

JAN 18 1972

THE CONSERVATION LEAGUE

110 WEST 71st ST., NEW YORK, N.Y. 10023

LEONARD R. GRAYDON, Chairman

January 14, 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 17 1972

Refuge Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Gordon W. Watson, Alaska Area Director  
United States Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Sir:

The Conservation League has reviewed the proposal for Unimak Island submitted by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife for public comment. We wish to congratulate the Bureau for a truly excellent proposal. We support the Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal and we urge that it be adopted.

Unimak is a magnificent island wilderness and will yield to the seeker an aesthetic and personal experience that would be difficult to equal on the North American continent. Unimak's great scenic and recreational values, the central role it now plays in the economy of the village of False Pass, its contribution to the well-being of the biosphere and its future as a refuge for wildlife will all greatly benefit by including the island in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

The grandeur of the Unimak landscape is best symbolized, perhaps, by Sishaldin Volcano, a national landmark. Yet there are a chain of such snow-bound volcanic cones looming majestically over the rich tundra meadows and feeding the numerous streams and pristine lakes. On the south side of the island are the broad, sandy beaches of the Pacific whereas to the North the Bering Sea has created high beach dunes and spits protecting lagoons and marshes that harbor abundant bird populations. This diversity of land forms in close juxtaposition magnifies the impression of grand, open, wild spaces. Yet the impression can be easily shattered by extensive road building, tourist facilities and commercial developments; ecological realities are as easily shattered and have more profound consequences.

The wealth of wildlife resources of Unimak Island seem exaggerated in comparison to most of our nation. The great Alaskan Brown Bear, the world's largest land carnivore, and several rare or endangered species, wolverine, grey wolf, bald eagle and the peregrine falcon occupy the island. These animals are sensitive to human intrusions and would especially benefit if Unimak Island is designated as wilderness. Wilderness designation will also assist the Bureau in fulfilling its obligation to administer Unimak as a wildlife refuge by conferring upon it greater authority to protect habitat and the island's ecological integrity from inappropriate public or private use.



In addition, wilderness designation will make a substantial contribution to the local economy in several ways. It will help sustain the salmon and crab industries by protecting the streams and lagoons in which commercial fish and shellfish spawn and feed. The inclusion of Unimak Island in the wilderness system will also make the island extremely attractive to the wilderness seeker. The number of travelers to Unimak can be expected to increase greatly over the years and this will greatly assist the area economically.

The Conservation League shares with the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife its concern over several administrative and jurisdictional issues. The ecologically vital tidelands of Unimak Island must be protected from incompatible or environmentally destructive activities. We support the Bureau's proposal to negotiate with the state of Alaska, a restrictive lease, to create a buffer zone around the island. In addition, we completely agree with the Bureau's contention that the Executive Order establishing the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge which permits military utilization of the refuge must be amended to rescind military use. The experience with Amchitea Island raises our apprehension that the military might use Unimak in a similar irresponsible and destructive manner.

The Conservation League hopes that the Bureau's management of Unimak Island will not lead to the erosion of its wilderness qualities by excessive leniency in permitting aircraft landings on interior lakes and lagoons. Not only will such obnoxious intrusions in the heart of the wildlands violate the wilderness concept, but they will be highly disruptive to wildlife. Access to the island by aircraft is not questioned by us, especially since there are established airfields on both ends of Unimak, at False Pass and Cape Sarichef. These two points should provide adequate access for the wilderness traveler, supplemented only on rare occasions by landings on designated beaches.

We do have reservations on the appropriateness of the Bureau's demarcation of the wilderness boundary on the western end of the island. We would like to suggest and would prefer that the boundary should be the road between Cape Sarichef and Scotch Gap to extend the wilderness area and provide a better delineation between the wilderness and non-wilderness lands. We also hope that the "future developments that may be necessary" will be on a modest and sensible scale and will harmonize physically and philosophically with the beauty and magnificence of the Unimak Wilderness.

Very truly yours,

*Leonard R. Graydon*  
Leonard R. Graydon,  
Chairman.

JAN 10 1973

# The Mountaineers

Seattle, Washington 98111

P. O. BOX 122



BRANCHES AT TACOMA, EVERETT AND OLYMPIA

January 14, 1972

Mr. Gordon W. Watson  
Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
United States Department of the Interior  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

The Mountaineers, based in Seattle, Washington, with a membership in excess of 7,200, wishes to go on record as a supporter of the proposed Unimak Wilderness Area within the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge as outlined in the brochure describing the Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal (undated).

We, however, do concur with the recommendations of Alaskan conservation groups that it would be preferable to adjust the wilderness boundaries to follow approximately the road's routing rather than the section lines as shaded on your map. We further urge that every step possible be taken to secure from the State of Alaska by lease or other commitment an extension of wilderness protection to the adjacent tidelands around Unimak Island.

We also consider it essential that the proposed legislation for a Unimak Island Wilderness Area should provide for the elimination of the proviso now permitting the use of the area for military or naval purposes.

The Mountaineers commend the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife for taking the important step in recommending that Unimak Island be a permanent part of the nation's wilderness.

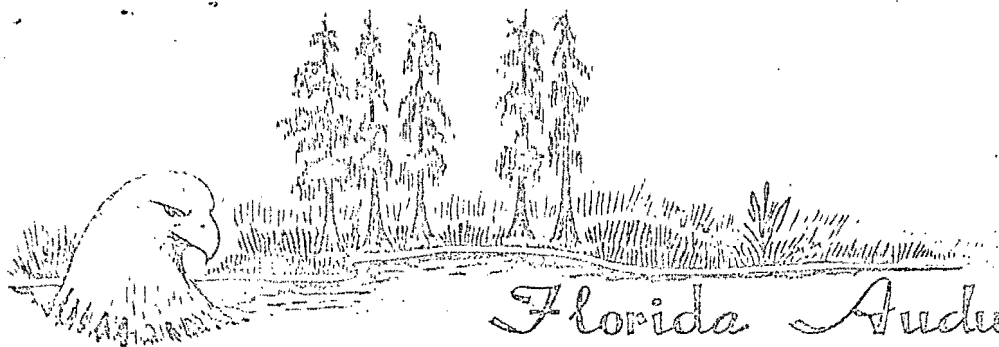
Sincerely,

*James Henriot*

James Henriot, President

JAN 19 1972

#26



# Florida Audubon Society

"The Voice of Conservation"

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

P. O. DRAWER 7 MAITLAND, FLORIDA 32751 TELEPHONE 305 647-2615

JAN 17 1972

Deputy Director -- Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

January 11, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries  
and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

FOR THE RECORD  
Unimak Island  
Aleutian Islands National  
Wildlife Refuge  
Wilderness Proposal

Dear Sir:

Deep inroads have been cut by civilization into areas which, only a few years ago, were considered to be inaccessible for general purposes and/or environmentally hostile to man. Unimak Island, indeed the entire Aleutian Chain, can no longer hold its own against intrusion simply by virtue of its location and other natural deterrents. Wilderness designation is presently the only means of assurance that this island can remain inviolate and can continue to support its wildlife in their natural state. Further, the fate of this island is almost certain to affect the future of the rest of the chain.

Keeping in mind plans for public hearings in 1972 on the wilderness potential of the remaining islands in the Refuge, the Florida Audubon Society therefore would like to go on record in support of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife proposal for all but 34,000 acres of Unimak Island to be designated Wilderness--our support to be in accordance with their proposal with the two following exceptions:

1) The Florida Audubon Society would like to go on record in support of the Wilderness Society and Alaskan conservationists' proposal to have the western boundary placed along the road system rather than delineated by sections lines; and

DADE W. THORNTON  
PRESIDENT

HAL SCOTT  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MARTIN NORTHRUP  
ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

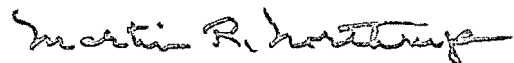
Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries  
and Wildlife

Florida Audubon Society  
January 11, 1972

- 2 -

2) The Florida Audubon Society supports the proposal of the conservationists to amend the clause in the order establishing the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge which stated, "The establishment of this reservation shall not interfere with the use of the islands for lighthouse, military, or naval purposes." We request that this clause be eliminated should Unimak Island be designated Wilderness.

Respectfully yours,



Martin R. Northrup  
Assistant Executive Director

lr

JAN 19 1972

APR 17 1972

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sirs;

The Southeast Washington Junior Sports Council is in favor of the proposed Umimak Wilderness Area. Our Club feels that if the island is made into a wilderness area it will protect the wildlife and the natural beauty of the area and preserve it for the Americans of the future.

Sincerely yours,  
Phil Mason  
S.E. Wash. Junior Sports  
Council  
2004 Lark Drive  
Walla Walla, Wash.  
99362

JAN 19 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 17 1972

Malaga Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

KODIAK-ALEUTIAN CHAPTER  
ALASKA CONSERVATION SOCIETY  
Box 1691  
Kodiak, Alaska 99615

January 14, 1972

Mr. Gordon W. Watson, Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Mr. Watson:

The Kodiak-Aleutian Chapter of the Alaska Conservation Society would like to go on record as supporting the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Wilderness Proposal for Unimak Island with the following stipulation:

That State and Federal personnel be allowed access by fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters for wildlife management and research purposes with the understanding that such flights would be scheduled for minimum conflict with wilderness visitors.

Sincerely,

*Chris D. Billings*  
Chris Billings  
Acting Chairman  
Wilderness Proposals Study  
Committee

JAN 19 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 7 1972

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Alaska area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Written testimony for public hearing  
regarding Unimak Wilderness proposal held in Concertac  
Theater, Cold Bay, Alaska and in the Alaska Methodist  
University Auditorium, Anchorage, Alaska.

JAN 13 1972

Dear Sir:

We, the Tongass Conservation Society, Chapter of the Alaska Conservation Society, Ketchikan, Alaska may be requesting and pleading that lands be set aside for future generations, but why not?

Many people we talk and associate with are in favor of wilderness proposals. These people will not put themselves out to write letters or go from their usual ways but still they see the need to protect some unspoiled places for future generations.

Our wilderness areas are disappearing fast and soon there will be nothing left for the majority of our people to enjoy. First there is a short road, then a timber sale and so it goes. Soon the parcel of land is too small for wilderness status. This seems the strategy of our leaders to get their hands on all.

Maybe it's our human nature which is too strong, which seems to say, use all the resources and save nothing for the tomorrow or for the next generation. It seems if we can not use it then take only the best and waste the rest.

We that can see ahead even in our life time, can see the need for wilderness. Most of our early explorers saw the need to keep beauty for future generations. (Read Alaska Wilderness by Robert Marshall).

We know how thrilled we become when we place our feet on unspoiled ground and find ourselves where all is, as it was from creation. The people of our society and future society must find places of relaxation and seclusion and to us the Wilderness System is the answer.

We keep talking about tourism and what it means to our state and our economy but still when plans of big men are proposed, they forget the tourist and lives of millions.



Yes, our tourist trade is growing but at the rate of disappearing wilderness, virgin timber, bare hillsides, clogged streams, cluttered beaches and beautiful water ways filled with dangerous floating logs, how long will it continue?

When these are no more, what can we expect for Alaska? So let us stop, look and listen before it is too late. People are looking for Wilderness lands, unspoiled by man, where they can hike, camp and backpack and fish and then sleep at night in a land as fresh and clean as when God created it.

We concur that Unimak Island, Aleutian Islands, Wildlife Refuge will be an ideal place for its summer weather, its snowy mountains, its rolling hills, its rushing rivers, its lazy lakes plus its shores facing both the Bering Sea and the Pacific Ocean.

The wildlife is also varies and plentiful with perfect nesting grounds for birds and waterfowl. Trout and salmon are also plentiful in season. Bays and inlets are full of marine life for man's Delight.

Therefore we support the Unimak Island, Aleutian Island National Wildlife Refuge be included in the Wilderness System.

Yours truly,

*Orvel Holum*

Orvel Holum  
Tongass Conservation Society

730 Park Avenue  
Ketchikan, Alaska

99901

JAN 19 1972



Standard Oil Company of California,  
Western Operations, Inc.

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
320 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94111

RECEIVED

January 19, 1972

JAN 24 1972

R. W. Armstrong  
Division Land Manager  
Pacific Northwest Division  
Land Department

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Wilderness Proposal  
Unimak Island, Alaska

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

We welcome the opportunity to express our comments on the proposed classification of a major portion of Unimak Island, Alaska, as a wilderness area under the Wilderness Act of 1964.

It is not our intention to object to the Wilderness designation in principle. However, there are certain aspects of it which we feel could be unnecessarily restrictive against particular activities that in themselves would not, in our opinion, thwart the overall objectives of the wilderness plan.

The activities we are speaking of are scientific geological studies and field surveys similar to those which our company has conducted in past years within the Katmai and Glacier Bay National Monuments. The purpose of such studies is threefold:

1. To collect a limited number of small rock samples within the area from locations reviewed and approved in advance by the government agency having jurisdiction,
2. To observe visually and photographically the general relations of the various rock units, and
3. To describe in detail the individual rock characteristics.

The rock samples are collected for analysis of petrographic, paleontological, magnetic, density, radiometric age and other physical properties.

Operations in recent years have been conducted with the use of small helicopters carrying a pilot, a geologist and his assistant. With the increased range of modern helicopters, a field party can obtain lodging and fuel supplies outside restricted areas. Usually only a few days are required to complete a summer field program within a given area. The average rock

sample is 2 x 3 inches in size, and in the past, duplicate rock samples and reports have been furnished on request to the National Park Service when we have done this type of work within the National Monuments.

Helicopters have little or no effect on the landing sites and our personnel involved in the programs have continued to make every effort to adhere strictly to proper conservation practices.

The geologic details of Unimak Island have not been mapped; therefore, geologic field research studies, as outlined above, would be of significant value in projection of data into the regional geologic framework.

It would not be the purpose of our scientific field trips to promote any form of oil, gas or mineral development in the wilderness area. Oil and gas leasing in itself is not permitted within such areas. We sincerely believe that the activities of such geological field parties do not cause harm to the environment or disturb wilderness values in any visible way. There is, in fact, no great difference between the effect of a geological field party and a party of sightseers or backpackers which would have the wilderness area available to them under the proposed plan.

For the reasons above, and because of the importance of the research, we submit that the master plan for the Unimak Island Wilderness Area should allow such geological work to be conducted and should permit access to the area for such purposes. A permit type of entry, under which each application could be considered individually on its merits by the Fish and Wildlife Service, would be satisfactory.

We would be willing to cooperate in all reasonable ways to ensure that any of our operations would be conducted compatibly with the wilderness philosophy.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. W. Armstrong". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "R. W. Armstrong".

Wildlife Society, Humboldt Chapter  
Humboldt State College  
Arcata, California 95521

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

January 18, 1972

JAN 20 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Gordon W. Watson  
Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Mr. Watson:

We urge the inclusion of Unimak Island in the National Wilderness Preservation System. We feel that the preservation of such areas is essential and that they will become increasingly more vital as population pressures and improvements in transportation continually increase.

Unimak Island is a very important staging area for migrant waterfowl. It also offers important opportunities for scientific study of wildlife under wilderness and island conditions. For all these reasons we strongly urge the inclusion of a major part of Unimak Island within the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Sincerely,

WILDLIFE SOCIETY, HUMBOLDT CHAPTER  
COMMITTEE FOR PUBLIC STATEMENTS

*Thomas Blankinship*  
Thomas Blankinship, chairman

TB/gb

FEB 1 1972



Before  
Hearing

SECTION XV: COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS

INDEX

PART A: LETTERS RECEIVED PRIOR TO HEARING

Aldinger, Shirley; Box 1601; Vail, Colorado 81657

Barry, John E.; P. O. Box 566; La Grande, Oregon 97850

Boardman, Walter S.; 3001 Veazey Terrace, N.W.; Apt. 1420;  
Washington, D. C. 20008

Brownell, Susan C.; Box 512; Eldora, Colorado 80437

Brownfield, Alice T.; 4858 T St.; Sacramento, California 95819

Bubenik, A.; 15 Tangreen Court, Suite 1802; Willowdale, Ontario,  
Canada

Burnett, Doc H.; 714 LaPablona, N.W.; Albuquerque, New  
Mexico 87107

Christen, Virginia and David; C-6 Base Trailer Court; Eielson AFB;  
Alaska 99702

Ciak, Josephine Erickson; 405-G Ridge Road, North Arlington,  
New Jersey 07032

Clark, Irving M., Jr.; 209 College Club Building; Seattle,  
Washington 98104

Collins, Bradley; 713-A Summit Avenue East; Seattle, Washington 98102

Coolidge, D. J.; P. O. Box 2006; Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Coston, Dr. and Mrs. Charles; 301 S. Eastbourne; Tucson,  
Arizona 85716

Davenport, Glenn H.; Box 127; Cold Bay, Alaska 99571

Degener, Dr. Otto; P. O. Box 154; Volcano, Hawaii 96875

De Vegh, Hanna; 2700 Wisconsin Avenue, NW; Washington, D. C. 20007

Dornfeld, Eric G.; Rt. 1; Coleharbor, North Dakota 58531

Elmer, Arthur; 641 Oakwood Dr.; East Lansing, Michigan 48823

Emerson, William S.; 22 Thoreau Road; Lexington, Mass. 02173

Erdman, Dr. Kimball S.; Department of Biology; Slippery Rock  
State College; Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania 16057

Gilbert, Dr. Wyatt G.; Department of Geology; College of Earth  
Sciences and Mineral Industry; University of Alaska;  
College, Alaska 99701

Gilliland, J. Richard; 2211 NW 58th Terrace, Gainesville,  
Florida 32601

Goodman, Stephan B.; 650 S. Corona St.; Denver, Colorado 80212

Gregg, Jeff; 2884 Anza Lane; Costa Mesa, California

Harvey, Elinor B., MD; Box 1427; Juneau, Alaska 99801

Hilchey, Herbert C.; 2557 Eucalyptus; Long Beach, California 90806

Hunter, J. A. "Jim"; 330 Barnette; Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Hutson, W. R.; 2425 Captain Cook Drive; Anchorage, Alaska 99503

Igelman, Jon M.; 21-346A Orange Avenue; APO Seattle 98742

Johannsen, Neil C. and Elizabeth A.; 2610B Lee Street;  
Anchorage, Alaska 99504

Kelly, George W.; McElmo Route; Cortez, Colorado 81321

Koch, Libby and Steve; Box 373; Soldotna, Alaska 99669

Krefetz, Elliott; 106 Shawmut St.; Chelsea, Mass. 02150

Leopold, A. Starker; School of Forestry and Conservation;  
University of California; Berkeley, California 94720

Lindroth, Eric; 2133-C Via Puerta; Laguna Hills, California 92653

Lukens, Paul W., Jr.; Department of Biology, Wisconsin State  
University, Superior, Wisconsin 54880

Luthman, Vernon A.; Box 4-1118; Anchorage, Alaska 99509



Mackorijak, James R.; Box 59; Soldotna, Alaska 99669

Maguire, Bob; Allakaket, Alaska 99720

Martin, Robert H., Jr.; P. O. Box 382; Valley Springs,  
California 95252

Matthews, Warren W., Jr.; Loussac-Sogn Building, Suite 201;  
429 D Street; Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Miller, Mrs. Ernest; Elkhorn Ranch; Sasabe Star Route;  
Tucson, Arizona 85700

Montgomery, Stephen Jon; 706 Fresca Court; Solana Beach,  
California 92075

Mueller, Robert F.; 7004 Dolphin Road, Lenham, Maryland 20801

Munch, Neal and Elsie; 6 Barkalow Avenue; Freehold, N. J. 07728

Munchheimer, K. H.; 405 Wildwood Avenue; Rio Dell, California

McCartney, Allen P.; Department of Anthropology; University of  
Arkansas; College of Arts and Sciences; Fayetteville,  
Arkansas 72701

Nelson, David T.; 215 High Street; Dechorah, Iowa 52101

Paige, Amy W.; Box 81142; College, Alaska 99701

Pollard, George R.; Kenai Guide Service; Kasilof, Alaska 99610

Post, Roger A.; Department of Forest Zoology; College of  
Forestry; State University of New York; Syracuse,  
New York 13210

Price, Betty, MD; 680 Douglas Highway; Juneau, Alaska 99801

Puchtler, Catherine; 1120 Kodiak Street; Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Reinhart, Ralph, Sr.; 1745 Stine Rd.; Peninsula, Ohio 44624

Reuter, Mr. and Mrs. Frank; 852 D Yak Estates, Fairbanks,  
Alaska 99701

Rife, Elaine M. and Richard N.; 842 Dogwood Street; Anchorage,  
Alaska 99501

Roberts, Walker; Box 261; East Lansing, Michigan 48823

Schrier, William; Box 1051; Soldotna, Alaska 99669

Selinger, Rabbi Max; 314 Summit Avenue; Kinston, North  
Carolina 28501

Shaw, Oren V.; 1929 Wood Avenue; Colorado Springs, Colorado

Smoker, William W.; 1501 26th St. NW; Washington, D. C. 20007

Snarski, David J.; Shuros Drive; Farmer's Loop Road; Fairbanks,  
Alaska 99701

Spear, Murray deCamp; 711 Valley Road; Mahwah, New Jersey 07430

Stivers, William A., Jr.; 4107 North Star Street; Spenard,  
Alaska 99503

Stokes, Allen W.; 1722 Saddle Hill Drive; Logan, Utah 84321

Stonorov, Tina; 1502 Second Avenue; Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Swift, Robert W.; 330 Carey Hills Drive; Reno, Nevada 89502

Taylor, Lawrence J.; 4679 William St.; Omaha, Nebraska 68106

Tubbs, Dale P.; 1234 W. Hillcrest Dr.; Anchorage, Alaska 99503

Wantulok, John J.; 945 E. 21st St.; Casper, Wyoming 82602

Weimar, Leonard C.; Box 916; Seward, Alaska 99664

Winkler, Ida Lee; 509 Gardner St.; Raleigh, North Carolina

Zen, E-an; 1400 North 12th Street; Arlington, Virginia 22209

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 13 1971

Refuge Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

S. Aldinger  
Box 1601  
Vail, Colorado  
81657

#60

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and  
Wildlife  
69117 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502  
Dear Sir,

I wish to go on record  
in support of the Bureau's  
proposal for Animak Island, to  
be included in the Wilderness  
System. Also included in this  
wilderness area are the  
recommendations of Alaska  
conservationists:

1. a more recognizable wilderness  
boundary could be placed along the  
road system
  2. amend the established Aleutian  
Island National Wildlife Refuge to  
eliminate the clause "The  
establishment of this reservation  
shall not interfere with the use  
of the islands for lighthouse, military,  
or naval purposes." Thus assuring  
that Animak Island and the wilderness  
will not be subjected to military  
intrusion in the future.
- Sincerely, Shirley Aldinger

DEC 27 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 10 1971

Refuge Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

P.O. Box 566

La Grande, Oregon 97850

3 December 1971

Alaska Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir,

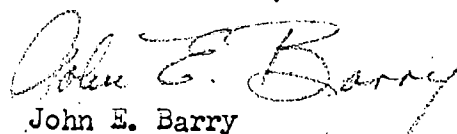
Please make this letter part of the hearing record of the Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal.

I strongly support the inclusion of Unimak Island in the Wilderness System in order that it be preserved in its natural state for the pleasure and edification of our children and their children. What little remains on earth of nature's work untouched by man must be set aside so that our destructive generation will not deprive our progeny of joys found in nature by generations past.

We must also refrain from destroying any more habitat of those wild and free animals who have every right to continue on earth both for their own sake and that of humankind to come.

Unimak preserved means salvation for all animals--including the human.

Yours in nature,

  
John E. Barry

DEC 16 1971

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

NOV 29 1971

WALTER S. BOARDMAN  
3001 VEAZEY TERRACE, N. W., APT. 1420  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20008

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

November 23, 1971

Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502


Mr. Director:

The Wilderness Proposal of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife for Unimak Island is before me.

At a time when so many unfortunate things are happening in Alaska, it is most encouraging to find the Bureau presenting such a sound proposal for the protection of a very important wilderness area. I am glad to note that lands open for development are concentrated and leave the major part of the Island easy to defend from intrusion of exploitation .

It is hoped that your proposal may be widely supported and that the area you have recommended will be placed under the Wilderness Protective System before it is too late.

Sincerely yours,



Walter S. Boardman  
Consultant on Conservation

Note: Please make this letter a part of the record of the Hearing.

W.S.B.

DEC 8 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 16 1971

Biological Division — Anchorage, AK  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Box 512 #70  
Eldora Colorado  
80437

Dec 12, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I am in strong support of the  
Conservationists proposal to include  
all of Unimak Island in the proposed  
Wilderness Area, and to amend the  
clause which would allow the area to  
be used for military purposes. This  
clause seems to me to endanger the  
whole island with future intrusion,  
and does not seem necessary.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Susan C. Brownell

DEC 27 1971

1958 T St. #20  
Sacramento, Calif. 95819  
Nov. 26, 1971

Mr. Gordon W. Watson  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Re: Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal

Dear Sir,

Thank you for the booklet describing the Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal. It appears to me to be good. I hope that you will be able to negotiate a lease with the State of Alaska for the tidelands.

My only unease concerns the public's permission to land aircraft on some of the lagoons. I assume that pressure from aircraft and motor-boats is now minimal and that regulations in this are a matter of administrative decision. Thus if future traffic became too heavy regulations could be changed. It would seem unwise to make unlimited motorized public access a permanent provision of the Unimak Island Wilderness.

Of course motorized access by admin-

istrative personnel is necessary and  
desireable.

I hope that the proposal, as it is,  
will be adopted.

I've been to Alaska but, unfortunately,  
not to Unimak Island.

Thanks again.

Sincerely,  
Alice Brownfield  
(Mrs. Allen H. Brownfield)

Alice Brownfield  
4858 T St  
Sacramento, Calif 95819

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 2 1971

Bering Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

DEC 8 1971



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 9 1971

15 Tangreen Court,  
Suite 1802,  
WILLOWDALE, Ontario.

November 25, 1971.

Biological Division -- Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

United States Dept. of the Interior,  
Fish & Wildlife Service,  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife,  
6917 Seeward Highway,  
ANCHORAGE, Alaska 99502.

re: Unimak Island - Wilderness Proposal

Dear Sirs:

With regard to the description of Unimak Island in the brochure enclosed with your letter, I am

- (1) for including the whole area of approximately 965,042 acres of wilderness in the National Wilderness Preservation System
- (2) for forbidding any hunting by sportsmen
- (3) for prohibiting any technical developments from occurring which could jeopardize the wilderness status.
- (4) for scheduled regulation of all types of tourism, restricting it only to distinct areas.

In support of this suggestion may I present the following arguments, accompanied by several other suggestions concerning the management of the recreational and scientific pursuits.

According to your description, Unimak Island is one of the few nearly complete and self-regulating island ecosystems of the world, and maybe of boreal regions as well. Therefore, it will be necessary to maintain and study this ecosystem in all its details and relations, and use this knowledge in wildlife management regulations. As a great ecological laboratory it should not be negatively influenced by man using it for recreational purposes of all kind, without mentioning how disastrous hunting could be if it is non-manipulated and aimed on trophies. Therefore, any hunt must be prohibited to avoid negative influences on wildlife and environment, resulting from man's activity and encounters between man and

.... /2

DEC 27 1971

United States Dept. of the Interior,  
Anchorage, Alaska.

-2-

Nov. 25, 1971.

animals, it would be necessary to open only certain areas for any kind of tourism. For this area a schedule of recycling must be worked out. The timing for visits to the different areas must be fixed to avoid disturbance of breeding and mating places. Through the cycling schedule for the regions opened for visitors, which may have a 5-15-year rotation, the depletion of camping sites and partial domestication of animals around these ranges should be prevented.

To prevent man from influencing the balance of this ecosystem to one side or the other, strict ecological surveillance, including social-physiological control, should be built up and constantly maintained for the first 10-15 years.

The IUCN and WWF should be interested in this area and give their support to including it in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'A. Bubenik', with a stylized flourish at the end.

A. Bubenik,  
Research Scientist.

AB:AW

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 14 1971

Relays Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#62  
714 LaPablona, N.W.  
Albuquerque, New Mexico  
87107  
December 9, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport and Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

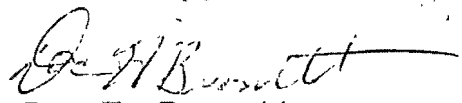
Dear Sir:

I wish to go on the Wilderness Record as being in  
favor of the Unimak Wilderness Proposal.

I feel that this area should be set aside so as to  
preserve the islands ecological values as well as the  
aesthetic values that it holds.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

  
Doc H. Burnett

DEC 27 1971

RECEIVED

DEC 16 1971

C-6 Base Trailer Court  
Etelson A.F.B., Alaska 99702  
December 8, 1971

Designated — Anchorage, AK  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

General Superintendent  
National Park Service Alaska Group  
Room 376, Federal Building  
605 West Fourth Avenue  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

*Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502*

Dear Sir,

Not all Alaskans can be persuaded to support the arguments presented by those who oppose the addition of the Katmai and Glacier Bay National Monuments and Unimak Island to the National Wilderness System. Opponents charge that wilderness classification of these lands is another land withdrawal, but these National Park Service lands and Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife lands in Alaska are already under Federal ownership and management, and are already closed to commercial exploitation. Wilderness classification will not keep man out; access to these areas is good.

We strongly support the main recommendations of the National Park Service and the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife regarding these areas. We also join with Alaskan conservationists in support of the following:

For Glacier Bay and Katmai National Monuments:

Elimination of the 1/8 mile management zone, and the inclusion of this area in the wilderness proposals of both monuments; the installation of shelters necessary only for visitor safety and administrative needs; elimination of the proposed development of a 10-acre site at Katmai Monument, and the inclusion of this site in the wilderness area.

For Unimak Island:

Place the wilderness boundary along the road system; assure that Unimak Island and the wilderness will not be subjected to military intrusion in the future.

We urge support of these proposals which would ensure that these areas, among the last frontiers of conservation opportunity left on earth, be kept as magnificent to future generations as they are today.

Sincerely,

*Virginia Christen*

*David A. Christen*

Virginia and David Christen

copies to:

Gov. Egan  
Sen. Stevens  
Sen. Gravel  
Cong. Begich

DEC 27 1973

#47  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 10 1971

Refuge Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

405-G Ridge Road  
North Arlington, New Jersey 07032  
December 8, 1971

Alaska Area Director                      Re: UNIMAK ISLAND  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I would like to give my support to the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife Proposal that this great island be included in the Wilderness Preservation System. In addition, however, I believe in the conservationists' recommendations that:

- 1) The Western tip of the Island be included in the Wilderness. The Wilderness border could be placed along the road system.
- 2) I also would hope that the Secretary of the Interior amend the order that "the establishment of this reservation shall not interfere with the use of the islands for lighthouse, military, or naval purposes." This would assure that Unimak Island and the Wilderness will not be subjected to military intrusion in the future.

Please include my statement in the Official Hearing Record and acknowledge same. Many thanks for your attention to this request.

All best wishes to you in your work, in this Holiday Season, and the New Year ahead.

Sincerely,

*Josephine E. Ciak*

(Mrs. H.) Josephine Erickson Ciak

DEC 16 1971

#45  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

IRVING M. CLARK JR.  
209 COLLEGE CLUB BUILDING  
SEATTLE 98104

DEC 10 1971

Resource Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

December 8, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and  
Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

re: Unimak Island

Dear Sir:

Like a lot of outdoors people and conservationists, I'm delighted with the Bureau's proposal for a wilderness at Unimak Island. And I can certainly understand why you want a reservation clause which would protect the use of that area or those areas necessary for a lighthouse or other aid to navigation purposes. But I cannot believe that you need to put a similar clause in with respect to military use. We should be getting the bloody military out of the Aleutians, and any provision in the statute which refers to military or naval use is no more than encouragement to the Department of Defense to keep up the Mickey Mouse activity they've had up there.

Congratulations again on the breadth and imagination of your proposal.

Sincerely,

*Irving M. Clark Jr.*  
Irving M. Clark, Jr.

IMC/py

cc: Hon. Henry M. Jackson  
Hon. Warren G. Magnuson

DEC 16 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 16 1971

Regulatory Division -- Anchorage, AK  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#74  
Brad Collins  
713-A Summit Ave East  
Seattle, Wash. 98102  
December 13, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I am writing in support of maintaining  
the Unimak Island National Wildlife Refuge as  
a wilderness area that is as wild as it  
is today.

Sincerely,

Bradley Collins

DEC 27 1971





DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

NOV 30 1971

Relays Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#21  
D. J. COOLIDGE  
ARCHITECT A.I.A.

KALOA BLDG. 1675 "C" ST.  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501  
TELEPHONE (907) ~~276-8200~~  
277-5585

NOV. 28, 1971

ALASKA AREA DIRECTOR  
BUREAU OF SPORT FISHERIES & WILDLIFE  
6917 SEWARD HIGHWAY.  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99502

Dear Sir:

I am writing as a concerned Alaskan to urge that the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge on Unimak Island be established as a Wilderness Area as presently proposed.

Let us not delay doing this — delay is death to Wilderness Preservation. Alaska, even though it is enormous in size, is being exploited and marred by man at a frightening rate. When I "homesteaded" on the Kenai peninsula in 1953, it was a peaceful and almost untouched wild area. Now it is slashed and criss-crossed with the ugly scars of bulldozed oil exploration trails, scattered with trash, oil drums and other debris, and traversed by the noisy, stenchy snowmobiles, tractors, "weasels," etc. Time is running out on the idea of trying to keep some precious areas of this Great Land wild and free so that all future generations can also enjoy them.

Gov. Egan and his administration do not speak for me when they ask for delay and "planning." It is almost too late now. Establish Unimak Island as Wilderness now.

Very sincerely yours,

D. J. Coolidge

MAILING ADDRESS:  
D. J. COOLIDGE  
P.O. Box 2006  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

DEC 8 1971

DEC 14 1971

Biological Resources — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Dr. and Mrs Charles Coston  
301 S. Eastbourne  
Tucson, Arizona 85716  
December 9, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir;

Please include this letter in the hearing record for Unimak Island. We wish to support your fine proposal giving wilderness status to most of Unimak Island. Since section lines are hard to identify on the ground, a boundary along the road might be better. Since we feel the first use of this area should be as wildlife refuge and wilderness we believe steps should be taken to be sure the island doesn't come under the control of the military. Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Dr. Charles Coston*

*Joan Coston*

Dr. and Mrs Charles Coston

DEC 27 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 16 1971

December 13, 1971

Bridge Division -- Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

U.S. Bureau of Sport  
Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Gentlemen:

This is to comment on the Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal. I am reasonably well acquainted with Unimak Island, having worked with fisheries in the area over the past twelve years and having covered much of the island in light aircraft.

My basic position in regard to wilderness areas is that they should benefit people, and that people being able to personally enjoy such areas will support and protect them rather than attack them as public lands reserved only for privileged persons and groups. To exert our efforts and create a wilderness area just for the sake of having a closed-off wilderness is a waste.

A reasonable degree of access to wilderness areas must be allowed if people other than just the privileged are to enjoy the wilderness. Of a cross section of the people whom would want to enjoy a wilderness area, certainly only a small portion would have both the time and physical ability to travel but a short distance either afoot, on horseback, or by canoe. Consider that the cross section includes clerks and laborers with their wives and children, and people who have retired as well as avid outdoorsmen, biologists, and representatives of conservation groups. Unimak Island is presently isolated, but each summer we see sizeable numbers of tourists passing through Cold Bay enroute to the Pribilof Islands. Many of these people would enjoy visiting parts of Unimak Island, if it were reasonably accessible, but few could endure the rigors of traveling on the island more than a short distance under their own power so-to-speak.

I do not propose that wilderness areas should be managed like a picnic ground, but to use the rationale of "expected abuse" to exclude essentially all the people is not responsible management. An area can be used without being abused. It requires more effort and acceptance of responsibility by everyone concerned.

In the case of Unimak Island the only practical means of access to a major portion of the island is by means of light aircraft, either on floats or wheels. Float aircraft are not particularly practical in this area, and are significantly more expensive to

operate than wheeled aircraft. Of the approximately fifteen light aircraft privately owned or available for hire on the lower Alaska Peninsula only one is equipped for water landings. An occasional hunter flies a float plane to Unimak Island, but essentially people whom wish to visit the island would find it near impossible to charter a float plane to take them there. They could, however, readily charter a light wheeled aircraft to take them.

The beaches below mean-high tide are not safe at all times for light wheeled aircraft. Aside from tidal considerations the beaches periodically become scalloped by wave action, and strong cross-winds commonly make them hazardous for landings and take-offs. There are, however, widely scattered river bars, cinder fields, and lake beaches where light wheeled aircraft can more frequently land safely. If these are all closed to landings by wheeled aircraft then the people are essentially excluded from visiting and enjoying Unimak Island. Though there are airstrips at False Pass, Cape Sarichef, and Scotch Cap where wheeled aircraft may safely land, from these three established landing fields the intervening 60 miles of the island would be attainable only by ground travel.

I request that, if Unimak Island is to be designated as a wilderness area, a few suitable areas on the island be designated for landings by wheeled aircraft so as to enable access to the wilderness by the public.

Few areas on Unimak Island may be safely approached by boat. The dominant strong northwesterly and southeasterly winds make the open beaches and even some sheltered bays along the Pacific Ocean and Bering Sea shores of the island patently unsafe for landing by any boats. Just this past November a large and modern crab vessel (M/V LYNDIA) was beached during a storm at Cape Lapin near Urilia Bay. In 1970, at least two salmon fishing vessels were beached (one was destroyed) during a storm at East Anchor Cove on the Ikatan Peninsula. About 1969, a salmon fisherman drowned and his skiff was lost while negotiating the entrance to Swanson Lagoon. Other vessels lost in the past decade include the large and modern crab vessel Teejin near Cape Lazaref, the crab vessel Shelikof near Cape Lutke, and the crab vessel North Sea with three or four men near Cape Sarichef. For all intents and purposes the only portions of the island normally attainable by boat are sheltered shores around Bechevin Bay, the Ikatan Peninsula, and Otter Cove (about 30 miles of coast on the east side of the island) and within the streams exiting from Swanson Lagoon and Christianson Lagoon on the Bering Sea coast. As I read the proposal, power boats would not be permitted to enter the streams exiting from these two lagoons.

Additional to the foregoing there are important considerations that appear to have been overlooked in this wilderness proposal. To characterize generally they entail commercial fishing, transportation and navigation, homesites, and a hunting camp.

Commercial fishing is allowed by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and is normally conducted within the stream exiting from Christianson Lagoon and within Swanson Lagoon. This situation exists because the ocean waters in these areas are dangerous even to experienced commercial fishermen. I believe the tidal zone encompasses the waters fished at Christianson Lagoon, but am not sure the tidal zone encompasses the waters normally fished in Swanson Lagoon. If not, then commercial fishing in Swanson Lagoon would be effectively prohibited by the proposal. Again, if Unimak is to be designated a wilderness area then provision should be made to continue allowing commercial fishing by power boats in these waters.

The U. S. Coast Guard has established a navigation marker on Chunak Point on the northeast corner of Unimak Island. This marker is of paramount importance to the many vessels negotiating the dangerous and shallow passage between the Bering Sea and Bechevin Bay. The low terrain in this area makes it difficult at best to get radar bearings for navigation purposes. I expect the sand bottom coupled with tides and waves negates the feasibility of using buoys for navigation aids. Provision should be made for the installation of any facilities the Coast Guard or any other government agency deems necessary for the safety and welfare of the public.

Both commercial airlines and chartered aircraft regularly fly a corridor over Unimak Island, essentially extending from St. Catherine Cove to Cape Sarichef. These aircraft commonly must fly at elevations down to 500 feet to clear the prevalent overcast. To require them to fly outside the perimeter of the island or above 2000 feet such as is proposed in the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge Management Guidelines would force the aircraft operators to reduce their flights between Cold Bay and communities south-westward in the Aleutians and/or force them to travel greater distances over the sea. Flying offshore around Cape Mordvinof and the Tugamak Range on Unimak Island in poor weather is dangerous, and in my opinion not worth the cost to wilderness of some aircraft noise. Provision should be made for the continued normal operation of aircraft over the island, and as stated earlier for aircraft to land in designated areas on the island.

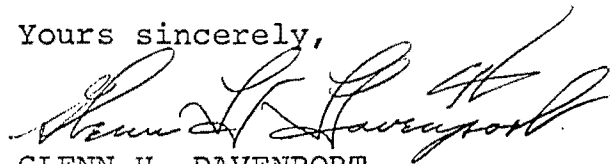
To my knowledge there are two occupied homesites on Unimak Island between Whirl Point and the False Pass cannery; also I believe there are one or two homes between Ikatan Strait and Ikatan village which possibly are used periodically. These homesites appear to be included in refuge lands designated for wilderness. Additionally there is at least one hunting or trapping cabin on the island which has existed there for a decade

or longer, and appears to be maintained and used seasonally. This cabin is located on the river running from Whaleback Mountain to Urilia Bay. It is not clear that the wilderness proposal takes into consideration these homes and cabin, but certainly the owners should be contacted and their rights protected.

To reiterate, gentlemen, I believe and propose that wilderness areas should benefit people, not merely exclude them.

Thank you for your attention to these comments.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Glenn H. Davenport", written in a cursive style.

GLENN H. DAVENPORT  
Box 127  
Cold Bay, Alaska 99571

DEC 27 1971

RECEIVED  
DIRECTOR OF THE NAVY



Dr. Otto & Isa Degener  
P. O. Box 154  
Volcano, Hawaii 96785  
U. S. A.

#17

NOV 29 1971

Nov. 20, 1971.

Science Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Director Gordon W. Watson,  
Fish & Wildlife Service,  
6917 Seward Highway,  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502.

Dear Mr. Watson:

Even without some of the Mainland threatened with exploitation, the inclusion of Unimak Island in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, to me, would be an act of considerable wisdom:

1. Unimak was one of the main steppingstones for the emigration of man from Asia to America to evolve into the American Indian. Unstudied sites have a good chance of solving many archaeological puzzles. To open Unimak to exploitation would destroy many of them.
2. Others have given strong reasons why ANIMAL wildlife deserves protection in a National Wildlife Refuge.
3. Equally strong reasons why the BOTANICAL wildlife deserves protection is curiously forgotten even though the Scandinavian botanist Dr. Hulten has widely published about the unique flora of the general area.

I believe it high time that Unimak be made a National Wildlife Refuge.

Aloha,

Naturalist, Hawaii National Park, 1929  
Author, Plants Haw. Nat. Park, Flora Haw., etc.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

#30  
2700 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C.  
20007

DEC 6 1971

December 3, 1971

Refuge Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Subject:  
Inclusion of Aleutian Islands  
Nat. Wildlife Refuge in the  
Nat. Wilderness System.

Dear Sir,

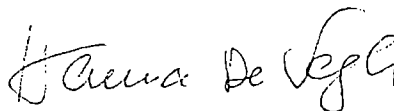
I strongly support the Bureau's excellent proposal concerning the inclusion in the Nat. Wilderness System of the Aleutian Islands Nat. Wildlife Refuge.

I propose also that the western tip of the Unimak Island be included in the wilderness proposal.

I wish to urge the Secretary of Interior to take action to assure that Unimak Island and the wilderness will not be used for military purposes in the future.

Please include my statement in the Hearing Record. An acknowledgement of this letter would be much appreciated.

Yours very truly,



(Miss) Hanna De Vegh  
Member, The Wilderness Society  
Audubon Naturalist Society  
Capital Hiking Club

DEC 9 1971



NOTE: TESTIMONY ON UNIMAK WILDERNESS PROPOSAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 6 1971

Refuge Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Eric G. Dornfeld  
Rt 1  
Coleharbor, ND 58531  
12/1/71

Mr. Gordon Watson, Area Director  
BSFW  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Mr. Watson:

Unimak Islands outstanding physical features and vast cultural values are a priceless heritage. This beautiful island deserves official wilderness designation to protect the assets that will become more important to future generations and simultaneously will be subject to increased pressure of encroachment as the U.S. population doubles in thirty years.

We are fortunate to have the opportunity to discuss the fate of Unimak before demands for economic exploitation become insurmountable. It is my hope that an informed citizenry will demand full protection of Unimaks irreplaceable social values under the Wilderness Act. In addition, it appears essential to negotiate with the State of Alaska for protection of the islands tide lands.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important wilderness proposal.

Respectfully:

*Eric G. Dornfeld*  
Eric G. Dornfeld

DEC 9 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

#50

DEC 9 1971

Bridge Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

641 Oakwood Dr  
E Lansing Mich 4882

12-2-71

Mr Gordon Watson  
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Mr Watson:-

Re Wilderness  
Proposal Unimak Isl Aleutian Islands  
National Wildlife Refuge

Unfortunately I did  
not have an opportunity to visit the  
Aleutians during my tenure as  
Asst Chief, Div Refuges 1935-1945  
but surely if there still are  
wilderness areas in these United States  
this is one and I highly  
recommend its inclusion in the  
Nat'l Wilderness Preservation

System

Hopefully the Congress will  
act favorably on the proposal

Sincerely

Arthur Elmer

Arthur Elmer

DEC 27 1971

DEC 2 1971

WILLIAM S. EMERSON  
22 THOREAU ROAD  
LEXINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02173

#25

Range Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

November 28, 1971

Mr. Gordon W. Watson  
Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
U. S. Dept. of the Interior  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Mr. Watson:

This letter is to heartily endorse the inclusion of almost all of Unimak Island in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Two summers ago Mrs. Emerson and I spent some time at Cold Bay. We were terribly distressed to see the wreckage of the immediate area provided by the military installations of World War II. It will be at least 100 years before this fragile land may begin to look normal.

Here in the "lower 48" land recovery can be reasonably rapid. In Alaska it is dreadfully slow. That is why I urge the inclusion of Unimak in the National Wilderness

WILLIAM S. EMERSON  
22 THOREAU ROAD  
LEXINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02173

2.

## Preservation System.

Your proposal appears eminently sound. The area on Unimak excluded as wilderness is just about a minimal base camp and staging area for hunters, fishermen and other wilderness lovers. Within its present bounds, the excluded area should not interfere with the Unimak wilderness.

I heartily endorse your proposition and urge its immediate adoption.

Sincerely yours,

William S. Emerson

DEC 9 1971

slippery rock state college

#24



DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

29 Nov. 1971

DEC 2 1971

Refuge Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Gordon W. Watson  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Mr. Watson:

Would you please include the following statement in the hearing record on the wilderness proposal for Unimak Island in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge.

Designation of land as wilderness is essential not just in view of our present and future recreational needs but also more importantly to ensure preservation of wild and natural landscape. It is through such legislation and protection that representative biotic communities and ecosystems will be preserved. I therefore strongly support the establishment of the Unimak Island Wilderness.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kimball S. Erdman".

Dr. Kimball S. Erdman  
Professor of Biology

slippery rock, pennsylvania 16057

DEC 9 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 10 1971

Biological Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE



UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA  
COLLEGE, ALASKA

99701

December 8, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries  
and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I strongly support the establishment of a Unimak Island Wilderness. This area, with its low mineral potential and high scenic and wildlife values, is ideally suited for wilderness classification. I also hope that the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife will prohibit access by air to points within the wilderness.

Please include this statement in the hearing record.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Wyatt G. Gilbert".

Dr. Wyatt G. Gilbert  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Geology

WGG/jd

DEC 16 1971

2211 NW 58th Terrace  
Gainesville, Florida 32601

December 4, 1971

63  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 14 1971

Resource Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I wish to go on record as strongly encouraging the inclusion of Unimak Island in the National Wilderness Preservation System. The Bureau proposal is excellent; two additional points would make that proposal even stronger:

1. The western tip of the island should have the area delineated along the road system rather than along section boundaries,

2. The order establishing Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge should be amended in order to avoid military intrusion of the island.

This extremely beautiful and wild island richly deserves the highest level of federal protection allowed by federal law--inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Sincerely yours,

*Richard Gilliland*

J. Richard Gilliland

DEC 27 1971

RECEIVED

Nov. 24, 1971

#14

NOV 29 1971

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Gordon W. Watson  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I favor your proposal to create  
a 965,042 acre wilderness area on  
Unimak Island. Please include this  
statement in the record of the hearings  
held Dec. 14 and 17, 1971.

Sincerely,

Stephen B. Goodman  
650 S. Corono St.  
Denver, Colo. 80210

DEC 8 1971



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 9 1971

#53  
2884 Anza Ln.  
Costa Mesa, Ca.  
Dec. 3, 1971

Islands Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Superintendent  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I am pleased to have the opportunity to submit the following comments for the hearing record on the Unimak Wilderness Proposal.

The lands proposed for wilderness should be so classified.

Wilderness wisely set aside and staunchly guarded is our surest hope for a livable environment with safe standards of landscape and untrammelled life. I believe the Unimak Wilderness Proposal necessary to insure survival in a natural state, the many ecological values of the Aleution Islands.

Unimak Island would be an excellent site for a wilderness area, since practically all of the land is virgin in nature. Another advantage of making this area Wilderness is that it is virtually void of mineral resources, and of other commodities valued by man.

I urge forthright and immediate enactment of this legislation. I personally feel that this bill is the type of legislation that is needed to protect the wildlife and natural beauty of this nation.

Please include the foregoing comments in the hearing record.

Sincerely

*Jeff Gregg*

Jeff Gregg

DEC 27 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 7 1971

Include in file - Anchorage Al.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

ELINOR B. HARVEY, M.D.

BOX 1427

JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801

586-6250

December 3, 1971

CMM

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

Please include this letter in the hearings in reference to Unimak Island as part of the official record. I wholeheartedly support the establishment of a National Wildlife Refuge in Unimak Island.

My two recommendations are as follows:

1. Could not the lighthouse and communications system be placed along the road system, so that the wilderness area could extend to the road. This gives a small but important additional area to the wilderness, and marks the boundary more clearly.
2. I can see no need to include the military, lighthouse or naval purposes on the island. Please eliminate this clause. Certainly there is room for military and naval installations in other areas than in a wildlife refuge.

Many thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

*Elinor B. Harvey, M.D.*

Elinor B. Harvey, M.D.

EBH:sm

DEC 13 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 7 1971

Wildlife Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

COMMERCIAL ARTIST  
HERBERT C. HILCHEY B.A.  
2557 EUCALYPTUS  
LONG BEACH 90806  
426-4651

#39

Casus

December 4, 1971

Gentlemen

I am much in favor of the Wilderness Proposal  
for Unimak Island.

Respectfully

Herbert

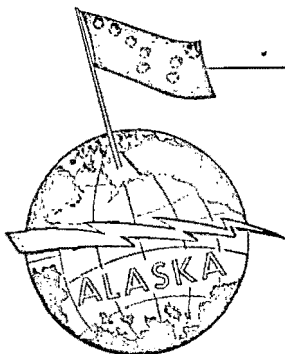
C.

Hilchey

DEC 13 1971

#32

# Alaska Adjusters, Inc.



330 Barnette, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
**RECEIVED** 907-452-1171 24 Hour Phone

DEC 6 1971

Regulatory Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

December 3, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

This letter is in support of the classification of  
Unimak Island into the National Wilderness Preservation  
System.

I am an Alaskan businessman with interests in both  
Fairbanks and Kodiak and desire to be placed on record  
as in favor of this area being classified as a wilderness  
area for perpetuity.

Yours truly,

*Jim Hunter (jrh)*

J.A. "Jim" Hunter  
President  
ALASKA ADJUSTERS, INC.

JAH:jh \_\_\_\_\_

Quality \_\_\_\_\_

DEC 9 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 7 1971

Bridge Division -- Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

2425 Captain Cook Drive  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503  
December 6, 1971

CHM

Mr. Gordon W. Watson, Area Director  
United States Department of the Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Mr. Watson:

In response to the mail-out concerning Unimak Island wilderness proposal, I wish to submit my views concerning this proposal. In view of the apparent completeness of such a study, I find that one omission concerns me very much. I feel that it would concern all responsible taxpaying citizens. The fact that no mention as to cost of investigation and possible annual costs for this operation are included certainly is of importance to me. If so much time and prior expense has been made in this study, then it is my belief that they should have been made a part of the report.

Please indicate for the record that I am opposed to the establishment of the Unimak Island-Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge. When your organization deems it necessary to give all of the facts concerning such a proposal, then I might consider your offerings.

Respectfully,



W. R. Hutson

djc

DEC 13 1971

#5  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

NOV 23 1971

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

21-346A Orange Avenue  
APO Seattle 98742  
November 20, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage AK 99502

Dear Sir:

I am writing to you to express my feelings about Unimak Island. I would like this letter to be made a part of the record of the upcoming hearings on the National Wildlife Refuge.

Alaska has been my home for only 2½ years, but already I have been a witness to the devastation and destruction which can result from allowing snow-machines, tracked vehicles, automobiles, airplanes, etc., to travel about the Alaskan countryside. This may be our last chance to set aside lands which have not been disturbed by these man-made machines, and I strongly urge the President of the United States to set aside Unimak Island to be included in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,



Jon M. Igelman M.D.

DEC 8 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 16 1971

Resource Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

December 14, 1971

Gordon W. Watson, Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Mr. Watson:

I wish to direct this letter to the official record as testimony on the proposed UNIMAK ISLAND WILDERNESS.

Let me first point out that I possess seven years of university training in the area of outdoor recreation. My background in this field includes experience as a park ranger for the State of California, experience as a recreation master planner with the U.S. Forest Service and I have also worked as a researcher in methods of interpreting natural history for the University of Washington, and have taught college level park management. I am presently an executive in the field of outdoor recreation. My wife is the daughter of a career park ranger and has worked in the area of non-urban recreation also. Both of us have traveled through the major national parks, and game refuges of the world (recently returned from Africa).

With what I call professional qualifications I thus address myself to the Unimak wilderness proposal.

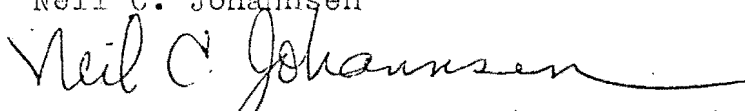
"Wilderness," such as remains Unimak Island, is an American cultural and physical heritage. In the world today, North America remains among the unique land areas for several reasons. It is unique because of the vast untrammelled "islands" of wild places it possesses; it is unique because in relatively scant years our manifest destiny ethic has destroyed all but "islands" of this wilderness. North America is also unique because among few places it possesses the technological power to not only subdue what is wild, but to totally destroy entire biomes. In effect, we are presented with another scarce resource, but it is not a mineral or a fiber, but it is wilderness. Yes, wilderness has become a scarce item. We must realize the importance to our national well being that wilderness plays. Wild places, where man only visits and takes but photos and leaves but footprints is a widely recognized need. Why are so many Alaskans empty to this need: We have got to have those spots of "emptiness" on our maps in order to retain a "fullness" of spirit.

Let us fully endorse the Unimak Island wilderness proposal.  
We believe it to be in the best interests of not just Alaska,  
but America, the world, and who knows. . . it may someday possess  
importance to the very universe.

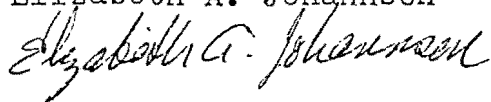
We support with enthusiasm the wonderful plan by your agency.  
Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,

Neil C. Johannsen



Elizabeth A. Johannsen



2610B Zee Street

Anchorage, Alaska 99504

DEC 27 1971



McElmo Rt. Cortez, Colo.

Nov. 22 '71

#13

Area Director,  
Bureau Sport Fisheries & Wildlife.  
6917 Seward Hy.  
Anchorage, Alaska.

Sir,

I appreciate very much the opportunity to express my opinion on the proposal to make most of Unimak Island a Wilderness Area. Will you include this statement in the official hearing record.

It seems to me that this area is an ideal one for wilderness designation. There would be few other values which could compare with its wilderness values and all of its present uses would be preserved for all time by this action.

I would also urge that action be taken to include the adjoining tidelands which are now controlled by the state.

Thank you,

*George W. Kelly*

George & Sue Kelly  
McElmo Route  
Cortez, Colorado 81321

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

NOV 29 1971

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

DEC 8 1971

#9

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

NOV 26 1971

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

November 24, 1971

United States Department of the Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Gentlemen;

We fully support the wilderness proposal dealing with Unimak Island. We believe that Unimak Island deserves this honored designation because it is located in an extremely remote location where abuses would be very difficult to observe by game management officials. With a wilderness designation a stronger force would be available to control such abuses.

Unimak Island is an area rich in scenic beauty and wildlife that must be allowed to evolve to its own destiny without artificial forces affecting it to any significant degree. Because Unimak is an Island perhaps it can be a true wilderness area!

We are school teachers who believe that our natural heritage must be preserved at any cost. We earnestly hope that the 965,042 selected acres of Unimak Island be declared a National Wilderness Area.

Sincerely,

*Libby Koch & Steve Koch*

Libby Koch  
Steve Koch

Box 373  
Soldotna, Alaska 99669

DEC 8 1971

106 SHAWMUT ST. 4713  
CHELSEA, MASS. 02150  
Nov. 19, 1971

Gordon W. Watson  
Area Director  
U.S. Dept. of the Interior  
Fish & Wildlife Service  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

NOV 24 1971

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Sir:

I am in favor of including Unimak Island  
in the National Wilderness Preservation System. Please  
include this statement in the record of the hearing  
to be held on Dec. 14, 1971 in Cold Bay, Alaska.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,  
Elliott Krefetz  
ELLIOTT KREFETZ

DEC 8 1971

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

#23

BERKELEY • DAVIS • IRVINE • LOS ANGELES • RIVERSIDE • SAN DIEGO • SAN FRANCISCO



SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

RECEIVED

BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94720

SCHOOL OF FORESTRY AND CONSERVATION  
WILDLIFE-FISHERIES

DEC 2 1971

November 29, 1971

~~Forest Service - Wildlife Division~~  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I am writing concerning the proposal to establish the bulk of Unimak Island as a part of the National Wilderness Preservation System. I heartily endorse this proposal particularly in the light of the manner in which Amchitka Island of the same chain was converted and turned into a massive testing ground by the AEC of the Department of Defense. Unimak being close to the mainland has a particularly rich flora and fauna and is eminently deserving of wilderness status. I hope that you are successful in having this area dedicated to wilderness.

Sincerely,

A. Starker Leopold

ASL:na

DEC 9 1971

# 22

*(By Handwritten)*  
Nov. 27, 1971

ERIC LINDROTH, M.D.  
MEMBER LOS ANGELES COUNTY MED. ASSOC.  
2133-C VIA PUERTA  
LAGUNA HILLS, CALIF. 92653

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 1 1971

Refuge Division — Anchorage, AL  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

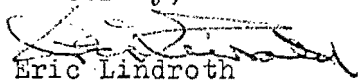
Dear Sir:

I was delighted to learn from your Brochure that the Bureau has recommended that some 965,000 acres of the 998,000 acres Umiak Island, largest in the Aleutian Chain, be included in the National Wilderness System.

This time I feel that the Bureau has really done a perfect job including about the maximum available of true wilderness values in this area of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge. I thank you.

It's just too bad though that a few miles seaward of the marine land was not added to the Wildlife Refuge before the State of Alaska received its allotment. A release or lease from the State should be negotiated as soon as possible - or we might have another Prudhoff Bay pollution problem, right here on Umiak.

Please make this letter a part of the official hearings to be conducted Dec. 14th and 17th in Alaska.

Sincerely,  
  
Eric Lindroth

el/.

DEC 9 1971



WISCONSIN STATE UNIVERSITY

SUPERIOR, WISCONSIN

54880

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

DEC 14 1971

December 8, 1971

Rescue Division -- Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

In Re: Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal

After reading the Bureau of Sport Fishery and Wildlife's Wilderness Proposal for Unimak Island I find myself in full agreement with the need for and the desirability of protecting this magnificent wilderness area. I would like to urge, however, that the several modifications proposed by the Wilderness Society and others for the Unimak Wilderness be incorporated into the final management plan. Specifically:

1. The wilderness boundary on the western end of the island should be the road between the navigation aid at Cape Sarichef and the transportation aid near Scotch Cap - not the section lines.
2. There should be iron clad guarantees against military intrusion into the wilderness area in future years.

Please accept my remarks for the record.

Sincerely,

Paul W. Lukens, Jr.  
Professor of Biology

DEC 27 1971

United States Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

#59

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 13 1971

Dear Director,

Anchorage, Alaska  
Dec. 10, 1971

Refuge Division — Anchorage, AK  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

I strongly support the Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal. And urge that beautiful Unimak Island be added to the National Wilderness Preservation System.

1 However I suggest the wilderness boundary on the western tip of Unimak Island be extended up to the present road system, with the road system itself being the boundary.

2 Executive Order 17033, a part which permits the Aleutian Islands for lighthouses, military or naval purposes, should be amended to exclude this clause or have it apply to specific islands or portions thereof only.

3 Negotiation of a State Tidelands lease out to one-fourth mile or more for a valuable ecological buffer zone around Unimak Island should be carried out with the State of Alaska.

Wilderness is part of our American Heritage. Nearly all of Unimak Island is a pristine wilderness of unique beauty of snow-capped mountains, active volcanoes, living glaciers and expansive tundra supporting a rich variety of wildlife.

Let us keep it a wilderness.

P.S.  
Please enter this letter in the Hearings Record.

Sincerely,  
VERNON A LUTTMAN  
Box 4-1118  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99509

DEC 27 1971

#1

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

NOV 18 1971

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Box 59  
Soldotna, Alaska 99669  
November 16, 1971

United States Department of the Interior  
Fish AND Wildlife Service  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sirs:

I have just finished reading the excellent brochure concerning the Wilderness Proposal for Unimak Island. The proposal seems very reasonable, as ~~access~~ access to the Island is practical and convenient, yet the area will indeed remain in a wilderness condition. As the proposal alluded to, we are indeed in need such areas, and their value will surely increase. Let this letter be considered written testimony that I am all in favor of the proposed Unimak Island Wilderness Area.

Sincerely,  
James R. Mackoyik

DEC 8 1971



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 9 1971

Wildlife Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#49  
Allakaket, Alaska 997  
December 4, 1971

Senator Mike Gravel  
Senator Ted Stevens  
Rep. Nick Begich  
Gov. William Egan  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
National Park Service

Dear Sirs:

On today's mail plane, I received several items concerning the Glacier Bay Nat'l Monument and Katmai National Monument National Park Proposals and the Unimak Island National Wildlife Refuge Proposals. As one who resides in the wilds of Alaska I must write urging your attention and support for these proposals.

I cannot phone you or send you a telegram for these are services not found in the bush country of Alaska and perhaps this is as it should be for those of use here learn to depend on ourselves and our own resources. Nothing can be taken for granted here

and one soon learns to feel a closer tie

with the land and to appreciate its offerings. And until all of us come to be satisfied with the bare basic essentials of a happy existence with the Earth then acts such as mining can serve no logical purpose - why develop mineral resources in an ever losing race of supply when the demands from our population escalate upward and upward? Perhaps more and

more people will soon come to realize that we cannot continue to consume the resources of our mother Earth at our present rates if we wish to survive for any length of time. And when all of us have come to these realizations we will need the wilderness areas, such as Katmai, Glacier Bay, and Unimak Island to turn to for the answers to living as part of the Earth, not controller of all systems.

Thus I urge you to support the upcoming proposals and particularly to oppose the mining provisions currently allowed in Glacier Bay Nat'l Monument. S... 1

Glacier Bay National Monument. Surely we are not so desperate for minerals there that in our greed we would allow destruction of a wilderness?!

I leave you with the powerful statement of an anonymous Indian spokesman:  
The land does not belong to man;  
Man belongs to the land.

Many thanks for hearing my opinions.

P.S. Please include this in the appropriate Hearings Records of the NPS and BSEW

Peace,  
Bob Maguire  
Bob Maguire  
Allakaket, Alaska

99720

DEC 27 1974

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 14 1971

Message Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#65  
P.O. Box 382  
Valley Springs, Calif. 95252  
December 9, 1971

Mr. Gordon W. Watson  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Mr. Watson:

After reading through the Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal, I can come to only one conclusion: the island must be preserved in its primeval condition.

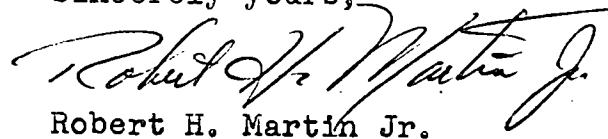
There is no need to explain the necessity for people to visit natural areas; this fact is well understood by most.

Even here in California I may enjoy as a bird watcher some of Unimak's wildlife. The island's fertile shores and lagoons provide life for birds which migrate into this state. I have voluntarily assisted the California Department of Fish and Game in their shorebird banding program and may well have held a Least Sandpiper which walked the beaches of Unimak.

I am a park ranger at a recreation area where all natural features are protected by Federal laws. Although enforcement is the maximum possible, the more than 300,000 motorized visitors each year still wreak havoc upon the vegetation and wildlife.

I wish to go on the official hearing record as being in favor of including Unimak Island in the National Wilderness Preservation System. I am also in favor of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife leasing State tidelands to create a buffer zone around the island.

Sincerely yours,

  
Robert H. Martin Jr.

DEC 27 1971

MATTHEWS, DUNN AND BAILY  
LAWYERS  
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION  
LOUSSAC-SOHN BUILDING, SUITE 201  
429 D STREET  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501

TELEPHONE  
272-2491

WARREN W. MATTHEWS, JR.  
THEODORE RUSS DUNN  
DOUGLAS B. BAILY

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

November 17, 1971

NOV 19 1971

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Re: Unimak Island Wilderness

Dear Sir:

I strongly favor your Unimak Island Wilderness proposal. I would hope that you would limit the use of wheel planes, as well as float planes, to certain designated landing areas.

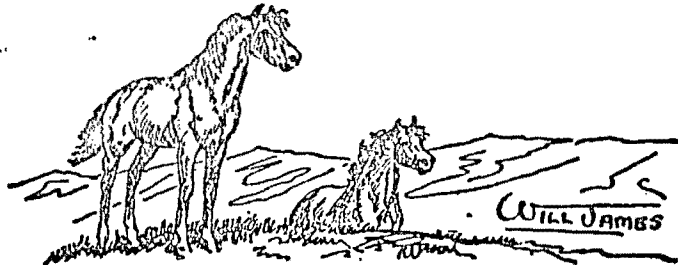
Very truly yours,

  
Warren W. Matthews, Jr.

WWMjr/jn

DEC 8 1971

#46



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

ELKHORN RANCH

Sasabe Star Route  
TUCSON, ARIZONA 85700

DEC 10 1971

Large Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

December 7, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries  
and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sirs:

I was in Anchorage in October and became very much interested in what I heard of Unimak Island.

Have just heard that you are having a hearing on including this magnificent island in the Wilderness system. I would like to add my voice to approval for this and if it is appropriate I would like this to become a part of the official hearing.

Very truly yours,

*Ernest Miller*

Mrs. Ernest Miller

DEC 16 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 16 1971

Biological Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

706 Fresca Court  
Solana Beach, Calif. 92075  
December 14, 1971

Fish and Wildlife Service  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

To Whom It May Concern::

This letter is in support of the proposed wilderness status of Unimak Island.

Alaska is the last remaining wilderness region in the United States. Although there are people scattered throughout the state, their pressure on the environment is still minimal, at least relative to other states, and the future will probably not include great hoards of humanity. Nonetheless, people are exploitive and thus, destructive, and they will reach every untouched area on this earth if only given sufficient time. Controls must be placed on man's exploitive ability as can be observed from so many previous destructive accomplishments, in the continental United States.

Unimak is an excellent location for a wilderness due to its isolation and its existence as an island, making for much simpler designation of boundaries and enforcement of wilderness laws. The wildlife inhabiting the Aleutian Islands is such an incredibly valuable asset to those who can understand what non-human animals truly stand for on this earth. I believe I understand what they represent in the overall stability of life on this planet, and it is my hope that these creatures will be saved by such classifications of wilderness regions as the one proposed for Unimak Island.

Again, I firmly support the designation of Unimak Island as a Wilderness area.

Sincerely yours,

*Stephen J. Montgomery*  
Stephen Jon Montgomery

DEC 27 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 10 1971

Bureau Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

7004 Dolphin Road #43  
Lanham, Maryland 20801  
Dec 6, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6817 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska, 99502

Dear Sir:

I should like to express my enthusiastic support for the Bureau's plan to designate Wilderness ~~in the~~ on Unimak Island, of the Aleutian Islands, National Wildlife Refuge.

I feel however that on the western tip of the island the boundary should follow the road ~~the~~ rather than section lines which would increase the wilderness area.

Also I urge that the Secretary of the Interior amend the order establishing the refuge to eliminate the possibility of military intrusion.

P.S. Please make part of  
heavy record

Sincerely yours,

*Robert F. Meller*  
Robert F. Meller

DEC 10 1971



7167  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 14 1971

Beluga Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

6 Barkalow Avenue,  
Freehold, N.J. 07728

December 9, 1971

U.S. Dept. of Interior  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
Gordon W. Watson, Director  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Mr. Watson:

We heartily support the proposal for wilderness status for most all of Unimak Island in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge. This indeed represents a fine bit of our great and unique Alaskan natural heritage that is deserving of utmost protection.

As you point out in your excellent brochure on Unimak, it will be important to protect the tidelands and we urge a lease with the State of Alaska to insure prevention of incompatible uses in these littoral areas outside federal control.

We support, too, the rescinding or amending of Executive Order 1733, to protect intrusion by military or naval activities.

We wish this record to become a part of the hearings on wilderness status.

Sincerely

*Neal and Elsie Munch*  
Neal and Elsie Munch

cc: Secretary of Interior  
Rogers Morton

DEC 27 1971

#6

KURT H. MUNCHHEIMER, M. D.  
405 WILDWOOD AVENUE  
RIO DELL, CALIFORNIA  
ROCKWELL 4- 9323

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

NOV 23 1971

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

November 18, 1971

Hearing Officer  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Re: Unimak Wilderness

Dear Sir:

This is to endorse the proposal for wilderness classification of Unimak Island.

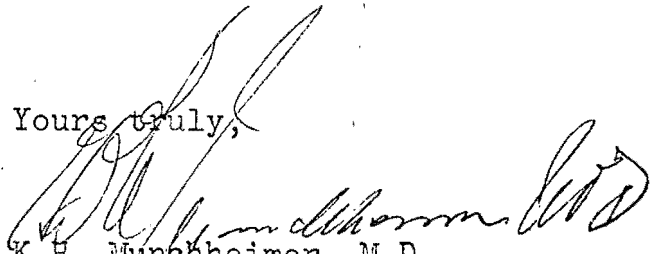
At the same time it is to express opposition to the proposed exclusion of a very sizeable strip of land at the western end of the island.

I understand there is at present no non-conformity (under the terms of the Wilderness Act) in this strip; its exclusion is motivated by possible future development.

As the proposal is set up this leaves the door open to development which could be as unnecessary as undesirable. This area should remain protected wilderness. And if really the necessity for vital development arose, Congress can easily enough modify its present stance. Therefore no exclusion now.

Please include this statement in the record of the hearing.

Yours truly,

  
K.H. Munchheimer, M.D.

DEC 8 1971

#29

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS  
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES  
FAYETTEVILLE  
72701

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
**RECEIVED**

December 1, 1971

DEC 6 1971

Refuge Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

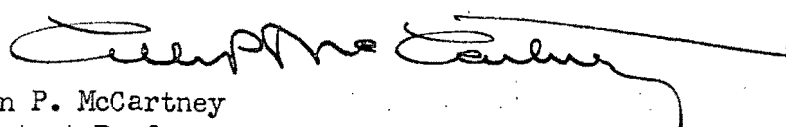
I wish to submit this written statement in support of the proposed Unimak Island Wilderness area as described in your recently released description.

As the first island in the Aleutian chain and the closest to the tip of the Alaska Peninsula, Unimak is strategically located at the "gateway" to the archipelago and should evidence very important archaeological remains covering most of the 8,000+ years of Aleutian prehistory. Recent excavations carried on by me in the Izembek Refuge give evidence of the fact that there was a cultural break between Aleuts and Peninsular Eskimos at least at AD 1000 and probably earlier. Thus, Unimak falls at this transitional zone between two major Eskimo units and any preservation possible of that island will enhance our chances of scientifically investigating such archaeological problems.

No systematic archaeological surveys or excavations have ever been carried out on Unimak; the closest work is that which we conducted around Cold Bay during 1971, the testing of a site in 1953 at Tigalda and the 1970 and 1971 tests made by my colleague Dr. C. G. Turner II on Akutan and Akun. Because the direct and indirect military destruction which affected other islands as Unalaska-Amaknak, Umnak, Adak, Amchitka, Shemya and Attu did not affect Unimak, all efforts should be made to control access to the island to insure that prehistoric sites dotting the coast are not looted by casual "pothunters".

I am strongly in favor of Unimak being included in the Wilderness Preservation System.

Very truly yours,

  
Allen P. McCartney  
Assistant Professor

js

DEC 9 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 7 1971

Bridge Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

DAVID T. NELSON  
215 HIGH STREET  
DECORAH, IOWA 52101

December 4, 1971

#38  
CHM

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Gentlemen:

I wish to enter my support to the Bureau's proposal to place Unimak Island in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge. I believe that this is an important step in a major long-range commitment to preserve a major part of the wonderful primitive and wilderness areas of this great nation.

Sincerely,

David T. Nelson

DEC 13 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 14 1971

Box 81142  
College, Alaska  
99701

Ecology Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Dec. 12, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I would like to express my  
encouragement of the stand of  
Alaskan conservationists and the  
recommendation outlined in  
the Wilderness Society's bulletin  
announcing the public hearings  
on Kenaiak Island, Aleutian Islands  
National Wildlife Refuge.

I sincerely believe that we must  
protect the few remaining wilderness  
areas & wildlife habitats in the  
United States. I concur wholly with  
other Alaskan conservationists in  
this.

Please include this letter in the  
hearing record.

Sincerely yours,

Angus W. Paige

DEC 27 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 6 1971

#28

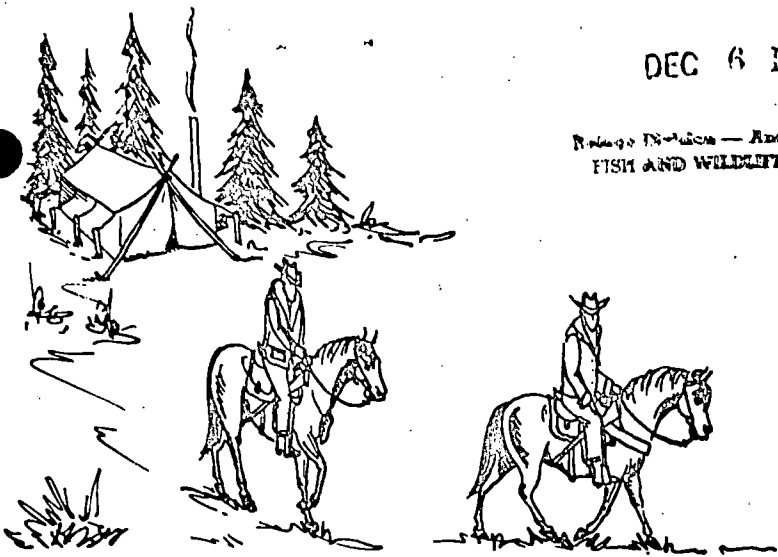
Relays Division — Anchorage, Ak  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

George R. Pollard

Licensed Master Guide

KENAI GUIDE SERVICE  
KASLOF, ALASKA 99610

December 3, 1971



Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

This letter is in regard to the Unimak Wilderness Proposal.

At this point in history when even the remote, inaccessible areas of the North American continent are in danger of unplanned, commercial exploitation it becomes imperative to set aside "islands" of high scenic and wildlife value.

If this is not done now these areas will gradually, and in varying degree, be lost forever as places for man to seek out and enjoy the necessity to life that we call wilderness.

Unimak Island is one of these remote areas that deserves the full protection of Wilderness classification. Many of us may never visit Unimak (the writer has) yet the intrinsic value of wilderness lies not so much in how many people can enjoy it physically but in knowing that its there, a natural ecological entity unaltered by the artificial endeavors of man.

I am strongly in support of the Unimak Wilderness Proposal.

Very truly yours,

*George R. Pollard*  
George R. Pollard

DEC 9 1971

Re: Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal

11/23/71

Rec'd  
NOV 29 1971  
BSFW

Department of Forest  
Zoology  
College of Forestry  
State University of  
New York  
Syracuse, N.Y. 13210

Gordon W. Watson  
Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

As a citizen-owner of federal land, I strongly encourage the establishment of an Unimak Island Wilderness Area of no less than 965,042 acres. I personally enjoy wilderness recreation and hunting in a manner unharassed by unnecessary vehicles and unsightly or scarred landscapes; therefore wilderness preservation is in my interest.

As a biologist having lived in and seen both the Alaskan wilderness and the Eastern United States urban sprawl, ~~and~~ pollution, and degraded wildlife habitat. I again stress

diminished wildlife habitat; I again strongly favor the Unimak Wilderness Proposal as a method of preserving unique habitats and species. The species composition of Unimak suggests that the island may be uniquely suited to a

study of predator-prey relationships and inter-specific competition in a natural setting; thus the island has great scientific value as a wilderness area.

Sincerely,

Roger A. Post

Roger A. Post,  
Graduate Student

copies: Gravel  
Stevens



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 14 1971

Betty Price, M. D.  
680 Douglas Highway  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Rescue Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

December 12, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

This letter pertains to the proposal that portions of Unimak Island in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge be included in the National Wilderness Preservation System. It's a marvelous idea, and I hope you'll support it.

This is really a great spot for a wilderness preserve. At present, I believe the site is not populated. There isn't anyone to be unhappy about the plan. On an affirmative basis, the proposal offers a way to retain for wildlife their native habitat, for the mutual enjoyment of birds and animals and of the onlookers. Even though the site now seems remote, I think now is the time to stake it out as a protected area. As transportation improves, it will cease to be an inaccessible as it is now.

Such preserves are increasingly precious as our population and congestion grow.

I hope you will make a favorable recommendation with respect to this proposal.

Very truly yours,

*Betty Price*

Betty Price, M.D.

DEC 27 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 6 1971

MRS. BERTOLD PUCHTLER  
1120 KODIAK STREET  
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701

Regional Director — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#33

Dear Sir —

I strongly support the proposal of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife that the larger part of Unimak Island be included in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge. I would hope, however, that the order establishing the refuge could be amended to eliminate the clause permitting the Wildlife Refuge for military use.

Sincerely,

Catherine Puchler

DEC 8 1971

#61  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

RALPH REINHART SR.  
1745 STINE RD.,  
PENINSULA OHIO 44624

DEC 13 1971

December 5th, 1971

Refuge Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway,  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Mr. Director:

Please acknowledge the following statement and make it a part of the hearing record for wilderness designation of a part of

UNIMAK ISLAND

in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge.

I strongly support the Bureau's recommendation and suggest that instead of bounding the wilderness area on the west by unrecognizable section lines, that the actual access road between the lighthouse and the other island stations be used as the boundary.

I also urge the elimination of the clause suggesting permission for Military use of the island. There is no need for this suggestion, when and if the Military want to use anything in this U.S.A. they already have the priority and authority to do so. This clause suggests an invitation for Military usage.

Yours Very Truly

Ralph Reinhart Sr.

DEC 27 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 10 1971

Biological Division — Anchorage, AK  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#44  
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Reuter  
852 D-Yak Estates  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701  
Dec. 5, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sirs,

We are writing to urge the incorporation of the Unimak Island National Wildlife Refuge into the National Wilderness Preservation System. Having read the Wilderness Proposal published by the Fish and Wildlife Service, we feel that the extensive wildlife resources deserve the maximum protection, which would be afforded by making the refuge a wilderness area. In light of the progress which is coming to the rest of Alaska, it seems imperative that such havens of wilderness be preserved. Since the area is already a de facto wilderness and since no other benefits could possibly accrue from the island in the foreseeable future, it is only reasonable to include the area in the wilderness system.

Thank you..

Sincerely,

Frank Reuter  
Mary L Reuter

DEC 15 1971

#13  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

NOV 29 1971

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

November 26, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska  
99502

Gentlemen:

This is a statement in favor of designating the major part of Unimak Island (Aleutian Islands, Alaska) a Wilderness Area.

This is an unique area, large enough to constitute an ecological entity and nearly uninhabited as yet. It is an excellent opportunity to preserve this particular type of wilderness.

Sincerely,

*Elaine M. Rife*  
Elaine M. Rife

*Richard N. Rife*  
Richard N. Rife  
842 Dogwood Street  
Anchorage, Alaska  
99501

DEC 8 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 7 1971

Biological Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Box 261  
East Lansing, Mi.  
48823  
Dec. 2, 1971

#40  
C1045

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Re: public hearing on Unimak Island

Sir:

As a hunter and fisherman who considers Alaska next to heaven, I wish to offer my comments favoring the unique Unimak Island and the Bureau's proposal to put it into wilderness status.

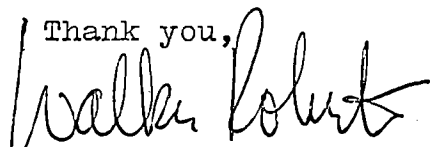
This is an excellent proposal.

In addition, however, I would like to suggest that the Bureau consider the proposal by some conservation groups that the area to be excluded around the lighthouse and communications station be restricted somewhat by allowing the boundary to follow the roads rather than section lines. This appears to me to be a good proposal, allowing the Bureau to accomplish its goals, yet maximizing wilderness.

I would also ask that the Bureau communicate with the Secretary of the Interior requesting him to amend the order which established the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge to eliminate the phrase which would allow the military to use the wilderness area. It is unnecessary to use wilderness for military maneuvers (except during time of war.)

I appreciate your placing this in the record.

Thank you,

  
Walker Roberts

DEC 13 1971

#4

William Schrier  
Box 1051  
Soldotna, Alaska 99669

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

NOV 24 1971

November 19, 1971

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Mr. Gordon W. Watson Area Director  
U.S Dept. of the Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
6917 Seward Hg.  
Anchorage, Alaska

Gentlemen:

After looking over the proposal for the Unimak Wilderness and the enclosed maps, I can see no possible arguments against such a proposal.

With the possible exception of Mining, it would apprently be of little use for any purpose other than the proposed ones. Therefore, I would like to go on record of endorsement of this Wilderness Area.

Sincerely,

*William Schrier*

William Schrier  
Soldotna, Alaska

DEC 8 1971

#57  
RABBI MAX SELINGER, D.H.L.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

314 SUMMIT AVENUE  
KINSTON  
NORTH CAROLINA 28501  
9 December 1971

DEC 14 1971

Damage Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE  
PROPOSAL HEARING  
UNIMAK ISLAND

As part of the Official Hearing Record  
I should like to endorse the action  
proposed and should like the inclu-  
sion in the Wilderness System strengthened  
by removing the provision by which  
Unimak Island is subject to military  
use.

Faithfully yours,

*Max Selinger*

Max Selinger

DEC 27 1971



Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

NOV 24 1971

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Colorado Springs, Colo.  
18 November, 1971.


To:  
The Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries  
and Wild Life.  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage,  
Alaska. 99502

RE: Unimak Island.

I wish to enthusiastically support the proposal to transfer portions of Unimak Island to The National Wild Life Preservation System.

The varied natural communities on Unimak Island have been little studied and offer many fine opportunities for research in terrestrial, marine and fresh water ecology.

Further the island offers recreation, stress removal, personal achievement in the solitude of a clean and scenic environment, which is becoming of increased importance to our people.

  
OWEN V SHAW  
1929 Wood Ave  
Colorado Springs  
Colo.

Please enter this letter in the record.

DEC 8 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 7 1971

Biological Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

1501 26th St. N.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20007  
December 1, 1971

#41  
C. Smoker  
12/1

Mr. Gordon W. Watson, Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
U.S. Dept. Interior, FWS  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Mr. Watson,

This letter is to express my support for the inclusion of portions of Unimak Island in the National Wilderness Preservation System. I have lived in Alaska since my childhood and have developed a strong concern for the preservation of its wilderness areas in the face of burgeoning exploitation of the state's other natural resources.

In the last two years I served aboard a Coast Guard Cutter out of Kodiak which commonly operated near Unimak Island; the opportunities I had to go ashore there were rewarding ones. I would like to correct your brochure's implication that the Cape Sarichef Light-house was converted by the Coast Guard to a LORAN station. Cape Sarichef Light is a very important light to navigators operating in the northern reaches of Unimak Pass; Cape Sarichef LORAN station provides an important electronic navigational aid to those mariners as well.

I truly hope that the President and Congress will look favorably on this venture.

Sincerely,

*William W. Smoker*

William W. Smoker

Alaska address:  
526 Fifth Street  
Juneau 99801

DEC 13 1971

22 Nov., 1971

#10

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

David J. Snarski  
Shuros Drive  
Farmer's Loop Road  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

NOV 4 1971

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Sir:

Please include this letter in the Unimak Island Wilderness proposal hearing record.

I fully support the B.S.F.&W. proposal to place all suitable lands on Unimak Island, Alaska, under the National Wilderness Preservation System. Under wilderness classification these unique public lands will benefit all, that is, present and future generations. In this manner, and only in this manner, can these lands be best used to the benefit of all. Too much public land and too much public land value has already been lost through exploitation which results in large profits for a few and at the expense of others while these few claim that this offers the most benefit for the most people. If we act now it will still be possible to leave a few remnants of a once great natural landscape for our children and their progeny to see, use and enjoy. I assure you that a hundred years from now the value of these lands will be much increased if placed under wilderness classification today. These lands will, I am certain, be appreciated much more than 800 miles of rusty pipe and a depleted oil field, much more than a stump farm and much more than acres of overturned land and miles of asphalt, not to mention an Aleutian Island sheep pasture. On behalf of myself and my family, I urge that action be taken to add this worthy bit of land to our most worthwhile Wilderness Preservation System.

Sincerely

*David J. Snarski*  
David Snarski

DEC 8 1971

DEC 6 1971

Refuge Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Murray deCamp Spear  
711 Valley Road  
Mahwah, New Jersey  
07430

November 26, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Re: Unimak Island - Aleutian Islands  
National Wildlife Refuge

Dear Sir:

Unable to personally appear at the public hearing scheduled for December 14, 1971, at Cold Bay, Alaska, to consider the wilderness proposal relative to Unimak Island, Aleutian Islands, I submit this written commentary for the record. It is intended to express an affirmative view in favor of including portions of Unimak Island in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

I have seen this island from the sea and can attest to its great beauty and unique austerity with the near-perfect cone of Shishaldin Volcano dominating the scene from every direction. Indeed I have been far West in the Aleutians having spent extended time upon Adak and Kiska.

While I most earnestly support the proposed complete ban upon all motorized land vehicles and restrictions upon motor boats and aircraft, I would like to see certain minor modifications with respect to the boats and aircraft:

- A. Boats. I feel that outboard motors as used on canoes or small boats, otherwise paddled or rowed, could be allowed on any water, either tidal or fresh water without undue nullification of the wilderness aspect of the proposal, if strictly limited to a size not exceeding 5 to 7 1/2 H.P.
- B. Aircraft. All aircraft devastate any wilderness area. They always panic and stampede the wildlife awing, on foot or afloat. They eliminate the sense of wilderness to mankind who have sought such solitude for recreational, sporting or scientific pursuits. Thus I feel that aircraft should be strictly limited to existing strips, and, possibly, to a very few appropriate beaches. Aircraft should be prohibited from inland lakes and prohibited from flying over any part of the inner land mass for any purpose other than emergency or rescue operations.

Sports hunting should be eliminated entirely, not merely limited or restricted. However, as a modification to such severe elimination, no sports hunting should be permitted from or in conjunction with any motorized vehicle, either by land, water or from the air.

I am hopeful that my opinions will be recorded and that they will be useful to the authorities in the formulation of the ultimate conclusions.

Thus with uncommon knowledge of the general area, of which relatively few individuals can attest, I submit my views. When opportunity affords, I would visit Unimak for camping, canoeing, fishing and that rare solitude we Americans so much need and so few cherish through their ignorance.

Very truly yours,

*Murray deCamp Spear*

DEC 9 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 14 1971

Receives Division — Anchorage, AK  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

WILLIAM A. STIVERS JR.  
4107 NORTH STAR STREET  
SPENARD, ALASKA 99503  
12 December 1971

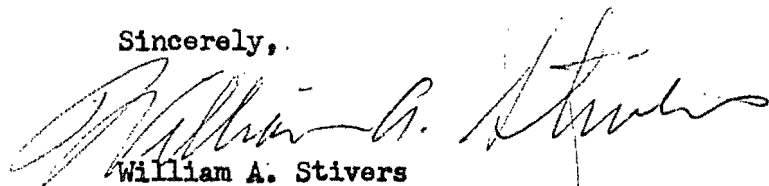
#54

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Sir:

This is to express my approval of the Unimak Island Wilderness proposal. This scenic landscape and pristine habitat of numerous wildlife should be preserved for future generations. I hope that many more such areas will be recommended for incorporation within the National wilderness Preservation System prior to expiration of the ten year period.

Sincerely,

  
William A. Stivers

I read Gordon Watson's "A Case for Wilderness Areas" in today's News. It is a masterpiece.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 14 1971

Receives Division — Anchorage, AK  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE



gw 12/14  
sub 12/14  
u.T.

DEC 27 1971

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

ALLEN W. STOKES  
1722 SADDLE HILL DRIVE  
LOGAN, UTAH 84321

NOV 26 1971

November 22, 1971

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Mr. Gordon W. Watson  
Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
Anchorage

Dear Mr. Watson:

Please enter this letter into the record concerning the proposal for a Unimak Wilderness. I have spent two summers on the Alaskan Peninsula and know of the great beauty of this remote area as well as its remarkable diversity of wildlife. In addition I have read the life of Baranov and know that it will be valuable to have some untouched Aleutian lands as a living monument of the great fur trading days of the Russians.

I am pleased that the proposal includes virtually all of Unimak. Still, there remains about 60 square miles of land withdrawn from the wilderness. I would hope that some of this might not be really essential for landing fields and roads and could be placed in the wilderness.

Sincerely yours,

*Allen W. Stokes*

DEC 8 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 2 1971

Refuge Division -- Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

December 2, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Gentlemen:

Please put me on record as being in favor of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife proposal to include Unimak Island in the Wilderness System. I am in basic agreement with the proposal but would propose that the entire island be included. Therefore, I urge that the Secretary of the Interior be asked to amend the order which established the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge which stated in part that "The establishment of this reservation shall not interfere with the use of the islands for lighthouse, military, or naval purposes." This clause should be eliminated so that Unimak Island will not be subjected to military intrusion in the future and to protect the wilderness aspects of the entire island.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Tina Stonorov*

Tina Stonorov  
1502 Second Avenue  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

DEC 9 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 6 1971

Relays Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

330 Carey Hills Drive  
Reno, Nevada 89502  
December 2, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska

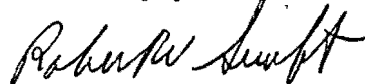
Dear Sir:

I wish to have this statement included in the official hearing record on Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal.

I will probably never visit Unimak Island, never climb Shishaldin Volcano, nor watch sea otter from the beach. For me and many others this does not lessen its value. Knowing it is there undisturbed; sculptured as time ordained, adds a measure of substance to us.

Snowmobiles, motor cycles, dune buggies, and air boats all share one thing in common. They are instruments of a bored people desperately seeking relief. However, relief is not to be found in these mechanical contrivencies. We are rooted in the soil. We need areas like Unimak so we can remember who we are. I strongly urge favorable consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely yours,



Robert W. Swift

DEC 5 1971



Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

NOV 29 1971

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Nov 25, 1971

Dear Sir:

Please enter my statement at the hearing for the proposed Unimak Wilderness in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Range. Thank you.

Sir: I strongly concur with all of the efforts put forth by the U.S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, in their bold and daring attempt to establish a 965,042 acre wilderness on Unimak Island.

Unimak's value as a wilderness will undoubtedly increase as this nation's population grows and becomes more urban.

I feel that I must add the following — the negotiation of a State

11

tidelands lease out to one-half mile  
or more would provide a valuable  
buffer zone around the island wilder-  
ness area. Without this above-men-  
tioned 'buffer zone', future development  
could endanger the wilderness.

Thank you

Lawrence J. Taylor

LAWRENCE J. TAYLOR  
4679 WILLIAM ST  
OMAHA, NEBR  
68106

DEC 8 1971

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

NOV 23 1971

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

#7  
1234 W. Hillcrest Dr  
Anchorage Alaska 99503  
November 22, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife.  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sirs:

Please enter this letter into the record as being opposed to the proposed wilderness classification for 965042  $\pm$  acres of Unimak Island within the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge.

Controls and regulations presently promulgated by the B of S.F. & W. are sufficient to protect the habitat and resources on the Island. Do not lock out the possibility of responsive management.

Yours truly  
Dale P. Tubbs

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 9 1971

Biological Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#52  
Dec. 7, 1971  
Casper, Wyo

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
Anchorage, Alaska

Sir!

As a concerned citizen I would urge the adoption of the two proposals as listed on the enclosed summary. Thank you

John J. Wantulok

John J. Wantulok  
945 E. 21st St.  
Casper, Wyo. 82602

DEC 27 1971

# Differences Are Small

Conservationists are extremely pleased with the Bureau's proposal, and are supporting it, but feel that the wilderness area can be improved. They are recommending the following:

1. The western tip of the island has been excluded by the Bureau from the proposed wilderness because of the presence of an active lighthouse and communications station, several miles apart and connected by roads. This exclusion is delineated on maps by section lines when actually a more recognizable wilderness boundary could be placed along the road system, and conservationists are so stating. The increase in acreage would be small but significant if this improved method of locating the wilderness boundary is adopted in final recommendations.

2. The order which established the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge stated, in part, "The establishment of this reservation shall not interfere with the use of the islands for lighthouse, military, or naval purposes." Conservationists are urging the Secretary of the Interior to amend the order to eliminate this clause to assure that Unimak Island and the wilderness will not be subjected to military intrusion in the future.

## You Can Help

Please assist Alaskan conservationists in their attempt to build a record by writing a supporting letter for inclusion in each of the hearing records. Two letters are required -- one for each hearing record. Send your letters endorsing the stand of Alaskan conservationists outlined herein to:

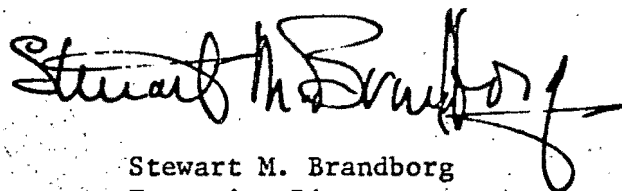
### KATMAI AND GLACIER BAY NATIONAL MONUMENTS

General Superintendent  
National Park Service Alaska Group  
Room 376  
Federal Building  
605 West Fourth Avenue  
Anchorage, Alaska 99510  
(Letters must arrive by December 20)

### UNIMAK ISLAND

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries  
and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502  
(Letters must arrive by  
January 17)

Your senators and congressman will appreciate receiving a copy of your letter.



Stewart M. Brandborg  
Executive Director  
The Wilderness Society

#2

SUBJECT: ALEUTIAN ISLAND  
UNIMAK WILDERNESS PROPOSAL

BETWEEN 1957 - 1969 I LIVED, HUNTED, FISHED, +  
TRAPPED ON THE WESTERN ALEUTIAN PENINSULA. I FEEL  
VERY CLOSE TO THE PEOPLE + ENJOYED THE AREA.

WHEN I READ THE WILDERNESS PROPOSAL FOR  
UNIMAK ISLAND I WAS VERY PLEASED UNTILL I  
REALIZED WHAT THE PROPOSAL MEANT TO FALSE PASS  
+ OTHER VILLAGES NEARBY.

~~WHILE~~ THE NATIVE LAND CLAIM ARE STILL TO BE  
DECIDED, THE WITH DRAWL OF THIS LARGE ISLAND  
FROM ANY DEVELOPMENT BY THE PEOPLE THAT LIVE THERE  
WILL BE VERY UNFAIR. OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCYS  
HAVE BEEN GRANTED OVER 33,000 ACRES ON THE  
WESTERN PORTION OF UNIMAK WHILE RESIDENTS  
OF FALSE PASS ARE BOTTLED UP ON A SMALL DOT OF  
LAND.

UNDOUBTABLY LAND CLAIMS WILL BE FILED NEAR  
THE VILLAGE ITSELF, AND MANY PEOPLE STILL USE THE  
CABINS, EVEN THOUGH DESCRIBED AS IN DISREPAIR.  
TO AN OUTSIDER THESE CABINS LOOK ABANDONED +  
IN SAD SHAPE BUT ARE RENOVATED ON A NEED TO USE  
BASIS FROM YEAR TO YEAR. A LOT OF DAMAGE  
IS DONE BY VANDALS + OUTSIDER LOOKING FOR OLD  
FIRE ARMS, ANTIQUES, LAMPS AND TRINKETS THAT USED  
TO REMAIN UNTOUCHED FOR YEARS. MARAUDING BROWN  
BEAR + WOLVERINE CAN WRECK HAVOC IN A SHORT

time. The use of many cabins increase during poor salmon cycles as many turn to trapping, hunting, and subsistence fishing late in the fall. Late runs of salmon are salted + smoked at these sites.

During the gill net season some cabins are used at set net sites. Beach areas from Swansons Lagoon on Northeast tip all the way past Ikatan Bay around Pankof, East Anchor, West Anchor, Donna Harbor, Ottor Cove, + almost out to Cape Aksit are used for set net sites.

As these cabins + sites have been used + rebuilt from time to time I don't think they should ~~not~~ be in the proposed area.

The Air Force - Coast Guard ~~Geophysical~~ occupy the western portion of Unimak with NAV aid stations + Dew Line site + seldom have more than 60 men at the peak, so why should they be allowed to have over 33,000 acres exempted from the proposal?

The village of Falls Pass should be able to <sup>with</sup> hold some land from the wilderness proposal that would assure growth of the village + maintain the rights to their camps.

IF THESE SUGGESTIONS ARE INVESTIGATED  
+ CONFERENCES HELD IN THE AREA OF FHLSPAS-  
SANAK + KING COVE, THEN BOUNDARIES ADJUSTED  
WITH THEIR APPROVAL, I WILL ASSIST TO MAKE  
THE UNIMAK ISLAND A WILDERNESS AREA

Leonard C. Meiman

Box 916  
Seward, Alaska  
99664

Dec. 8, 1971



#34

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 6 1971

Fish & Wildlife Service — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

509 Gardner St.  
Raleigh, NC.  
Dec. 1, 1971

Mr. G. H. Watson  
Fish & Wildlife Service  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502.

Dear Sir,

I live a long way from Unimak Island, and I shall, probably, never see it, but perhaps my children or grandchildren will. Such a unique environment needs the protection that wilderness status will give it. I would like to go on record as supporting the Unimak Wilderness Proposal.

Sincerely

(Mrs. G. H.) Ida Lee Hinkley.

DEC 9 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 13 1971

Balance Division — Anchorage, AK  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#59  
1400 North 12th Street  
Arlington, Virginia 22209  
December 7, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I am writing this letter to support the proposal advanced by the Bureau, namely that Unimak Island in the Aleutian chain be set aside as a wilderness area under the terms of the 1964 Wilderness Act.

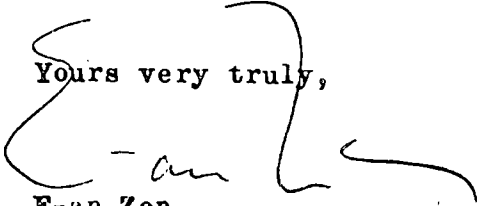
The volumes of research and public testimony related to the recent Cannikin blast on Amchitka Island have made it amply clear that the ecology of the Aleutian islands is exceedingly fragile and important. Unimak Island, being the largest of the chain of islands, should therefore be accorded priority consideration for permanent protection. It is therefore with a great sense of urgency as well as pleasure that I now <sup>urge</sup> to support the Bureau's proposal and urge that everything be done to expedite the realization of the plans.

I urge that serious consideration be given to defining the excluded area at the west end of Unimak Island in such a way that natural boundaries, rather than the present proposed land grid boundaries, be used. Natural boundaries have the distinct advantage of preserving the ecologic integrity of the area -- including safety from pollution of surface water through the existing drainage system --, and are no more difficult to administer than boundaries following cardinal or other survey lines.

To further protect the integrity and future of the wilderness area, I urge that effort be made to modify the order establishing the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge so that the Unimak area will no longer be subject to military intrusion, except during real national emergencies, as is permitted by the existing law.

Thank you for your attention. Please make this letter part of the official record of your public hearing on the wilderness proposal for Unimak Island.

Yours very truly,

  
E-an Zen

DEC 27 1971



SECTION XV: COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS

INDEX

PART B: TESTIMONY RECEIVED AT HEARING

Johnson, Llewellyn R.; 1338 West 15th Avenue; Anchorage,  
Alaska 99501

Kvalvik, Gene; Box 404B, Rte. A; Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Lethcoe, Dr. Nancy; SRA Box 402E; Anchorage, Alaska 99507

Winkley, Barbara; 915 W. 25th, #8; Anchorage, Alaska 99503

Wright, Samuel A.; 1005 West 27th Ave.; Anchorage, Alaska 99503

Llewellyn R. Johnson  
1338 West 15th Avenue  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

December 17, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Re: Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal

Gentlemen:

I support the recommendations of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife for Unimak Island to be included in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

I recognize that this is only giving a new legal status to an existing fact, and existing legal status of wildlife preserve - the wilderness has been there since time immemorial, the wildlife preserve since 1913. Thus, the only new development is the giving of a more enlightened recognition of existing facts. My real thanks go to the Aleuts who have given us this opportunity ~~at this time~~.

Since other islands of the Aleutian chain fit the same criteria and <sup>need</sup> the same protection as Unimak, I regret that the step taken here is such a timid one.

The marine and bird life are the chief reasons for the existence of the wildlife preserve; therefore, it becomes mandatory that every effort be made to protect the total ecological system involved here. Wilderness is but a plastic human shadow if ~~the~~ all the life systems sustained by it are not protected.

It is <sup>un</sup>fortunate ~~that~~ there is <sup>no</sup> specific proposal in the Bureau's report for tideland management which we, Alaskans, might use in urging our representative and administrators to respond to <sup>their</sup> duties and obligations relative to the tidelands. We are fully aware of the state government's claim to sovereignty and desire for responsibility in the <sup>tidelands</sup> where oil is a factor.

Since the government of the State of Alaska, by its official acts, does not provide us, Alaskans, with any alternatives, we support your efforts as the only, really new <sup>development</sup> which considers all Alaskans <sup>and all Americans</sup>.

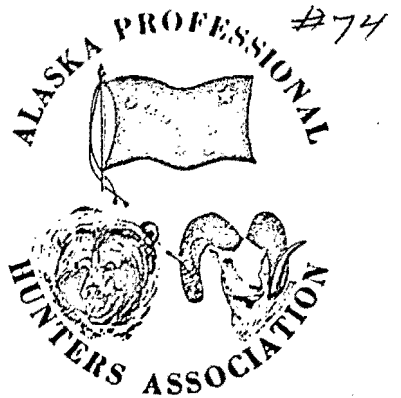
Respectfully submitted,

Llewellyn R. Johnson

registered Guide SC & SW alt. 10 yr. resident by request  
Board member A.P.H.A. - Speaking for myself

# WOLVERINE Guide Service

operated by  
Gene Kvalvik, Regt. Guide



PLEDGED FAIR CHASE

Gentlemen,

I fully support the inclusion of Unimak Island in our Wilderness System, as it is a unique small portion of our land.

With an eye to the future generations let us preserve as much of Alaska as possible in its natural state - let's remember that in 1872 when the Yellowstone was became a park, most of those opposed to it believed people would never visit such a remote area, ~~now~~ however this park will soon have to be visited by appointment only.

If our State's Fish & Game Dept does not soon change its meat market approach to game management all have to take sports-men to this island to find a fully developed Bull Caribou, as their favorite management

Box 404B, SR 'A', Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Ph. (907) 344-3239

# WOLVERINE Guide Service

operated by  
Gene Kvalvik, Regt. Guide



PLEDGED FAIR CHASE

tool - the wild-eyed snow-machine  
hunter will not be able to drive his  
camping car there.

opponents of wilderness such  
as the respected Mr. Kelly ~~will still~~  
~~be able to~~ should not oppose ~~this~~  
this proposal, as there is no immed-  
iate ~~gain~~ financial gain to be  
made on this island - let me who  
need wilderness <sup>travel</sup> as a way of life  
have it - ~~those who oppose it still~~  
~~can travel to the innermost reaches~~  
~~of the Copper River with little expense~~  
~~personally & need it~~

Objections who oppose wilderness no doubt  
must have a personal political or  
financial axe to grind - Tho perhaps  
some of them consider a stroll across  
a camper park to the beer-cooler a  
~~major~~ safari of importance fraught  
with peril from piles of easy-opening  
pudding cans - ~~we must all be happy~~

Sincerely  
Gene K

Box 404B, SR 'A', Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Ph. (907) 344-3239

To: Hearings Officer, U.S. Dept. of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service,  
From: Dr. Nancy Lethcoe, 327 Box 402E, Anchorage, Alaska  
Re: Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal

I wish to thank the Fish and Wildlife Service for providing such a picturesque brochure describing the Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal. Although I have not yet had an opportunity to visit this first, largest, and possibly most spectacular island of the Aleutian chain, I wish to assure you that my family and I are planning to do so within the next few years.

By avocation we are sailors. We are concerned that yearly more and more coastal areas, which were formerly quiet coves, now are rapidly becoming busy marinas. Throughout the coastal United States, private property signs and no trespassing signs are emerging side by side with commercial developments which are ruining what has hitherto been public property open to entry for all who wish to make the extra effort necessary to enjoy their treasures. Between the development of anchorage sites into marinas by the various states and government agencies and the commercial use of the coastal lands very few areas remain today where the boating public can seek the solitude which used to be one of the chief advantages of owning a boat.

Therefore, I strongly support the Fish and Wildlife Service's proposal to reclassify 965,042 acres of the Unimak Island Refuge as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System. Such classification is imperative if there are to



remain for future generations any untrammelled areas of coastal wilderness where the cruising family may enjoy the thrill of sighting land, selecting an anchorage, and going ashore to hike, beachcomb, camp, mountain climb, fish, hunt, and observe the innumerable birds, mammals, and wild flowers without encountering the scars of ATV tracks, oil barrels, estuaries ruined by gravel operations for road building, canneries, etc. There is a place for commercial enterprises and motorized vehicles, but there also needs to be a place to escape from them.

For the sailor, Unimak Island is special not only because of its abundant wildlife, but also because of its long and rich history as an important landmark in the exploration of the North Pacific, and because it marks the first western pass connecting the Gulf of Alaska with Bristol Bay. Vitrus Bering sailed past Unimak Island in 1741. Later Captain Cook<sup>1</sup> on the Discovery, following Staehlin's Map of the "New Northern Archipelago," spent approximately a week in this area where he was so impressed by Mt. Shishaldin that he honored it with the following journal entry: "The most southwest hill was discovered to have a volcano which continually threw up vast columns of black smoke. It is a complete cone and the volcano is at the very summit, but we seldom saw it wholly clear of clouds -- at times both the base and summit would be clear, when a narrow cloud, sometimes two or three, one above the other,

---

<sup>1</sup> At this time Captain Bligh who later commanded the mutineer ship the Bounty was master of Cook's second vessel, the Resolution.

would embrace the middle like a girdle. With the column of smoke issuing perpendicular to a great height out of its top, and spreading before the wind into a tail of vast length, it made a very picturesque appearance. The wind at the height to which the smoke of this volcano reached moved sometimes in a direction contrary to what it did at sea, even when it blew a fresh gale." (Paul W. Dale, Seventy North to Fifty South, Captain Cook's Last Voyage, p. 235). The first photograph in the Fish and Wildlife brochure could have been taken by Captain Cook -- the description fits so perfectly.<sup>2</sup>

After the explorers, came the fur hunters and later still the great whaling ships from New Bedford whose Captains maneuvered their square-riggers through Unimak Pass. Fortunately, some of these adventurous Captains had brave and daring wives who preferred the rigors and hardships of the Bering Sea Whaling grounds to waiting anxiously at home. Mary Chipman Lawrence was one of these. In November 1856 she and her five year old daughter boarded the Addison, "a typical middle-sized whaler. One hundred and eight feet long, with two decks, three square-rigged masts, a square stern, and the figurehead of a woman . . ."(S. Garner, The Captain's Best Mate, The Journal of Mary Chipman Lawrence on the Whaler Addison, 1856-1860).

<sup>2</sup> Since Captain Cook, many others have been impressed by this sight. E. W. Allen writes "The sky almost cleared and the late sun, setting tardily, silhouetted the volcanic cone of Shishaldin symmetrically. Dark and ominous it loomed. Dense smoke poured forth from its dull-glowing top. Its spell lured us with a mysterious diabolical enchantment.

Then the sun set, completely disappearing to the northwest, leaving a pinkish tinge upon the few fleeting clouds that still remained. A new moon came drifting silently into the star-lighted heavens, its pale glimmer futile against the night. The huge bulk of Shishaldin

N. Lethcoe, Unimak Island, p. 4.

In her diary she describes her first of several passages through Unimak Pass.

August 15. We were nearly through the passage (or I suppose we were through the passage but nearby the land) when it became calm, so much so that we could not steer, with a strong current drifting us directly into the land, which made our situation anything but pleasant, and some part of the time a thick fog. In the course of the night we let go the small anchor.

" " " This afternoon, while we were at anchor, the mate, third mate, and boat's crew went onshore. They had just landed when a slight breeze sprang up, and they were obliged to return after just taking a look around. They saw about a dozen underground huts, a hole dug in the ground with a door just large enough to crawl in on all fours. The inhabitants probably had seen them coming and made their escape, as the huts were all desolate but looked as if they had just been deserted. Saw the tracks of bears and foxes. Procured a large bunch of flowers for Minnie [her daughter] and myself, which delighted us very much, also about a dozen strawberries, blackberries, and huckleberries. [The Captain's Best Mate, p. 44].<sup>3</sup>

The area they visited is, of course, excluded from the wilderness area because of existing development. However, there are a number of adequate to good anchorages along the coast bordering the wilderness area so that boatsmen ~~saxxakakix~~ can go ashore. The Coast Pilot 9 covers anchorages and navigational aids and hazards on Unimak Island on pages 158-161, 165-169, and 241-243. There are at least eight anchorages suitable for recreational size craft with East Anchor Cove on the Ikatan Peninsula facing the Pacific Ocean and Cape Mordvinof near the Tugamak Range facing the Bering Sea probably being the best.

[cont.] towered even bigger, darker, and more fascinating in the magnifying power of the dusk. At last all was wrapped in the night's secretive dimness except the weird volcanic glow that seemed floating in the sky." (North Pacific, p. 139-140).

Addition information is provided by U.S.&G.S. Charts 8360, 8705, and 8701.

As the Unimak Wilderness Proposal states, weather in this area can be extremely adverse. Many people like to refer to the coastline from Shelikof Straights out to the Aleutians as the Northern Cape Horn. Coast Pilot 9 states "The weather of the Aleutians is characterized by persistently overcast skies, high winds, and violent storms. No other area of the world is recognized as having worse weather in general than that which the Aleutian Islands experience." (p. 165). Such weather is a challenge to accept and meet just as the many sailors before us have done.<sup>4</sup> And like them, we hope to find a wilderness remaining for us at the end of our journey or as we stop-over on our way to even remoter anchorages. Classification of this area as part of the Wilderness Preservation System will assure that we and future boatsmen who cruise for solitude and adventure will have a destination worth achieving at the other end of our journey.

I do not feel that wilderness classification will exclude me or anyone else who wishes a recreational wilderness experience from enjoying this area. Instead, it will assure that we will be able to do so.

Thank you.

<sup>3</sup> This pass has traditionally been used by fisherman, cannery boats, and packers. Chuck Speechley of the revenue cutter the Bear described one memorable day at Unimak: "One day in 1918, there had been 8 "Star" ships within a mile or so of each other waiting for a fair wind to take through Unimak Pass." [Star Ships belonged to the Alaska Packers fleet of Star boats which ran between San Francisco and the Bristol Bay canneries. They were all sail.] M.A. Ransom, Sea of the Bear, with Eloise Katherine Engle, p. 15.]

<sup>4</sup> I know of only five yachts to sail from Japan to the Aleutians -- Tai-Mc-Shan, Tzu-Hang, Stormvogel, Awahnee, and Whisper. For an account of the Shikotan passage of Yachtsmen, see Yachtsmen.

TESTIMONY FOR THE UNIMAK ISLAND WILDERNESS PROPOSAL

#78

ANCHORAGE DECEMBER 17, 1971

Mr. Chairman, my name is Barbara Winkley and I speak solely for myself. I imagine that one of the greatest arguments against this Unimak Wilderness Proposal is that it is so far away and isolated that no one can get to it. Well the proposed Kenai Wilderness is as accessible to everyone as their car and still the State opposed it. Hurrah for isolation! Had this area been a little closer to CIVILIZED Anchorage as well as being under State control, I feel quite confident that by this time it would have been criss crossed by ATV tracks and swamp buggies could have wiped out the eel grass beds.

Nature and environment have been extremely generous to Alaska for whilst the majority of the United States is so far ahead technically, she is actually behind environmentally, whereas Alaska is behind enough technically to gain a head start on environmental ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ problems.

The swarming family of man has made great and permanent changes in his environment since he emerged as the dominant species in the animal kingdom about 40,000 years ago. To preserve that dominance and increase it, men have demolished mountains, linked oceans and turned rivers from their courses. The speed at which alteration is being made seems constantly to accelerate and every technique of manipulation is described as progress. But is this really true? How can we distinguish between the changes which increase the stature and security of humanity and those which diminish them? It is only possible to determine the ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ impact of man made changes by preserving points of reference to insure a control. Only if parts of the natural earth are set aside and protected from human interference can man made change be measured and evaluated with accuracy. Only then can progress be distinguished from retrogression.

The National Wilderness Areas are then, ~~xxxxxxxx~~ invaluable reference points from which performance in land utilization may be judged. They <sup>therefore</sup> also have everyday, down to earth, bread and butter significance in the lives of even those who may never see or use them, and just as importantly constitute a heritage of beauty in which every American should find inspiration.

Dr. Max Brewer made the comment at the Environmental Center Seminar last week-end that he had spent x number of years north of the Arctic circle. Perhaps he is an expert on the Arctic, but how can any of us realize what unique treasures we have in Alaska if we close our eyes to the rest of the world and certainly to the rest of the country. Ecology has no geographical boundaries.

Perhaps we could observe one particular case-----that of the Whooping Crane and Aransas National Wildlife Refuge along the Gulf of Mexico in Texas. About 100 years ago, the range of the whooping crane was from the Arctic Coast to central Mexico and from Utah to South Carolina. Although these birds were never very numerous, they needed considerable area for their winter grounds and nesting during the summer. Settlement and other activities of man including draining of wetlands and coastal marshes reduced their range. As the range shrank, so did the bird numbers until in the 1920's there were less than 50 remaining birds. To-day the Aransas Wildlife Refuge is the only remaining winter range for these magnificent birds. This refuge covers 47,000 acres. Alaska is 375,000,000 acres. Can the majority of Alaskans really agree with the State Government that we don't want or need ANY wilderness areas here?

Not too long ago I received a publication on a wilderness proposal within the Desert National Wildlife Range in Nevada. I studied the ~~xxxxxx~~ proposal and observed the location. The location looked suspicious, so I made some enquiries. This was the reply. "You are correct in that the Atomic Energy Commission has used portions of the Wildlife Range. Currently that agency maintains a well for purposes of monitoring ground water for possible radiation leaks, and provisions are made for AEC access to the Wildlife Range."

Many areas in the lower 48 States ~~are~~ such as this one in Nevada are rejects after certain Governmental agencies have no further use for them. Perhaps this area cannot tolerate any additional radiation. Can we afford to wait any longer----even with the Island of Unimak whilst the AEC ~~isxaxixxax~~ and its byproducts are already infiltration<sup>ing</sup> at the other end of the chain.

I feel that these factors should be given consideration as well as the unique qualities which Unimak Island possesses. There are 25 species of mammals which inhabit the island, 29 species of fish which frequent the inshore waters, and many many species of waterfowl which frequent the area, both resident and migratory.

I would urge that the nutritious eel grass beds of Urilia Bay and Swanson Lagoon and other shallow water areas of the Bering Sea side of the island be given protection by the State of Alaska below mean tide level to ensure protection as these compliment the areas of Izembek to the north east, and these beds are some of the richest in the world.

In conclusion, I would like to read a quote from the New York Time, of April 23, 1967. (Not all newspapers are opposed to wilderness areas.) "The wild places are now seen not as an enemy but as a vanishing resource. As the neon lights glare ever brighter and the miles of paved roads wind ever onward, the chance to escape to the solitude of the roadless area, and unspoiled forest or an untamed river, become ever more precious. Congress recognised the importance of preserving this chance for to-day's Americans when it passed the Wilderness Act in 1964."

*Barbara Winkley*  
BARBARA WINKLEY

#77  
Samuel A. Wright, via Bettles Field

Alaska 99726

Winter address: 1005 West 27th Ave

Anchorage, Alaska 99503

279-9006

STATEMENT \* UNIMAK WILDERNESS PROPOSAL  
December 17, 1971, Anchorage, Alaska

My name is Sam Wright. I am a resident of Alaska, human ecologist  
and presently Minister of the Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.

There are, and will be, many who will never know this wilderness  
of Unimak Island first hand, but to assure that it will be there for

our children is the greatest gift we can bestow. IN SPEAKING FOR THE  
WILDERNESS PROPOSAL FOR UNIMAK ISLAND, I AM CONFIRMING MY BRIEF COMMENTS  
to WHAT I CONSIDER THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE WHICH INITIATED THE NATIONAL  
I am speaking not only for myself but for my species, man, because WILDERNESS  
PRESERVATION  
SYSTEM,  
the most important human resources are endangered today. Without  
serenity, beauty and solitude we cannot survive.

In assuring the preservation of the wilderness of Unimak Island  
we will have saved one of the few places left in the world where these  
human resources can still be found.

Therefore, I strongly endorse the proposal of the Bureau of  
Sport Fisheries and Wildlife for the inclusion of most of Unimak  
Island in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Sam Wright

Samuel A. Wright



After  
Hearing

SECTION XV: COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS

INDEX

PART C: LETTERS RECEIVED AFTER HEARING

Akers, J. W.; 2115 Willow Blvd.; Pearland, Texas 77581

Anderson, Susan K.; 1130 A Central St.; Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54901

Anderson, Walter L. and Rebecca M.; P. O. Box 113; Burns,  
Oregon 97720

Auerbach, Robert, MD; 440 East 57th Street; New York,  
New York 10022

Baer, Erma E.; 3000 Sheridan Rd.; Chicago, Illinois 60657

Banta, Curtis W.; Box 9429, RFD#1; Stockholm, New Jersey 07460

Bartz, Mary R.; 5810 Conway Road; Bethesda, Md. 20034

Baxandall, Margaret A. and John L.; 4200 East Fourth Ave.;  
Anchorage, Alaska 99504

Behlman, William R.; 18 Canniff Ct.; Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54901

Berger, Bruce N.; Box 482; Aspen, Colorado 81611

Berkeley, Ruth P., MD; 36 West 11th Street, New York,  
New York 10011

Binder, Alison; Box 756; Davis, California 95616

Blackmer, Gladys; 675 Count St.; New Bedford, Massachusetts 02740

Blakley, Mrs. James R.; 3147 Valhalla Drive; Bronx,  
New York 10465

Blumenschein, Helen G.; Box 244; El Prado, New Mexico 87529

Brookman, Gerald R.; 1220 "F" Street; Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Broome, Mrs. Harvey; 5115 Mountain Crest Drive; Knoxville,  
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Burger, John F.; 1329 Rushmore Drive; University City,  
Missouri 63130

Cade, Tom J.; Cornell University; Division of Biological Sciences;  
Ithaca, New York 14850

Campbell, Robert J.; 501 Western Bank Building; Missoula,  
Montana 59801

Cantor, Louis; 4102 N. 30th St.; Tacoma, Washington 90407

Childs, Donald G.; Box 45; Stanfield, Oregon 97875

Clancy, Daniel, Jr.; 29 Douglas Ave.; Staten Island,  
New York 10310

Clayburgh, Mrs. Albert H.; 105 East 73rd Street; New York,  
New York 10021

Clift, Arthur H.; 136 Waverly Place, New York, New York 10014

Colbert, Mrs. Norman; 1311 Dolores Rd.; Cortez, Colorado 81321

Covington, George Morse; 2739 North Pine Grove; Chicago,  
Illinois 60614

Doerr, Robert M.; 39 McFarland; Rolla, Missouri 65401

Dorv, Sue; 508 West Irving; Oshkosh, Wisconsin

Douglass, Dana L.; 2059 D 41st St.; Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544

Douglass, Mrs. Patricia H.; P. O. Box 619; Las Vegas,  
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Dunn, William Philip, II; Rural Route 5, Box 5665; Juneau,  
Alaska 99801

Dunn, William T. and Evelyn S.; RR5, Box 5665; Juneau,  
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Dyer, Polly; 13245 - 40th Ave.; Seattle, Washington 98125

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Fair, Calvin M. and Martha Jan; P. O. Box 369, Soldotna,  
Alaska 99669

Faith, David W; Bellevue Public Schools; 310 102nd Ave.; NE;  
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Fisher, James E.; Box 397; Kenai, Alaska  
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40th Street; New York, New York 10018  
Gottschalk, Michael T.; Institute of Marine Science;  
University of Alaska; College, Alaska 99701  
Greig, Carol M.; R#3; Sheboygan Falls, Wisconsin 53085  
  
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Hill, Michael L.; 6337 Maxwell Drive; Camp Springs, Md. 20023  
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Hope, Lois H.; 1807 Cameo; Loveland, Colorado 80537  
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Marlowe, Leigh; 180 West End Avenue; New York, New York 10023

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Peronne, Marie C.; 10013 Greiner Road; Clarence, New York 14031

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California 94550

Steinhoff, Dr. Harold; Department of Fishery and Wildlife  
Biology; Colorado State University; Fort Collins,  
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Stellmacher, Rita A.; Route 1; Ripon, Wisconsin 54971

Stengl, Thomas A., MD; 10 Highland Drive; Juneau, Alaska 99801

Stratford, Denis L.; 3502 Wadsworth; Wheatridge, Colo. 80033

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Swanson, John R.; P. O. Box 922; Berkeley, California 94701

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Colorado 80521

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Street; San Francisco, California 94111

Vanderwarker, Henry S.; P. O. Box X; Steilacoom, Wa. 98388

Wagner, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph P.; 3315 North 60th Street;  
Phoenix, Arizona 85018

Walicki, Joe and Gay; 2924 Stark St.; Eugene, Oregon 97402

Wasserman, Eileen; 4846 S. Kimbark; Chicago, Ill. 60615

Weeks, Albert; 566 Atlantic Ave.; Cedarhurst, New York 11516

Weissberg, Muriel; 3355 Mac's Road; Redding, Calif. 96001

Welker, Rodney B.; 520 S. Kiefner; Perryville, Mo. 63770

Wellensteen, Nick; 911 Wisconsin St.; Oshkosh, Wisconsin

Wentworth, Cynthia; 2607 W. 33rd Ave., Apt. 2; Anchorage, Ak 99503



Wheeler, Mrs. Sherman Eugene; 5527 S. University Avenue; Chicago,  
Illinois 60637

Whitney, Joel M. and Mary Daniel; 31541 Inspiration Drive; P. O.  
Box 1206; Running Sptings, California 92382

Wickerham, Lynferd J.; 5540 West Bar X Street; Tucson,  
Arizona 85731

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Willits, D. I.; 1 North Gate Avenue; Berkeley, California 94708

Wilson, Douglas; North Carolina Schoonbeck Company; P. O.  
Box 110; High Point, North Carolina 27261

Wirschem, Charles; 3306 Woodland Park Drive; Anchorage,  
Alaska 99503

Worrall, Joseph; 20 W. Deerhaven Rd.; Mahwah, New Jersey 07430

Wrigley, Walter and Dorothy B.; 93 Grand View Avenue;  
Wollaston, Mass. 02170

Zucheman, Carol; 350 E. 17th St.; New York, New York 10003

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 13 1972

Wildlife Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

January 9, 1972

J. W. Akers  
2115 Willow Blvd.  
Pearland, Texas 77581

Mr. Gordon W. Watson  
Area Director  
Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Steward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Mr. Watson:

It has been proposed that Unimak Island of the Aleutian chain be set aside as a wilderness area.

The island, as I am sure you realize, is the home of the endangered Bald Eagle and Sea Otter. If we are to preserve these species, we must set aside areas where they can live unmolested. I urge you to support this proposal.

Sincerely,

*J. W. Akers*

J. W. Akers

cc.: Representative Young  
Walter J. Hickel

JAN 18 1972

January 7, 1973  
1130 Alameda St  
Oak Brook, Ill. 60451

#162

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife

6917 Denali Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I would like to express my opinion  
to you on the inclusion of Thumek  
National in the Alaskan Wilderness  
I am a student of the University  
of Wisconsin - Oshkosh and am  
currently enrolled in a course  
entitled Conservation of Natural Resources.  
I would like to see Thumek  
National included in the Alaskan  
Wilderness program as it seems of  
primary benefit to all concerned.  
I support the conservationists in regard  
to the boundaries being along the  
road rather than the western line  
I urge the Secretary of the Interior  
to amend the order to eliminate  
the military use clause to insure that

Unimak Island and the wilderness  
will not be subjected to military  
intervention in the future. My feelings  
on this are very strongly anti-  
military on this important issue.

I would like to have my  
letter included in the public  
hearing and would appreciate  
receiving acknowledgement of your  
receiving this letter.

Thank you and good luck.

Sincerely,  
Susan K. Anderson

JAN 13 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 20 1971

# 91  
P.O. Box 113  
Burns, Oregon 97720  
December 17, 1971

Refuge Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

Please accept for the record our sincere support in favor of establishing the Unimak Island Wilderness Area. Because of the high value of wilderness within the National Wildlife Refuge System and growing national concern over our dwindling wildlands, it is of vital importance that designation of wilderness areas be accomplished soon and with the greatest degree of wise protection.

To assure the future integrity of the wilderness, it seems imperative that the executive order establishing the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge be amended to exclude the clause, "The establishment of this reservation shall not interfere with the use of the islands for lighthouse, military, or naval purposes." It would be pure human folly to risk the loss of wilderness to the transient activities of men at war, especially when alternate sites would be more suitable for such activities.

Thank you for listening to our opinions. Please make your decisions carefully and with the thought that millions of future Americans will note your wisdom or mistakes by their own standards as to what is in the "national interest".

Sincerely,

*Walter L. Anderson*

*Rebecca M. Anderson*

Walter L. Anderson  
Rebecca M. Anderson

DEC 29 1971

ROBERT AUERBACH, M.D., F.A.C.P.

440 EAST 57TH STREET  
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022  
(212) 935-9610

December 29, 1971

Alaska Area Director,  
Bureau of Sports, Fisheries and Wild Life,  
69-17 Sewerd Highway,  
Anchorage,  
Alaska. 99502

Dear Sir,

I support the stand of the Alaskan Conservationists  
regarding the Unimak Island, Aleutian Island and  
National Wildlife Refuge.

Sincerely yours,

*Robert Auerbach*

Robert Auerbach, M.D.

RA/vh

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 4 1972

Biological Services — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

JAN 9 1972

DEC 29 1971

Biology Division — Anchorage, AK  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE19<sup>th</sup> Dec. 1971  
3000 Sheridan Rd.  
Chicago, Ill. 60657

My Dear Sir:

Please include in the hearing record on Unimak Island my firm support of the stand taken by conservationists in general.

The Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wild Life presents an excellent proposal but, good as it is, it can be improved by the suggestion of The Wilderness Society regarding location of the wilderness boundary.

The elimination of the clause permitting possible military intrusion in the future also wins my approval.

I have made only one visit to Alaska but that was enough to make me resent any threat to its magnificence. Count me as one who wants to see it preserved in as natural a state as possible.

Yours sincerely,  
Germa E. Bace  
(Mrs. A. R.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 28 1971

Relays Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Box 9429, RFD #1

Stockholm, 91J 10746

December 23, 1971

#122

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Sir,

I am writing in reference to the Bureau's Wilderness Proposal for Unimak Island, and I would appreciate it if you would make my remarks part of the public record.

First may I compliment the Bureau on the proposal in general. Retention of this gem in its pristine condition will be a giant step forward in the coming battles to preserve our natural world.

There are two improvements which, I believe, would augment the Bureau's proposal with a final measure of protection.

One is that the Western exclusion



for the light house and communications station should have a boundary along the road system between the two.

Two, amend the original order which established the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge. to eliminate the clause "the establishment of this reserve shall not interfere with the use of the islands for light house, military, or naval purposes." This would assure Unimak Island to be safe from military intrusion in the future.

I look forward to the day when I and my family will be able to experience a true Alaskan Wilderness on Unimak Island.

Very truly yours,  
Curtis W. Banta

#84  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 13 1971

December 6, 1971

Refuge Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sirs:

I read with interest regarding the Aleutian Islands and what its connection might be with conservationists.

I feel that the weakest link in a chain is the most important thing to take care of and by allowance of a lighthouse, the military or naval purposes to have first consideration when the order to establish the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge was established, should be changed to eliminate this clause. What good are the islands for wildlife if you allow this clause?

Secondly, the western tip of the Unimak Island is excluded by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife because of an active lighthouse and communications station. Couldn't we make a more definitive wilderness boundary along the road system between the lighthouse and communications station?

Sincerely,

*Mrs. Mary R. Bartz*

Mrs. Mary R. Bartz  
5810 Conway Road  
Bethesda, Md. 20034

DEC 29 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 20 1971

December 6, 1971

Biological Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

General Superintendent  
National Park Service Alaska Group  
Room 376  
Federal Building  
605 West Fourth Avenue  
Anchorage, Alaska 99510


Dear Sirs:

I read with interest regarding the Aleutian Islands and what its connection might be with conservationists.

I feel that the weakest link in a chain is the most important thing to take care of and by allowance of a lighthouse, the military or naval purposes to have first consideration when the order to establish the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge was established, should be changed to eliminate this clause. What good are the islands for wildlife if you allow this clause?

Secondly, the western tip of the Unimak Island is excluded the the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife because of an active lighthouse and communications station. Couldn't we make a more definitive wilderness boundary along the road system between the lighthouse and communications station?

Sincerely,

  
Mrs. Mary R. Bartz  
5810 Conway Road  
Bethesda, Maryland 20034

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 18 1972

Biological Resources — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

14200

4200 East Fourth Ave.  
Anchorage, Alaska 99504  
January 16, 1972


U.S. Dept. of the Interior  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, AK 99501

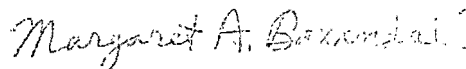
Gentlemen:

We are in favor of the Wilderness Act of 1964 and more specifically your proposal of making the majority of Unimak Island a wilderness area.

We appreciate your efforts in implementing the Wilderness Act of 1964. Keep up the good work.

Very truly yours,

  
John L. Baxendall

  
Margaret A. Baxendall

JAN 18 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 11 1972

Alaska Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 11 1972

Alaska Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

January 7, 1972 #152  
18 Cantruff Ct.  
Oshkosh WI 54901

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I am writing in regard to the Unimak Island Wilderness System. I support the idea of having Unimak Island set aside for a wilderness system.

I am a student at University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh enrolled in a class about Conservation of Natural Resources. I am interested in the outdoors and would

sources. I am interested in the outdoors and would  
someday like to visit Unumiah Island.

I suggest that the boundaries of the system lie along  
the road rather than section lines. Also to urge  
the Secretary of Interior to amend the order to eliminate  
the military use clause to assure that Unumiah Island  
& the wilderness system will not be subjected to intru-  
sion in the future.

I ask that my letter be included in the public hearing  
record. I also ask for acknowledge of receipt of  
my letter.

Sincerely  
William R. Behlman  
18 Canriff Ct.  
Oshkosh, Wisconsin, 54901

JAN 13 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 7 1972

Delayed Division — Anchorage, AK.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

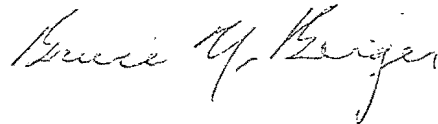
Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

January 4, 1972

Gentlemen:

I strongly approve the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife proposal to include the island of Unimak in the Wilderness System. To insure that the intent of the Bureau is not undermined by future thoughtlessness, I also urge that the clause in the original order establishing the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge which permits military or naval use of the island be amended or deleted. Also perhaps it would be better to set the western boundary of the Wilderness by the road system rather than by section lines, to insure minimal possible intrusions. With those minor changes, I applaud the Bureau's foresight in its proposals for Unimak.

Respectfully,



Bruce N. Berger  
Box 482  
Aspen, Colorado 81611

JAN 17 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 17 1972

RUTH PIRKLE BERKELEY, M. D.  
36 WEST 11TH STREET  
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10011

#219

Alaska Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
AREA CODE 212 ALCONQUIN 4-7545

January 12, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Re: Unimak Island inclusion in  
wilderness system; hearing record

Dear Director:

I wish I could be present at the hearing. I was in Anchorage in 1960, and during the summer of 1960, I was on Unimak Island.

I am now writing you to emphasize my interest as an American (U.S.) citizen in supporting your proposals for inclusion of most of Unimak Island in the Wilderness System. I would like to see the boundary of the small area of the island to be excluded from wilderness located along the present road system instead of the delineation becoming section lines as you have mapped.

Another amendment I would like to see made would be the elimination of any provision for military or naval use to be made of Unimak Island. In the event we are catapulted into a war that many U.S. and world citizens do not want, let us now assure ourselves some true wilderness areas to be protected from devastation, now while we can protect land.

Good wishes in your efforts to preserve this lovely island as wilderness.

Yours sincerely,  
*Ruth P. Berkeley*  
Ruth P. Berkeley, MD

JAN 19 1972



RECEIVED  
JAN 17

Alison Binder  
Box 756  
Davis, Calif. 95616

Biological Services — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

January 11, 1972

Gordon W. Watson  
Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

Please include this letter in the hearing record for the wilderness proposal for Unimak Island, Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge. First of all, I would like to thank the Bureau for an excellent study report on Unimak Island as evidenced in the brochure.

I strongly support the Bureau's proposal for a 965,042-acre wilderness on Unimak Island. It is important that this island be incorporated into the National Wilderness Preservation System in order to give statutory protection to its wilderness values. Wilderness classification will best protect its valuable wildlife habitat, and enable the island to continue to be a sanctuary for species adversely affected by man's intrusion elsewhere.

I urge that negotiations with the State of Alaska be carried out in order to provide protection for the tidelands one quarter mile out from the mean high tide line.

I also urge that Executive Order 1733 (establishing the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge) be amended to delete the following: "The establishment of this reservation shall not interfere with the use of the islands for lighthouse, military, or naval purposes."

Perhaps the exclusion on the western end of the island could have its boundaries follow the road system instead of section lines, in order to have a more logical border.

In conclusion, I support the Unimak Wilderness Proposal and hope that the island is included in the National Wilderness Preservation System as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

*Alison Binder*

Alison Binder

JAN 19 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 29 1971

Wildlife Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

675 County St. #112  
New Bedford, Mass.  
02740

December 23, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I applaud your proposal of including most of Unimak Island in the wilderness system.

I support, however, the conservationists' suggestion for the improved boundary along the road system.

I approve an amendment to eliminate the clause "The establishment of this reservation shall not interfere with the use of the islands for lighthouse, military, or naval purposes." (The military purpose could, I fear, be a target practice range.)

Very earnestly yours,  
Gladys Blackmer

DEC 30 1971

January 12, 1972

#212

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Hwy.  
Anchorage, Alaska 99507

Sir: RE: UNIMAK ISLAND

As per letter from Wilderness Society of which I am a member I endorse the stand of Alaskan conservationists on UNIMAK Island, and am certain all our beautiful wilderness throughout our country will always remain beautiful.

Very truly yours,

Mrs. James R. Blackley

(Dorothy L. Blackley)

3147 Valhalla Drive

Bronx, New York 10465

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 17 1972

Alaska Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

JAN 19 1972

This is a final  
address which  
can be used out  
all times.

Box 244

#34

El Prado

New Mexico 87529

Dec 28 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

Alaska Area Director  
Anchorage Alaska

JAN 7 1972

Department of the Interior - Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Dear Sir:

I would like this letter  
to go into your record on  
favoring the Conservationists  
point of view concerning Unalakleet  
Island.

① The Wilderness will  
not be subjected to future naval &  
military intrusion in the future

② Use the road as a  
boundary if this will not  
interfere with communication  
with digathouse etc.

Sincerely Helen & Blumenschein

JAN 7 1972

# 193

1220 "F" Street  
Anchorage, Alaska  
99501  
January 16th, 1972

Alaska Area Director,  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
Attention: Unimak Wilderness Proposal Hearing Record  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska  
99502

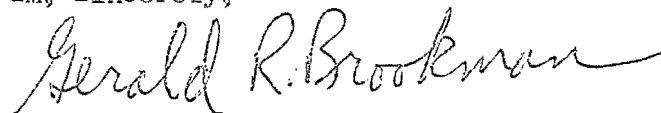
Gentlemen:

I am writing this letter as a written comment on the Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal, since I was unable to attend the Public Hearings on the Subject Proposal, either here in Anchorage or at Cold Bay. I request that this letter be made a part of the permanent Hearing Record on the Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal.

I am in favor of Wilderness Status for the portion of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge as described in the Proposal brochure. I am not at all sure that the excluded area at the Western end of the Island needs to be as large as it is. I believe that road right-of-way strips of perhaps 300 feet for existing and proposed roads; areas where actual developments exist; and areas where developments are considered to be likely and desirable, and necessary for access from off-Island, should be sufficient for excluded areas.

I am a member of the Alaska Conservation Society, the Wilderness Society, and the Sierra Club. I wish to state that I support the testimonies given by these organizations.

I am, Sincerely,



Gerald R. Brookman

JAN 18 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 23 1971

Biological Services — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

5115 Mountain Crest Drive  
Knoxville, Tenn. 37918

December 20, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Re: Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal, with  
a request that this letter be included  
in Hearing Record.

Dear Sir:

I have read with excitement the brochure on the  
Wilderness Proposal for Unimak Island published by your  
Bureau.

I concur with the proposals for wilderness classifi-  
cation. It is imperative that the Congress makes binding  
the wilderness status of this area to protect the wildlife  
and the habitat necessary to maintain it.

It is reassuring to know that Unimak Island lies out-  
side the area of the sticky, death-triggering fingers of  
oil.

I favor taking the action necessary to amend Executive  
Order 1733, to exclude Unimak Island from military intrusion,  
as stated on the next to last page of the brochure.

Sincerely yours,

*Anne Broome*  
(Mrs. Harvey Broome)

DEC 30 1971

600  
800  
CECIL BUDREAU  
RT 1  
FOWLER IN 47944

#192

Alaska area Director

I am in favor of the wilderness  
proposal on Adimak Island  
within the Aleutian Island  
National Wildlife Refuge.

Sincerely

Cecil Budreau

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED  
JAN 13 1972  
Range Division — Anchorage, AK  
FIRE AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

JAN 18 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 27 1971

Refuge Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#109  
John F. Burger  
1329 Rushmore Drive  
University City, Missouri 63130

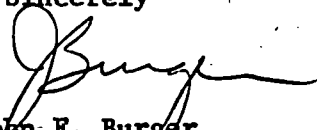
22 December 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Sir:

Enclosed is my written statement concerning the BSWF wilderness proposal for Unimak Island, Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska. I request that this statement be included as part of the official hearing record.

Sincerely

  
John F. Burger

DEC 29 1971



STATEMENT OF JOHN F. BURGER, 1329 RUSHMORE DRIVE, UNIVERSITY CITY, MISSOURI

I have read and studied the BSWF proposal of wilderness designation for Unimak Island, Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska and find that it is generally an excellent proposal. The Bureau has recognized the unique wilderness qualities of this area and has properly emphasized its role as an extensive wilderness. I am particularly gratified to see that no 1/8 mile "management zones" mar this proposal.

The BSWF proposal does not <sup>W</sup>however, sufficiently justify the 33,218 acre exclusion proposed along the western end of the island, and there appears to be little justification for such an exclusion. Therefore, I recommend that the exclusion be reduced to areas of about 1000 acres around Cape Sarichef and Scotch Gap, and that the area from Mishap Creek to Cape Sarichef be included in the wilderness proposal. This will prevent needless exploitation and development along the perimeter of this proposed wilderness system. The proposed wilderness would thus be increased to about 990,000 acres.

In all other respects, the Bureau proposal is an excellent one.

#125

## CORNELL UNIVERSITY

DIVISION OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

ITHACA, N. Y. 14850

SECTION OF ECOLOGY & SYSTEMATICS  
BLDG. 6, LANGMUIR LAB.

27 December 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 30 1971

Biology Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Mr. Gordon W. Watson  
Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Mr. Watson:

I am writing to give my wholehearted support to the proposal to include a major portion of Unimak Island in the National Wilderness Preservation System. Having spent an all too brief time on Amchitka Island in May and June of 1971 and seen how much disturbance can result from man's unbridled technological activities in the Aleutians, I am somewhat better prepared to understand how little their status as a U. S. Wildlife Refuge protects these islands from human acts that are prejudicial to natural areas. I would personally like to see all of the Aleutian Islands, roadless or not, and all of the Alaska Peninsula put in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

At the least, I would hope that Executive Order 1733 could be modified to restrict military and para-military installations from these islands. I have been told that there are around 1200 men on the tiny island of Shemya. Is that true? Surely the Naval Base at Adak is a sufficient military presence for this remote and non-strategic region.

I am also disturbed by the evident conflict in jurisdiction between the Fish and Wildlife Service and the State of Alaska over the littoral zones around the Aleutian Islands. Since so much of the distinctive wildlife of the Aleutians is littoral or maritime in habitat, it would seem best for the refuge and wilderness status to include not only the islands themselves but also the surrounding waters between and around the islands. Amchitka is an excellent example of the need for such a principle. While the interior of that island has been terribly mutilated by man--first during WWII and more recently by AEC, the coastline and littoral habitats around the island are still (or were in June) essentially in their natural state and support a simply fantastic assemblage of living organisms. If for no other reason, the coastline of Amchitka should be preserved for its nesting Bald Eagles and Peregrine Falcons. I am sure the same conclusion applies to Unimak Island, although I have not had the good fortune to see it, except from high up in the air.

In short, I hope Unimak Island will be the first of a whole series of Aleutian Islands that will be recommended to the Congress for inclusion under the Wilderness Act.

Sincerely yours,

Tom J. Cade

Professor of Ornithology

JAN 6 1972

ROBERT J. CAMPBELL  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

TELEPHONE 543-3005  
Area Code 406

#126  
501 WESTERN BANK BUILDING  
MISSOULA, MONTANA 59801

December 27, 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 30 1971

Regulatory Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

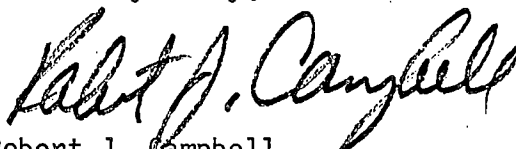
Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

Please enter this letter as part of the hearing  
record concerning the proposed Unimak Island  
National Wildlife Refuge.

I feel that it is extremely important that the  
island be placed within the Wilderness System  
and you have my full support in this proposal.

Yours very truly,

  
Robert J. Campbell

RJC:w

JAN 6 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 28 1971

4102-N. 30<sup>th</sup> ST.

TACOMA, Wm. 98407

Dec. 23, 1971

Biological Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Alaska Area Director

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway

Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I support your splendid proposal for a National Wildlife Refuge that includes Unimak Island. I would hope that, in final form, the wilderness boundary would be established by visible roads rather than section lines, and that the old military or naval "easement" is eliminated.

Yours truly,  
Louis Cantor

DEC 30 1971

CANTOR

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 20 1971

Biological Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Box 45  
Stanfield, Oregon 97875  
December 15, 1971

U. S. Department of Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Gentlemen:

I would like to say that I am very strongly in favor of your Unimak wilderness proposal. Having fished for Salmon in Prince Williams Sound many years ago in the days of the fish traps, I understand the conditions along the Alaskan coast line.

With the intrusion of motorized vehicles, roads and commercial interests, the ecological values will be completely destroyed in a few years under its present refuge status.

The only way to protect this unique Island is to set aside 965,042 acres of Unimak Island to be included in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Very truly yours,

*Don Childs*

Donald G. Childs

dc/dh

DEC 29 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 11 1972

Range Division — Anchorage, AA.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

29 Douglas Ave.  
Staten Island, New York 10310  
January 6, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Sir:

Reference hearings on Unimak Island, Aleutian Islands, and the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife proposal that all but 34,000 acres of Unimak Island be included in the Wilderness System; I endorse the proposal with the following changes recommended by certain conservationists and publicized by the Wilderness Society:

1. The limit of the included area be changed from map section lines on the western tip of the island to a more recognizable boundary along the road system.
2. Amend the Secretary of Interior order establishing the Aleutian Island National Wildlife Refuge to eliminate the possibility of military intrusion on the island in the future.

Yours truly,



Daniel Clancy, Jr.

CC: Honorable Jacob Javits, U.S. Senate  
Honorable James Buckley, U.S. Senate  
Honorable John M. Murphy, U.S. Congress

JAN 13 1972

Alaska Wildlife Bureau

MRS. ALBERT H. CLAYBURGH • 105 EAST 73rd STREET • NEW YORK, N. Y. 10021

4/2/72  
#137

Dear Sir -  
May I add my voice to  
that of many others in  
support of keeping Unalakleet  
Island forever wild - ? -  
and including the <sup>34</sup> acreage  
now under discussion.  
It is my understanding  
that there is a way  
of delineating the  
wilderness area along  
the existing road system.  
Do all you can, please,

To maintain as much  
as possible, a wilderness  
Certainly your heart  
is in the right place.  
Congratulations

Sincerely  
Julia Clayburgh

JAN 9 1972



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 7 1972

Salmon Division — Anchorage, AK  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

ARTHUR H. CLIFT  
9. RECTOR STREET  
NEW YORK 6, N.Y.

156 W. 10th St.  
N.Y.C. 10014  
1/3/72 #203

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502  
Dear Sir,

I heartily endorse your  
proposal for Unimak Island. I  
further endorse the recommendation  
of conservationists to enlarge acreage  
at the tip and to eliminate the  
clause permitting in the order  
which permits the use of the  
island for naval and military  
purposes.

Yours sincerely  
Arthur H. Clift

JAN 18 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 22 1971

Biological Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#125  
Mrs. Norman Colbert  
1311 Dalores Rd.  
Cortez, Colo. 81321  
Dec. 17, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I am happy to hear of the establishment proposal of Unimak Island. However, why not make the boundary along the road system rather than by section lines? Please, eliminate the clause stating that this reservation shall not interfere with the use of the islands for lighthouse, military, or naval purposes. Unimak Island must not be subjected to military intrusion in the future.

Thank you,  
Mrs. Norman Colbert

DEC 30 1971

January 7, 1972

GEORGE MORSE COVINGTON  
2739 NORTH PINE GROVE  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60614

#173  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage,  
Alaska 99502

JAN 12 1972

Patagonia Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Re: Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal

Dear Sir:

I wish to register my support of the proposal of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife that virtually all of Unimak Island be included in the wilderness system. Your proposal is far-sighted and/the progressive tradition of the Bureau in the matter of wilderness designation.

It is my understanding, however, that the Bureau's proposal contains the language that "The establishment of this reservation shall not interfere with the use of the islands for...military or naval purposes." I believe this language could cause considerable confusion in the future as to the effect of the wilderness designation. I strongly suggest that the subject language be either deleted or amended to read to the effect that the wilderness designation shall not interfere with military or naval use of portions of the island which are not included within the wilderness designation.

I request that this letter be included in the Hearing Record.

Yours very truly,

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 7 1972

Biology Division — Anchorage, AK  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

39 McFarland  
Rolla MO 65401  
Jan. 4, 1972

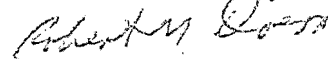
Alaska Area Director  
BSFW  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage 99502

Gentlemen:

This is for the Unimak Island hearing record and acknowledgement is requested.

This is to support the idea of wilderness designation for Unimak, but that the western boundary of the wilderness be set along the east edge of the roads, so as to preclude the intrusion of non-wilderness development between the roads and the presently proposed boundary, and to urge that the wilderness not be used for or subject to military intrusion. (Military intrusion destroyed some of the best timber country in this part of the Ozarks, for activities that could better have been done elsewhere.)

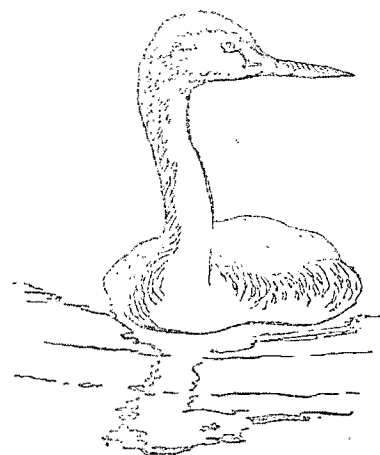
Very truly yours,



Robert M. Doerr

JAN 17 1972

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY  
1522 K STREET, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005



THE NATURE CONSERVANCY  
1522 K STREET, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20005

## WHAT IS THE NATURE CONSERVANCY?

The Nature Conservancy is a national non-profit membership organization whose primary objective is to acquire and to protect outstanding natural areas. By early 1968, the Conservancy had been instrumental in having nearly 85,000 acres set aside as sanctuaries and preserves. These lands, which include forests, prairies, swamps, marshes, seashores, and islands, will be maintained essentially in their natural

state for generations to come. The Conservancy has been instrumental in preserving lands from Maine to Hawaii. The program of acquisition, though but one of the Conservancy's activities, receives top priority because once a beautiful or unique area is destroyed, for whatever reason, it is gone forever.

**Who makes up the organization?**

Any individual interested in preserving what is left of our beautiful and interesting natural America may join. The Conservancy has a Board of Governors and a paid staff. The national offices are in Washington; regional offices are in Evanston, Illinois, and in San Francisco. Though many members have formed local chapters or committees to locate and preserve desirable areas within their states, many others participate individually. Chapters are semi-autonomous, with their own officers. Committees of the Conservancy operate informally, usually with the purpose of initiating a specific project.

**How is the Conservancy supported financially?**

The Nature Conservancy is entirely dependent for its continuing operation upon gifts from individuals, grants from foundations, and membership dues. Today, as the range of its activities and the average size of its projects steadily increase, the Conservancy is in the position of needing much greater financial support than in the past.

**How does the Conservancy acquire "natural areas"?**

In one of two ways: by gift or by purchase. Gifts of land may be received either by deed or by legacy from the owner. When the land is being purchased, the Conservancy requires local groups to raise the necessary money. A loan may be made available to a special project committee or to a local chapter for the purpose of buying a worthwhile area. The loan from the National Office is interest-free the first year with minimal interest rates in succeeding years. Since each project undertaken presents its own special fund-raising problems, the Conservancy does not set a time limit upon repayment.

It is clear, however, that since the Loan Fund works on a revolving basis and is limited, the sooner loans are repaid the sooner funds become available for new projects. The Conservancy also has a Guarantee and Income Fund made up of securities used to guarantee bank loans on projects.

**What is the first step an individual or a committee takes in having a natural area set aside as a preserve?**

A letter should be sent to the President of the Conservancy at National Headquarters, 1522 K Street, N.W., in Washington, or to the State Chapter: the letter should locate the area, describe briefly its outstanding features, whether scenic or ecological, or both, and state the anticipated cost of the land. The area will then be evaluated by a Conservancy representative, and if acceptable as a project it will be presented to the Board of Governors. The Board will decide upon possible authorization of a loan, if the acquisition is to be by purchase. Should the land be offered as a gift, the procedure should be the same as above, with the Board determining whether to accept the gift.

**What size area may be considered?**

No limitation is set. Areas smaller than one acre and as large as 12,000 acres have been preserved by the Conservancy.

Once acquired, how are natural areas used?

buildings, dams, or roads, is not generally permitted. When necessary to protect and maintain a threatened animal or plant, habitat manipulation is practiced. Scientific research and outdoor education are nearly always encouraged.

**How are natural areas protected?**

Usually, volunteers near the area act as a management or "watch dog" group. Their job ordinarily involves keeping an eye out for fire, littering, or vandalism of any description. Where appropriate, a warden or custodian may be employed.

**May the donor of a gift of land enjoy life occupancy?**

Yes. Very often the donor continues to live on the land. He agrees, of course, not to use the land in any way which would harm its natural qualities. Natural areas may be named after the donor or given a name chosen by the donor.

**Are gifts to the Conservancy tax-deductible?**

The fair market value of a gift of land is for income tax purposes deductible from the donor's gross income, up to 30%. Gifts of cash, including membership contributions, are deductible in the same manner. Should the donation, whether of land, stock, or cash, exceed 30% of the donor's gross income for the year in question, it may be carried forward for as many as five succeeding years. A special tax leaflet is available from the Conservancy.

**Does The Nature Conservancy coordinate its efforts with those of government agencies and others in acquiring land?**

The Conservancy's aim is to cooperate wherever and whenever possible with any conservation group holding similar objectives. For example, the Conservancy is always deeply engaged in a program of advance acquisition of land for state parks, national parks, and national forests. As a private organization, it can take immediate action, using its loan funds, to hold premium lands until the federal or state unit involved can secure appropriations to reimburse the Conservancy.

**Does The Nature Conservancy retain ownership of all its areas?**

The Conservancy both retains and conveys land. Areas saved by the Conservancy are often conveyed to institutions such as schools, universities, or local conservation agencies which will encourage scientific research, outdoor education, or field study, and will undertake management responsibility. Conveyance, in these instances, is by restrictive lease or by deed with reverter clause in order to prevent land uses harmful to a natural area, whether deliberate or otherwise.

**How may an individual assist the Conservancy in its objectives?**

First, by membership. Members are eligible to vote, hold office, and to participate in determining policy. They receive the quarterly News and now and then other publications of the Conservancy. As a member of the Board of

A letter should be sent to the President of the Conservancy at National Headquarters, 1522 K Street, N.W., in Washington, or to the State Chapter: the letter should locate the area, describe briefly its outstanding features, whether scenic or ecological, or both, and state the anticipated cost of the land. The area will then be evaluated by a Conservancy representative, and if acceptable as a project it will be presented to the Board of Governors. The Board will decide upon possible authorization of a loan, if the acquisition is to be by purchase. Should the land be offered as a gift, the procedure should be the same as above, with the Board determining whether to accept the gift.

What size area may be considered?

No limitation is set. Areas smaller than one acre and as large as 12,000 acres have been preserved by the Conservancy.

Once acquired, how are natural areas used?

The Conservancy maintains its areas so that the natural character of the land endures. Non-destructive public uses such as canoeing, hiking, and nature photography may be permitted, but construction of artificial features, such as

Does the Nature Conservancy retain ownership of all its areas?

The Conservancy both retains and conveys land. Areas saved by the Conservancy are often conveyed to institutions such as schools, universities, or local conservation agencies which will encourage scientific research, outdoor education, or field study, and will undertake management responsibility. Conveyance, in these instances, is by restrictive lease or by deed with reverter clause in order to prevent land uses harmful to a natural area, whether deliberate or otherwise.

How may an individual assist the Conservancy in its objectives?

First, by membership. Members are eligible to vote, hold office, and to participate in determining policy. They receive the quarterly News and now and then other publications of the Conservancy. As a member of the Board of Governors has observed, "Since the beginning of 1967, the Conservancy has preserved \$20 worth of land for every dollar of operating money. This is pretty catalytic money." You are urged to join this effective and rewarding effort to protect our natural heritage.

#### THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

1522 K STREET N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20005

Please enroll me as a

- ☐ Patron (\$1,000 or more)
- ☐ Life Member (\$300 or more)
- ☐ Contributing Member (\$25 or more)
- ☐ Sustaining Member (\$10 or more)
- ☐ Annual Member (\$5)

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

(Gifts are tax-deductible. Please make checks payable to The Nature Conservancy.)

January 7, 1972  
508 W. T. Young  
Oshkosh, Wisconsin

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport, Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

Dear Sir:

I am writing in regard to  
the controversy about the Unalakleet  
Islands. I am a senior at UW-O  
and am currently taking a  
course in conservation. We have  
been studying about A. Leopold's  
views on wildlife and wilderness.  
I definitely agree that we must  
concern ourselves with the national  
order of things.

Because of my concern for  
preserving the wilderness, I would  
like to see the Unalakleet Islands  
preserved.



included in the witness system.  
As a future teacher of young children,  
I am determined to include conversation  
and I have already collected and  
laminated pictures for this purpose.

Should you please include my  
letter in the public hearing? Thank  
you so very much for your time.

Sincerely,  
Sue Love

Should you please acknowledge the  
receipt of this letter?

JAN 13 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 15 1971

Refuge Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#81  
2059 D 41st St.  
Los Alamos, N. M. 87544  
10 December 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

re: Unimak Island National Wildlife Refuge Wilderness Hearing,  
December 14, 1971 and December 17, 1971. This letter to become  
part of the official Hearing Record.

Dear Sir:

I am writing in support of the Bureau's proposal for a 34,000  
acre wilderness area on Unimak Island. Since only a small portion  
of this island is being considered for actual Wilderness Status, it  
would seem unnecessary to reserve military access to that area and  
I urge this restriction be abolished.

Yours truly,

*Dana L. Douglass*  
Dana L. Douglass

DEC 23 1971

Wilderness Studies  
Room 410 Hill Building  
632 Sixth Avenue  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

December 20, 1971

Mr. Dana L. Douglass  
2059 D 41st Street  
Los Alamos, New Mexico  
87544

Dear Mr. Douglass:

This letter is in response to your note of December 10, testifying in favor of our proposal to include portions of Unimak Island into the National Wilderness Preservation System.

There is apparently a misunderstanding concerning the size of the area to be included into wilderness, and we wish to draw your attention to it, in case you may wish to revise your testimony. The shaded portion of the map in the centerfold of the Unimak brochure is that area which is not proposed as wilderness. The vast remainder of the island - about 960,000 acres - will become wilderness if this proposal is approved by the Department of the Interior, the President, and the Congress. A part of this 960,000 acres will also probably be selected by the Natives of the island in accord with the recently-passed Native Land Claims Legislation.

At any rate, we are proposing that most of the island be included into the Wilderness Preservation System, and that approximately 34,000 acres be left for any future developments that may be necessary.

We will hold your letter of testimony here for inclusion into the record. If you wish to substitute another letter for it, please feel free to do so. We also want to thank you for taking time to express your feelings on this proposal and apologize for the misconception apparently caused by the shading on our map.

Sincerely yours,

Will Troyer  
Wilderness Coordinator

WT: sd

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 14 1972

Alaska Division -- Fisheries, Wildlife  
AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

P. O. Box 619  
Las Vegas, New Mexico 87701

December 27, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries  
and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I support the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife proposal that Unimak Island be included in the Wilderness System.

I recommend that the Secretary of the Interior amend the original order issued to establish the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge. To protect the wilderness of Unimak Island and the other islands in the Wildlife Refuge the statement "The establishment of this reservation shall not interfere with the use of the islands for lighthouse, military, or naval purposes" should be deleted.

Sincerely,

*Patricia H. Douglass*  
(Mrs.) Patricia H. Douglass

cc: Senator Anderson  
Senator Montoya  
Congressman Lujan

JAN 18 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 17 1972

Biological Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Rural Route 5  
Box 5665  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
January 12, 1972

Mr. Gordon W. Watson, Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Mr. Watson:

The Bureau's proposal for inclusion of the bulk of Unimak Island within the National Wilderness Preservation System makes nothing but sense, and I am happy to endorse it. The island's many and great values (historic, geologic, ecologic, scientific, scenic, wildlife, recreational, etc.) make it a highly desirable addition to the wilderness system. On this battered and polluted earth any area still in a near-pristine condition is for that reason alone of immeasurable value.

That such rare natural areas still exist is cause for rejoicing and for immediate action to ensure their protection. Anyone who believes that de facto wildernesses need no protection has not been paying attention to what has been happening in our state, much less in the world. No place is beyond man's depredations. Inclusion within the wilderness system is essential to protect Unimak's invaluable wilderness. Refuge status does not prohibit incompatible developments such as road building, widespread use of motorized vehicles, intrusion by commercial interests, and various military or defense-related assaults. To further ensure against the latter, Executive Order 1733 should be amended by deletion of the section allowing military intrusions within the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge. One Amchitka is too many. In addition, negotiation of a tidelands lease with the State of Alaska to  $\frac{1}{4}$  (one quarter) mile or more offshore around the island is of great importance in securing the desired degree of protection for this wilderness area. Finally, the suggestion that the western boundary of the wilderness follow the existing road system rather than section lines sounds reasonable and wise.

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on this proposal and would like this letter to be made a part of the official hearing record.

Sincerely yours,  
*William Philip Dunn II*  
William Philip Dunn II

JAN 19 1972

7  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 17 1972

Robert M. Jones — Ambassador, III  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

RR 5, Box 5885  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

January 14, 1972

Gordon W. Watson, Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Mr. Watson:

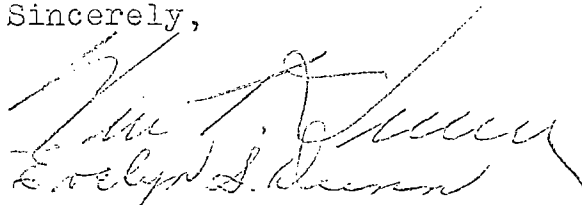
My husband and I have studied the Unimak Wilderness Proposal and wish to go on record as supporting it.

We feel that what has been permitted to happen on Amchitka with an estimated fifteen hundred (1,500) sea otters, and uncountable numbers of other creatures of land, sea and air blasted to death, is convincing proof that National Wildlife Refuge designation does not offer the protection needed for the values to be found on Unimak Island. We, therefore, ask that Unimak Island and the wilderness not be subjected to military, naval, or atomic energy commission (AEC) intrusion.

We would also like to see the western boundary of the proposed wilderness area placed along the road system that connects the active lighthouse and communication station.

Although we may never be able to visit and see the wonders of Unimak Island it will make us feel good to know they are protected within the Wilderness System and welcome this opportunity to help in making this possible.

Sincerely,



William T. Dunn  
Evelyn S. Dunn

JAN 19 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 11 1972

Biological Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

January 7, 1972 #151  
838A Jefferson St.  
Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54901

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I am writing this letter in support of the inclusion of Unimak Island in the wilderness system, and would like my letter to be included in the public hearing.

As a student at the University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh enrolled in a course entitled "Conservation of Natural Resources," I became concerned about the Unimak Island issue through my instructor.

I agree with conservationists that the boundary should be along the road rather than section lines. I'd also like to urge the Secretary of The Interior to amend the order to eliminate the military use clause to assume that Unimak Island and the wilderness will not be subject to military intrusion in the future.

Please acknowledge receipt of my letter, and let me know the hearing's outcome.

Very truly yours,  
Janet M. Duschack

JAN 13 1972

RECEIVED  
JAN 17 1972

Re: Fish and Wildlife Service  
Fish and Wildlife Service

13245 - 40th Ave., N.E.  
Seattle, Washington 98125  
January 1, 1972

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
U. S. Department of Interior  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Attention: Mr. Gordon W. Watson, Area Director

Dear Mr. Watson:

As former Alaskan residents my husband and I have been extremely interested in administrative and legal efforts to assure that some part of this last major wilderness country within our nation (or the world, for that matter) shall continue to be unaltered by human intervention. But we realize human intervention is mandatory to assure the continuance of wilderness.

A photo of Mt. Shishaldin taken on one of the last trip's my father made in 1942 has hung in our home for a long while; from this and his previous trips to the Aleutians, a feeling of appreciation for the wild beautiful character of the Alaskan Peninsula and the Aleutians has been a part of my life, even though I have not visited that area of Alaska and probably shall never have the opportunity.

We endorse your proposal for Wilderness Area status for Unimak and regret that the original Wildlife Refuge designation was made when the value of unimpaired tidelands had not been recognized. It is our hope that the State of Alaska will be perceptive and assist in assuring permanent protection to the submerged lands of Unimak Island.

The recommendations of Alaskan conservationists to adjust the proposed wilderness boundaries to follow more natural boundaries than the section lines east of Cape Sarichef and Scotch Cap appear to be preferable. It is also highly desirable to assure that the early proviso for military and naval uses be eliminated for the Unimak Wilderness when it is legally designated by Congress.

Please include our support of the Unimak Wilderness in the record of the public hearings held on the proposal.

Very truly yours,

*John A. Dyer*  
Mrs. John A. Dyer

JAN 20 1972



Jan 7, 72  
1111 Cherry St.  
Oakland, Calif.  
#164

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport, Fisheries & Wildlife  
16917 General A. Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I am a concerned conservation  
student at the University of  
Wisconsin at Oshkosh and have  
recently been informed of the  
some form of wildlife  
management system.

Since I believe that we  
should reserve as much  
land as possible in the  
natural state I support  
the idea of making the  
wilderness boundaries along  
the road instead of the actual  
line. An amendment  
should also be passed so  
that the military will  
not be able to invade this  
area at anytime. Once this  
state of wilderness is gone  
it will take more than  
several years to restore it.

Could my letter please be  
included in the public  
hearing and could an  
acknowledgment of receipt  
be made.

Sincerely yours,  
Betsy Egan

JAN 13 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 29 1971

Recreation Division — Anchorage, AK  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

CALVIN M. FAIR, D.D.S.  
P.O. BOX 369  
SOLDATNA, ALASKA 99669

December 27, 1971

Alaska Area Director, B.S.F.W.  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

We would like to be put on record as favoring the  
Unimak Island Wilderness Area as proposed by the Bureau.

Respectfully,

Calvin M. Fair

*Calvin M. Fair*

Martha Jane Fair

*Martha Jane Fair*

DEC 30 1971

# BELLEVUE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

District 405  
310 102nd Ave. N.E.

BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON

98004

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 1 1972

WILLIAM H. MORTON  
Superintendent of Schools

29 December 1971

Wildlife Division — Anchorage, Ala.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

Please include this letter in the hearing record for the Unimak Island, Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge Wilderness proposal.

I wish to express my support for the proposal set forth relative to including Unimak Island in the wilderness system.

I would also like to express my support for the alteration of the plan to put the wilderness boundary at the road system on the western tip of the island.

Please record my even stronger support for amending the proposal to exclude military use of the island.  
Thank you.

Yours truly,



David W. Faith  
Coordinator for Conservation  
Education

DWF:kp

JAN 7 1972

January 5, 1972

Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska

11200  
RECEIVED

JAN - 7 1972

John Fisher - Anchorage, AK  
Wilderness Society  
1000 Broadway, Suite 100  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

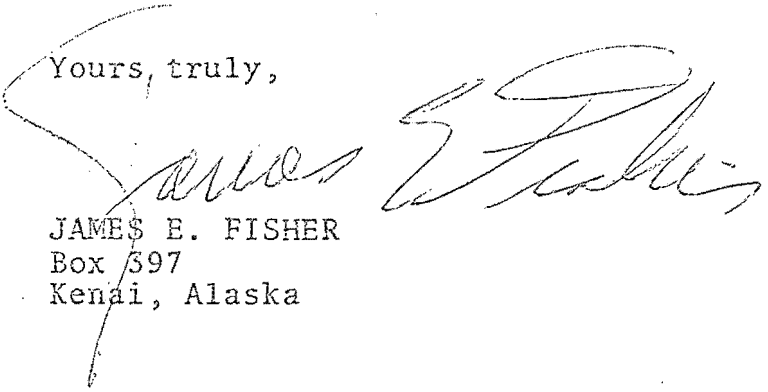
RE: Inclusion of portions of Unimak Island in the National Wilderness Preservation system

As a long-time resident of Alaska, I would strongly urge and do favor inclusion of the portions of Unimak Island proposed by your agency, for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System, to be so included.

I think it is important to make these reservations of wilderness areas because it is the only effective means of land use planning which has preserved land in the relatively undisturbed state for the future generations of the citizens of this Country.

I do not think an impact study is required under the National Environmental Protection Act because the impact of the administrative designation does not change the environment as is contemplated under the quoted act.

Yours, truly,

  
JAMES E. FISHER  
Box 397  
Kenai, Alaska

JAN 18 1972

January 4, 1972

#207

Dear Sir:

I have reviewed your proposal for a Unimak Island Wilderness within the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge. It appears to be an excellent one. A unique island environment will be preserved if this area is added to the National Wilderness Preservation System, and I hope this will be accomplished soon. Please add this statement to the official hearing record. Thank you.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 7, 1972

Biological Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Sincerely,

*Gregg Foote*

Gregg Foote  
7144 Orchard St.  
Lincoln, Nebr. 68505

JAN 18 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 20 1971

Bering Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#98  
Dec. 15, 1971  
Route 1 Box 161  
Enumclaw, Wash.  
98022

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

This letter is in support of Unimak Island being included in the Wilderness System and for the recommendations put forth by the Alaska conservationists in regards to Unimak Island.

Please include this letter in the hearing records.

Thank you very much,

*George Frye*  
George Frye

Copy: Senators Magnuson and Jackson

DEC 29 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 5 1972

WILSON EX-100 — Anchorage, AL  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

20 Magaw Place  
New York, New York 10033  
January 3, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I want to let you know I support your proposal for Unimak Island in the Aleutian Island chain. However I agree with Alaskan conservationists and urge you to add to the proposed wilderness some of the western tip of the island. I know of the road that is there but I feel that the boundary could be placed along the road system. I also ask you to urge the Secretary fo the Interior to amend the order that allows the use of the islands for lighthouse, military and naval operations.

Sincerely,  
*Paul Gallant*  
Paul Gallant

JAN 9 1972



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 27 1971

Damage Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#105  
3025 E. Second  
Tucson, Ariz.  
8716  
Dec. 21, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sports Fisheries &  
Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear sir:

We wish this letter to be  
included as part of the hearing.

We want Unimak Island  
to be designated as a wilderness  
area. Please request that a  
very recognizable wilderness  
boundary be placed along  
the road system. Recommend  
that none of Unimak Island  
be used as a military or naval  
reservation. The military  
should not intrude. Surely  
there are nearby areas which  
could be used by the  
military or ~~re~~ naval units.

Sincerely,  
Mr. & Mrs. James M. Gates

DEC 23 1971



Mr. & Mrs.  
Eric W. Ginzold  
336 East 86th Street  
New York, NY 10022

11/3/72

11-207

ALASKA AREA DIRECTOR  
BUREAU OF SPORT FISHERIES  
AND WILDLIFE  
6917 SEWARD HIGHWAY  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99502

RECEIVED  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

JAN 7 1972

Range Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

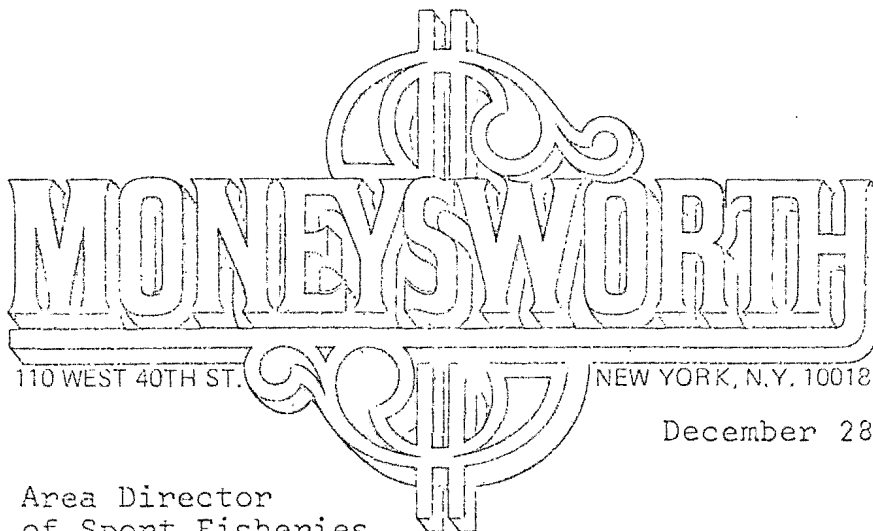
Gentlemen:

I support the Alaskan Conservationists  
in enlarging the proposed to include Unalakleet  
Island in the National Wilderness System.

I urge that the Secretary of the Interior, better  
define the boundaries by placing them along  
~~the road system~~ <sup>the road system</sup> rather than on section lines on  
the map. Also, the Secretary should amend the  
order to assure that the wilderness will  
not be subject to military intrusion in the  
future.

Sincerely,  
Eric W. Ginzold

JAN 28 1972



December 28th, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries  
and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Sir:

I am writing this letter to give my complete support to the proposals outlined by the Alaskan conservationists in regard to the Unimak Island wildlife refuge.

I urge that those proposals supported by The Wilderness Society be adopted and implemented as soon as possible.

Thank you.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 4 1972

Refuge Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Sincerely yours,

*Ralph Ginzburg (JR)*  
Ralph Ginzburg  
Editor and Publisher

JAN 9 1972



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED  
JAN 17 1972

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA  
COLLEGE, ALASKA 99701

January 14, 1972

College Division — Anchorage, AK  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

United States Department of the Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sirs:


I am writing to offer my support for the inclusion of Unimak Island in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

While operating a field station for the Institute of Marine Science of the University of Alaska on the Izembek National Wildlife Range, I visited this unique island and became acquainted with its beauty and wildlife. I have also witnessed its varied shoreline while doing cruise work between Unimak Pass and Izembek. I have seen the caribou and the brown bear, the latter in great numbers fishing for salmon in some of the streams that flow into Urilia Bay. I have also seen the millions of slender-billed shearwaters in the Unimak Pass area. I regret that I have not seen the wolves although I have seen their sign on the beaches and tide flats. I only wish that these tide lands, the feeding grounds for almost all the migrating waterfowl, would be included but I realize that this is, unfortunately, outside the jurisdiction of the Bureau.

Alaska may well be the last stronghold of wilderness and even this is rapidly changing. Remote areas like the Aleutians and especially Unimak Island are necessary now and will be more so later.

I would, therefore, like this brief statement of support to be read into the hearing record for the inclusion of Unimak Island in the National Wildlife Preservation System.

Sincerely,

  
Michael T. Gottschalk  
Technician

MTG/bm

JAN 18 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 13 1972

Refuge Division — Anchorage, AL  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

R #3 419<sup>th</sup>  
Shelbourn Falls,  
Wisconsin 53085  
January 9, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir,

I am writing in regard to the coming hearing on the inclusion of Unimak Island to the wilderness system. I am a student at the University of Wisconsin at Oshkosh and enrolled in a conservation course which has brought my attention to the Unimak wilderness hearings. I would like you to include my letter in the public hearing as a support to the inclusion of Unimak Island in the wilderness system with the boundaries in the questioned area to lie along the road rather than along section lines. I also strongly believe that the Secretary of Interior should be urged to amend the order of the military-use clause, so that Unimak Island and the wilderness will not be subject to military intrusion in the future. A military base can be built, and removed and built again.

wilderness area is destroyed, it can never fully be the same.

It is my hope that Unimak and other neighboring wilderness areas will be officially safe from any man-made destruction, so that not only us, but also future generations will always have wilderness areas to observe. Not to conquer, but to observe.

Sincerely,  
Carol M. Greig

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 12, 1972

Range Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Jan 7, 1972 #165

201 Taylor Hall

UWO

Order No. W-54701

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I am a student at UW-O taking a Conservation course and am concerned with the Unimak Island situation and its wilderness proposal. I would like to see the Unimak Island placed in the Wilderness System with the boundaries along the road instead of placing section lines as a boundary.

The Secretary of the Interior should also be urged to amend the order to eliminate military use of Unimak Island so the island won't have military intrusion in the future.

I feel that this letter should be included in the public hearing on the Unimak Island issue and request acknowledgement receipt.

of my letter if at all possible.

A concerned citizen, ○

M. A. Haase

JAN 13 1972



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 15 1971

December 11, 1971

Relays Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

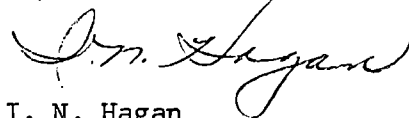
Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I am elated to discover that it is the intention of your bureau to designate Unimak Island in the Aleutians as part of the Wilderness System. You are to be commended for this magnificent undertaking. I was overjoyed to learn that within a year or two you are likely to consider a similar approach to the entire chain of islands in the Aleutians.

As your plans evolve for Unimak Island and all the others I sincerely hope you will maximize the areas for wilderness definition.

Yours sincerely,



I. N. Hagan

COPIES: Senator Hugh Scott  
Senator Richard S. Schweiker  
Congressman Thomas E. Morgan  
Secretary of Interior Rogers Morton

DEC 23 1971

WHITNEY HALSTEAD

2451 N. Orchard  
Chicago, Illinois 60614

4178  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 7 1971

Relays Division — Anchorage, AK  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sirs:

The Wilderness Society has brought to my attention the hearing concerning Unimak Island, Aleutian Islands, National Wildlife Refuge. I fully support the stand of the Wilderness Society and urge you to adopt a program consistent with this position. I feel, sincerely that it is in the best interests of all - especially the future generations - that this be done.

Sincerely,



Whitney Halstead

CC: Senator Adlai Stevenson III  
The Senate  
Washington, D.C.

JAN 17 1971

RECEIVED

DEC 30 1971

12/28 #127

Dear Sirs,

Holings Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

This letter is to support the plan for a Wilderness Area on Unimak Island.

I think, that to secure it from the whims of changing governments that the whole island should be included.

I wish my letter to be counted in support of such a system in the hearing records. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Hatton, M.D.

The Children's Clinic

3300 Providence Dr.

Anchorage 99504

JAN 6 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 14 1972

Ecology Division - Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Corliss A. Hammond  
260 Elmwood Drive  
LeSueur, Minnesota 56058

January 9, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries  
and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

This letter concerns the proposed inclusion of Unimak Island, Aleutian Island National Wildlife Refuge, to the Wilderness Preservation System - a measure I consider necessary for the protection and future welfare of this unique island.

Far from keeping people out of this area, a wilderness designation would set aside this island in its natural, unspoiled state for many people for many generations to come.

I also support the proposal that Unimak Island be spared the construction of military installations. Such structures are certainly not consistent with the true meaning of "wilderness".

In past years this country has permanently locked up millions of acres of once wild lands to build highways, housing developments, airports, etc. Compared to these lands, our precious acres of remaining wilderness are surely not too much to protect.

Please include this letter in the hearing record for Unimak Island.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Corliss A. Hammond*

Corliss A. Hammond

cc. to : Gov. William A. Egan  
Senator Walter F. Mondale  
Senator Hubert H. Humphrey

JAN 18 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 14 1972

12 January 1972

Alaska Division — Anchorage, AK  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#177  
P.O. Box 235  
Auke Bay, Ak 99821

Mr. Gordon W. Watson, Alaska Area Director  
U.S. Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Ak 99502

Dear Mr. Watson:

Please consider this letter an endorsement of the wilderness proposal for Unimak Island, Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska.

The proposal prepared by your agency appears to provide the necessary degree of protection for an exceptional area of the Aleutian Islands.

Sincerely,  
*Keith Hart*  
Keith Hart

JAN 28 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Land Management  
1915 Grand Highway  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99502

RECEIVED  
JAN 12 1972

DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Dear Sir:

I am expressing my desire to have my share  
included into the leasing regarding Umanak Island.  
I am a Student at University of Wisconsin, and  
a land owner and taxpayer.

I would strongly like to have Umanak Is.  
in the wilderness system.

I am in support of the Alaska Conservation  
Plan in regards to the boundaries along the  
road instead of sector lines in the western  
part of the Island.

I also would like to urge the Secretary of  
the Interior to amend the order to eliminate the  
military use clause to assure that Umanak  
Island and the wilderness will not in the future  
be subject to military use.  
I would like an acknowledgment receipt of  
this letter.

Sincerely,  
John J. Hebert  
1344 Iowa St.  
Fairbanks, Alaska

#196

January 2, 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 14 1972

Biological Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Alaska Area Director

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife

6917 Seward Highway

Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Sir,

The Unimak Island wilderness proposal is excellent and is worthy of inclusion by Congress and the President in the wilderness preservation system.

However as one of the millions of people that own federal land, I object strongly to the military being able to <sup>use</sup> this island, or any part of public land that has been set aside for specific purposes. Military uses are contrary to the values and purposes that this refuge was set aside for. Therefore Executive Order 1733 needs to be amended to completely exclude the clause

"The establishment of this reservation shall not interfere with the use of the islands for lighthouse, military, or naval purposes"

By amending Executive Order 1733, any further abuse to public land that has been set aside for a specific function or purpose other than military can be forever avoided.

Immediate action by Congress and the President is needed to place Unimak Island in the wilderness system.

Please place a copy of my letter in the official testing record concerning Unimak Island

Sincerely,

Harold J. Heggerness

HAROLD J. HEGGERNESS

41 BALDNE RD

HYDE PARK, MASS 02136

JAN 18 1972



#129

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 30 1971

Delta Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Twitchell Lake  
Big Moose, N.Y. 13307

December 26, 1971

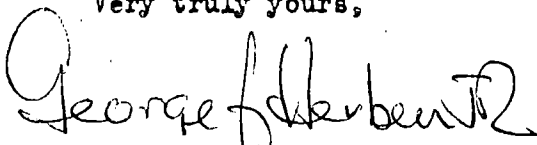
Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

Please make a matter of record my statement as follows:

I strongly urge the inclusion of the areas totalling 965,042 acres comprising the Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal into the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Very truly yours,



George F. Herben, Jr.

JAN 6 1972

Our W-55 72-51-  
N.Y.C. 10023  
1/1/72

#144

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

JAN 4 1972

Damage Division — Anchorage, AK  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Sir:

① Please support Alaskan Conservationists and improve the wilderness area on Unalaska Island. Do not exclude the western tip of the Island. Please place a more recognizable wilderness boundary along the road system so that this small increase in acreage can be adopted in final recommendations.

②. Please amend the order which established the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge to eliminate the clause 'The establishment of this reservation shall not interfere with the use of the islands for light house, military or naval purposes.'

This will assure that Unalaska & the wilderness will not be subjected to military intrusion in the future. Sincerely, 90

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 21 1971

Refuge Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#101  
6337 Maxwell Drive  
Camp Springs, Md. 20023  
December 16, 1971

Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I would like this letter to be included in the hearing record on Unimak Island.

I support the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife proposal that 965,042 acres of Unimak Island be made a wilderness area.

Sincerely,

*Michael L. Hill*

Michael L. Hill

DEC 29 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 10 1972

1604 Bellaire Dr.  
Casper, Wyo. 82601  
January 7, 1972

Alaska Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I wish to endorse the excellent proposal to include most of Unimak Island in the Wilderness system. Please include my views in the hearing record.

While I have never been to Alaska, my brother, who died last fall, spent three years in Anchorage, Seward, at Dutch Harbor and on Attu during World War II. He grew to love that country, and I know it would please him that some part of it will be preserved.

The additional suggestions made by conservation groups seem to have merit, and in my opinion would be good additions to your proposal: to place the wilderness boundary along the road system and to close the island to possible military intrusion in the future. After that awful blast at Amchitka, we need to preserve a large and lovely island from a similar fate.

Very truly yours,

*Phoebe L. Holzinger*

Phoebe L. Holzinger

JAN 13 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 11 1972

Biological Resources — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

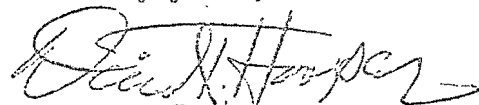
Mr. Gordon W. Watson, Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
United States Department of the Interior  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Mr. Watson:

This letter is to signify my support of the inclusion of suitable portions of Unimak Island in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge in the National Wilderness Preservation System as outlined in the Wilderness Proposal prepared by your Bureau.

I have been a resident of Alaska for almost 19 years and have had occasion to visit Unimak Island several times by boat and aircraft during this period. I fully concur that this unique and wildly beautiful island should be included as one of our Nation's wilderness areas. In the years to come its present remoteness will not provide protection against the encroachments of exploitation. In my opinion, the highest use this area can be put to is that of wilderness and I applaud your choice in making this proposal.

Sincerely yours,



Dr. David T. Hoopes  
P.O. Box 132  
Auke Bay, Alaska 99821

January 4, 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 13 1972

Exchange Division -- Anchorage, AK  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

January 10, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

Please include portions of Unimak Island  
in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge  
in the National Wilderness Preservation System  
as proposed by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and  
Wildlife.

Please make this letter a part of the official  
hearing record.

Thank you.

*Lois H. Hope*

Lois H. Hope  
1807 Cameo  
Loveland  
Colorado  
80537

JAN 18 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 21 1971

Relays Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

415 Mohawk Street  
Lewiston, New York 14092  
December 16, 1971

#100

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6912 Leeward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska - 99502

Dear Sir:

I would like to recommend that the 965,042 acres of Unimuk Island, concluded to be suitable for wilderness, be added to the National Wilderness Preservation System. This magnificent island would be an unmatched addition to the wilderness system and would properly protect its unique and fragile environment.

I also urge that you limit landing of aircraft to areas outside of the proposed wilderness area.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas Horning

DEC 29 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 21

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 27 1971

Biology Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Biology Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

December 21, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sirs,

After reading the Wilderness Proposal for Unimak Is., Alaska, I am heartily in favor of including it in the Wilderness areas under federal scrutiny. Your Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife has been doing good publicity and the brochures are clear and well defined. I like them and pass them on to interested friends for their perusal and education.

Please include my favorable views in the hearing record.

Sincerely,

*Mrs Margery W. Horsfall*

Mrs Margery W. Horsfall  
1037 Oxford Dr.  
Placentia, Calif. 92670

DEC 29 1971



December 1971

#104

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries  
and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99562.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 27 1971

Biological Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Re: Unimak Island

Dear Sir:

Please insert my name in the record concerning Unimak Island as a support of the Alaskan conservationists. I have not to repeat their goals and purposes as they are well known.

Sincerely

Maria Horst Sh. B.  
Member Wilderness Society

Mr. Maria Horst  
Carol Drive, R.R. 4 Box 518  
Hopewell Jct. N.Y. 12533

DEC 29 1971

HENRY E. HOWLAND  
99 MARSHALL RIDGE ROAD  
NEW CANAAN, CONN.  
06840

#80

December 11, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Sir:

Your Bureau's proposal to include Unimak Island, Aleutian National Wildlife Refuge in the Wilderness System is a good move.

The presence of an active lighthouse and communications center connected by roads, on the western tip of Unimak Island should not prevent that part of the island from being included in wilderness boundaries.

The road system is here the intruder, along which a recognizable wilderness boundary could be placed, rather than using section lines.

Unimak should not be subjected to military or naval interference, or use of any sort in the future, other than a Wilderness Refuge.

Sincerely,  
Henry E. Howland

DEC 29 1971

SHELDON A. JACOBSON, M.D.  
6413 BUENA VISTA DRIVE  
VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON 98661

#146

Dec. 30, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wild Life  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska.

Sir:

I strongly support Aleutian Wild Life Refuge  
"ith the improved boundary proposals. As to military use  
of the island, I would like to find a method of dis-  
couraging it without hampering any necessary defense  
activity.



Sheldon A. Jacobson

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 4 1972

Alaska Division - Anchorage, AK  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

JAN 9 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

#149

JAN 6 1972

December 29, 1971

Gordon W. Watson,  
Alaska Area Director, BSWF  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

~~Alaska Division — Anchorage, Ak.~~  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Unimak Island Wilderness

Dear Mr. Watson;

Thank you for the information on Unimak Island. Please place the following comments in the hearing record on the BSWF wilderness proposal for the Island.

The Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife is to be commended for its effort to protect most of Unimak Island as statutory wilderness. I heartily support the Bureau's wilderness proposal.

Not only is remaining wilderness essential for wildlife habitat, but humans also will soon need all the wilderness we can now save. We must turn to the primitive types of outdoor recreation rather than the motorized types.

I would urge that the Executive Order which created the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge be altered so that military activities could not degrade or destroy wilderness values there.

Also, I am somewhat concerned over the existing state of Alaska control over the beaches below high-tide line, and would hope that the BSWF could gain this control.

Sincerely,

*Gerald A. Jayne*

Gerald A. Jayne  
1568 Lola St.  
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401

P.S. If you publish a summary of statements and letters in the hearing record, I would be interested in receiving a copy. Thanks.

JAN 9 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 21 1971

Madaga Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#103  
Post Office Box 102,  
Kodiak, Alaska 99615,  
December 18, 1971

Alaska Area Director,  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife,  
6917 Seward Highway,  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear sir:

I would like to go on record as supporting your proposal in principle to include Unimak Island in the wilderness system.

Your proposal, however, seems to me to include some weak points:

1. Instead of setting the line excluding the lighthouse and communications station along section lines as indicated on the maps of the area, I should like to see the boundary set to follow the road system. This will establish the boundary clearly for anyone to follow.
2. I would like to propose that Unimak Island be exempted from the provision in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge act relative to the possible use of these islands for military or naval purposes. In times of national emergency, these islands like any other place would be used if necessary, but the island should be exempted from peace-time usage other than the lighthouse and communications station already there.

I should like to have the proposal amended to correct these weaknesses, and then to urge immediate adoption of the proposal.

Sincerely yours,



Ernest R. Johnson, Pastor  
St. Paul Lutheran Church

DEC 29 1971

# FARGO CLINIC

237 BROADWAY BOX 2067 (701) 232-3261  
FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA 58102

December 27, 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 30 1971

Lighthouse Division — Anchorage, AK  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

ADOLESCENTS' MEDICINE  
GEORGIE BURT, M.D.  
ANESTHESIOLOGY  
RICARDO E. IGNACIO, M.D.  
BERNARD M. ALTENBURG, M.D.  
DONALD G. WILTSE, M.D.  
BIOCHEMISTRY  
PATRICK J. HUGENT, Ph.D.  
DERMATOLOGY  
W. L. MACAULAY, M.D.  
JOHN D. SARDACKER, M.D.  
PAUL R. VANDERSTEEN, M.D.  
GENERAL SURGERY  
V. G. BORLAND, M.D.  
G. H. HALL, M.D.  
HENRY A. NORUM, M.D.  
DAVID W. TODD, M.D.  
GENERAL AND  
THORACIC SURGERY  
G. ALFRED DODDS, M.D.  
GENERAL, THORACIC AND  
VASCULAR SURGERY  
JOHN E. LEIGH, M.D.  
THORACIC AND  
CARDIOVASCULAR SURGERY  
CLIF S. HAMILTON, JR., M.D.  
INTERNAL MEDICINE  
AND DIAGNOSIS  
L. E. WOLD, M.D.  
MACK V. TRAYNOR, JR., M.D.  
ROBERT P. JORDHEIM, M.D.  
RONALD OLIN, M.D.  
JOHN VAN DER LINDE, M.D.  
KENNETH N. HEPER, M.D.  
ALLERGY AND HEMATOLOGY  
PERRY O. TRIGGS, M.D.  
CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASES  
ROBERT D. STORV, M.D.  
MATT J. EHLEN, M.D.  
DAVID L. DUVAL, M.D.  
GERALD J. KAVANAUGH, M.D.  
DIABETES AND ENDOCRINE  
DISEASES  
D. M. BARNARD, M.D.  
GASTROINTESTINAL DISEASES  
F. T. LYTLE, M.D.  
COMMUNITY MEDICINE  
A. C. FORTNEY, M.D.  
A. E. MAGNUSON, M.D.  
OBSTETRICS AND  
GYNECOLOGY  
G. WILSON HUNTER, M.D.  
JOHN S. GILLAM, M.D.  
G. R. THOMPSON, M.D.  
ROBERT BUSHNELL, M.D.  
THOMAS L. SUSSEX, M.D.  
OPHTHALMOLOGY  
JOHN R. GOFF, M.D.  
ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY  
DOUGLAS T. LINDSAY, M.D.  
THOMAS M. HAMILTON, M.D.  
ROGER D. ENGBERG, M.D.  
OTOLARYNGOLOGY  
NEILL F. GOLTZ, M.D.  
DUANE W. NAGLE, M.D.  
JEROME W. O'HEARN, M.D.  
PATHOLOGY  
JOHN D. LE MAR, M.D.  
JAMES H. COFFEY, M.D.  
E. A. CUNNINGHAM, M.D.  
PEDIATRICS  
M. H. POINDEXTER, M.D.  
W. E. LE BIEN, M.D.  
CHRIS H. CHRISTY, M.D.  
ROBERT C. MONTGOMERY, M.D.  
GEORGE M. JOHNSON, M.D.  
MARVIN G. KOLB, M.D.  
RADIOLOGY  
STANLEY O. THOMPSON, M.D.  
D. NEIL DICKSON, M.D.  
LAWRENCE E. MULKERIN, M.D.  
UROLOGY  
W. D. WEBSTER, M.D.  
LEONARD LEVINE, M.D.  
CHARLES P. EHLEN, M.D.  
BUSINESS  
ADMINISTRATION  
G. WARNER LITTEN  
JOHN G. PAULSEN

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport, Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Stuart Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Re: Unimak Island  
National Wildlife Refuge  
Wilderness Proposal

To Whom It May Concern:

As a citizen and a member of the Wilderness Society, I would heartily support the findings of the Bureau in establishment of a Unimak Island wilderness within the precepts of the National Wilderness Act. I recommend that the Bureau not exclude the western tip of the island because of the presence of an active lighthouse and communications station. As the Wilderness Society states, the boundary of the wilderness area could perhaps be the road connecting these two facilities. In addition, we would wish that the Secretary of Interior would ammend the order to eliminate a clause which would allow the islands to be used for lighthouse, military and naval purposes.

Please make my comments part of the hearing record. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

*George M. Johnson*

George M. Johnson, M.D.

ks

JAN 6 1972

#233  
1704 N.E. First St.

Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., 332 33301

Jan. 15, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries  
and Wildlife

re: Unimak Island, Aleutian Islands  
National Wildlife Refuge

6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska, 99502

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

JAN 20 1972

Dear Sir:

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

May we add our voice as endorsing the stand of the Alaskan Conservationists in requesting the Sec. of the Interior to make such changes in the Order so as to assure that Unimak Island and the wilderness will not be subjected to military intrusion in the future.

In these days of wanton destruction for money and profit it remains for you dedicated men to protect and preserve our wildlife areas from being "worked", or ruined, by people with mineral rights. You men have the foresight to realize that we cannot afford to lose this land. And the entire nation has its eyes on you.

We appreciate your efforts, and are vitally concerned with Alaska, the last frontier.

Sincerely,

*Margaret Johnston*  
Margaret Johnston

JAN 25 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 18 1972

Bureau Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#207  
2617 G. Street, Apt. 17  
Sacramento, California 95816  
January 14, 1972

United States Department of the Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Gentlemen:

I am in favor of the Unimak Wilderness Proposal. I encourage the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife to negotiate with the State of Alaska for the leasing of tidelands around Unimak Island. Such action will provide important protection for the Island's mudflat habitats and, in turn, for the tremendous numbers of migrating shorebirds dependent on these areas.

Shorebirds are an International resource. The migratory nature of these species necessitates adequate feeding areas along the entire length of the migration routes. This is especially important along the coasts of the Pacific Ocean. Shorebirds travel hundreds, possibly thousands of miles from one migration stop to another on their way to and from wintering grounds. Recent studies by California Department of Fish and Game and cooperating organizations have shown that individual shorebirds return to the same migration stops and wintering areas year after year. Mudflat habitat around Unimak Island is one link in the coastal chain of shorebird migration feeding stops. Such habitat warrants adequate protection through tideland leasing by the Bureau.

Sincerely,

*Ronald M. Jurek*  
Ronald M. Jurek

JAN 19 1972



I wish to see Umiak<sup>NWR</sup> given further #83  
protection from development by giving it  
full wilderness status. I think we should  
have enough wilderness areas in the State  
to guarantee the protection of ~~an~~ adequate  
populations of all species of native  
Flora and Fauna.

Harold Kantrud  
Chairman, Natural Areas Committee  
North Dakota Natural Science Soc.  
P.O. 1672  
Jamestown, N.D. DEC 29 1971

December 31, 1971

Alaska Area Director

Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife

Anchorage, Alaska

#133  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
RECEIVED

JAN 1 1972

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

UNIMAK ISLAND WILDERNESS AREA

The Bureau has presented a competent and inclusive proposal for the protection of wildlife on Unimak Island. Local conservationists have studied the details and are supporting the proposal. They do suggest two minor adjustments or changes which they feel would enhance the management and the security of the wilderness.

The exclusion at the western end of the island for the existing installations is in accordance with the Wilderness Act. But the boundaries would be more easily managed if they were tied to the roads rather than to the section-lines on a map.

And the easement for future military purposes should be eliminated from the original order. Here in California we know how difficult it is to recover areas that have been appropriated for bombing ranges and amphibious training sites.

With these changes made I would heartily endorse the Bureau's proposal. Will you please include this letter in the hearing record.

Thank you,

*Fred W Karl*

Fred W Karl

4119 Voltaire Street

San Diego, Calif. 92107

JAN 7 1972

#155

THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE  
CAMPBELL HALL  
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA.  
22903

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 11 1972

Refuge Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

23 December 1971

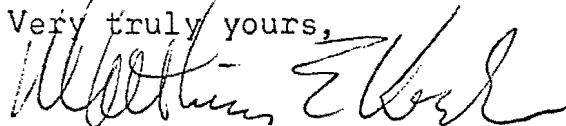
Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries  
and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I write to urge your proceeding with the Unimak Island  
Wilderness Proposal as recommended by the Wilderness  
Society.

Please include this appeal in the hearing record.

Very truly yours,



Matthias E. Kayhoe  
Assistant Dean

MEK:np

JAN 13 1972

JAN 13 1972

Alaska Division — Anchorage, AK  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Jan. 7, 1972  
312 Breese Hall  
UW - Oshkosh  
Wisconsin 54901

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

The purpose of this letter is concerning the inclusion of Unimak Island into the National Wilderness system.

I am a student at University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh and I am very concerned about the preservation of wilderness areas. I ask that this letter be included in the hearing.

I support;

1. The inclusion of Unimak into the Wilderness System.
2. I agree with the Alaskan Conservationists to have the boundaries along the road rather than according to section lines.
3. Urge the Secretary of Interior to amend the order to eliminate the military use clause to assure that Unimak Island and wilderness will not be subject to military intrusion in the future.

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter.

JAN 18 1972

Yours truly,  
Lynda Kalodziej

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 23 1971

Bridge Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#116  
4501 Grand Avenue South  
Minneapolis, Minn. 55409  
December 15, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sirs:

I am writing in support of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife's proposal to include most of Unimak Island in the Wilderness System, and wish my letter to be included in the hearings record on this subject.

I feel strongly that our remaining wilderness must be protected, for the experience which it can provide--a physically and spiritually refreshing contact with nature and her own ways--is unique, and can be found nowhere in the man made world which rapidly encroaches on the wilderness.

I would like to go on record as supporting two conservationist proposals which differ from the Bureau's proposal. I feel that the boundary separating the western tip of the island from the wilderness should be based on the road system rather than on section lines. I also feel that the availability of the island for military and naval purposes should be eliminated, since these purposes could be served elsewhere without intruding on the wilderness.

Sincerely,

*Susan B. Kowalsky*

Susan B. Kowalsky

CC: Senator Hubert Humphrey  
Senator Walter Mondale

DEC 30 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 21 1971

~~Nebraska Division - Anchorage, Alaska~~  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#102  
3401 EAST 15th  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99504  
DECEMBER 18, 1971

Hearings Officer  
Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal Hearings  
Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I fully support the proposed wilderness classification for Unimak Island. Although I've only visited the area once I'm thoroughly convinced that it's absolutely necessary to include this Island into the National Wilderness preservation system.

Although I do support the proposal I would like to see a few boundary changes on the western tip of the island. It would appear that the best solution to this problem would be to place the boundary along the existing roads, thus making a more definable boundary.

The Fish and Wildlife Service is to be commended on a fine proposal.

Sincerely,

James L. Cross

DEC 29 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 17 1972

Nelson Division — Anchorage, AK  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#134  
January 16, 1972  
Kathy and Ron Lautaret  
2627 West 34  
Anchorage, Alaska, 99503

Dear Sirs:

We support the Unimak Wilderness Proposal because it has great scientific and esthetic import.

Respectfully,

Mr. and Mrs. Ron Lautaret

*Mrs. Kathy Lautaret  
Ron Lautaret*

JAN 18 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 12 1972

~~Department of the Interior~~  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#169  
Barrow, Alaska 99723  
January 7, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries  
and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I strongly favor inclusion of Unimak Island in the Wilderness System. I would favor changing the order which established the Aleutian Island National Wildlife Refuge so that the wilderness area, if it is established on Unimak, would not be subject to military intrusion.

Sincerely yours,

*Jack W. Lentfer*  
Jack W. Lentfer

cc: Senator Gravel  
Senator Stevens  
Representative Begich

JAN 13 1972



RECEIVED

JAN 12 1972

#163

Delegation Division — Anchorage, Al.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

MRS. LILIAN LEON  
453 EAST 14 STREET  
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10009

January 7, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wild life  
Anchorage

Dear sirs:

A more recognizable boundary of the  
Wilderness should be placed along the road system. It is  
urged that the Secretary of the interior amend the order  
to eliminate the clause pertaining to military inclusion, so  
that Unimak Island and the wilderness will not be sub-  
jected to military intrusion in the future.

Sincerely yours,

*Lilian Leon*

JAN 13 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 7 1972

Biological Division — Anchorage, AK  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

# 229

180 West End Avenue  
New York, NY 10023  
3 January 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Director:

This letter is in support of the Alaskan conservationists' stand with respect to the proposed national wildlife refuge on Unimak Island.

Their specific differences with the bureau proposal concern the placement of the boundary in a more reasonable manner and more importantly the exclusion of the clause permitting military intrusions.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,

*Leigh Marlowe*  
Leigh Marlowe

JAN 13 1972

TO THE AREA DIRECTOR:

#168

Statement on the Wilderness Proposal for  
Unimak Island, Aleutian Islands  
National Wildlife Refuge.

I have studied the report of the Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife on Unimak Island and have found it to be an excellent report. As usual U.S. B.S.F. & W. has done its homework well, and I support the concept entirely.

Although I have never been there, I saw an excellent slide presentation recently on Unimak, and it is truly magnificent country, fully deserving of wilderness preservation status which will maintain its current usefulness as wildlife habitat. Since Unimak is now de facto wilderness, official designation by Congress will preserve its unique scenic attributes. Certainly an island that features some of the world's most perfectly-formed and beautiful volcanoes, deserves the highest order of scenic protection. The open tundra nature of most of the terrain would make it especially susceptible to visual deterioration from roads or human habitation, development and littering.

Some, such as the state of Alaska Administration, might argue that roads and development would "enhance" the island's scenery - but I counter their argument before it is made by

saying that development would mar the surface of this scenic gem in much the same manner as if one were to take the most perfect color transparency he had ever seen, and with a pin, etch a line in the emulsion diagonally from corner to corner. A small scratch - but the ruination of the scene, for those whose senses are perceptive enough to notice.

Another benefit of wilderness status for Unimak is that it would offer its already valuable fisheries their best possible protection for sustenance in the future. As the land masses of the world become incruisingly scarred, exploited and over-run by out-of-hand urbanization, what a jewel Unimak will become then! Who could argue against wilderness for Unimak except the most callous and unperceptive, greedy and selfish individual among our species? It is in the truest sense then, that the Unimak wilderness is for people who really care what wild beauty and visual quality are, and people who are concerned about not only what is left for future generations, but about the genetic diversity and beauty of wild creatures now and in the future.

I also support negotiation for the State

tidelands' lease out to whatever point is necessary to protect this most productive zone. This last measure is absolutely vital if the present populations of fish and marine mammals are to be maintained.

Respectfully submitted,

Pete K. Martin

3447 E. 88<sup>th</sup> Ave.

Anchorage, Alaska 99502

December 16, 1971

JAN 13 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

41 EAST 72ND STREET  
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10021

# 191

JAN 13 1972

Recreation Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

January 10, 1971

Alaska Area Director

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife

Dear Sir,

This letter comes to plead for preservation of  
Admiral Island in its present state. Especially  
does it urge elimination from the order calling for  
the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge,  
"The establishment of this reservation shall not  
interfere with the use of the islands for lighthouse,  
military, or naval purposes." To include that  
sentence is a palpable contradiction of what is  
meant by a "Refuge".

I hope you will bring your influence to bear  
in no uncertain terms.

Yours very truly,  
Clara W. Mayer

JAN 18 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 18 1972

Biological Resources — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#207  
911 Pennsylvania Place #18  
Davis, California 95616

12 January 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

Please include this letter in the hearing record. Thank you.

I support the wilderness proposal by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife for Unimak Island in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, with one small exception. I agree with Alaskan conservationists in the desirability of the wilderness boundary running along the road on the western end of the island.

Basically, the Bureau has a very good proposal. Wilderness classification will best protect Unimak Island as a natural treasure for present and future generations.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this issue.

Sincerely,

*Amy Mazza*  
Amy Mazza

JAN 19 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 18 1972

Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#208  
702 West 18th Avenue  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503  
January 15, 1972

U.S. Dept. of the Interior  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Ref: Unimak Island Wilder-  
ness Proposal

Gentlemen:

My wife and I wish to submit this letter as written testimony in response to your agency's Unimak Island Wilderness proposal and the public hearings held in conjunction with that proposal. We both wholeheartedly support your Unimak Wilderness proposal.

We are residents of Anchorage, and like a growing number of Americans, plan much of our vacation time and activities around excursions of varying length into the less accessible areas of our nation. We are more fortunate than most Americans, because we have the "wilderness" at our back door. But, apart from the Wilderness Act, what is to insure that our children and grandchildren will have that same opportunity, in Alaska or anywhere else?

Seventy years ago, many persons in the western states had wilderness in their back yard, but where is it today? If they were lucky, small patches of it remain, scarcely enough for self-sustaining wildlife habitat, and a shadow of what it once was. The Unimak Island proposal, and others like it, give us the chance to protect a piece of land large enough to sustain the wildlife which the Refuge was established to protect, while at the same time providing for a type of human enjoyment which is fully compatible with the primary object of wildlife maintenance.

The adamant opposition of the State of Alaska to this and all other wilderness proposals, well-publicized in the press, seems to be founded upon some unspoken and undesirable premises. The most obvious premise is that, given the joint State-Federal land use planning the state calls for in this instance (but pointedly in no other), the Federal wildlife refuges and parks in Alaska would be put to more "beneficial" uses: transportation corridors, mineral extraction, timber production, or any other use offering immediate cash benefits to the State. The long-range protection of the wildlife habitat for which Alaska is famous rates very little consideration, if any at all. It has always existed; why shouldn't it be expected to protect itself?



The opposition of the State of Alaska in essence proposes that the federal wildlife refuges be managed to meet the primary desires of the State, and their original purposes, the protection of a national, not local, resource, would be modified or discarded to meet the State's goals. This position ignores the fact that the federal refuges, whether designated as formal Wilderness or not, will be managed much as they are today, to protect wildlife habitat. They will not be opened to "development" unless the Interior Department disregards its public trust.

The State of Alaska also protests that the impact statement on the Unimak Island proposal, as well as on others, is inadequate -- a blatant attempt to "turn the tables" on the environmentalists. The National Environmental Policy Act does contain some language which would require an analysis of the "impact" of wilderness, but the legislative history and the fundamental purpose of the Act demonstrate beyond doubt that environmental degradation was the "major federal action" it sought to control. Wilderness by definition has no adverse impact on the natural environment. It is the natural environment, maintained in perpetuity.

Of course, the entire agency plan for Unimak or any other wilderness proposal may have features, such as excluded areas, access roads, docks, trails, etc. which are part of the overall wilderness plan but are not inside the wilderness area proper. These features may well have an effect on the natural environment, and should be thoroughly studied pursuant to NEPA. But the wilderness area itself? A slightly ridiculous position, and one that does a dis-service to this State's citizens.

In summary, we support your proposal for the Unimak Island wilderness, and urge that the position of the State of Alaska be entirely disassociated from the position its various citizens might take. Our government does not speak for us in this matter, and I doubt that it speaks for many Alaskans who have an opinion on the subject of wilderness.

We request that this letter be made a part of the Unimak Island hearing testimony.

Sincerely yours,

*Mr. & Mrs. Thomas E. Meacham*

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Meacham

JAN 19 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 7 1972

Recreation Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Jan. 4, 1971  
3311 NE 11th Place  
Renton, Wash. 98055

#230

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I would like to request that this letter be inserted into the hearing record on Unimak Island.

I fully support the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife proposal for including all of Unimak Island except for 34,000 acres in the Wilderness System. Unimak Island with its snow-capped mountains, active volcanoes, living glaciers, expansive tundra, and varied wildlife truly warrants a wilderness designation.

When trends in population increase, leisure time, and per capita income are considered, it can readily be seen that future public demands for wilderness will indeed be great.

Yours Truly,

*Donald R. Mech*

Donald R. Mech

JAN 19 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 20 1971

Bureau Division -- Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICES

*Vivian C. Menaker*  
Box 118  
Haines, Alaska 99827  
December 16, 1971

#82

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

With seventy million more people on this earth every year, Alaska can do humanity a greater service by providing people places to escape to than by industrializing. People in our cities need vacation areas now that so many parks can be entered only by appointment.

I support the National Park Service recommendations for Glacier Bay and Katmai National Monuments. In addition, I support the recommendations of Alaska conservationists which propose that -

1. the 1/8-mile "management zone" be eliminated and the excluded area be included in the wilderness proposals of both monuments.
2. "enclaves" for future development of shelters be eliminated and included in the wilderness, that existing camps be recognized as non-conforming or administrative in nature, and that in the future only those shelters needed for visitor safety or administrative necessity ( as permitted by the Wilderness Act ) be installed.
3. the proposed 10-acre site in the Bay of Islands in Naknek Lake at Katmai Monument as a "wilderness threshold area" be eliminated. It should be included in the wilderness area.

Many more areas in Alaska should be included in the wilderness system and I note that the Alutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge is being discussed. I hope it will be included in the wilderness system also.

Sincerely yours,

*Vivian Menaker*

Vivian Menaker

DEC 29 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 14 1972

Biological Division — Anchorage, AK.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

January 10, 1972

#199

Alaska Area Director,  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife,  
6917 Seward Highway,  
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Sir:

Please add my voice to those of the many others interested in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, that the exclusion of the Lighthouse area from the proposed wilderness on UNIMAK Island be delineated by the present road system, rather than by section lines as proposed by Bureau. No doubt the Bureau thinks that "Conservationists" are never satisfied, and this occurs to me sometimes too; but this small alteration in your otherwise almost exemplary recommendation seems too logical to refute, and I hope our voices will be heard.

Also, so many of us fear the potential power and ubiquity of the U.S. MILITARY that we beg you to recommend to the Interior Dept. the elimination of the phrase permitting the military or naval to enter into the refuge. Either it's to be a refuge or not a refuge, and a refuge is hardly compatible with any arm of any Military.

Thank you.

Very sincerely yours,

*Virginia W. Merz*

Mrs. A. Russell Merz,  
Pauma Valley, California 92061

Box 86

JAN 18 1972

#12  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 22 1971

Biological Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

John J.B. Miller  
141 Magic Oaks Drive, Apt. 26  
Spring, Texas 77373

December 19, 1971

Re: Unimak Island Wilderness  
Proposal

Gordon W. Watson, Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I have received a copy of the Unimak Island Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge (Alaska) Wilderness Proposal and the notice of the public hearing on the proposal. In support of the proposal, I wish to offer the following comments:

Unimak Island offers an opportunity to give wilderness protection to the first link in the Aleutian chain, thus affording protection to other islands further out, without impairing access to them by sea and air. The island is the habitat of many species of fauna, including endangered species, and is especially valuable in this regard.

I have never personally visited Unimak Island. However, when I was stationed on Kodiak Island fifteen years ago I had the opportunity to visit with several personnel who were stationed at the Cape Sarichef Loran station, passing through Kodiak enroute from their duty station. I understand that it was voluntary duty, classed by the Coast Guard as "isolated". I understand the situation has not changed greatly since then. On a recent visit to Anchorage I learned of the Unimak Island proposal.

If wilderness protection is to be effective, Executive Order 1733, permitting military use, should be amended so as to exclude this island from such use (except for existing navigational aids), and also the island should be protected from use for scientific experiments having the potential of modifying the environment. Protection should also be extended to offshore areas extending at least three miles into the Pacific Ocean and the Bering Sea.

Please include these comments in the hearing record, and send me a copy of the full hearing transcript when it is published.

Very truly yours,

  
John J.B. Miller

cc: Hon. Bob Eckhardt, M.C.  
Mr. Jim Kross

DEC 30 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 17 1971

ROGER H. MILLER  
SIX TWENTY ASH STREET  
WINNETKA, ILLINOIS 60093

#86

Bureau Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

December 13, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

Please include the following statement as part of the hearing record for the wilderness proposal in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge on Unimak Island:

I am satisfied with the Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife proposal, and I support it; but in fact the wilderness area can be improved by further increasing the wilderness area at the western tip of the island; and by changing the wording of the proposal slightly to assure that the Unimak Island wilderness will not be subjected to military intrusion in the future.

Sincerely,

*Roger H. Miller*

RHM:hw

DEC 29 1971

#216

Box 308,  
Silver City, New Mexico 88061  
January 12, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

Having lived in Alaska in years past, and having been about Unimak Island in areas of False Pass and Unimak Pass I am deeply interested in the wilderness proposal for Unimak Island. -- I strongly favor the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife recommendation that a very substantial 965,042-acre portion of Unimak Island, Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska, be given wilderness designation and included in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

I also urge that the Secretary of the Interior have Executive Order 1733 amended to eliminate any use of the Unimak Wilderness, and/or other wilderness areas of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, for lighthouse, military, or naval purposes. Also that the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife negotiate with the State of Alaska to secure a State tidelands lease reaching out to one-fourth mile or more to provide the Bureau suitable jurisdiction of a needed valuable buffer zone around the Island's area. Furthermore, as the western tip of the island has been excluded since it has an active lighthouse and a communications station some miles apart and connected by roads, I feel that, if feasible, it would be ecologically and administratively desirable, as well as more easily recognized, to place the wilderness boundary along the road system rather than as now contemplated along section lines.

Thank you for your consideration of my views.

Please include this letter in the hearing record.

Respectfully yours,



W. B. Miller

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 17 1972

Refuge Division -- Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

JAN 19 1972

DECEMBER 29, 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 4 1972

#145

FROM: KEN MORGAN  
P.O. Box 632  
BIG PINEY, Wyo. 83113

Teddy's Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

TO: MR. GORDON W. WATSON, ALASKA AREA DIRECTOR  
BUREAU OF SPORTS FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE  
6917 SEWARD HIGHWAY  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99502

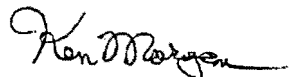
SUBJECT: WILDERNESS PROPOSAL FOR UNIMAK ISLAND OF THE  
ALEUTIAN ISLANDS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

DEAR MR. WATSON:

I HAVE NEVER HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT UNIMAK ISLAND. YET, I CANNOT HELP BUT FEEL THAT IT IS OF SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE TO ALL AMERICANS. IN STUDYING IT FROM AFAR, ITS UNIQUENESS IS QUITE APPARENT. FEW AREAS ARE LEFT ON THE EARTH TODAY WHICH TRULY EMBODY THE CONCEPT OF LIVING WILDLIFE. UNIMAK ISLAND POSSESSES A GEOMORPHOLOGY AND INSULAR ECOSYSTEM WHICH IS A PERFECT, ENCAPSULATED VERSION OF ALASKA AND THE ALEUTIAN ISLANDS. AS SUCH, IT STANDS AS A BAROMETER AGAINST WHICH WILDERNESS DESTRUCTION IN ALASKA AND ELSEWHERE CAN BE APPRAISED. ITS ABUNDANT AND VARIED HABITAT IS A SHELTER FOR SOME OF THE WORLD'S HARRIED WILDLIFE AND WILDERNESS, FOR ALL ITS CONCOMITANT USES, IS STILL MOST VALUABLE FOR WILDLIFE PROTECTION.

I AGREE THAT ALL OF THE ISLAND, EXCEPT FOR APPROXIMATELY 33,260 ACRES WHICH IS UNDER MAN'S DOMINATION, SHOULD BE DESIGNATED AS A NATIONAL WILDERNESS AREA. ADDITIONALLY, CONGRESS SHOULD AUTHORIZE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE STATE OF ALASKA FOR A TIDELANDS LEASE TO PROTECT UNIMAK'S ECOSYSTEM. I ALSO SUPPORT THE NEED TO AMEND EXECUTIVE ORDER 1733 TO EXCLUDE MILITARY AND CIVIL INSTALLATIONS FROM THE AREA NOW PROPOSED FOR WILDERNESS CLASSIFICATION.

SINCERELY YOURS,



KEN MORGAN

CC: U.S. REPRESENTATIVE (WYO) TENO RONCALIO

JAN 9 1972



11/13

December 31, 1971

Kenneth R. Muller  
HHC USAG  
Box 933  
APO Seattle 98731

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries  
and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Gentlemen:

I wish to add my voice to the Unimak Island wilderness hearings. Please include this letter in the hearing record.

I favor inclusion of Unimak Island in the National Wilderness Preservation System. With the exception of several coastal developments, the island is presently managed as defacto wilderness, but lacks the proper protection of wilderness. Today the island is legally open to intrusion by motorized land vehicles, military and naval developments, and commercial interests. Unimak Island represents a whole ecological unit larger than the state of Rhode Island which has not yet been thrown out of balance by man. As the pressures of growth intrude more and more into Alaska's unspoiled lands, Unimak's value as a complete wildlife habitat and as a source of solitude will become more unique.

The time to protect Unimak from intrusion is now.

Sincerely,

*Kenneth R. Muller*

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 4 1972

Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

JAN 9 1972

Copy. The Honorable Henry Jackson

The Honorable

Mike Gravel

MRS. ANNA LAURA MYERS

515 CARRIAGE HILL

SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA 93105

#220

Jan 13

Area Director - Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917eward Hwy - Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Sir

I urge early action to establish as official "wilderness" that area of Unimak Island that is available now as de facto wilderness.

Hopefully the State of Alaska will also act to establish safeguards for the tidal lands under its jurisdiction to prohibit the intrusion of non-conforming development and destructive vehicles.

It is crucial that our remaining wilderness be carefully protected. It is a precious and limited commodity and cannot withstand the now-recognized danger of over-use.

Sincerely

Anna Laura Myers

JAN 19 1972

Please enter this into the hearing record.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 10 1972

1169 B. State St.  
Dover, Del. 19901  
13 Jan. 71

Beluga Station — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICES

#231

Mr. Gordon W. Watson  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
Anchorage, Alaska, 99502

Unimak Isl.

Dear Sir:

It is with pleasure that I commend the R&W.L. Service for their proposal for Wilderness Classification of Unimak Island.

I remember this area from a passing ship many years ago when the "Fuji of America", Shishaldin, stood out so clear and brilliant, with a plume of smoke by day and a bit of glow by night to guide our boat.

I note that even now this area has no known mineral deposits and that its greatest function is to serve as a habitat for wildlife for sea, shore, ~~###~~ bird, and land varieties. The home and migrant local of the various inhabitants must be protected.

I have the feeling that the Alaskan officials do not want any parks, refugees or wilderness areas in their state because they feel that their area is so vast that it will not hurt at all to open all areas for commercial exploitation, be it for minerals, fishing, hunting, lumber, or what ever else might come along.

We of the South feel and know different. If more natural areas had been set aside in the past, then we would not have to work so hard to have some set aside now. What we are asking for in the overall picture is a mere 1/10 of 1% of the remaining public land. The very remoteness of Unimak Island enhances its desirability for Wilderness Classification.

Should this area receive the benefits of Wilderness Classification, then the  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile perimeter to the sea should also receive similar benefits, by a contract of understanding with the state of Alaska.

In summary, I strongly urge that this area, as recommended by the Dept of Interior, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, be adopted for the good of all citizens of this country. Truly, this land belongs to all of us, and our desires should not be suppressed just to please the political desires of Alaska.

Please include this statement in the official record.

Sincerely yours,

J. Sutton Myers

JAN 20 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 17 1971

Biology Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#97

1133 Park Drive,  
Fairbanks Alaska 99701

Dec 14, 1971

Dear Sir,

We have read the proposal to include Unimak Island in the National Wildlife Preservation System.

We completely agree with the proposal in its entirety and can see no valid reason to change it.

Such areas are becoming scarce and the time is growing short to take such steps.

It would be nice to visit Unimak, enjoy it the way it is, and to think that others coming after will enjoy the same privilege.

Sincerely,  
John J. McCauley  
MaryAnne M. McCauley

DEC 29 1971

# 121

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 28 1971

Damage Division -- Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Michael C. McGoodwin, M.D.  
1603 East 41st Court  
Anchorage, Alaska 99504  
December 24, 1971

Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries  
and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Sir:

I am writing in support of the establishment of Unimak Island and its tidelands as a wilderness area.

As a physician in the United States Public Health Service, I have travelled to False Pass on three occasions during the past two years. Although my exposure to this island has been limited to the area around False Pass, I have seen enough of the island to recognize its magnificent potential for wilderness oriented recreation. Moreover, my travels to more inhabited areas nearby such as Cold Bay and King Cove have convinced me that immediate definitive steps must be taken to insure the preservation of at least parts of this unique area of Alaska.

I am pleased to learn that there are no known mineral resources on Unimak. In scenic resources such as Shishaldin, Isanotski, and Roundtop mountains and its bird and mammalian species, it is clearly unexcelled on the Aleutian chain.

Undoubtedly the cost of travel will eventually fall and tourism to the island will greatly rise. Moreover the burgeoning of Cold Bay and the growing popularity of motorized recreation poses a long range threat of great magnitude to this fragile and vulnerable ecosystem. It is imperative that we save this magnificent bit of Alaskan wilderness for all future generations to behold in its present pristine and untrampled state.

Yours Most Sincerely,

Michael C. McGoodwin MD

Michael C. McGoodwin, M.D.

DEC 30 1971

DEC. 20 1971

Refuge Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#90

1431 Denali St. Apt 1  
Anchorage Alaska 99501  
December 15, 1971

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage Alaska

Re: Unimak Island Proposal

Dear Sirs,

Please record us two (2)  
as opposed to any attempt to place Unimak  
in a wilderness status.

We have entirely too much wilderness now.  
Reserving this island as a private fiefdom for  
a handful of bureaucrats is not only wrong, it  
would be criminal.

We are two (2) Alaskans who have lived  
their share in primitive conditions in this state.

Yours Truly

Mr and Mrs Colleen A. Neve

DEC 29 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 12 1972

Biological Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#170  
Rt. 2  
Jamestown, North Dakota 58401  
January 10, 1972

Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Sir:

Over the past months I have had opportunities to review several proposals to preserve remnants of the once vast North American prairie wilderness. These have been admirable proposals, aimed at saving from the plow, the cow, and the Corps a few surviving microcosms so future generations might glimpse what once was one of the most diverse and productive ecosystems ever known to man.

One of these proposed wilderness areas boasts a white pelican colony, sandhill cranes, Canada geese, whistling swans and several species of ducks, sharp-tailed grouse and white-tailed deer, and a variety of small mammals, including jack rabbits and red fox. Another adds, among its "more transient species," antelope, mule deer, bobcat and coyote.

It is important that these areas be preserved, along with their now unique fauna--because this is ALL THAT IS LEFT of the prairie wilderness. And conservationists are working diligently to save them--incredibly, still amidst the tired old harangue of "locking up resources" and "being against progress" parroted by a few.

But even sadder and more ironic is the fact that these wilderness proponents must work to preserve, not a prairie wilderness, but only a fading memory of what the prairie wilderness once was. They strive to preserve, as indeed they must, a fauna of sandhill cranes and sharp-tailed grouse, deer and an occasional coyote; but the real prairie wilderness was much more. What is a prairie wilderness without its most magnificent creation, the plains grizzly? Where are the prairie elk and the cougar? The buffalo wolf? . . . and, indeed, the buffalo?

One of the proposals tells us that the last giant Canada goose nested on the area in 1916; none bothers to mention the whooping crane. Even now it probably is too late to include the prairie chicken or the black-footed ferret.

This is all that is left of our prairie wilderness but this precious remnant must be preserved, for we now realize that too often we have gone too far. Almost too late, society has come to recognize, through the Wilderness Act, what had long been known to men like Leopold and Marshall, Muir and Thoreau. In wilderness is the salvation of the world. It finally became clear that what we long ago should have saved, we now must attempt to salvage.

Is then the proper course any less clear for wilderness areas which still have their great bears and where the howl of the wolf may yet be heard? If we recognize the need to preserve wilderness areas devoid of their more majestic species, what sane man cannot see the even greater wisdom of preserving those remaining areas where they still persist?

Why should it be necessary to present arguments for designating Unimak Island as a wilderness area when the best argument is the obvious fact that it already is? All one has to do is know what is there and instantly and intuitively he should know it IS a wilderness. Designating it so only properly ratifies an established fact.

I strongly suspect that no amount of reasoning or argument would span the void of those who would maintain that wilderness designation is not appropriate for Unimak Island, so I shall not waste my time or theirs. As Leopold observed, "Either you know it in your bones, or you are very, very old."

Thank you for this opportunity to express my support for the Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal.

Sincerely,

*Gary L. Pearson*  
Gary L. Pearson, D.V.M.



Robert M. Gault  
National Wildlife Refuge

January 13, 1971

#223

Mr. Robert M. Gault, Jr.

Dear Sir,

I favor very much the Interior Bureau's proposal, to exclude, Unimak Island in the Atlantic National Islands Wildlife Refuge and agree that the Order which has established this Refuge in 1913 by the Executive Order of President William Howard Taft, be amended. To eliminate military intrusion, permanently, on the whole chain, the 1100-mile sweeping arc, of the great Atlantic Islands National Wildlife Refuge, whether the Islands are part of or not included into the N.W.R. Refuge

Thank you

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Marie C. Peronne

MRS. MARIE C. PERONNE  
10013 Greiner Road  
Clarence, N.Y. 14031 U.S.A.

Special Agent  
Heard

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 17 1972

Relays Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

JAN 19 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 14 1972

Biological Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

# 200

R.D. 4  
Canton, N.Y.  
January 10, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I wish to go on record as supporting the proposal that Unimak Island be officially designated a wilderness area.

In this connection, I urge that the proposed exclusion at the western tip of the island where a light house is located, be so reduced in size that only existing facilities be excluded from the wilderness area. Also, no intrusions, military, naval or other, should be allowed in the future within the designated area.

Very truly yours,

*C. A. Petty*  
C. A. Petty

JAN 18 1972

Dear Sir, Unimak Island #160

I wish to go on record as endorsing the  
stand of Alaskan Conservation in  
reference to the above mentioned  
island. Thank you.

Ms Ella R. Pfeiffer

Jan 7, 1972

ELLA R. PFEIFFER  
2310 N. 9TH ST 301  
ARLINGTON, VA.  
22201



JAN 13 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

#195

JAN 14 1972

Biological Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Jan. 7, 1972

309 Brown St. Apt. A

Oshkosh, Wis.

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Leeward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I am writing in regard to the inclusion of Unimak Island in the Wilderness System. I am a student at UW-Oshkosh, studying biology and conservation. I am concerned about saving what few natural resources we have left.

I support the inclusion of Unimak Island in the Wilderness System. I agree with the conservationists that

2

the boundaries should be along  
the road rather than section  
lines. I also urge the  
Secretary of Interior to amend  
the order to eliminate the  
military use clause to  
assure that Unimak Island  
and the wilderness will not  
be subjected to military  
intervention in the future.

Thank you for your time  
and consideration. Please  
acknowledge the receipt of  
this letter.

Sincerely,

Nancy Pica

JAN 18 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

600 West 161 Street  
New York, N.Y. 10032  
December 31, 1971

JAN 5 1972

#139

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage Alaska 99502

Deputy Director — Anchorage, AK  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Dear Sir;

Early this year wilderness field hearings will be held to include Unimak Island, the first and largest in the Aleutian chain, in our National Wilderness System. I would like this letter to be included in the hearing records supporting the proposals of Alaskan conservationists. They are urging the Secretary of the Interior to protect Unimak Island ~~form~~ from possible military intrusion. Eliminating the clause which states that the establishment of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge " shall not interfere with the use of the islands for military purposes" will go a long way to insure that this magnificent wilderness remains unspoiled. I hope that this brief letter will be one of thousands of others from ~~concerned~~ equally concerned Americans who hold our vanishing wilderness areas dear.

Sincerely yours,



Michael Platzer

JAN 9 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
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JAN 17 1972

Biology Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

3942 Hughes Court  
San Diego, Ca. 92115  
January 14, 1972

#219

Mr. Gordon W. Watson  
Area Director, Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

We, and the persons listed below, request that the following be made part of the Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal hearing record.

Several of us have visited Alaska and the Aleutians, although just one has been to Unimak. The experience and recommendations of these people causes us collectively to approve the Proposal. The extremely well done brochure certainly helped in bringing about our approval.

We do have to state our regret that hunting of the great brown bear has been allowed. It is our strong feeling that this country can no longer afford the taking of these surely scarce animals for the ego satisfaction of wealthy individuals (assuming this from the statement in the brochure that travel to Unimak is expensive). We would like to see the brown bear be placed under permanent protection wherever he occurs.

The statements on management are commended, and we also endorse the suggestion that a tidelands lease be brought about to provide a protective buffer round the Wilderness.

Sincerely,

*Wilma e Roscoe Poland*  
(Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe A. Poland)

Other names follow

JAN 19 1972

Persons endorsing foregoing statement

Mrs. Harriet M. Andrews, 2520 Majella Road, Vista, Ca. 92083  
Mr. Edward Asner, 2753 Roscomare Road, Los Angeles, Ca. 90024  
Mr. Harry E. Beale, 1136 South Vega Street, Alhambra, Ca. 91801  
Mr. and Mrs. George Bartlett, 15209 Hilltop Circle, Poway, Ca. 92064  
Miss Agnes Behrens, 2243 29th Street, San Diego, Ca. 92104  
Mr. Dick Beasley, Rt. 6, Box 346, Olympia, Wash. 98501  
Mrs. Mary J. Beerkle, Moose, Wyoming 83112  
Mr. Phil Beuge, 2423 Boxwood Street, Sacramento, Ca. 95814  
Mr. Thurlow Con, Box 929, La Jolla, Ca. 92037  
Mrs. Claudia Copitas, 6497 Casselberry Way, San Diego, Ca. 92119  
Mr. James L. Coatsworth, 7317 Monte Vista Avenue, La Jolla, Ca. 92037  
Mr. Glenn C. Carl, 15 Jon Lane, Oceanside, Ca. 92054  
Mrs. Irene S. Crouch, 10401 Del Rio Road, Spring Valley, Ca. 92077  
Mr. Ed Cichowitz, 3040 Felicita, Escondido, Ca. 92025  
Miss Edith Curry, 430 East Lexington, #B, El Cajon, Ca. 92020  
Mr. Jeffrey L. Clark, Biology Department, University of California at La Jolla, Ca. 92037  
Miss Gail Dickson, 2068 Oliver Avenue, San Diego, Ca. 92109  
Mr. William Denneen, 760 Cielo Lane, Nipomo, Ca. 93444  
Mr. David Duncan, 6275 Loukelton Circle, San Diego, Ca. 92120  
Mrs. Ruth S. Dreibus, 8245 East Hockgate Road, Tucson, Ariz 85715  
Miss Virginia Elliott, 2870 Cedar Street, San Diego, Ca. 92102  
Dr. Albert E. J. Engel, 688 Solana Circle West, Solana Beach, 92075  
Dr. Walter Eckhart, 7415 Eads Avenue, La Jolla, Ca. 92037  
Mr. Walter R. Engle, 3200 Montezuma Avenue, Alhambra, Ca. 91803  
Mr. and Mrs. David Fletcher, 6469 Crystallaire Drive, San Diego, Ca. 92120  
Mr. and Mrs. David Fritz, 7437 Melotte Street, San Diego, Ca. 92119  
Mr. Peter Faller, 1971 Palmerston Place, Los Angeles, Ca. 90027  
Rear-Admiral Felix Gygax, 3200 Sixth Avenue Apartments, Apt. 3-H, 6th Ave., San Diego 92103  
Miss Virginia Gilloon, 4219 Haines Street, San Diego, Ca. 92109  
Mr. Otto A. Gerth, 619 South Santa Fe Avenue, Vista, Ca. 92038  
Miss Lucille R. Grunewald, 2855 Carlsbad Boulevard, Carlsbad, Ca. 92008  
Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Gilloon, RFD 1, Box 150, Del Mar, Ca. 92014  
Mr. Richard E. Goodman, 758 West Virginia Street, San Bernardino, Ca. 92405  
Mr. Lyle A. Gaston, 1844 7th Street, Riverside, Ca. 92507  
Mrs. Alice B. Hoskins, 4052 Brant Street, San Diego, Ca. 92109  
Mrs. George Heyneman, 4261 Randolph Terrace, San Diego, Ca. 92103  
Mr. Tom D. Humphreys, 9503 La Jolla Farms Road, La Jolla, Ca. 92037  
Mrs. Barbara Holloway, 522 Saratoga Street, Green Bay, Wis. 54303  
Miss Heidi Haid, 1801 Benson Avenue, #6, Prosser, Wash. 99350  
Mr. and Mrs. David Hatoff, 9334-G Redwood Drive, La Jolla, Ca. 92037  
Dr. Robert Hanson, 5436 Hewlett Drive, San Diego, Ca. 92115  
Mr. James Hubbell, Santa Ysabel, Ca. 92070  
Mrs. Mary Hermansen, 2110 Crest Drive, Encinitas 92024  
Mr. Louis V. Hoeniger, 5003 Rodman Avenue, San Diego, Ca. 92120  
Mr. Alfred B. Hughes, 221 Ebony Avenue, Imperial Beach, Ca. 92032  
Mrs. Harry Himelblau, Jr., 14206 Mulholland Drive, Los Angeles, Ca. 90024  
Dr. R. J. Hird, 5511 Yerba Anita Drive, San Diego, Ca. 92115  
Mr. Thomas Jay Harmer, 2319 Wilshire Street, Riverside, Ca. 92501  
Mr. Roy E. Johnson, 3975 Kendall Street, San Diego, Ca. 92109  
Mr. and Mrs. Howard C. Keck, 4979 Lucille Drive, San Diego, Ca. 92115  
Mr. John J. Koenig, 226 Longview Drive, Geneva, Ill. 60134  
Mr. Gene Kennedy, 9150 La Suvida Drive, La Mesa, Ca. 92041  
Mr. and Mrs. Irwin J. Kelly, 4867 El Camino Real, Carlsbad, Ca. 92008  
Mr. Al Klingenberg, 5444 Waverly Avenue, La Jolla, Ca. 92037



Dr. and Mrs. Lester Kanter, 4221 Isabella Street, Riverside, Ca. 92501  
Mr. and Mrs. Mark J. Klein, 852 Cordova Street, San Diego, Ca. 92107  
Mr. Charles Kahan, 5055 73rd Street, San Diego, Ca. 92115  
Mrs. Wilhelmina Leach, 7450 Olivetas Avenue, #317, La Jolla, Ca. 92037  
Mr. Erich W. Larisch, 1298 East Grand Avenue, Escondido, Ca. 92025  
Dr. Layne A. Longfellow, Prescott College, Prescott, Ariz. 86301  
Mr. and Mrs. Gerard Leifchild, 1409 West Hellman, Alhambra, Ca. 91803  
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Leavitt, 741 West Upas Street, San Diego, Ca. 92103  
Mr. Richard Lee, 3716 35th Street, San Diego, Ca. 92104  
Dr. and Mrs. Eric Lindroth, 2133-C Via Puerta, Laguna Hills, Ca. 92653  
Mr. and Mrs. Jon Lindstrom, 2222 Via Aprilia, Del Mar, Ca. 92014  
Miss Margaret Lyall, 229 North Mountain View Drive, Chula Vista, Ca. 92010  
Mrs. Eunice F. Maurer, 3770 Georgia Street, San Diego, Ca. 92103  
Professor Mary F. De Mours, University of San Diego, Ca. 92110  
Miss Jean Rae Marions, 4451 Newport Avenue, San Diego, Ca. 92107  
Mr. William J. Minarik, 224 East 3rd Street, Los Angeles, Ca. 90013  
Mrs. Wanda M. Malone, 2402 West 180th Street, Torrance, Ca. 90504  
Mr. Clifford S. Maher, 1428 Pennsylvania Avenue, San Diego, Ca. 92103  
Miss Mary MacLaren, 127 North Manhattan Place, Los Angeles, Ca. 90004  
Mr. G. F. McGarrity, 4260 Lomo del Sur, La Mesa, Ca. 92041  
Mr. Joyce McKinney, 5163 34th Street, San Diego, Ca. 92115  
Mr. John Macadam, 2206 East Mountain Street, Pasadena, Ca. 91104  
Mr. Douglas Lamont McMillan, 3521 Curtis Street, San Diego, Ca. 92106  
Mr. William C. Nagy, 3749 Antiem Street, San Diego, Ca. 92111  
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Nelson, 630 North Crescent Court, San Diego, Ca. 92103  
Mrs. Esther W. Nesbin, Box 102, San Marcos, Ca. 92069  
Mr. Gilbert W. Opdycke, 129 Shasta Street, Chula Vista, Ca. 92010  
Mrs. Beatrice Prothero, 30004 Park Avenue, San Bernardino, Ca. 92405  
Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Palmer, 555 Fern Lane, Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024  
Mrs. Marta Porter, 634 1/2 J Street, Chula Vista, Ca. 92010  
Mr. and Mrs. Van Dyke Parks, 107 Fremont Place, Los Angeles, Ca. 90005  
Mrs. Irma Peers, Box 92, Encinitas, Ca. 92024  
Mrs. Dorothy Petersen, Box 479, La Jolla, Ca. 92037  
Miss Mildred Phillips, Box 5504, Riverside, Ca. 92507  
Mrs. Dora Petzold, 311 Sanford Street, Encinitas, Ca. 92024  
Mr. Robert Reilly, 4356 Summit Drive, La Mesa, Ca. 92041  
Mr. Joseph B. Rathfon, 4910.5 Field Street, San Diego, Ca. 92110  
Miss Minnie M. Ryden, 4978 Narragannsett Avenue, San Diego, Ca. 92107  
Mrs. Jeanie Rogers, Box 111, El Cajon, Ca. 92011  
Mr. and Mrs. Ed Simpson, 2038 Milan Avenue, South Pasadena, Ca. 91030  
Mr. Peter Sam, 7566 Lemon Avenue, Lemon Grove, Ca. 92045  
Miss Lois Snedden, Box 53, Rancho Santa Fe, Ca. 92067  
Miss Beulah M. Seder, 6222 Stanley Avenue, San Diego, Ca. 92115  
Mrs. Nina Paul Shumway, 1622 West Ina Road, Tucson, Ariz. 85704  
Mr. John A. Spangler, 4959 Catocin Drive, San Diego, Ca. 92115  
Mr. Craig R. Sanders, Rt. 3, Box 390, Arcata, Ca. 95521  
Mrs. Louise Sampson, 1137 Sutter Street, San Diego, Ca. 92103  
Dr. and Mrs. Sanford Shapiro, 5233 Prosperity Lane, San Diego, Ca. 92115  
Miss Stella S. Simmons, 1544 Granada Avenue, San Diego, Ca. 92102  
Mr. Lee C. Shea, 633 Victor Drive, Santa Rosa, Ca. 95401  
Mr. and Mrs. John Shrawder, Box 175, Bowman, Ca. 95707  
Miss Marion Sierts, 3821 Bernice Drive, San Diego, Ca. 92107  
Mr. Dean W. Slaughter, 463 Paulette Place, La Canada, Ca. 91011  
Mr. and Mrs. Wally Southall, 11023 Singletree Lane, Spring Valley, 92077

Miss Marion Slenker, 1531 Ames Avenue, Spearfish, So. Dak. 57783  
Mrs. Ruth T. Stanton, 3156 Harding Street, Carlsbad, Ca. 92008  
Miss Clara Strong, 2024 Sixth Avenue, San Diego, Ca. 92101  
Miss Kathlenn C. Steffen, 5421 Via Alcazar, San Diego, Ca. 92111  
Miss Ethel Thorniley, 757 Drexel, Detroit, Mich. 48215  
Mrs. Mary Jeanne Terrazas, 2684 Canyon Crest Drive, Escondido, Ca. 92025  
Miss Jeanne Ellen Tschogl, 163 K Street, Chula Vista, Ca. 92011  
Oliver Thomas, M. D., 2265 Via Cascabel, Escondido, Ca. 92025  
Mrs. R. E. Vivian, 862 Victoria Avenue, Los Angeles, Ca. 90005  
Miss Emma Joan Waterman and Miss Elizabeth Cameron, of 3530 Crown Point Drive, San Diego 92109  
Mrs. Herbert Weston, 904 North 7 Street, Beatrice, Nebraska 68310  
Mr. Ed Wiggers, 96-045 Ala Ike, Pearl City, Hawaii 96782  
Mr. Roland Wilhelmy, 16 Saint Malo Beach, Oceanside, Ca. 92054  
Mr. Fred W. Wadsworth, 11503 North Lane, Lakeside, Ca. 92040  
Mrs. Helen S. Walden, 544 4th Street, Encinitas, Ca. 92024  
Mrs. Bernis Wall, 5595 University Avenue, San Diego, Ca. 92105  
Mr. O. B. Wetzell, 7755 Ivanhoe Avenue, La Jolla, Ca. 92037  
Mrs. Robert D. Wallace, 3506 Carleton Street, San Diego, Ca. 92106  
Mr. Harold A. Wier, 418 Tyrone Street, El Cajon, Ca. 92020  
Mr. Marion L. Wilson, 431 E. Avenue, National City, Ca. 92050  
Mr. James N. Yamamoto, 3610 Victoria Avenue, Los Angeles, Ca. 90016  
Mr. Robert E. Young, Box 3116, La Mesa, Ca. 92041  
Mr. and Mrs. Stan Yalof, Rt. 1, Box 720, Escondido, Ca. 92025

#

W.T.  
#158  
MRS. JOSEPH PUNDYK

235 East 22nd Street

New York, N.Y. 10010

January 4, 1971

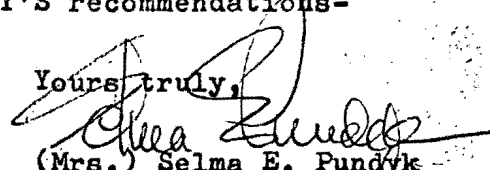
Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Gentlemen:

Please put my name on the record in support of the attached recommendations of the National Park Service regarding Glacier Bay and Katmai National Monuments.

Plus THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY'S recommendations- also attached.

Yours truly,

  
(Mrs.) Selma E. Pundyk

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
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JAN 10 1972

Bering Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

JAN 13 1972

With this caveat, Alaska conservationists are supporting vigorously the main recommendations of the National Park Service regarding Glacier Bay and Katmai National Monuments:

1. Designate Glacier Bay and Katmai as National Parks. This will give the Service its best opportunity to protect their beauty and, particularly, their present wild aspect.
2. Repeal the 1936 law opening Glacier Bay National Monument to mining. There is no mineral there needed so desperately that a wilderness should be ruined to remove it.
3. Designate as wilderness all parts of Katmai and Glacier Bay National Monuments that are now wild, except for extremely limited areas managed for more intensive use.
4. In every program and facility developed for visitor use, emphasize the natural, wilderness experience.

In addition to supporting the above Park Service recommendations Alaska conservationists are insisting on the following:

1. that the 1/8-mile "management zone" be eliminated and the excluded area included in the wilderness proposals of both monuments.
2. that "enclaves" for future development of shelters be eliminated and included in the wilderness, that existing camps be recognized as non-conforming or administrative in nature, and that in the future only those shelters needed for visitor safety or administrative necessity (as permitted by the Wilderness Act) be installed.
3. Elimination of the proposed 10-acre site in the Bay of Islands in Naknek Lake at Katmai Monument as a "wilderness threshold area." The planning concept for development of this site, as outlined in the master plan, includes "dispersed docks for boats, floatplanes, and concessioner-operated back-country threshold camps" -- clearly not appropriate for this lovely, wild area. This area, with the adjacent two-mile portage route between Naknek and Grosvenor Lake, should be included in the wilderness area. Access to the canoe portage route should be maintained by foot trails and/or non-motorized craft within the Bay of Islands.

## National Wildlife Refuge Proposal

Westward from the tip of the Alaska Peninsula the windswept and fogbound Aleutian Islands reach out toward Asia in an 1100-mile sweeping arc. Established in 1913, the *Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge* encompasses most of the islands in the archipelago. *Unimak* is the first island in the chain and the largest -- nearly 1 million acres in size. Much of the grandeur that typifies Alaska is found on this unique island: towering snow-capped mountains, active volcanoes, living glaciers and expansive tundra supporting a rich variety of wildlife.

The Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife is proposing that all but about 34,000 acres of this magnificent island be included in the Wilderness System. (Public hearings on the wilderness potential of the remaining islands in the refuge are planned for next year.)

## Differences Are Small

Conservationists are extremely pleased with the Bureau's proposal, and are supporting it, but feel that the wilderness area can be improved. They are recommending the following:

1. The western tip of the island has been excluded by the Bureau from the proposed wilderness because of the presence of an active lighthouse and communications station, several miles apart and connected by roads. This exclusion is delineated on maps by section lines when actually a more recognizable wilderness boundary could be placed along the road system, and conservationists are so stating. The increase in acreage would be small but significant if this improved method of locating the wilderness boundary is adopted in final recommendations.

2. The order which established the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge stated, in part, "The establishment of this reservation shall not interfere with the use of the islands for lighthouse, military, or naval purposes." Conservationists are urging the Secretary of the Interior to amend the order to eliminate this clause to assure that Unimak Island and the wilderness will not be subjected to military intrusion in the future.

Apt. A33, 615 W. 164th

● NYC, 10032.

December 31, 1971.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 7 1972

#226

Biological Services — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Alaska Div. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502.

Dear Mr. Director:

● As one who is concerned about the future of the wild lands of Alaska and as one who hopes to live in Alaska, I want to urge you to include the Unimak Island as a National Wildlife Refuge. I feel this sort of action is essential to preservation of the unique wilderness that Alaska represents. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dean Rau

● (DEAN RAU

COLUMBIA COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS.)

JAN 19 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
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DEC 20 1971

Museum Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Box 80-569  
College, Alaska 997  
17 December 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

Having worked in Alaska as a professional biologist for the past 23 years, I have been much dismayed by the rapidity with which undisturbed natural areas are disappearing within the State. It is therefore most important that additional undisturbed areas be afforded protection by their inclusion within the National Wilderness System. Unimak Island is especially suited for such protection, and I strongly urge that appropriate action be taken.

Although it is separated from the mainland, Unimak Island has a varied mammalian fauna. Especially important among the species represented is the large form of brown bear that occurs also on the lower Alaska Peninsula. Perpetuation of this form would be assured by the inclusion of the island in the National Wilderness System; its future on the Alaska Peninsula is certainly questionable.

However, I think that the boundary to exclude part of the western end of Unimak Island from the proposed wilderness area should be delineated in such a way as to make the exclusion as small as is practicable.

Further, the clause in the order that established the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge permitting military use of the Islands should be eliminated, at least with respect to Unimak Island. There is no conceivable purpose that could justify disruption of this natural area by military or military-related activities. What has happened on Amchitka Island is a good example of the potential destruction that might occur if this clause were not eliminated.

The preservation of Unimak Island would be to the national interest, and I strongly support its designation as a wilderness area.

Please include my letter as part of the record of the hearings concerned with the designation of Unimak Island as part of the National Wilderness System.

Sincerely,

*Robert L. Rausch*

Robert L. Rausch

DEC 29 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 20 1971

Biological Division — Anchorage, AK.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

# 89  
Box 80569  
College, Alaska 99701  
December 17, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I am in favor of the proposal to include Unimak Island within the National Wilderness Preservation System. Although this island, which I have visited, is a part of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge and receives, therefore, special consideration in respect to the management of its wild birds and mammals, I feel that it should be more strongly protected so that no development by man will take place on this magnificent insular wilderness beyond a boundary of the road-system that serves the lighthouse and communications station.

I can think of few greater values to us than that of maintaining such lands as we can as wilderness areas. Your proposal that Unimak Island be a part of the National Wilderness System is of great importance to the people of the United States; its significance will become ever more obvious in years to come, with the growth of our population. Of course, it can be anticipated that population growth and dispersal will create greater demand for use of resources that might lie within protected areas. But to acquiesce to such demand would mean eventual despoliation of the entire earth. There will have to be an end-point, after which perhaps the only course of action will be personal sacrifice; I for one am prepared to take such a course.

I shall appreciate your including this letter within the records of the hearings regarding this proposal.

Sincerely yours,

*Virginia R. Rausch*

Virginia R. Rausch

DEC 29 1971



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 20 1971

Regional Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#97  
Elizabeth J. Rider  
64 Laurel St. #2  
San Carlos, Calif. 94070  
December 15, 1971

Mr. Gordon Watson  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99500

Dear Mr. Watson:

Having just read through the Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal, I wish to go on the official record as being in favor of preserving this island in its primeval condition.

There is an urgent need for preserving the remaining natural areas of our environment not only for human appreciation but as habitats for wildlife threatened by encroaching commercial development and by human overuse and carelessness.

As a cautious but grateful visitor to other existing wilderness areas I appreciate the preservation of these areas in their natural, undisturbed beauty. In the face of increasing population and realizing the irreversible mistakes already made in developing and abusing other sites, I also appreciate the need for securing more lands for inclusion in the Wilderness Preservation System.

I strongly urge the inclusion of Unimak Island in the National Wilderness Preservation System and the leasing of state tidelands by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife to create a buffer zone around the island.

Sincerely yours,

*Elizabeth J. Rider*  
Elizabeth J. Rider

DEC 29 1971

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

JAN 21 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

#234  
7902 Brooklyn Bridge Rd.  
Laurel, Md. 20810  
Dec. 15, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bur. of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Director:

I am thankful I could travel extensively in Alaska in 1968 before it becomes more destroyed by "civilization."

Please add the following to your hearing record of the Unimak Island wilderness proposal.

I hope the Secretary of the Interior can remove the establishment clause that permits military trespass!!!

I hope you will bring the wilderness edge to the edge of the road (between lighthouse and communication station).

Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Eleanor C Robbins*

JAN 25 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 21 1971

Message Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

1609 $\frac{1}{2}$  Menaul Blvd. N.W.  
Albuquerque, New Mexico  
December 9, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I would like to go on the Wilderness Record as being in favor of including approximately 965,042 acres of the nearly one million-acre Unimak Island into the National Wilderness Preservation System.

I feel that the area should be set aside as wilderness to preserve the islands' outstanding recreational, historic, geologic, archeological, educational, scientific, scenic, and ecological values.

Non-motorized recreational pursuits such as camping, hiking, mountain climbing, nature study, sport hunting and fishing, beachcombing, picnicking, berry picking, outdoor photography, and wildlife observation and study should be encouraged in the Unimak Wilderness.

Thank You.

Sincerely,



Philip R. Robillard.

DEC 29 1971

314 Harwood Hall  
University of Alaska  
College, Ak. 99701

Jan 5, 1972.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

#228

JAN 7 1972

Range Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

We are pleased with the Bureau's proposal for Unimak Island and are supporting it. However we feel that the proposal can be improved by the following:

1. The western tip of the island up to the roads connecting the lighthouse and communications station should be included in the wilderness proposal. This would make a good recognizable wilderness boundary.

2. We would like to see the military clause, inserted into the original order which established the refuge, be amended by the Secretary of the Interior to assure that Unimak Island and the wilderness will not be subjected to military intrusion in the future.

We wish for this letter to be made a part of the hearing record. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth C. Roy

JAN 9 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 12 1972

Biology Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

616-4<sup>th</sup> Ave N.W.

Jamestown, N.D. 58401

10 Jan. 1972

#167

Dear Mr Watson,

I have read with great interest your Wilderness Proposal for Unimak Island and find myself in hearty agreement with it.

Without doubt, such enclaves of wilderness are necessary in order that men might grow in wisdom and prosper in the fortitude that stems from physical activity in such marvellous surroundings. There are too few such places; there should be more. Please continue your good work and place this letter in the public record in favor of a wilderness designation for Unimak.

Sincerely,  
Geoffrey Rytell.

JAN 13 1972

JAN 13 1972

Biological Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

317 Warren Road  
Ithaca, New York 14850  
January 8, 1972

#185

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

This letter is to express my firm support for the National Wildlife Refuge proposal for Unimak Island in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, established in 1913, thereby including this marvelous area within the Wilderness System. But, while I am pleased with the Bureau's proposal, I feel that the wilderness area can be improved in two ways: (1) by locating the wilderness boundary on the western tip of the island along the road system rather than by section lines as a way of both increasing the wilderness and making the boundary more recognizable; (2) by amending the order of the Secretary of the Interior to eliminate the clause regarding the use of the islands for lighthouse, military, or naval purposes so as to assure that the island will not be subjected to military intrusion in the future.

I trust that you will consider these two suggestions very seriously, and endeavor to make the wilderness in that beautiful part of the world as free from human intrusion as is possible.

Sincerely yours,



William C. Saunders

cc Senator Jacob K. Javits  
Senator James Buckley  
Representative Howard Robison

JAN 18 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 13 1972

Biological Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#1815  
c/o Naval Arctic Research Lab  
Barrow, Alaska, 99723  
7 January 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska, 99502

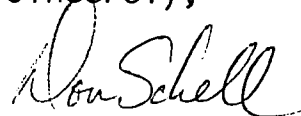
Dear Sir:

This letter is to inform you of my strong support for the proposed inclusion of Unimak Island as a wilderness area. I have only been to Unimak Island once but was so impressed with its beauty and wildlife that I sincerely hope to visit it again. I would hope that it will remain a wilderness area.

I also feel that the exclusion of the western tip should be delineated by an easily recognized boundary such as a given distance from the existing roads and, whereas I have no arguments with navigational aids or lighthouses, the military should be excluded from using the wilderness area. Many of the Aleutian Islands bear testimony to the degrading effects of military usage.

Thank you for this consideration.

Sincerely,



Donald M. Schell

JAN 18 1972

NEWCOMB, CLIFFORD, SCHREIBER & FLYNN, P.A.  
ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY AND FRACTURES

WENDELL J. NEWCOMB, M.D.  
SAMUEL L. CLIFFORD, M.D.  
HERMAN SCHREIBER, JR., M.D.

14 WEST JORDAN STREET

PENSACOLA, FLORIDA

OFFICE HOURS  
BY APPOINTMENT  
HE 2-7639

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 20 1971

December 10, 1971

Biological Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

This letter is in regard to the Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal. I request that this letter be made part of the record and I request acknowledgement of its receipt.

As apparently is usually the case the Wildlife Service Proposals demonstrate a real honest feeling for the land. I heartily endorse this proposal for the establishment of a Wilderness Area to include most of Unimak Island.

I think it is especially important however, that the Secretary of the Interior takes steps to amend the original order which apparently would not forbid the use of this island by military or naval purposes.

Having had considerable years in the Naval Service and being a close observer of the Eglin Military Reservation near-by, I have seen ample evidence that the military structure does not manage land in a responsible manner. Great portions of the Eglin Reservation have been converted to slash pine tree plantings destroying primitive Southern Forests of which practically none is left. The U. S. Navy in this area has failed to give proper care and protection to historical forts and even now is dragging it's feet in cooperating with the Park Service in the establishment of Gulf Shores National Seashore. I feel it is extremely important to keep these organizations out of the land care business.

Again my many thanks for this excellent proposal.

Sincerely yours,

Herman Schreiber, M.D.



HS/dae

CC: Honorable Bob Sikes  
Honorable Edward Gurney  
Honorable Lawton Chiles

DEC 29 1971



17th December, 1971

Mark Schwan  
921 6th St.  
Fairbanks Alaska

Hearing Officer  
c/o General Superintendent  
National Park Service Alaska Group  
Room 376, Federal Bldg  
605 W. 4th St  
Anchorage Ak.

Dear Sir

I have read the wilderness proposals concerning Katmai and Glacier Bay Monument and fully support them. I believe these park lands should be given the protection that a wilderness classification would give.

With all the cries heard these days concerning land freezes and the locking up of public lands, proposals such as Katmai and Glacier Bay already have two strikes against them. If people really understood what the wilderness act is all about, I think we would all agree (?) that Alaska is big enough so that we can have some land in wilderness status (legal).

I also have read the Alyeska Wilderness Proposal and fully support that proposal.

Sincerely

Mark Schwan

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 27 1971

Alaska Division — Anchorage, AK  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Box 13691, University Station  
Reno, Nevada 89507  
December 21, 1971

# 106

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

Please include this letter in the official hearing Record of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge on which hearings were held December 14 and 17. I support the Bureau's one million acre Unimak Island Wilderness proposal. However, I urge the addition of lands on the western tip of the island to bring the boundary down to existing roads. I urge the consideration of all the other islands in the refuge for wilderness status.

Sincerely yours,

*Reed Secord*

Reed Secord

DEC 29 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 12 1972

Biological Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#171  
528 W. Magnolia  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80521  
December 20, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I fully support the proposal of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife concerning Unimak Island in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska. I ask that the proposed portions of Unimak Island be included in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

I ask that Executive Order 1733 be amended to exclude the clause, "The establishment of this reservation shall not interfere with the use of the islands for lighthouse, military, or naval purposes", to assure that Unimak Island and the wilderness will not be subjected to military intrusion.

Please make this letter a part of the official hearing record.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Joan D. Sekora*  
Joan D. Sekora

cc: James D. McKevitt, Representative  
Donald G. Brotzman, Representative  
Frank E. Evans, Representative  
Gordon Allott, Senator  
Peter H. Dominick, Senator

JAN 13 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 1 1972

Biological Services — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#217

528 W. Magnolia  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80521  
January 4, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I am in full support of including Unimak Island in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska in the National Wilderness Preservation System as proposed by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.

Please make this letter a part of the official hearing record.

Sincerely,

*Michael A. Sekora*

Michael A. Sekora

JAN 19 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 17 1972

Game Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#213

528 W. Magnolia  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80521  
January 4, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I totally support the inclusion of Unimak Island in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge in the National Wilderness Preservation System as proposed by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.

Please include this letter in the official hearing record.

Sincerely,

*Rhoda A. Sekora*

Rhoda A. Sekora

JAN 19 1972

4001 Mt. Barnard Ave.,  
San Diego, Calif. 92111  
January 7, 1972

#474

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Denard Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 12, 1972

Dear Sirs:

Endings Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

This is to express my views for the  
Wilderness Hearing Record on Animak Island.

I wish to express my agreement  
with the very excellent proposal which the  
Bureau has made for this area. I have  
carefully reviewed your brochure on the proposal  
and concur with the amount of 965,042 acres  
which you recommend for inclusion in the  
National Wilderness Preservation System.

I agree that this area is of  
inestimable value as a natural unspoiled  
laboratory for study of wildlife.

The importance of the area as a  
National Wilderness unit should I believe  
take precedence over all other considerations  
— including those of the State of Alaska.

Yours respectfully,

A. S. Soderlund

4001 MT. BARNARD AVENUE  
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92111

Please include in the  
Wilderness Hearing Record  
on Animak Island

JAN 13 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 17 1971

Recreation Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

David Stark #96  
Patricia Stark  
418 Farewell  
Fairbanks, Ak  
99701

Dear Sir,

We are writing you to indicate our support for your proposal regarding the inclusion of Unimuk Island in the Wilderness System.

We would like to give our support to two additional recommendations not on your proposal.

1. Rather than the area now recommended on the western tip of the island for exclusion we support the boundary recommended by conservationists which followed the road system.

2. Also the clause stating  
"The establishment of this  
reservation shall not interfere  
with the use of the islands  
for lighthouse, military or  
naval purposes."

We would urge this ~~to~~  
~~the clause~~ <sup>clause</sup> be eliminated  
in order to assure that  
Unumak Island & the  
wilderness will not be  
subjected to military  
intrusion in the future.

Sincerely yours,  
Patricia Stark  
David Whit

DEC 29 1971



SUBJECT: NATIONAL WILDLIE REFUGE PROPOSAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 5 1972

Relays Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

# 142  
581 Castlehill Dr.  
Walnut, California 91789  
Jan. 2, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries And Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Area Director:

This is in support of The Wilderness System on UNMARK ISLAND,  
but I, also would like to recommend that you include the proposals  
made by the Wilderness Society and other Conservationists .

Sincerely,

*M. B. Stark*  
M. B. Stark

JAN 9 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 28 1971

Damage Division — Anchorage, AK  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#120

Route 1, Box 114  
Spangle, Washington. 99031  
December 23, 1971

Director for the Alaska Area  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Sir:

Please make my remarks a part of the hearing record on the wilderness proposal for Unimak Island.

The wilderness proposal of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife for Unimak Island has my whole-hearted support. However, I would like to urge one additional action to further protect the area. The Secretary of the Interior should modify the part of the order creating the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge which allows the Refuge to be used by the military. Certainly the Unimak Wilderness should be protected from the caprice of the Pentagon, which presently may do whatever it wishes to the island.

Sincerely yours,

*W.K. Steele*

W.K. Steele

DEC 30 1971

Dec. 12, 1971 #124

Dear Sirs,

We strongly support the  
Bureau's wilderness recommen-  
dation for Unimak Island.  
Please enter our support in  
the hearing record.

Sincerely,

Dr. and Mrs. P. Steinberg

4174 POMONA

LIVERMORE, CAL

94550

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 30 1971

Biological Division — Anchorage, AK  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

JAN 6 1972

COLORADO  
STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
FORT COLLINS  
COLORADO  
80521

department of fishery and wildlife biology

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 4 1972

#147

Biological Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

December 28, 1971

STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF THE UNIMAK  
ISLAND WILDERNESS PROPOSAL

My name is Harold Steinhoff and I am Professor of Wildlife Biology at Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado. I visited Unimak Island in June 1969 and I have read the Wilderness Proposal.

I favor the establishment of the Unimak Island Wilderness as proposed by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.

This island is a unique representation of the tundra ecosystems, mountains, and glaciers that typify the Aleutian Islands and much of western Alaska. Here one can see and experience in microcosm all that is typical of thousands of square miles. Its preservation as wilderness will insure that man can continue to view, study, and find inspiration in this natural area, untouched by man, and typical of this huge area.

Its accessibility is of about the right magnitude. Some effort and expense is necessary to reach Unimak Island, so one can feel the important sense of achievement. Yet once the visitor has reached Cold Bay, it is fairly easily accessible by motor boat and light aircraft. If the visitor lacks the time or energy to penetrate the wilderness on foot and to experience the vastness and grandeur first-hand, he can still enjoy the beauty of Unimak and sense the character of its wildness by a flight along the edges of the island in a light aircraft.

In my opinion, the value of Unimak Island as wilderness, for the benefit of visitors through the next several centuries, of those who view it vicariously through the pictures and writings of others, and of those who enjoy the knowledge of the presence of such wilderness far exceeds any conceivable value it could have to mankind through exploitation which involves permanent and marked intrusion by man. Once this type of exploitation has occurred, its wilderness character is lost forever. On the other hand, its designation as wilderness now holds it unspoiled for any future use which society in future centuries would believe of more value.

*Harold W. Steinhoff*  
Dr. Harold Steinhoff  
Department of Fishery and  
Wildlife Biology  
Colorado State University  
Fort Collins, Colorado



JAN 9 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 13 1972

9 January 1972  
Route 1  
Kipon, Wiso. 54911

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Biological Division - Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#189

Dear Sir,

This letter concerns the inclusion of Unimak Island in the National Wilderness System. I would ask that my views be included in the hearing. Presently I am a student at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh enrolled in a course of Conservation of Natural Resources.

I support the inclusion of Unimak Island in the National Wilderness System and having the boundary line along the road rather than the section lines, in agreement with the Conservationists. Also I urge the amendment by the Secretary of the Interior to amend the order to eliminate the military use clause to secure that Unimak Island and the Wilderness will not be subjected to the military intrusion in the future.

Knowledge of receipt of my letter would be appreciated.

Sincerely  
Rita A. Stellmacher  
Rita A. STELLMACHER

JAN 18 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 23 1971

Biological Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

THOMAS A. STENGL, M. D.  
10 HIGHLAND DRIVE  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801  
TELEPHONE 907 - 588-6601

December 16, 1971

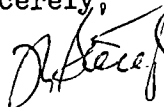
Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I strongly endorse the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife proposal to include Unimak Island in the wilderness system. I realize that it is probably necessary to exclude the lighthouse and communications areas on the western end of the island from the wilderness area, but I think that more accurate delineation of this boundary would be to utilize the existing road system.

I trust that we can have an early decision favoring this proposal.

Sincerely,



Thomas A. Stengl, M.D.

tas/mr

DEC 30 1971

3502 Hadsworth  
Wheatridge, Colo.  
8007

12-13-71

#2

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Sirs,

Let me go on record as supporting the Bureau's proposal for the inclusion of Unimak island in the Wilderness System. Let me further urge the Bureau to make the following improvements as recommended by the Alaska Conservation

- 1) Place the wilderness boundary along the road system connecting the lighthouse and communications station. The increase in acreage in the western tip would be significant and the boundary much more clearly delineated.
- 2) Amend the order concerning the use of the islands for military purposes. Unimak island and the wilderness should not be subjected to military intrusion in the future.

Sincerely  
Denise Stratford

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 20 1971

Relays Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

DEC 29 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 18 1972

Biological Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Leonard M. Stuttman  
2331 Forest Road  
Lansing, Michigan 48910  
U.S.A.

#210

January 14, 1971

Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Sir:

Please enter this letter into the Unimak Island  
National Wildlife Refuge Proposal hearing.

I vigorously support the Bureau of Sport Fisheries  
and Wildlife proposal to turn the entire island  
except for an area utilized as a communication station  
and lighthouse on the western tip of the island.

However I would like to suggest that the road  
connecting the two building areas (lighthouse and  
communication station) be used as the line  
demarcating the wilderness boundary rather than  
the existing section lines.

Also the order establishing the Refuge states in part,  
"The establishment of this reservation shall not  
interfere with the use of the island for lighthouse,  
military, or naval purposes." Please delineate the  
the last two categories by amendment.

Thank you

Leonard M. Stuttman

JAN 19 1972



December 27, 1971.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 5 1972

Hearings Office

Principals Island Wilderness Proposal

Charles Lee Dietrich

Division of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife

6917 Second Highway

Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Relays Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Dear Sir,

Please add my statement, as follows, to your Official Hearings Records concerning  
Principals Island Wilderness Proposal.

I support such Proposal being aware of the important Wilderness Resources of  
Principals Island. An outstanding addition to our National Wilderness Preservation System.

I suggest certain amendments, however, such as adding much the current planned  
"Land Proposal for Exclusion from Wilderness" to the current Proposed Wilderness.  
As such, "Land" does not qualify as Wilderness, so at least most of it is certain Wilderness  
in character. Simply delete, then, the light house, station and the actual Roads, themselves.  
The remainder to be included in above Proposed Wilderness.

The island should not be a possible military location, either, and, the location  
of the lighthouse should be moved according to the current this possibility.

Also, urge that the Waters surrounding this island be given Wilderness status; extending  
from High tide to five (5) miles from shore.

Add portions of Dale Pass area to Wilderness, when possible.

This island, Principals, plus the remains of Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge  
is of National Park caliber due to the great Wilderness value and Wildlife Resources.  
and, in this regard, I suggest consideration of adding such Refuge to our System  
of National Parks, one of my reasons being to protect the island's forest and  
other mineral exploitation.

I suggest that all of the Aleutian Islands be added as a start, to the National Wildlife  
Refuge. And, that major portions of the Aleutian Peninsula be added to our System  
of National Parks or, at least, to our National Wildlife Refuge System. This is adding the  
established Aleutian Nat'l Wildlife Refuge. Such Peninsula of great scenic and Wildlife value.  
Alaska now contains the last substantial Wilderness Wildlife and scenic Resources  
in the United States and one of the last great scenic Wildlife areas in the world.  
and such Resources must be saved!

Sincerely,  
John R. Swanson.

JAN 9 1972

January 11, 1972  
3115 McDow Ave. N.W.  
Huntsville, Alabama 35805 #183

Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

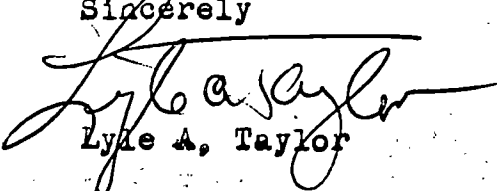
Please enter the following comments on the proposed wilderness on Unimak Island-Aleutian Islands- National Wildlife Refuge-Alaska into the official hearing record being compiled.

Early action to establish as official wilderness that area of Unimak Island that is most fortunately available now as defacto wilderness is urged.

That action within this hearings purview to preserve the tidelands by establishing seaward extending wilderness to guarantee better the integrity of the wilderness on the land mass is precluded by state possession of the title to tidelands seaward from the mean high-tide line is unfortunate. Perhaps the State of Alaska will act separately to see that the long range best interests of this island are guaranteed by legislatively establishing protection for those lands extending seaward from the wilderness to preclude the intrusion of non conforming development and mechanical infestation by the gadgets of man,

With so little of the globe even potentially available for wilderness I urge the most stringent of limits be set to protect this refuge.

Sincerely

  
Lytle A. Taylor

CC: The Honorable James B. Allen  
The Honorable Mike Gravel  
The Honorable Henry M. Jackson

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 13 1972

Refuge Division -- Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

JAN 18 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 13 1972

Helena Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

January 10, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska

99502

Dear Sir:

I favor the inclusion of Unimak Island in the  
National Wilderness Preservation System as proposed  
by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.

Please include this letter in the official hearing  
record.

Respectfully,

*Elfrida G. Traynor*

Elfrida G. Traynor  
1012 Castlerock Drive  
Fort Collins, Colorado

80521

JAN 18 1972

#187

**KARL TREFFINGER AND ASSOCIATES • ARCHITECTS**  
50 GREEN STREET SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94111 (415) 362-5775

KARL TREFFINGER, A.I.A.  
JOHN H. WOODFORD

January 10, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
**RECEIVED**

**JAN 13 1972**

Range Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

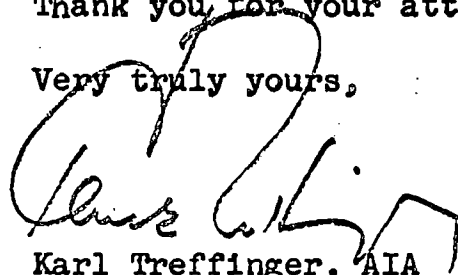
Re: Unimak Island  
Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge

Dear Sir:

I wish to express my support of your agency's proposal concerning the above-referenced wilderness area. But I feel that the minor changes proposed by Alaskan conservationists (i.e., placing the western wilderness boundary along the road system, and elimination of the clause which states, in part, "The establishment of this reservation shall not interfere with the use of the islands for lighthouse, military, or naval purposes.") would greatly improve this proposal, should it be adopted.

Thank you for your attention to my views on this matter.

Very truly yours,



Karl Treffinger, AIA

KARL TREFFINGER AND ASSOCIATES

KET:aw

cc: Senator Alan Cranston  
Senator John V. Tunney  
Congressman William S. Mailliard

JAN 18 1972

Henry S. Vanderwarker  
P. O. Box X  
Steilacoom, Wa. 98388

#153

Jan 8, 1972

Dear Sirs

I wish to be counted among those who energetically endorse the action taken by the Alaskan Conservationists with regard to Unimak Island. I also feel that two of their recommendations are very significant:

1. Establishing boundaries on the Western tip utilizing existing road system.
2. Eliminate that clause that would allow military intrusion.

Sincerely,

Henry S. Vanderwarker

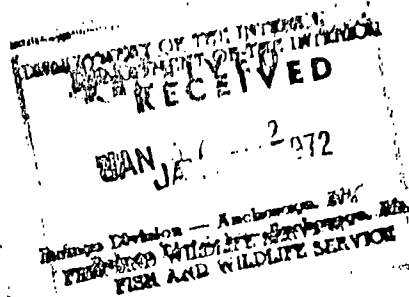
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 11 1972

Salmon Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

JAN 13 1972

January 12, 1972



#215  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 17 1972

Alaska Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

We urge that you grant wilderness status to Unimak Island in the Aleutians as proposed by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, with the following slight changes:

1. In excluding the western tip of the island, please use the road system, rather than section lines, to delineate wilderness boundaries.
2. Part of the order which established the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge stated: "The establishment of this reservation shall not interfere with the use of the islands for lighthouse, military, or naval purposes." Please amend the order to eliminate this clause.

Please make this statement part of the permanent record of the hearing; and, at your convenience, please acknowledge receipt of our statement.

Very respectfully yours,

*Joseph and Mary Wagner*  
MR. AND MRS. JOSEPH P. WAGNER  
3315 North 60th Street  
Phoenix, Arizona 85018

Copies to: Hon. Barry Goldwater  
Hon. Paul Fannin  
Hon. John Rhodes

JAN 19 1972

2924 STARK ST. #1  
EUGENE, OREGON 97402  
December 22, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries  
and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 27 1971

Biological Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Dear Sir,

Please make the following statement part of the hearing record on the proposed Unimak Island wilderness:

We fully support the Bureau's recommendation that all of the island ~~was~~ be managed as wilderness except some 34,000 acres.

In addition, we would like to support the Alaska conservationists on these two points:

- ① bring the boundary of the western part of the wilderness down to the edge of the roads making for easier in-the-field boundary identification.
- ② urging the Secretary of the Interior to eliminate the clause that the island be used for military purposes.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Joe + Goy Walicki

(over)

DEC 29 1971

P.S. Please acknowledge this letter. Thanks!



#114  
I enclose the stand  
of Alaskan conservationists  
outlined in enclosed  
paper.

I thank you

Billie Wossumon

Kimberly  
4846 S. Kimbark

Chicago AR

6 Dec 6065

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

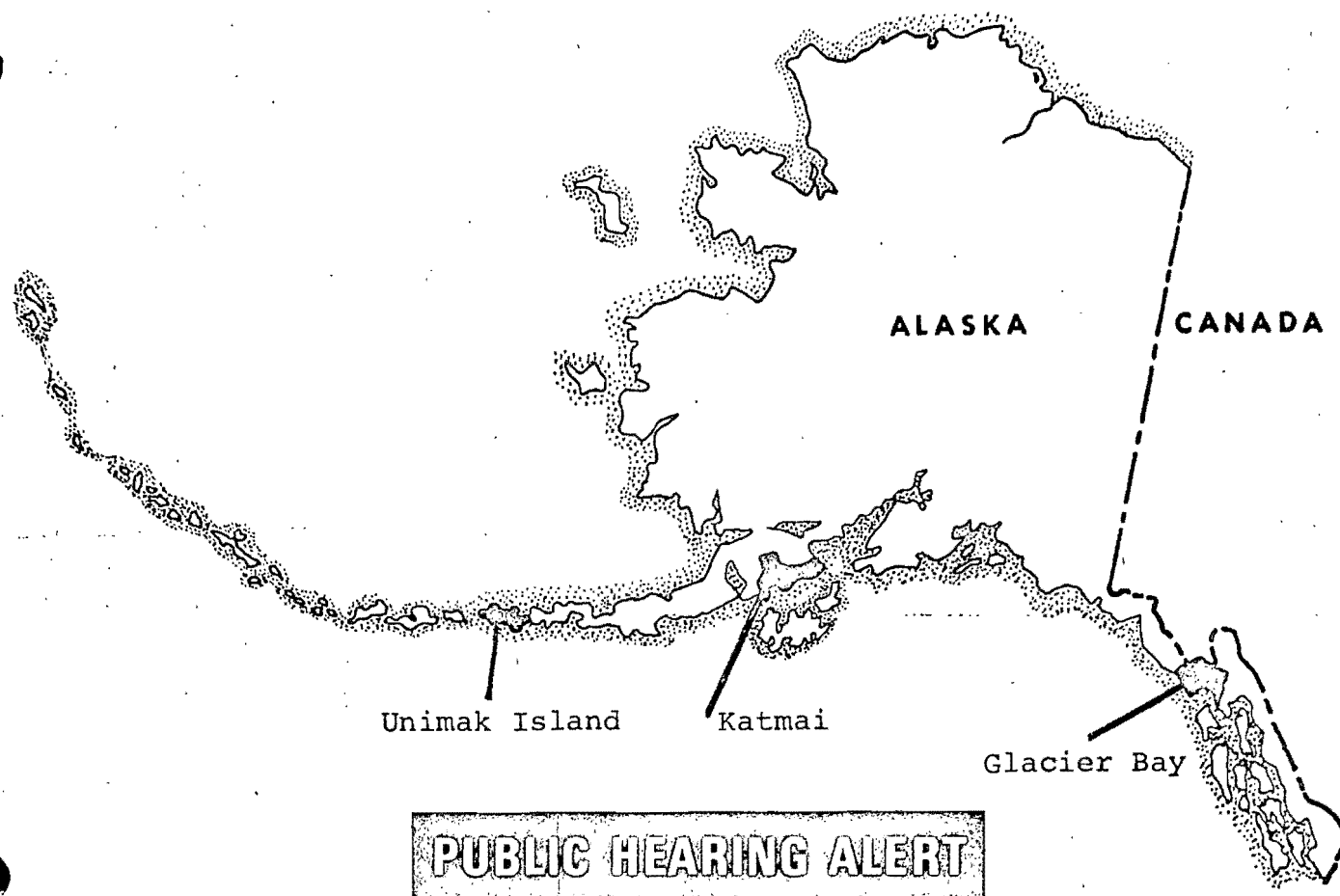
60615

DEC 23 1971

Biological Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

DEC 30 1971

# KATMAI • GLACIER BAY • UNIMAK ISLAND



## PUBLIC HEARING ALERT

The Department of the Interior has scheduled wilderness field hearings in Alaska on three highly significant areas -- a huge wilderness island in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge and the first hearings in Alaska on the wilderness potential of two units of the National Park System.

### Katmai National Monument and Glacier Bay National Monument

November 18, 1971  
Anchorage, Alaska  
and  
November 20, 1971  
Juneau, Alaska  
(Hearing Record closes--  
December 20, 1971)

### Unimak Island, Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge

December 14, 1971  
Cold Bay, Alaska  
and  
December 17, 1971  
Anchorage, Alaska  
(Hearing Record closes--  
January 17, 1971)

Alaskan conservationists are endorsing the fundamental principles embodied in the wilderness proposals of all three of the above areas, but ask your help in assuring that these big and beautiful areas be kept as magnificently wild as they are today. Please send letters for inclusion in each of the hearing records (details provided on the back page of this alert) in support of recommendations by Alaskan conservationists.

## National Park Proposals

*Glacier Bay National Monument*, established in 1925, is one of the great wild areas of the National Park System. Located at the northwest end of the Alexander Archipelago

THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY  
George Marshall, President

• 729 FIFTEENTH STREET, N.W. •

• WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005  
Stewart M. Brandborg, Executive Director

in southeastern Alaska, the monument contains 16 active tidewater glaciers. Icebergs, cracked off from near-vertical ice cliffs, dot the waters of the bay. Glaciers, deep fiords, and snow-capped mountains combine with lush forests and abundant wildlife to create a unique wilderness. The park encompasses 2.8 million acres, of which 2,210,600 acres are being recommended as wilderness. The bulk of the excluded area is within Glacier Bay itself and other salt water (ocean) areas. Other exclusions include the headquarters site and a 1/8-mile buffer along the boundary. No roads are present within monument boundaries and none is planned; thus, historical sightseeing boat tours can be maintained and the waterways will, in fact, be the roads.

Unfortunately, Glacier Bay Monument is subject to the provisions of the mining laws. Prospecting and mineral exploration are a continuing threat to the integrity of the monument. A number of mining claims are actively being "worked", and mineral discovery in this magnificent area would destroy the purposes and significance for which the monument was established.

*Katmai National Monument*, 2,792,000 acres in size, has been managed as a National Park Service natural area since its establishment in 1918. This vast, wild area was set aside for public use and enjoyment, primarily because of scientific interest engendered by its volcanic phenomena, including the 1912 eruption of Novarupta Volcano that created the famed Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes. The combination of volcanoes, glaciers, great lakes, river systems and wildlife is unique on the North American continent. Because of the ruggedness, immensity, and diversity of this vast, wild area, Katmai's biotic communities remain, for the most part, in a natural state of balance.

Located on the Alaska Peninsula, the monument is an area remote from civilization, a wild, immense landscape offering remarkable sights and a memorable wilderness experience. It includes some of the magnificent wild animals of the Alaska Peninsula -- particularly the brown bear -- as well as a series of large, beautiful lakes north of the volcanic area, and the islets off the seacoast.

The wilderness proposal encompasses 2,553,100 acres of this spectacular area. Excluded from the proposal are three lakes, a 1/8-mile "management zone" along the boundary and several enclaves to accommodate existing and proposed rustic shelters.

## Conservationists Agree In Principle

The key statement of intent to manage both of these National Park System units as wilderness is in the Katmai master plan proposal, which states, "All general development concepts for Katmai National Monument should evolve or be based only on the single principle of providing the maximum protection of the wildlands and life forms, coupled with ample visitor opportunities for enjoying a compatible wilderness experience."

The critical feature of any plan to carry out this principle is also stated in the Katmai master plan: "Based on current population increase, leisure time, and per capita income, future public use of the monument may well have to be limited -- before the turn of the century -- to an advanced registration system, so as to prevent any deterioration of the monument's physical resources or any degradation of the environment."

Unfortunately, the National Park Service does not always seem to keep these ideas at the fore during its development planning for visitor facilities. An example is the proposal to use amphibious planes to carry visitors to major development sites in the heart of Katmai. The proposal -- which on the surface seems sensible -- is open-ended since there is no indication whether a maximum number of daily flights is planned, or whether flights will simply expand to meet demand. Perhaps the basic problem is that the Park Service sees aircraft and boats as the perfect means for mass transportation into wild country, as neither leaves a permanent trail.

With this caveat, Alaska conservationists are supporting vigorously the main recommendations of the National Park Service regarding Glacier Bay and Katmai National Monuments:

1. Designate Glacier Bay and Katmai as National Parks. This will give the Service its best opportunity to protect their beauty and, particularly, their present wild aspect.
2. Repeal the 1936 law opening Glacier Bay National Monument to mining. There is no mineral there needed so desperately that a wilderness should be ruined to remove it.
3. Designate as wilderness all parts of Katmai and Glacier Bay National Monuments that are now wild, except for extremely limited areas managed for more intensive use.
4. In every program and facility developed for visitor use, emphasize the natural, wilderness experience.

In addition to supporting the above Park Service recommendations Alaska conservationists are insisting on the following:

1. that the 1/8-mile "management zone" be eliminated and the excluded area included in the wilderness proposals of both monuments.
2. that "enclaves" for future development of shelters be eliminated and included in the wilderness, that existing camps be recognized as non-conforming or administrative in nature, and that in the future only those shelters needed for visitor safety or administrative necessity (as permitted by the Wilderness Act) be installed.
3. Elimination of the proposed 10-acre site in the Bay of Islands in Naknek Lake at Katmai Monument as a "wilderness threshold area." The planning concept for development of this site, as outlined in the master plan, includes "dispersed docks for boats, floatplanes, and concessioner-operated back-country threshold camps" -- clearly not appropriate for this lovely, wild area. This area, with the adjacent two-mile portage route between Naknek and Grosvenor Lake, should be *included* in the wilderness area. Access to the canoe portage route should be maintained by foot trails and/or non-motorized craft within the Bay of Islands.

## National Wildlife Refuge Proposal

Westward from the tip of the Alaska Peninsula the windswept and fogbound Aleutian Islands reach out toward Asia in an 1100-mile sweeping arc. Established in 1913, the *Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge* encompasses most of the islands in the archipelago. *Unimak* is the first island in the chain and the largest -- nearly 1 million acres in size. Much of the grandeur that typifies Alaska is found on this unique island: towering snow-capped mountains, active volcanoes, living glaciers and expansive tundra supporting a rich variety of wildlife.

The Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife is proposing that all but about 34,000 acres of this magnificent island be included in the Wilderness System. (Public hearings on the wilderness potential of the remaining islands in the refuge are planned for next year.)

# Differences Are Small

Conservationists are extremely pleased with the Bureau's proposal, and are supporting it, but feel that the wilderness area can be improved. They are recommending the following:

1. The western tip of the island has been excluded by the Bureau from the proposed wilderness because of the presence of an active lighthouse and communications station, several miles apart and connected by roads. This exclusion is delineated on maps by section lines when actually a more recognizable wilderness boundary could be placed along the road system, and conservationists are so stating. The increase in acreage would be small but significant if this improved method of locating the wilderness boundary is adopted in final recommendations.

2. The order which established the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge stated, in part, "The establishment of this reservation shall not interfere with the use of the islands for lighthouse, military, or naval purposes." Conservationists are urging the Secretary of the Interior to amend the order to eliminate this clause to assure that Unimak Island and the wilderness will not be subjected to military intrusion in the future.

## You Can Help

Please assist Alaskan conservationists in their attempt to build a record by writing a supporting letter for inclusion in each of the hearing records. Two letters are required -- one for each hearing record. Send your letters endorsing the stand of Alaskan conservationists outlined herein to:

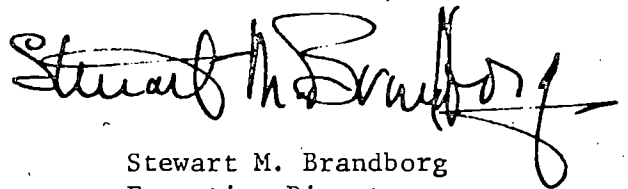
### KATMAI AND GLACIER BAY NATIONAL MONUMENTS

General Superintendent  
National Park Service Alaska Group  
Room 376  
Federal Building  
605 West Fourth Avenue  
Anchorage, Alaska 99510  
(Letters must arrive by December 20)

### UNIMAK ISLAND

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries  
and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502  
(Letters must arrive by  
January 17)

Your senators and congressman will appreciate receiving a copy of your letter.



Stewart M. Brandborg  
Executive Director  
The Wilderness Society

Dear Sir:

1/2/72

#150

I wish to comment on the wilderness proposal concerning Unimak Island within the Aleutian Islands Nat'l Wildlife Refuge. Further, I request that this statement become part of the official hearing record.

It is absolutely essential that Unimak be preserved in its origin state, so that later generations might enjoy its rocky shores, mighty mountains and the wildlife. Anchitka has done more than enough damage to the fragile ecology of the Aleutians, and another such ill-planned usage of the area could well

spell its doom. The fauna of  
this region are dependent upon  
man in the context that he  
simply cannot develop the land  
and expect the ecological status  
quo to remain. We owe it to  
~~our~~ ourselves to keep Unimak  
as it was.

Sincerely,  
Albert Weeks  
566 Atlantic Ave.  
Cedarhurst, N.Y.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 11 1972

Endangered Division -- Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

JAN 13 1972

#205-  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 7 1972

Refuge Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

3355 Mac's Rd.  
Redding, Calif. 96001  
Dec. 30, 1971

Alaska Area Director, Bureau Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I am writing about the hearings regarding wilderness status for the Unmiak Island, Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, and ask that this letter be made part of the hearing record.

I strongly support the Bureau's recommendations that most of this area be included in the Wilderness System but with the added suggestion that no military activity be allowed. I hope you will do everything possible to see that this magnificent area is guarded for future generations.

Yours truly,

*Muriel Weissberg*

JAN 18 1972



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 20 1971

Damage Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Rodney B. Walker  
520 S. Hieflner  
Perryville, Mo. 63771

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Neward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear sir,

I am writing in reference to the Unimak Island hearings coming up soon. I would like this letter added to the hearing record stating that I ~~am~~ support the proposals by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife. I am in favor of the proposals to add Unimak Island to the Wilderness System. There is one thing I would change. This is an order that says "The establishment of this reservation shall not interfere with the use of the island for lighthouse, military, or naval purposes." I think this statement should be amended to assure that Unimak Island & the wilderness will not be subjected to military intrusion in the future.

DEC 29 1971

Thank you,  
Rod Walker

Jan 7, 1972  
911 Wisconsin st #154  
Oshkosh, Wis

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska  
99502

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 11 1972

Range Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Dear Sir

I am a student at The University of Wisconsin studying conservation. I have just found out about the trouble over the Unimak Wilderness system.

I am to understand that there is a little thing over a boundary line, making the wilderness larger. I feel the larger you can make it, the better it will be. So I feel that if you could make this boundary along the road this would be very fine with me, and many other living things that live there.

Another issue that I am very against is that there is a clause in the system that at any time the Army may come in and use the island as they please wilderness or not. I feel that the Army has alot other places that they can take over. This island is a very good spot for the wilderness system and it has worked out fine already.

Now that you know what I think, I would like this letter to be added to the hearings on the

Unimak Wilderness, I hope you get many more letters like this to help the cause.

I would also like to have an answer to my letter if there's a way.

Thanks for reading

Nick Wellenstein

JAN 13 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 11 1972

Biological Services — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#156  
2607 W. 33rd Ave. Apt 2  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503  
January 9, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6947 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

For inclusion in the Unimak Island Wilderness hearing record:

I am a lifetime Alaska resident. I hereby express my support for the Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal. During my lifetime I have seen much of the de-facto wilderness character of Alaska disappear. I feel it is imperative that wilderness areas be set aside now, as wilderness is a unique yet fast-disappearing resource. Wilderness must be protected now as it represents an intangible asset to the people of the United States and to their descendants. of 24 yrs.

*Cynthia Wentworth*

Cynthia Wentworth

JAN 13 1972

Mrs. Sherman Eugene Wheeler  
5527 S. University Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60637

#140

1/2/72

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 5 1972

6917 Seward Highway

Anchorage, Alaska 99502  
Alaska Division -- Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Dear Sir: -

I wish to add my voice to others who are strongly urging that all of Unalakleet Island be included in The Nat'l Wildlife Refuge. To be specific, I would hope that the western tip of the island be included in The Refuge so that there will be no

military intrusion or  
use of this area. I  
have seen Unalak and its  
strange haunting beauty  
must be preserved for  
all.

I hope you will do  
what you can in this  
cause.

Sincerely,

Gene P. Wheeler

cc: Senators Percy, Stevenson  
of Illinois  
Congressman Miksa of  
Illinois

JAN 9 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 12 1972

Biological Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Mary Daniel Whitney  
31541 Inspiration Drive  
P. O. Box 1206  
Running Springs, CA 92382

Jan. 9, 1972

#166

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sirs -

Since it was impossible  
to attend the Public Hearing regarding  
the proposal of <sup>a portion of</sup> Unimak Island  
as a wilderness area in the National  
Wildlife Preservation System, I  
wish to express our keen interest  
by this letter which will reach you  
before January 17, 1972.

We have studied the  
brochure and information sent  
to us by the U. S. Department of Interior

2. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
it is vital for the wilderness proposal  
to be accepted as stated in your  
study summary!

So few wilderness areas have  
been protected by isolation as Unimok  
bas - and the destruction of this great  
fogbound, windswept country could  
all too soon happen should it have  
widespread use of motorized vehicles  
or commercial developments which  
are destroying areas in our state  
of California now. Let us protect  
the 965,042 acres for the enjoyment  
of the splendid Shishaldin Volcano,  
the lush green tundra and waterfalls  
and especially for the Caribou, brown  
bear, waterfowl, eagles and peregrine  
falcons which are almost extinct  
now in the United States. The Sea Otter  
deserves a home in protected areas!



You offer wilderness untampered  
with by mankind - a rarity we  
must work to keep.

Whole heartedly we endorse  
your study as described in the Wilderness  
Proposal and wish to be among  
those who offer their names in its  
support

With every good wish  
for your success -

Sincerely,  
Jack M. Whitney  
and Mary Daniel Whitney

JAN 13 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 1 1972

Exchange Station — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

AIR MAIL

5540 West Bar X Street  
Tucson, Arizona 85713  
December 29, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir,

I am writing in support of your Bureau's proposal to give wilderness designation to Unimak Island. Many of the natural features that come to mind as characteristics of Alaska such as active volcanoes, glaciers, mountains, extensive tundra, and a rich variety of wildlife would be contained within a conveniently small but adequately large area.

I concur with the Alaskan conservationists who would substitute the road for sectional lines as a more tangible boundary between the small western area to be excluded from wilderness classification. Perhaps the boundary might largely parallel the road some hundreds of feet to the east of the road so that all of the road would be outside the wilderness area.

Sincerely,

*Lynferd J. Wickerham*  
Lynferd J. Wickerham

JAN 7 1972

#186  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 13 1972

Refuge Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

77 South Ogden 404  
Denver, CO 80209  
January 11, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

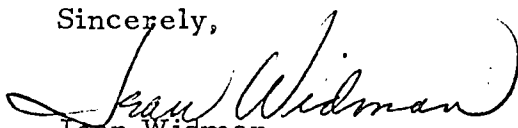
You are to be commended on the excellent wilderness proposal for Unimak Island in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge. I heartily support establishment of wilderness areas to provide the protection for the few last wild places left on the globe, and, for Americans, Alaska's areas are indeed precious.

Since it would be possible to recommend that the wilderness boundary be set along the road system at the western tip of the Island, I would hope that the Bureau will ask this inclusion of a few added acres. This would allow added protection against man's intrusions on the Refuge.

Also, I think it would be advisable to ask the Secretary of Interior to amend the order which established the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge to eliminate the clause providing for establishment of military and other fixtures.

Please include my comments in the hearing record. Thanks much for the opportunity to express the above.

Sincerely,

  
Jean Widman

JAN 18 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 17 1972

Biological Resources — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#211  
1 North Gate Avenue  
Berkeley, Calif. 94708  
January 13, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport, Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the inclusion of Unimak Island  
in the Wilderness System.

As we were in Alaska and on the Aleutian chain two  
years ago we are conversant with the value of this area.  
It is our view the boundary of the wilderness area should  
be determined by the present road system rather than by  
section lines. We further urge that no military intrusion  
be permitted in this area in the future. We urge legal  
amendment to the Interior Department order which established  
the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge to this effect.

We were dismayed at the remaining clutter from World  
War II as well as sheep ranching by Texas millionaires on  
the Aleutians.

From our observations the ecology in these latitudes  
is very fragile due to the seasonal brevity of sun rays.  
Traffic from mechanical gadgetry for whatever reasons  
damages benefits from any Wilderness System.

In other aspects we are pleased with the Department  
of Interior's proposal for Unimak Island.

Very truly yours,

A. J. Killits

cc: 5  
Cranston  
Tunney  
Dellums

JAN 18 1972

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 29 1971

Biological Division — Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

NORTH CAROLINA

Schoonbeck Company

December 26, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage  
Alaska 99502

Dear Sir,

I wish to ask that you include in the hearing record for Unimak Island the proposal that the western tip of the island wilderness boundary be delineated by roads, not by section lines, as this would be a more recognizeable boundary.

I also wish to enter a recommendation that the section reserving the island for lighthouse, military, or naval purposes be eliminated.

Sincerely,

  
Douglas Wilson

DEC 30 1971

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

DEC 20 1971

Biological Division — Anchorage, Ak.  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

December 15, 1971

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I very much support the proposals for making Unimak  
Island into a wilderness area.

Sincerely yours,

*Charles Wirschem*

Charles Wirschem  
school teacher

3306 Woodland Park Dr.  
Anchorage, AK. 99503

CW:co

DEC 25 1971

*From*

JOE WORRALL

#232  
Jan 16<sup>th</sup> 1972

U.S. Dept of the Interior  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Gordon W Watson  
Area Director

Re: New Isle Watson

I strongly urge Unimak Islands' 965,042 acres will be included in the Nat Wilderness Preservation System with all possible speed.

If this wild primeval island is preserved it will most certainly be a credit to the United States in the eyes of the world. Its preservation will have worldwide acclaim for the good of all wildlife and all mankind.

I sincerely my letter will be delivered on time to be included in the hearing record.

Very truly yours, Joseph Worrall

JOSEPH WORRALL  
20 W. DEERHAVEN RD  
MAHWAH N.J. 07430

JAN 20 1972

93 Grand View Avenue  
Wollaston, Mass. 02170  
December 21, 1971

U. S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Gentlemen:

We strongly urge that portions of Unimak Island in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge be included in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

This island seems to be a natural example for such status.

Sincerely,

*W. Wrigley*

Walter Wrigley

*Dorothy B. Wrigley*

Dorothy B. Wrigley

WW:rer



I am writing to  
urge endorsement of the  
Alaskan conservationists  
in reference to Unimak  
Island.

Thank you

Carl Zimmerman

350 E 178th

NYC 10003

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED

JAN 4 1972

Game Division - Anchorage, Alaska  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

JAN 7 1972



SECTION XV: COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS

INDEX

PART D: LETTERS RECEIVED AFTER CLOSE OF HEARING

Awsany, Ruth M.; 1258 Niles Ave.; St. Paul, Minn. 55116

Bahls, Loren L.; Montana Environmental Quality Council; 40 North  
Benton Avenue; Helena, Montana 59601

Bannister, Alma; 1926 Bohland Ave.; St. Paul, Minn. 55116

Barkos, Mrs. John; 1436 N. Snelling Ave.; St. Paul, Minn. 55108

Benepe, L. Mason, IV; 502 Stagecoach Tr.; Stillwater, Minnesota

Benepe, Lynn; 502 Stagecoach Tr.; Stillwater, Minnesota

Bodsberg, Ernest A.; 2247 Reaney Ave.; St. Paul, Minn. 55119

Bollman, Mr. and Mrs. A. W.; 1889 E. Co. Rd. B; St. Paul,  
Minn. 55109

Boucher, Mr. and Mrs. Sherman; Route 1; Downing, Wisconsin 54734

Boyd, Michael; 825 W. Co. Rd. B; St. Paul, Minn 55113

Braun, R.; Box 523; Hopkins, Minn. 55343

Carlson, Jon; 722 11th Ave. No.; So. St. Paul, Minn. 55075

Carlson, Randy; 722 11th Ave. No.; So. St. Paul, Minn. 55075

Carroll, Mrs. George; (No Address Given)

Christman, Clifton and Family; 16915 Potomac St., NE; Forest  
Lake, Minn. 55025

Christopherson, Mrs. Fred; 1721 County Rd. H - E;  
White Bear Lake, Minn. 55110

Colbelt, Ron; Box 322; Roberts, Wisc. 54023

Daley, William; 1069 Front Street; St. Paul, Minnesota 55103

DeKeyser, William and Rose; 2917 Silver Lake Court; Minneapolis,  
Minnesota 55421

Dennis, Mrs. John R.; 9601 Xerxes Road; Bloomington,  
Minnesota 55431

Dietz, James; (No Address Given)

Erickson, Arnold; Rt. 1 - Box 506; Alexandria, Minn. 56308

Faragher, Tim; (No Address Given)

Fearing, D. M. and Family; Co. Rd. Q; Prescott, Wisconsin

Ferry, Arlie; 1862 E. County Rd.; St. Paul, Minn. 55109

Finkelson, Mary; 2612 Spruce St.; St. Paul, Minn. 55117

Fox, Lyle R.; 414 East Chestnut; Redwood Falls, Minn. 56283

Gibson, Daniel D.; P. O. Box 1551; Fairbanks, Alaska 99707

Hajicek, Peggy J.; 1700 E. Co. Rd. D; White Bear Lake,  
Minn. 55110

Hansman, Mrs. Eva; 490 Chippewa St.; Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

Heck, Therese; 1926 Bohland Ave.; St. Paul, Minn. 55116 (See  
Bannister, Alma, for letter)

Hegland, Hazel I.; 1017 Linwood Avenue; St. Paul, Minn. 55105

Hicks, Mrs. Doris; Isle, Minn. 56542

Hoffman, Mr. Warren J.; 1711 Englewood Ave.; St. Paul,  
Minn. 55104

Holtkamp, Richard and Family; 1468 Fremont; St. Paul,  
Minn. 55106

Hoskins, Grace; 1072 Hague; St. Paul, Minn.

Iverson, Eunice P.; RFD; Dakota, Minn. 55925

Jarvis, Charles W.; 5942 Hobe Lane; White Bear Lake, Minn. 55110

Jarvis, Dorothy B.; 5942 Hobe Lane; White Bear Lake, Mn. 55110

Jeannotte, Mary; 1687 N. Fry, #15; St. Paul, Minn. 55113

Keene, Mr. and Mrs. Howard; 1622 Beechwood; St. Paul, Minn. 55116

Kilmer, Teke, Jean, and David; 408 St. Peter Street--12 Hamm Bldg;  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55102

Kjellberg, Mr. and Mrs. Robert; 2040 E. Laysentour; St. Paul,  
Minn. 55109

Kleinwachter, John; 2260 Summit Ave.; St. Paul, Minn. 55105

Korneski, John; Grey Cloud Trail; Cottage Grove, Minn. 55071

Kroeze, Pearl Toquam; RFD #2; Breceelyn, Minn. 56014

Laborelle, Emil J.; 1657 N. Hazel St.; St. Paul, Minn. 55119

Lang, Leonard; 700 Second Ave. S.W.; Hutchinson, Minn. 55350

Lein, Malcolm E.; Director; Minnesota Museum of Art;  
30 East Tenth Street; St. Paul, Minn. 55101

Lindquist, Olga A.; 508 Humboldt Ave., Apt. 306; St. Paul,  
Minn. 55107

Lund, Bert H.; 503 W. 19 Street; Hastings, Minn. 55033

Marty, Mr. and Mrs. Richard; 996 Eleanor; St. Paul, Minn. 55102

Mateju, John C.; Rt. 2; Stone Lake, Wisconsin

Miller, Mrs. Don; Finlayson, Minn.

Millich, Chris; 2003 So. 29th; La Crosse, Wisconsin 54601

Miner, Mrs. James H.; 8175 - 113th St. So.; Cottage Grove,  
Minnesota 55016

Mueller, Tom; 1011 - 16th Ave.; So. St. Paul, Minnesota

McGuiggon, Mrs. John; RR 2; Scandia, Minnesota

Newton, Mr. and Mrs. Barney; Route 1, Box 72; Webster,  
Wisconsin 54893

Norris, Mary; 1765 Bohland Ave.; St. Paul, Minnesota 55116

Norton, Mrs. Wm.; 1222 Rose Vista Ct. #1; St. Paul, Minn. 55113

O'Neill, Jean H.; 421 Twelfth Street; Menomonie, Wisconsin 54751

Palthe, John W.; 3068 South Owasso Blvd; St. Paul, Minn. 55117

Pedrothy, Mrs. Douglas; 2070 E. 9th Ave., #101; N. St. Paul,  
Minn. 55104

Patient, William J.; 1850 Feronia Ave.; St. Paul, Minn. 55104

Piotrowski, Walter C.; 231 1/2 Third St.; Eau Claire, Wisc. 54701

Plessel, Virginia; 1049 Goodrich Ave.; St. Paul, Minn.

Polister, Mrs. Gayle V.; 1889 Goodrich Ave.; St. Paul,  
Minn. 55105

Ravinski, Don; Route 3, Box 159A; Stillwater, Minn. 55082

Robertson, Dr. and Mrs. D. W.; 2985 McKnight Rd.; N. St. Paul,  
Minn. 55109

Rawson, J. C., Sr.; 1844 Orchard Lane; White Bear Lake,  
Minn. 55110

Schiver, Richard L.; 399 So. Pared; St. Paul, Minn.

Schlenderaff, John; 1523 5th Ave. N.; Grand Forks, No. Dak. 58201

Schwautes, Arthur J.; 1753 Lindig St.; St. Paul, Minn. 55113

Seashore, Mrs. F.; 3911 Lakewood Ave.; White Bear Lake,  
Minn. 55110

Smith, Stephen E.; 600 Pioneer Building, St. Paul, Minn. 55101

Sommer, Lucy; 2324 Orchard Place; St. Paul, Minn. 55112

Stortroer, Warren D.; 329 Cimarron; Lake Elmo, Minn. 55042

Sutherland, C. R.; 1630 Margaret St.; St. Paul, Minn. 55106

Sutter, Michael; 1330 Goose Lake Rd.; White Bear, Minn. 55110

Swanson, Ruth C.; 753 E. 7th St.; St. Paul, Minn. 55106

Syring, Mrs. Margaret; 1659 Niles Ave.; St. Paul, Minn. 55116

Tschida, Mrs. Richard F.; Administrative Assistant; Minnesota  
Museum of Art; 30 East Tenth Street; St. Paul, Minn. 55101

Walton, Mrs. Thure; 426 E. Rose Ave.; St. Paul, Minn. 55101

Whitney, Leland B.; Whitney Hardware; Webster, Wisc. 54893

Wiltrout, Mrs. David; P. O. Box 123; Chippewa Falls, Wis.

Wiseman, Mr. and Mrs. Robert; 3920 E. 64th Ave.; Anchorage,  
Alaska 99507

YaDeau, J.; (No Address Given)

1258 Milne Ave,  
St Paul MN 55116  
January 23-1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Sir:

I have just read an article in the St Paul  
Pioneer Press of this date by Calvin  
Rustum telling about Unimak  
Island.

Please do all you can to  
preserve this wilderness wonderland

Sincerely yours

Ruth M. Anderson

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

JAN 25 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

FEB 17 1972



Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

FEB 4 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

40 North Benton Avenue  
Helena, Montana 59601  
January 31, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I strongly urge that Unimak Island be preserved as wilderness under the pending Unimak Wilderness Proposal. Although I am a resident of Montana, which has wilderness battles of its own to fight, and although I am not likely to visit the Alaskan Island of Unimak, I would not like to see this land of beauty and variety despoiled. Only the wisdom of Congress now can keep Unimak within the ever diminishing pool of American wilderness.

I speak out as an individual and regrettably not in behalf of the Council. I speak, however, with the knowledge gained from nine years of formal instruction in the environmental sciences and from the simple ecological truth that diversity supports stability.

Sincerely yours,

*Loren L. Bahls*

Loren L. Bahls, Ph. D.  
Staff Ecologist  
Montana Environmental Quality  
Council

cc: Senator Lee Metcalf

FEB 17 1972

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

Jan. 27, 1972

FEB 1 1972

Dear Sir:

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Save Unimak! We are in favor  
of the Unimak Wilderness Proposal.

FEB 17 1972

Alma Bannister  
Therese Block  
1926 Bohland Ave.  
St. Paul, Minn. 55116

Gentlemen:

I am writing to help preserve  
the area Classified as "Unimak Wilderness"  
I knew nothing about this until I read an  
article in the St. Paul Pioneer Press.

Please conclude the preservation proceedings in  
favor of preserving this magnificent wilderness.

Thank you

Mrs. John Bankos FEB 1 1972  
1436 N. Snelling Ave.  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

JAN 31 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

January 23, 1972

Dear Sir,

With regard to the article "Plea for a paradise" featured in the Idea Mart section of Capital magazine in the January 23, 1972 St. Paul Sunday Pioneer Press, I would like to whole heartedly concur with your sentiments for establishing a "Unimak Wilderness".

As a resident of Minnesota, where the Boundary Waters Canoe Area, and the Upper St. Croix River are preserved as areas of natural beauty, I can well appreciate the urgency of your plea. Far too little of nature is left untramelled now, and besides the purely aesthetic appeal of nature's unspoiled array, there is the necessity of maintaining the balance of ecological subsystems within the biosphere. I do not pretend that the preservation of one Attention Island will save man from the inevitable ravages of an unstable ecology, but certainly good precedent for the maintenance of the biosphere will be set by the setting aside of this area.

It is a sad but true fact that even in Minnesota, where the opportunity for "soul-soothing" attainment with nature is quite easily had, that far too few people know and appreciate such a relationship. Let us see the Unimak Wilderness Proposal through to law, and hope that the machinery for

Minnesota, where the opportunity for "soul-  
sucking" attainment with nature is quite  
easily had, that far too few people know  
and appreciate such a relationship. Let us  
see the Unimak Wilderness Proposal through  
to law, and hope that the machinery for  
harmonizing man's world with the real world  
may soon begin to grind.

With Concern  
J. Mason Bennett

FEB 17 1972

STILLWATER, MINNESOTA

502 Stagecoach Tr.

Dear Sir,

JANUARY 25, 1972

With regard to the article "Place for a Paradise" featured in the Idea Most section of Capital magazine in the January 23, 1972 St. Paul Sunday Pioneer Press, I would like to wholeheartedly concur with your sentiments regarding the establishment of a "Uminak Wilderness".

As a resident of Minnesota, wherein the Boundary Waters Canoe area and the Upper St. Croix River are preserved as areas of natural beauty, I can well appreciate the urgency of your plea. Far too little of nature is left untrammelled now, besides the purely aesthetic appeal of an unspoiled natural area, there is the necessity of maintaining the balance of the ecological sub-systems within the biosphere. I do not pretend that the preservation of one Alutian island will save humanity from the ravages of an unstable ecology, but certainly good precedent for the right actions will be set by this proposed wilderness.

It is a sad but true fact that even in Minnesota, where the opportunity for communion with nature is so great, far too few people know and appreciate such a relationship. Let us see the Uminak Wilderness Proposed through to law, and hope that the machinery for harmonizing man's work with the real world may soon begin to grind.

With Concern

The Wildlife Wilderness Proposed through the law,  
and hope that the machinery for documenting  
man's work with the great birds may soon begin  
to find.

Will Conrad  
Lynn Bengtson

STILLWATER, MINNESOTA

502 Stagecoach Tr.

ureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

JAN 31 1972

FEB 17 1972

C. The Area Director  
ge, Alaska

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

JAN 25 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

2247 Reaney Ave

ST. Paul, Minn 55119

1-24-72

Sirs: I have just read  
with interest the Unimot  
wilderness proposal. As I  
understand it, the area is as yet  
pretty much inaccessible but  
some day practical means of  
travel will be provided. In the  
near future I plan a trip  
to Alaska & would like to see  
the area if possible.

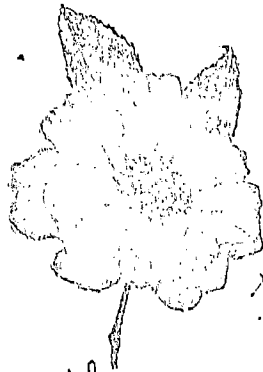
Very Truly Yours

Ernest A. Bordsberg

FEB 17 1972



Jan. 24, 1972  
St. Paul, Minn.



Gentlemen,

As concerned citizens,  
we are behind the Unimark Wilderness Proposal.  
It should be kept natural, and free of  
the so called sportsmen who hunt and  
fish for glory - just for the fun of  
killing. John G. Public can be  
destructive; but, with the present public  
concern, we hope he can be made  
to realize there is no future in the world  
if destruction continues.

Sincerely

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

JAN 25 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Mr & Mrs C. W. Bollman  
1889 E. Co. Rd B  
St. Paul  
Minn. 55109

FEB 17 1972

I'm writing about the Unimak  
Wilderness Proposal.

My husband & I are in  
our early 20's. We have  
a 16 month old daughter and  
plan on one more child. We are  
greatly concerned about the  
useless destruction of our  
wild life and wild lands.

We pray that our children  
will know the joy of seeing  
wild animals while walking  
through a woods. Things that  
some people take for granted.

If we don't all stop to  
think what we're doing  
we'll destroy all wild life and  
our children and their children  
will see concrete and animals  
in a zoo if there are any.

---

Animals left to put in them  
Something has to be done  
now today not five or ten  
years from now, it might be  
to ~~that~~ late. We hope the  
proposal goes through and  
have asked some of our  
friends to write also.

Someday we hope to  
visit Unimak. We hope it will  
be there to see.

Mr. & Mrs. Sherman Boucher  
Route 1 Downing  
Wisconsin 54734

FEB 17 1972

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

JAN 31 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Michael Boyd  
825 W. C. Rd. B  
St. Paul, Minn. 55113

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries + Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Jan. 24, 1972

Dear Sir:

In my hometown paper I have read about the Unimak Wilderness Proposal and how this area might be preserved as a wilderness area. I am very much in favor of the proposal.

For the last 3 summers I have worked for the U.S. Forest Service in the BWCA part of the Superior National Forest in northern Minnesota. I have enjoyed this work very much, but even more important, I know that this wilderness will always be there. I hope the same can be said for the Unimak Wilderness. Please endorse the proposal for me, and for thousands of other Americans as well.

Sincerely yours,  
Michael Boyd

FEB 17 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

1-29-72 San

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

FEB 2 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Sir,

I have recently read of the Unimuk Wilderness Proposal and wish to add my voice to those who would like to see it made a National Preserve for virgin wilderness.

Looking at my Road Mc Nelly road map I see that Alaska has for an area its size, only 5 National park and monument areas; McKinley, Kenai Moose Pass, Sitka, Glacier Bay and Katmai.

The fact that Unimuk is an island would contribute to restrictions limiting the scope and use of the island as a wilderness preserve and enhance it as a logical choice for a move in this direction.

Any information on the progress of the proposal would be appreciated.

R. Braun  
Box 523

FEB 17 1972

Hocking MINN

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

JAN 31 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

722 11th Ave No  
So. St. Paul, Minn 55075

Dear Sir.

please preserve umimik  
as a wilderness by law.

thank you

FEB 17 1972

Jon Carlson

Dear Sir,  
Please preserve Unimak as a  
wilderness by law.

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

JAN 31 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

I thank you,  
Randy Carlson  
722 11th Ave, No  
So. St. Paul, Minn 55075

FEB 17 1972

FEB 16 1972

Feb. 3, 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

I keep thinking that surely someone else will write the necessary letters to save Unimuk. But maybe everybody else feels the same way and these letters will never be written and Unimuk won't be saved.

Please preserve this area  
for even its own sake. Must every little spot of wilderness be tamed? But some day people will be able to enjoy and know untampered natural beauty.

Please save Unimuk!

Yours Truly,

Mrs. George Carroll



January 26/1972

Dear Sir,

I am writing to you  
as a paradise for  
preserving the animal  
kingdom. With pollution  
and man the animals  
are being killed off.

My husband is a  
hunter but he does  
what he can to help.

We would love to  
move to Alaska

someday. In our town  
area we fought government because  
they wanted to build an airport here.  
It would be very bad for a wild  
life preserve we like neat.

You have my vote and I hope  
the public will also make a  
favorable vote.

Very Sincerely,

The Clifton Christman  
Family

16915 Potomac St, NE

Forest Lake, Minn 55025

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

FEB 1 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

FEB 17 1972

Feb 7 - 72

Dear Alaska Area Director -

Save the Unalak  
Wilderness. Don't  
destroy everything  
like what's happening  
in the States.

Sincerely

Mrs Fred Christensen  
1721 County Rd H-2  
White Bear Lake  
Minn 55110

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

FEB 11 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

FEB 17 1972

January 28, 1972

Division of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

Dear Sir:

FEB 1 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

As a very concerned citizen  
I must put my wholehearted  
support to the Unimak  
Wilderness Proposal. This  
fantastic island of ecological  
wonders is a paradise that  
should be preserved and kept  
unscathed for our generation  
and for the generations to come.  
I urge you to give the Unimak  
Wilderness Proposal your  
wholehearted support.

Sincerely,

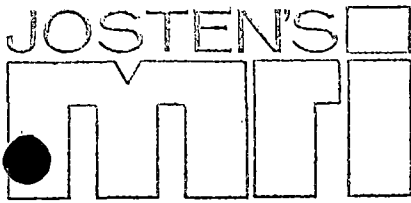
Ron Collett

Box 322

Roberts, Wisc.

FEB 17 1972

54023



Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

FEB 17 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Bill Daley  
1069 FRONT STREET  
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55103  
PHONE: 612-929-4004

2/13/72

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502.

Gentlemen

I would personally appreciate any effort that can be made to preserve the Chukotka Wilderness Area. As each of us know any wilderness area is vanishing rapidly and if we are to be honest with ourselves and fair to our children's children let preserve what little natural wilderness we have left.

After all the costs so small and the benefits so great. Thank you for any effort you might expend in this cause.

Kindest personal regards.  
William Daley

Care to Senator Mondak - Humphries.

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

FEB 4 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Jan. 27 1972

Save this natural  
wonderland, Unimuk  
Wilderness.

William and Rose  
De Keyser  
2917 Silver Lake Court  
Minneapolis  
Minnesota 55421  
U.S.A.

FEB 17 1972

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

FEB 7 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Mr. JOHN R. DENNIS  
9601 XERXES ROAD  
BLOOMINGTON, MINN.  
55431

Jan. 31, 1972

Dear Sirs;

I am writing this to ask you - really beg you - to save the Unumak Wilderness. It is vitally necessary to preserve valuable land if we wish to preserve the human race.

We are presently working to save local park areas, and also to save state and national areas. We have only so much land, let us not spend it recklessly. We must save it for posterity.

Sincerely,

Ellen Dennis

FEB 17 1972

FEB 1 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

To: Alaska Area Director

It is my sincere hope that the  
Umanak Wilderness Proposal will be passed.

Although I have never seen this island,  
through the witnessing of other people,  
I find that it is still much <sup>the</sup> way it  
has always been and represents an area  
that man has not changed or polluted.

I hope someday I will be able to  
visit this island and if I have  
any children they too can see Umanak  
Island. They will still be able to see  
what nature is like before man's hand  
changes or destroys the beauty and  
tranquility of a real wilderness area. There  
are so few places left

FEB 17 1972

I sincerely hope that a law will  
be enacted to preserve Albinas as a  
wilderness reserve

Hopefully Yours  
James D. Vetz



Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

JAN 31 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

1-25-72

Alaska Area Director,  
Bureau of Sports & Fisheries  
Wildlife

6917 Seward Highway,  
Anchorage Alaska 99502  
Dear Sir,

This is to inform you  
that I am in favor of  
preserving the Unimak Wilderness  
Area in its present state.

Yours Truly,  
Gerald Erickson  
Rt 1 - Box 506  
Alexandria, Minn.

56308

FEB 17 1972

I am in favor of the Umanak  
Wilderness Proposal. Please save  
it for my descendants. If this  
proposal is approved, I may  
start the ball rolling for more  
worthwhile endeavors.

FEB 17 1972

Thank you (for the  
opportunity)  
Tim Leachman B.S. - B.A. - M.Ed.

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

FEB 2 1972

January 27, 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

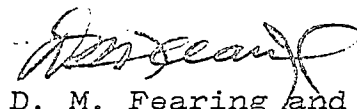
Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway, Anchorage  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

We appeal for the salvation of Unimak Island and back the Unimak Wilderness Proposal.

People of the world must be reminded constantly that without God we will always be nomads - a confused people who forget the value of life and know little of what they need and want. People will rummage through this earth, throwing the pieces into piles of waste never looking back. We must stop. We must work with what we have and become a part of what is left. It is life given to us. It must be realized and respected. It is a part of God.

Sincerely,

  
D. M. Fearing and Family  
Co. Rd. Q  
Prescott, Wisconsin

FEB 17 1972

FEB 2 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Sir;

I am in favor of preserving  
the Unimak Island in its  
natural state

Our family are campers who  
enjoy the outdoors and  
natural wonders of nature.

I believe it worthwhile  
to pass the Unimak Wilder-  
ness Proposal for all who  
may want to enjoy it.

Sincerely

Allie Ferry

St Paul Minn

1862 E. County Rd.

55109

FEB 17 1972

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

FEB 1 1972

January 27, 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Gentlemen:

I read about Unimak Island in "Capital, the St. Paul Pioneer Press & Dispatch Sunday Magazine", January 23, 1972. There are few areas as it is like Unimak described by Calvin Rutstrum, without possibly letting this Island be destroyed with buildings and pollution from humans.

I'm not sure what the 'Unimak Wilderness Proposal' is, but if it is going to save this Island if passed, then please have it passed. I just wish more proposals had been passed and kept, that would have saved some of our once beautiful wilderness.

This is just one concerned citizen that would like to back up the 'Unimak Wilderness Proposal' and I hope and pray that this wilderness can be preserved.

Sincerely,

Mary Finkelson

2612 Spruce St.  
St. Paul, Minn

55117

FEB 17 1972

Jan 23, 1972

Dear Sir,

I have just finished reading about the UNIMAK  
WILDERNESS PROPOSAL. I feel that it is very  
important that this proposal be considered  
favorably. We need areas of this sort.



LYLE H. FOX  
414 East Chestnut  
Redwood Falls, Minn. 56283

RECEIVED  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife

JAN 31 1972  
Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska  
FEB 17 1972

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

JAN 20 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

P.O. Box 1551  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99707  
15 January 1972

United States Department of the Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I would like to go on record, albeit at the last minute, in support of the Wilderness Proposal to include approximately 965,042 acres of Unimak Island in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

The proposal, in its entirety, I believe is desirable in an effort to set aside such areas for non-motorized recreational pursuits such as camping, hiking, mountain climbing, beachcombing, picnicking, nature study, outdoor photography, and wildlife observation and study.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Daniel D. Gibson*  
Daniel D. Gibson

FEB 1 1972

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

JAN 31 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

1700 E. Co. Rd. d  
White Bear Lake,  
Minn, 55110  
Jan. 24, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife,  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska, 99502

Dear Sir,

We are all for the Unimuk Wilderness Proposal  
and are anxious to see preservation proceedings  
concluded.

Sincerely,

Peggy J. Hajicik  
Mrs. Robert Hajicik

c.c. Joseph Wirth, U.S. Representative  
c.c. Walter Mondale, U.S. Senator

FEB 17 1972



1000  
888  
MRS EVA HANSMAN  
490 CHIPPEWA ST  
CHIPPEWA FALLS WI 54729

January 26 72

Dear Sirs -

By all means the  
plea should be heard and  
acted on to preserve the  
natural wilderness area  
of Minnisk.

Many of us will never  
see it - but to know that  
it <sup>is</sup> there for years to come  
in its entirety, will be a  
satisfaction, for those  
who will be able to see  
it and know that it will  
be saved.

Yours,  
Mrs Eva Hansman

FEB 17 1972

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

JAN 28 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

1017 Linwood Avenue  
St. Paul, Minn. 55105  
January 23, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

Please, please work toward the preservation of  
Unimak Wilderness Proposal. We have so little  
wilderness area left it would be tragic to not  
protect this glorious area.

Sincerely,

Hazel I. Hegland

*Hazel I. Hegland*

hh

cc: Senator Walter F. Mondale  
443 Senate Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Jan 25, 1972

Dear Sirs

After reading The Idea Post in the  
St Paul Pioneer Press, I had to write  
to say what a wonderful chance we have  
to preserve this Island in its natural state.  
I did not know this was such a place  
left in these United States. By all means  
preserve it. I would even get a chance to  
see it. But maybe my grand children will.

I am working for conservation of our  
natural resources in every way I can,  
also wildlife. It's a treat even to see  
any wildlife in this part of Country anymore.  
Thank you for bringing this before the  
public. So we that care - can do our part.

Sincerely, Mrs Lois Hicks

Ida. minor.  
56342

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

FEB 2 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

FEB 17 1972

Please

I am just one of millions  
of concerned Americans  
who feel that the  
Quinn Wilderness  
must be preserved for  
the future wild-life of  
the world! - Please do  
not allow any one or thing  
to destroy it.

Very Sincerely yours  
W. J. Warren (Hoffman)  
St. Paul, Minn.

1711 Englewood Ave.

55104

FEB 17 1972

# Plea for a paradise

Calvin Rutstrum, of Marine-on-St. Croix, is the author of a number of books about outdoor living, including *The New Way of the Wilderness*, *Paradise Below Zero*, *The Wilderness Route Finder*, and, most recently the autobiographical *Challenge of the Wilderness*.

LET'S SUPPOSE for a moment that in the United States with its onrushing population increases, there is a wilderness area of nearly a million acres that has been left just about as wild and untrammelled as it was a thousand years ago. In the play of our imagination consider that only the rare individual has ever visited this grand expanse of nature. Further to improve our hypothesis consider that it has the most beautiful crater lakes in the world, set in spectacular mountains from which flow numerous cold mountain streams. To give the streams greater interest, punctuate their routes to the sea with scenically awesome waterfalls. To cap off the physiological nature of the almost million acres, add to its magnificent coastline 200 or more miles of wide sandy beach.

So much for its physiological features. To complete the wilderness paradise, suppose that we also add about 25 species of wild mammals, bear, wolves, fox, otter, wolverine, and members of the deer family. And in order to make a long coast fascinating beyond words, throw in a population of seals, sea lions, and other deep sea creatures. In our generosity, let's add geese by the tens of thousands, whistling swans, ducks galore; even throw in a generous share of eider ducks and scoters. We might as well go all out and add cormorants, kittiwakes, murre, shearwaters, for the shores; for the uplands, ptarmigan and songbirds. And we can't afford to leave out the bald eagle. Here in this natural wonderland, we will not consider him, as we must in other areas, an endangered species.

INCREDIBLE EVEN to the imagination? It seems so today. It's like the fellow who said, "Imagine it: a thick steak, salad, baked potato, beverage and dessert all for 35 cents." A bystander remarked, "Where can I get this meal for 35 cents?" The reply, "I don't know, but just imagine it!"

Should we be as facetiously speculative about the dream wilderness described? It is a wonderful prospect, but who is interested in an imaginative wilderness wonderland? Where in a world environment caught up in an industrial obsessionism could we imagine such an area?

We don't have to imagine it. It actually does exist. Every phase described above is factual on Unimak Island—the first, largest and nearest to Alaska of the Aleutian chain. In fact, Unimak is so close to the Alaskan Peninsula, it seems almost to touch it.

But this magnificent area, now officially classified as

the *Unimak Wilderness Proposal*, can be destroyed unless you, the citizen, step in to help preserve it.

What can we do immediately about saving Unimak from general ravage?

The groundwork, fortunately, has been laid. It needs only the voice of every concerned citizen to back up the *Unimak Wilderness Proposal* now being considered.

Official meetings were held in Alaska, Dec. 14 and 17, 1971. Letters from citizens are now needed to conclude preservation proceedings. Letters should be sent to:

Alaska Area Director,  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife,  
6917 Seward Highway,  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

It will also help if a copy of the letter is sent to elected state and federal congressmen and senators.

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS of the Unimak proposal will be made by the Secretary of the Interior to the President of the United States when the hearing record is closed. Results will be based on a study and on citizens' response to the proposal. Letters that one planned to write but got put off, can never save this natural island. A flood of letters now, will save it.

It is quite true that many people living today and generations to come, may not in their lives observe an area of inviolate wilderness. This can become a serious cultural degeneration in any civilization. We could arrive at such ecological disaster in a relatively short time only by neglect.

Unimak, of course, is a long way off from most states, but it is, we need to remind ourselves, a part of the United States, which makes travel to it a lot more technically feasible. A journey to Unimak can be as enriching as the arrival itself, since travel en route is through that part of the North American continent possessing some of the most magnificent scenery. In a jet flight age, distance no longer poses the problem it once did. To leave a hurly-burly world of business and industry to arrive at an inviolate wilderness paradise, to camp, hike, climb, pick berries in endless profusion, beachcomb on hundreds of miles of beach, hunt, fish, study nature, observe and photograph wildlife, ought to hold enchantment enough.

Once you as citizen help to preserve Unimak as a wilderness by law, some practical means of travel to the island will, no doubt, be provided. Right now it lies there a bit inaccessible in all its pristine grandeur, waiting for you and me to act.

JAN 25, 1972

Dear Sir,

I support the idea that Unimak Island, one of the Aleutian Islands, should be designated a wilderness, and kept that way; so that for generations, Americans can have this <sup>piece</sup> of land to marvel at its beauty and animals. Any other land in Alaska should also be termed a wilderness, or wildlife refuge, if it meets the requirements that have made Unimak so unique. I read about this in a local magazine article written by Calvin Rutstrom. Since Alaska is America's last frontier, I think as much of Alaska as possible should be preserved so it does not become as polluted & overpopulated as the other 49 states are.

over

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife

RECEIVED

JAN 31 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

1468 Fremont  
St Pauls Minn 55101

FEB 17 1972

Sincerely,  
Richard Holtham  
Mr. J. L. Holtham  
Hal Holtham

I would also require, if possible, that all the Aleutian Islands be designated wilderness areas or wildlife refuges. I have never been to Alaska, but it would surprise me that moving to Alaska that America was gathering a piece of land for future Americans. I hope some day to come to Alaska & see it's wilderness areas as they pertain to what I heard about Thimble Island. P.S. What is being done to ensure nature areas that the polar bear will not become extinct?

Jan. 25, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir,

I have just read an article concerning the "Unimak Wilderness Proposal", and though it is very far from Minnesota, I would like add my name to the list of those who would preserve this beautiful island.

A wilderness such as this is so rare that if it is destroyed, it can never be replaced. So many of our once beautiful areas have been sacrificed in the name of progress, that we cannot spare even one more.

I urge you to do all in your power to save this island.

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

FEB 1 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Sincerely, 1072 Hague

Grace Hoskins  
St. Paul, Minn.



2-4-72

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries  
& Wildlife

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

FEB 10 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

Read with interest article written  
by Calvin Rutschman in a Sunday issue  
of St. Paul <sup>mn.</sup> paper re Unimak Wilderness  
Proposal.

Wrote to Congressman Albert Guie,  
Repr. State of Mn. re same. in W.D.C.

As an interested citizen would  
like to urge "Preservation of the  
Unimak Wilderness!"

Yours Truly.

Mrs Eunice P. Iverson  
(Ray m.)

RFD

Dakota, mn - 55925.

FEB 17 1972

CHARLES W. JARVIS, M. D.  
5942 HOBE LANE  
WHITE BEAR LAKE, MINNESOTA 55110

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

JAN 31 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

January 25, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I am very much interested in seeing that the Unimak  
Wilderness Proposal does not fail. I am forwarding a copy  
of this note to my representatives in The Congress and to  
the President. Do you have any suggestions for anything else  
that I, a citizen, can do to help preserve this wilderness  
area?

Sincerely yours,

*Charles W. Jarvis*  
Charles W. Jarvis

FEB 17 1972

special  
ack.

2/1/72

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

FEB 1 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

5942 Hobe Lane  
White Bear Lake, Mn. 55110  
January 28, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries  
6917 Seward Highway

Dear Sir:

I am in favor of preserving the Unimak Peninsula. Please do all that you can to see that the Unimak Wilderness Proposal becomes a reality. I am forwarding a copy of this note to my representatives in The Congress and to the President.

Sincerely yours,

  
Dorothy B. Jarvis

FEB 17 1972

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

FEB 1 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

January 25, 1972

Mary Jeannotte  
1687 N. Ivy #15  
St. Paul, Minn. 55113

Dear Sir:

I read about the Unimak Wilderness Proposal in the St. Paul paper. It seemed like an opportunity to have my voice heard on conserving an area worth keeping in a natural state.

There will be some who will derive more use in the form of pleasure and/or study than we ever could hope to. My family and I may never see it but it is important, in my estimation, to know that an area of this type will exist.

I find it difficult to express precisely my feelings on a wilderness area. Many people argue that a wilderness area benefits only a few. I think we have become so used to majority rule that we forget land and animals are not human and should not be judged

FEB 17 1972

on that basis. We also think it a crime that only a few directly benefit. Why? Can't we all indirectly benefit by knowing that what we envision does exist? Can't we and haven't we benefited directly from the words of the direct experiencers? I've driven through the Rocky Mountains and have tried to envision the area as the pioneers must have seen it. It's not really possible. It makes an American feel pleased, especially in this age of ecology, to know that there are areas and will be areas of "seeing is believing."

Sincerely,

Mary Jeannotte

FEB 17 1972

Forest of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

JAN 31 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Barbara Keene  
1622 Beechwood  
St. Paul, Minn. 55116

Dear Area Director -

It is wonderful to read about the  
Unimak Wilderness Proposal. Certainly we hope  
that this area can be saved. Thank goodness  
there are people wise enough and influential  
enough to represent the average citizen.  
This Proposal is magnificent and so very  
important.

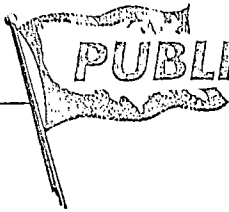
Sincerely,

Mrs Howard Keene

Mr Howard Keene

1/25/72.

FEB 17 1972



# PUBLIC INDUSTRIAL FINANCE

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

408 ST. PETER STREET — 12 HAMM BLDG.  
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102  
Phone: 224-1811

FEB 7 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

2/2/72

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife

Dear Sir:

For the first time in my life I am finally picking up a pen to write someone regarding conservation, et. al.

I write for my son David who is  $3\frac{1}{2}$ ; if we don't adopt, he'll be an only child because people pollute and more people pollute more. This has been our main contribution to ecology.

We deeply hope our government will help us by sensibly preserving the Unimak wilderness and other such areas as the Everglades, and every little marsh that still exists.

My son loves wildlife though we must travel miles to see it and then it is usually in cages and threatened by extinction.

Please - the quality of life we leave our children depends on us.

Love, Jean + David Kilmer

FEB 17 1972

January 23, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Sir:

I am writing to give my support to the Unimak Wilderness Proposal. I feel an area like this is urgently needed in our quickly modernizing world.

I hope the support of my wife and I will help in some small way in preserving a truly wilderness area for time to come.

Thank you,

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

JAN 28 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Kjellberg  
St. Paul, Minn. 55109

2040 E. Laysentaur

FEB 1 1972



Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

FEB 1 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

2260 Summit Ave.  
St. Paul, Minn. 55105  
Jan 25, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Denali Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska. 99502

Dear Sir,

I'm taking time to write in support of the proposed "Umanak Wilderness Proposal" because it is one of the rare projects which I believe will be an insurance and an opportunity for man to experience the harmony of nature. I am a senior in college and I am majoring in philosophy. I never want to be known for being against true progress which is in accordance with nature. Of course, the earth is ours to use with all its resources, but today we must look at our motives. Are we exploiting resources for profits alone? We must look to the future also and see that the preservation of this "special" area and vision of it by the world's citizens will be beneficial & even essential to some persons. Even if it so happened <sup>that</sup> it was not necessary later on we would still have this area. It isn't as if we were losing the area, rather we are giving this area to all people of the world and they in turn by their gift will understand that they must give to others.

Sincerely John J. Kleinwachter

FEB 17 1972

Jan 23, 72

Area Director,  
Reaching about the  
flight of Unimak Island,  
Please I urge you for our  
children's future to help make  
Unimak Wilderness Proposal  
a reality as there is so little  
left of Wildlife areas like it.

Thank you  
Sincerely

John K. Kornecki  
Grey Cloud Trail  
Collage Grove,  
Minn.  
55071

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

JAN 28 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

FEB 1 1972

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

FEB 2 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Brice Lynn, Mimi

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife

Jan 26, 1972

Dear Sirs:

I am interested in the preservation  
of Unimak Wilderness.

Because my sister Navy Nurse Ruby  
Toquam and Navy Nurse Helen Koehler spent  
several months at Dutch Harbor, UnAlaska  
sending us pictures from that area and  
telling us of the fascinating country there  
I always hoped to go there some day,  
should some practical means of travel be  
made possible my chances of getting there  
are greater so I'm all for the  
preservation of this wilderness country

Sincerely,

Ruby Toquam Koehler

RED#2 Brice Lynn Mimi

the Unimak Wilderness Proposal, can be destroyed unless  
you, the citizen, step in to help preserve it.

56014

What can we do immediately about saving Unimak  
from general ravage?

The groundwork, fortunately, has been laid. It needs  
only the voice of every concerned citizen to back up the  
Unimak Wilderness Proposal now being considered.

FEB 17 1972

Official meetings were held in Alaska, Dec. 14 and  
17, 1971. Letters from citizens are now needed to con-  
clude preservation proceedings. Letters should be sent to:

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

JAN 28 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

1657 N. Hazel St.  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55119  
January 25, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

May I add my voice in support of the "Unimak Wilderness Proposal" which is now being considered. I feel that as much wilderness area as possible should be set aside for future generations to see and enjoy.

In a land carved out of the wilderness by our forefathers there are too few such areas to remind us of this part of our American heritage.

Hopefully, some day means of travel to Unimak will be available and our children and their children will have an opportunity to see a true wilderness area.

Sincerely,



Emil J. Laborelle

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

FEB 4 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

700 Second Ave. S.W.  
Hutchinson, Minn. 55350  
January 30, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

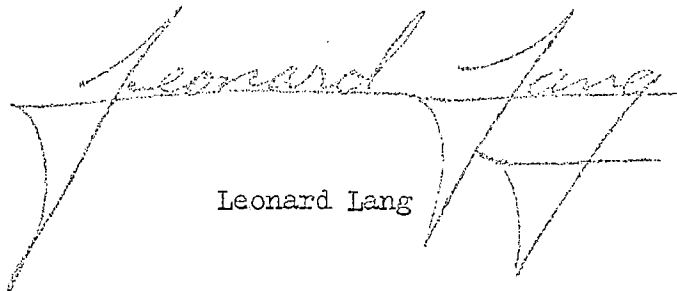
To Whom It May Concern;

As a young American who believes that environmental problems and issues are essentially the most important that this nation faces, I am very interested in the Unimak Wilderness Proposal. I believe that this wilderness, as all wildernesses, are of enormous ecological importance. But even more importantly, a wilderness may be, by the natural life style that can be found within it, a mental basis of peace for those who seek refuge from the dizzying future shock that is engulfing our civilized and extremely transient society.

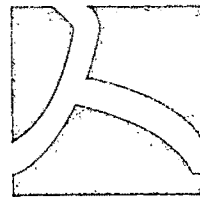
Although I have never, and may never personally visit this particular wilderness, I would not therefore selfishly wish it exploited or left unprotected at the expense of those who will. I say, let us take all the steps necessary to protect this wilderness now and forever and let the future show us whom it will benefit. And should I never enjoy this wilderness in person, never-the-less, it will be to me a mental pacifier simply knowing that such a wilderness exists. For once such a wilderness is destroyed, it can never give either physical or mental relief to anyone.

In conclusion: I support every effort that can or will be made to include the Unimak Wilderness in the proposed National Wilderness Preservation system because I believe that this land belongs to all Americans and should be preserved in its natural state for all Americans for all time.

Sincerely,

  
Leonard Lang

FEB 17 1972



Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

With the world environment in the state it is in today steps must be taken immediately to save Unimak Island in its natural beauty for generations to come.

I strongly urge support of the UNIMAK WILDERNESS PROPOSAL now being considered.

Sincerely,

Malcolm E. Lein  
Director

25 January  
1 9 7 2

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

FEB 1 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

FEB 17 1972

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife

RECEIVED

FEB 1 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

*Olga A. Lindquist*

*508 Humboldt Ave., Apt. 306*

*St. Paul, Minn. 55107*

January 25, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

The impossible dream -

Alaska with a paradise -

Not with our profit-motivated economy -  
no enforced restrictions on unscrupulous  
guides and hunters, et cetera, et cetera

More power to your Bureau! We will be  
watching:

Sincerely,

*Olga A. Lindquist*  
Olga A. Lindquist

Address:

Miss Olga A. Lindquist  
508 Humboldt Ave - Apt 306  
St. Paul, Minn. 55107

FEB 17 1972

Alaska Area Director

Bureau of Sports Fisheries & Wildlife,  
Anchorage, Alaska.

Jan. 23, 1972

Dear Sirs —

I sincerely believe that "Unimak Island" of the Aluetian Chain of Islands should definitely be preserved for a Wilderness Area.

I am 56 years old and have seen many of our beautiful lakes & wildlife Area here in Minnesota & Wisconsin taken over by Commercial Interests and spoiled. Areas that I used to enjoy traveling to to watch nature as it really is have been ruined and I want my Grandchildren and, their Grandchildren, to be able to go to somewhere in our United States to have the peace & serenity that can only be found in a Wilderness Area.

Please do all in your power to have Unimak Island set aside as a Wilderness Area.

Thank you — Sincerely yours

Mr. Bert H. Lund

503 - W. 19 Street

Hastings, Minn.

55033 FEB 1 1972

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

JAN 28 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Area Code 612, Phone 437-5063



Mon. Jan 24, 1972

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

Gentlemen:

FEB 1 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

It was with great joy I read about Unimak Island! So many of our wilderness areas & their inhabitants are being destroyed that I had lost hope that a place such as Unimak existed.

Please preserve this area for all Americans to cherish. Just to know it is there is a good feeling.

Possibly the area could be made accessible with a clean, quiet, non destructive monorail. Just to view the area, but to keep it as inviolate as possible.

996 Eleanor  
St. Paul, Minn

FEB 17 1972

55102

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Marty

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

Jan. 23, 1972

JAN 31 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport, Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska.

Dear Sir:

The need for wilderness areas are great, for in a few years little if anything will be left for future generations to enjoy. The time is now while there is still something to preserve. There will come a time when we will look back and wish we would have done this -- saved that/.

I wish now to make my plea to save Unimak Wilderness for future generations. I urge my friends to be watchful and write so our congressmen and senators and perhaps ask them to help in the preservation of this valuable paradise.

Sincerely,

Mr. John C. Mateju  
Rt. 2  
Stone Lake, Wisconsin

FEB 17 1972

United States Department of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

FEB 2 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

January 23, 1972  
Fairbanks, Alaska,

Dear Friends,

Sitting here this cold Sunday morning reading the Sunday paper I came across an article on Unimak Wilderness Proposal.

We certainly do need these wilderness areas and I as a farm wife I think feel very close to nature. I surely hope men who live and work in cities as most of you probably do, will vote to keep our wild life in all its beauty.

Someday we hope to travel to Alaska and the Aleutian Is. may be we'll get to see this beautiful spot.

FEB 17 1972

Sincerely  
Mrs. Don Miller

2003 Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>  
The Cruise, Independence 5460,  
January 23, 1973

Alaska Area Director

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

6917 Standard Highway

Anchorage, Alaska 99502

JAN 31 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Sir,

I just finished reading an article in a St. Paul, Minnesota paper concerning the "Unimad Wildlife Area Proposal". The description of the natural beauty of Unimad Island really caught my imagination. I strongly feel it should be preserved bylaws as a wilderness. Often, it seems, the destruction of natural resources is condoned for the growth of industry and the construction of towns. But in this case, the preservation of Unimad would be the greatest public service, by allowing citizens to experience the island's natural wonders in the years to come.

Sincerely,

Chris Melick

FEB 17 1972

January 26, 1972

To whom it may concern:

After reading the article  
"Plea for a Paradise" by Calvin  
Rutstrom, concerning the Unimak  
Wilderness Proposal, I feel compelled,  
as a young mother of five children,  
to request my approval of preserving  
Unimak as a wilderness, by law.

Thank you for your interest.

Mrs. James H. Miner

8175-113<sup>th</sup> St. S.

Cottage Grove

Minn. 55016

Division of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

FEB 1 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

FEB 17 1972

Dear Sir

I have read the article, Plea  
for a paradise, and I agree with  
what Calvin R. Ruitstrum says  
in this article. I am writing  
this to help the people in  
Unimak and all their Visitors.

Thank You  
Tom Mueller

ureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

JAN 26 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

1011-16th Ave

So. St. Paul, Minn.

FEB 17 1972

Dear ones:

I hope this letter is not too late. I just ran into the address in the paper.

It would be a pleasure if we as civilized people would do something for the future generations, of some good to all

instead of waiting till the kind sight is too late.

Hope all of you in <sup>the</sup> public eye will always keep this in mind.

Yes we in this family are all for the wilderness and animal revival.

Mrs. John McCreighton  
(mother of 10) (grandmother of 4)

RR 2 Scandia, Minnesota

FEB 17 1972

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

FEB 7 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Mr & Mrs Barney Newton  
Webster, Wis  
Feb 2 - 1972

Alaska Area Director,  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife,  
6917 - Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska, 99502

We hereby wish to make  
known we strongly support  
the Unimak Wilderness prop-  
osal to preserve Unimak  
Island as a wilderness  
area for present and  
future generations to  
enjoy.

Sincerely  
Mr & Mrs Barney Newton  
Route 1 Box 72  
Webster, Wis 54893

FEB 17 1972



Dear Mr. Director,

I am a 13 year old girl from St. Paul, Minnesota. As you know the northwest part of our country and Alaska is one of the beautifullest parts of America. And I appreciate beauty and nature. My mother subscribes to a nature magazine so I am aware of natures importance and of the danger it is in.

When I read the headline in the Sunday newspaper that said "Plea for a Paradise ",I was inspired to write this letter. I think that the Unimak Wilderness Proposal is a great investment. An investment in tommarow,in nature,an investment in the earth.

The Unimak Wilderness Proposal sounds to me like a Garden of Eden. With its waterfalls, sandy beaches,mountians and still lakes. is a wildlife refuge for many animals such as deer,fox, bear,otter,and many more.I also imagine it is a sanctuary for birds too. Many of the animals up there are of endangered species. We must save these animals and this wonderful paradise.

Please help mother nature by saving the Unimak Wilderness Proposal. PLEASE!

Sincerely,

*Mary Norris*

Mary Norris  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55116

1765 Bohland Ave

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

JAN 28 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

FEB 1 1972

Jan. 23 1972

JAN 31 1972

Dear Sir —

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

I have just read an article  
in the St. Paul Pioneer Press  
(St. Paul, Minn.) about Unimak  
Island. Although I have  
never seen the island nor prob-  
ably never will I think  
it should be preserved in  
it's natural state for those  
who will be able to visit  
it. Therefore, I enthusiastically  
support the "Unimak Wild-  
erness Proposal" and hope  
that no one is ever allowed  
to exploit or do any harm  
to this precious wilderness.  
Thank you.

Mrs. Wm. Norton

1222 Rose Vista Ct. #1; St. Paul, Minn. 55113

FEB 17 1972

JEAN H. O'NEILL 421 Twelfth Street Menomonie, Wisconsin 54751

Dear Sir:

Please add my name to those  
who favor the Animal Welfare  
Proposal.

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

JAN 31 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Yours Truly,

(Mrs.) Jean H. O'Neill

FEB 17 1972

JAN 28 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

John W. Paltko  
3068 South Owasso Blvd  
St. Paul, Minn 55117

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway,  
Anchorage, Alaska 9950

Dear Sir:

I want to help preserve Unimak  
Island as a wilderness by law

I would not mind some of  
my tax dollars going for some-  
thing useful like this.

Let's keep the "fast with a buck"  
guys out of there. (Unimak Island).

PS I am 45 but  
I have time to see  
this.

Very truly yours,  
John W. Paltko

FEB 1 1972

2070 E. 9th Ave #101

St. Paul Minn 55109

Jan. 23, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir —

I wish to express support  
for the Unimak Wilderness

Proposal. I feel that all  
people should be concerned  
with the preservation of wild-  
ness areas.

FEB 17 1972

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Douglas Leventy

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

JAN 31 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

1-23-72

I enjoy to hike in  
America. I have been to  
many states camping.  
Someday I might go to  
Unimak, hopefully it  
will still be as beauti-  
ful as it is now. I  
heartily support  
the Unimak Skansen  
Proposal.

William J. Patient  
1855 Hennepin  
St Paul, Minn.  
55104

FEB 17 1972

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

FEB 1 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Jan. 23, 1972

Unimak Wilderness Proposal  
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Sirs:

After reading an article concerning the preservation of Unimak Island I would be interested in supporting the proposal after a bit more information. Could you please send information concerning the entire plan for the island.

I shall be happy to support the proposal financially and politically after reading about the origin and direction of the proposal.

Sincerely,

Walter E. Piotrowski

231 1/2 Third St.

Earl Claire, Wisconsin

54701

Ack 2/9/72

Jan. 24, 1972

Alaska Area Director;

Dear Sir,

I am writing to urge the adoption of the proposal to make Unimak Island a protected Wilderness area. The government must be convinced of the importance of saving this area of magnificent beauty. Count me as one of the many, many ordinary citizens who support the proposal.

FEB 17 1972

Sincerely,  
Virginia Plessel  
1049 Goodrich Ave., St. Paul, Minn



MRS. GAYLE V. POLISTER  
1889 GOODRICH AVENUE  
ST. PAUL, MINN. 55105

Alaska Area Director  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska.

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

FEB 1 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Sir:

Although I may never see  
the Unimak Wilderness area I  
would like to place my vote  
to save this beautifully described  
area.

Sincerely,

(Mrs Gayle) Elizabeth A. Polister

FEB 17 1972

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

JAN 28 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

DON RAVINSKI  
ROUTE 3 BOX 159A  
STILLWATER, MINNESOTA  
55082  
JAN. 23, 1972

DEAR SIR,

I AM WRITING TO APPEAL FOR SUPPORT  
OF THE PROPOSED UNIMAR WILDERNESS BY  
CALVIN RUTSTROM, OF MARINE-ON-ST CROIX.

MY PERSONAL REASON BEING THAT AS A  
BOY I ENJOYED NORTHEEN MINNESOTA'S  
WILDERNESS FOR CAMPING AND CANOEING.  
WITH INCREASED USAGE IT IS NOT POSSIBLE  
FOR THIS AREA TO REMAIN A WILDERNESS.  
I WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND TO MY FUTURE  
CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN THIS SAME  
OPPORTUNITY.

WE MUST STRIVE TO PROTECT THESE  
AREAS NOW! BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE

YOURS VERY TRULY,  
DON RAVINSKI

FEB 1 1972

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

FEB 1 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

2985 McKnight Rd.  
St. Paul, Minn  
55109  
Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> 1972

Alaska Area Director  
B.S.F.W.  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska, 99502

Sirs,

Having studied the Unimak Island to some extent we feel this area to of tremendous value as a 'truly natural' island for generations to come, to enjoy.

With the rapid demise of such areas it is of utmost importance that the Unimak Wilderness Proposal be acted upon immediately. We, therefore, heartily support this proposal.

Sincerely,  
Dr. & Mrs. D.W. Roberts

FEB 17 1972

J. C. RAWSON, SR.

1844 ORCHARD LANE

WHITE BEAR LAKE, MINN. 55110  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

JAN 31 1972

Jan. 23, 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Sir;

I am deeply concerned over the rapidly disappearing primitive areas in our country.

The Umanah Wilderness Proposal has my support and I feel it would be a grave mistake to allow this unspoiled paradise to suffer the ravages of civilization.

I implore you — prevent such a disaster and recommend to the Sec'y. of the Interior that this island be protected.

Thank you.

J. C. Rawson, Sr.

FEB 17 1972

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

JAN 31 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Jan 24 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage Alaska  
Gentlemen:

I would to express my view in the  
Unimak Wilderness Proposal conflict. I  
would strongly support the Unimak area  
as being kept in a wilderness state for  
the enjoyment of the future generations.

I have supported other areas in the  
past for Wilderness Preservation and hope  
what we can do today will be wise enough  
to insure those few areas left a true  
wilderness for those to follow us.

Very truly yours  
Richard L. Schover  
St Paul, Minn.

399 So. Pared

FEB 17 1972

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

JAN 31 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

John Schlaundkraff  
1523 5th Ave N.  
Grand Forks N.D.  
58201

Alaska Area Directory  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I am writing in regard to the  
Unimak Wilderness Proposal. I feel  
we have come to the point where  
man's devastation of nature is eliminating  
God's creation. In most cases man's  
devastation is that - devastation. I  
hope that God's creation is something that  
will not have to be seen in pictures or  
told <sup>about</sup> as it was in the "good old days".  
I hope that Unimak Island is a island  
that we can see in years to come as we  
can see it now - beautiful.

Yours Truly  
John Schlaundkraff

FEB 17 1972

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

FEB 7 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

1783 Landing St.  
St. Paul, Minnesota

557113

Feb. 1 - 1972

Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
Anchorage, Alaska

Gentlemen:

I have become immensely  
interested in the Umanak  
Wilderness Proposal on Umanak  
Island. I feel that full advantage  
should be taken of opportunities to  
preserve such areas while we can.  
Thank you.

Arthur J. Schweitzer  
Prof Emeritus  
Agr. Eng. - Univ. of Minn.  
address above.

FEB 10 1972

Feb. 6-72

Gentlemen:

I am in favor of the preservation of Unalakleet Wilderness. What is going to happen in years to come, there may not be anything for future generations to see and know about.

Yours truly

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

FEB 10 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Mrs. F. Seashore,  
3911 Lakewood Ave.,  
White Bear Lake,  
Minn. 55110.

FEB 17 1972



BIORN AND SMITH  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
600 PIONEER BUILDING  
SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA 55101

NORMAN E. BIORN  
STEPHEN E. SMITH

TELEPHONE  
224-2851  
AREA CODE 612

January 25, 1972

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

JAN 27 1972


Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Gentlemen:

Please add my name to the list of those urging the adoption  
of the UNIMAK WILDERNESS Proposal.

Yours very truly



Stephen E. Smith

SES:lr

cc: Congressman Joseph Karth  
Senator Walter Mondale

FEB 17 1972

Jan. 24, '72

Dear Sirs:

For the sake of my children and grandchildren, as well as millions of others of the generations to come, we must not, cannot afford to allow our last great unspoiled wilderness, Unimak Island, to be ravaged by commercial interests.

There are so many other places, such as foggy Dutch Harbor, that would be available for commercial purposes, as well as thousands within the "lower forties". To have a dream of seeing and enjoying such a marvellous natural wilderness as Unimak, is one of the things that make routine, monotonous tasks endurable, - even without drugs!

Another present-day problem, - the disintegration of family life, - is often averted by planned vacations that all the members can enjoy together.

If this area is preserved in its natural state, there will soon be means of access more readily available to all. That kind of commercialism is desirable.

Sincerely,  
Lucy Sommer.

Alaska Area Director 1/22/72  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir

I've recently read about  
The Unalak Wilderness Proposal  
and meetings that were held  
in December of 1971 regarding  
preservation of this island.

I'm 39 years old and  
grew up near wilderness in  
Northern Minnesota and have  
spent a great deal of time  
in or near wilderness areas  
in Idaho. In this short period  
of time these areas have ceased  
to be wilderness, I feel that  
it is necessary that we do  
everything possible to see that  
any area that possibly can  
be preserved in its original

state should have all  
of the support we can  
provide.

I and many of my friends  
wholeheartedly support the  
Unsink Wilderness Proposal  
and we hope to visit it  
while it remains in a  
wilderness state.

I would appreciate hearing  
of any progress of this proposal.

Sincerely,

Warren R. Stortzen

339 Cimarron

Fake Elms, Minn 55042

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

JAN 31 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

FEB 17 1972

Dear Sirs;

St. Paul, Minnesota  
February 1, 1972

I just finished reading an article by one of our Native Writers who knows what it is all about when he writes about Unimark Wilderness Proposal and I am sure you folks who know it all first hand will do your best to make said proposal become true just not a nother proposal. I wrote to some folks in Washington D.C. to give you the backing needed. Thank you

C. R. Sutherland

1630 Margaret St

St. Paul, Minnesota 55104

FEB 17 1972

27 JAN 72

FEB 2 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

DEAR SIR,

I'M THE KIND OF GUY WHO WOULD RATHER DRIVE INTO A DITCH THAN RUN OVER A RABBIT. I LIVE IN MINNESOTA, AND IN THE NORTHERN PART OF THE STATE WE'VE GOT SOME BEAUTIFUL, UNSPOILED WILDERNESS (THE BOUNDARY WATERS CANOE AREA), AND I'VE SPENT A LOT OF HAPPY, PEACEFUL DAYS UP THERE. I DON'T HUNT — I LOVE ANIMALS AND THE OUTDOORS.

I JUST FINISHED READING ABOUT THE UNIMAX WILDERNESS PROPOSAL, AND I AM WRITING THIS TO EXPRESS MY SUPPORT OF IT. DON'T LET INDUSTRIALISTS OR LAND DEVELOPERS OR INDIFFERENT PEOPLE SWEET-TALK YOU OUT OF IT. "PROGRESS" ISN'T ALWAYS FOR THE BETTER. THOSE ANIMALS — AND THE LAND ITSELF — KEEP 'EM ALIVE. IT'S THEIR RIGHT.

Michael Suter

1330 Goose Lake Rd.

White Bear, Minn

55110

FEB 17 1972

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

FEB 4 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

753 E. 7th St.  
St. Paul, Minn. 55106  
Jan. 31, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

This letter is to heartily endorse the  
Unimak Wilderness Proposal. I feel we should  
do all we can to preserve Unimak Island as a  
wilderness to be enjoyed by our people for years  
to come. So much of our country's beauty has  
already been destroyed as well as its animals.

Success to this proposal!

Yours for Nature Preservation,  
(Mrs.) Ruth C. Swanson

FEB 17 1972

1659 Niles Avenue  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55116

31 January 72

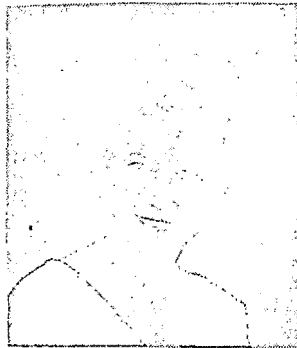
Alaska Area Director  
Buri. of Sport Fish. & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I am most interested in having the Unimak Wilderness preserved for all time. There are so few "untouched" heavenly spots left in the world where we can see the handiwork of our Creator.

Please follow through on the Unimak Wilderness Proposal and make it secure.  
Thank you.

Naturally yours,



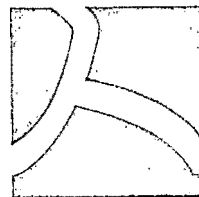
Mrs. Margaret  
Syring

FEB 17 1972



MINNESOTA MUSEUM OF  
RECEIVED

• 30 EAST TENTH STREET • SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA 55101



MALCOLM E. LEIN, DIRECTOR

JAN 31 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

I have just read an article in the St. Paul Sunday Pioneer Press dated January 23, 1972 by Calvin Rutstrum regarding Unimak Island.

To let this beautiful, natural island be destroyed by lack of proper preservation is unthinkable! I strongly urge support of the Unimak Wilderness Proposal.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Richard F. Tschida  
Administrative Assistant

25 January  
1972

FEB 17 1972

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

FEB 1 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

426 E. Rose Ave.  
St. Paul, Minn. 55101  
Feb. 26, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Gentlemen:

Last Sunday I read about the Unimak Wilderness Proposal in the St. Paul Sunday Pioneer Press. It sounds like a very worthwhile project.

I hope that it will be possible for this proposal to be accepted. Our wilderness areas need to be preserved and Unimak Island would seem to be an ideal place to be so preserved.

Sincerely,

*Mrs. Thure Walton*

Mrs. Thure Walton

cc: Rep. Karth, Minn.  
Sen. Mondale, Minn.

FEB 27 1972

# Whitney Hardware

Webster, Wisconsin 54893

U.S. Department of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

FEB 1 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

1-24-72

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries + Wildlife  
6917 Second Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sirs,

I wish to express my wholehearted  
support for the Unimak Wilderness Proposal.  
I believe areas of ABSOLUTE Wilderness are a  
necessity in our ever-expanding, ever-rushing world.

Yours truly

Frank B. Whitney

FEB 17 1972

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

FEB 2 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

P.O. Box 123

Chippewa Falls, Wis.

Jan. 26, 1972

Alaska Area Director  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
6917 Seward Highway  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Sir:

My husband and I are very concerned that everything possible be done to preserve Unimak as a wilderness by law. Our children and grandchildren will bless people like you for preserving areas such as Unimak Island.

Very sincerely,  
Mrs. David Miltrout

FEB 17 1972

Alaska Area Director

Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife

6917 Seward Highway

Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

FEB 14 1972

Dear Sirs:

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Our wilderness areas are  
very precious, having lived  
in Minneapolis, Minnesota  
and later near the Bob  
Marshall Wilderness one  
realizes this more than  
the "hop-in-a-plane" sportsman.

We now live in Anchorage,  
Alaska and enjoy the freedom  
of two worlds. Concerts, etc of  
the city — hunting, skiing, etc

of the woods.

These are my reasons for  
wanting the Umanak Wilderness  
Area. Even with a slow  
down in population we will  
be close to each other and  
a place to get away is  
essential

Thank you.

Mr. & Mrs. Robert  
Wiseman

3920 E 64th Ave  
Anchorage, Alaska

99507

FEB 17 1972

United States Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
RECEIVED

FEB 1 1972

Office of the Area Director  
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Sir:  
I feel that the national land should  
be preserves. I think wilderness  
preserves should be made. I think  
that the people who are interested in  
I hope that snowmobiles, all-terrain  
vehicles and other mechanical forms  
of "recreation" will be outlawed.

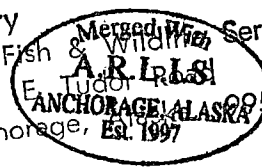
Sincerely,  
J. J. O'Brien

Library  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
1011 E. Tudor Road  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

RF 3/22/79

FWLB  
1275  
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1011 E. Tudor Road  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503  
Established 1997



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Library & Information Services  
Anchorage Alaska



Wilderness Copy



✓  
An Analysis of the Testimony on the  
Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal -  
Aleutian Islands  
National Wildlife Refuge.

Prepared by

Grumman Ecosystems Corporation  
604 K Street  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

For  
U. S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
Area Directors Office  
Anchorage, Alaska

31 January 1971

## Outline

- I. Introduction
- II. The Original Data
- III. Processed Data for Analysis
- IV. Analysis
  - A. Geographic Source of Testimonies
  - B. Testimonies by Groups
    - 1. Communications from Elected Officials
    - 2. Communications from State and Local Departments and Agencies
    - 3. Communications from Federal Departments and Agencies
    - 4. Communications from Organizations
    - 5. Communications from Individuals
  - C. Positions (Alternatives) Suggested
  - D. Numbers Expressing Various Opinions
    - 1. Oral
    - 2. Written
    - 3. Total Testimonies
    - 4. By Geographic Area
    - 5. Credit for Signatures
  - E. Summary

Appendix A. Summary of Letters and Testimonies (on file with Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.)

## I. Introduction

Unimak Island was established as part of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Range by Executive Order in 1913 by President Taft.

In order to conform to the Wilderness Act of 1964, a study was conducted by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife personnel to ascertain which of Unimak Island acres qualify for possible inclusion into the National Wilderness System.

A summary report of the proposal was widely distributed in advance of the public hearing and the detailed back-up studies were also available for scrutiny by the public before and during the hearings. The public hearing was held on December 14 in Cold Bay and continued December 17 in Anchorage, Alaska. The testimony of each person or organization that wished to testify was recorded by a court reporter. In addition the Bureau accepted written testimony for 30 days following the close of the hearings.

Shortly after the hearings the Bureau contracted for Grumman Ecosystems Corporation to provide an Analysis of all the testimonies, and an input (covering the Analysis findings) for the Synopsis of the Wilderness Record of the Unimak Proposal.

The present report covers the Analysis performed and directed by Howard A. Schuck, Manager of Alaskan Programs for Grumman Ecosystems Corporation in Anchorage.

## II. The Original Data

Two types of testimonies constituted the raw data: oral and written. Oral testimonies were presented at the Public Hearing at Cold Bay on December 14 or at Anchorage on December 17, 1971 and were reproduced in the official transcript by Pat Kling Court Reporting, 1016 West Sixth Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska. This type of testimony is referred to as oral (or hearing) testimony.

Written testimonies were received before the hearings and for 30 days thereafter. The 283 testimonies (14 oral and 269 written) received by the end of January 24 is the body of original data to be analyzed.

### III. Processed Data for Analysis

Our first activity was to read all testimonies. From this perusal we ascertained the type of information that was available most of the time. Among the information generally available was: the testifier's name; the location from which he wrote; whether he represented himself, a government department, a private organization; and what his opinion was regarding the proposal.

We then designed and printed a format for recording, for each of the testimonies, the following data:

- o A given serial number of testimony
- o Name of testifier
- o Source of testimony
- o Representing (self, club or company, etc.)
- o Number of persons represented
- o Opinion:
  - a. For the Proposal
  - b. For the Proposal (and with more restrictions or acreage)
  - c. For the Proposal (but with less restrictions)
  - d. Against the Proposal
  - e. Uncommitted
- o Reasons for opinion

The next step was to record on our format the above types of data (when available) for each testimony. The lengthy table that resulted (Appendix A) although not reproduced here, can be referred to at offices of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Anchorage, Alaska.

The next step was to eliminate duplicate testimonies. Duplicates were first located by utilizing the serial numbers keyed to the names of the person, and alphabetically sorting by name.

In consultation with the Bureau it was decided not to count a duplicate testimony (but to incorporate any new information given). In other words if a person testified at the hearing and also wrote a letter, only the oral testimony would be counted. If a person wrote two or more letters, only one would be counted. However, a person could represent an organization or agency once, and then testify once representing himself.

Applying these ground rules to the records, we deleted only one testimony because it duplicated an earlier transmission.

We also deleted four testimonies because they were seemingly not relevant, as follows:

- 1 merely requested information on the Proposal
- 2 merely stated that an oral testimony would be presented later
- 1 was in error, the writer apparently assuming that the Proposal was for only 34,000 acres (the amount to be excluded from Wilderness).

The five testimonies deleted reduced the countable testimonies to 278 (14 oral and 264 written) testimonies.

There is no legal differentiation made in this analysis between oral and written testimonies.



#### IV. Analysis of the Data

##### A. Geographic Source of Testimonies

As can be seen from Table 1, testimonies were received from 37 of the 50 states (and also from Washington D. C. and from Canada).

Of the 14 oral testifiers all but one were from Alaska..

Of the 264 written testimonies, 69 originated from Alaskan locations, 28 from New York, 26 from California, 16 from Colorado, 10 from Washington, and 14 from Wisconsin. It is interesting that of the 13 states that did not produce a testimony, four are in New England (Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island) six in an Appalachian/Southern complex (Kentucky, West Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi, Louisiana) and three in a Midwest complex (Oklahoma, Kansas, South Dakota).

Table 1. Geographic Source of Testimonies

Origin	Oral	Letters	Total Number of Testimonies
Alabama		1	1
Alaska	13	69	82
Arizona		6	6
Arkansas		1	1
California		26	26
Colorado		16	16
Connecticut		1	1
Delaware		1	1
Florida		6	6
Hawaii		1	1
Idaho		1	1
Illinois		6	6
Indiana		1	1
Iowa		1	1
Maryland		6	6
Massachusetts		5	5
Michigan		4	4
Missouri		3	3
Minnesota		3	3
Montana		2	2
Nebraska		2	2
Nevada		2	2
New Jersey		5	5
New Mexico		6	6
New York		28	28
North Carolina		3	3
North Dakota		5	5
Ohio		1	1
Oregon		4	4
Pennsylvania		2	2
Tennessee		1	1
Texas		2	2
Utah		1	1
Virginia		3	3
Washington		16	16
Washington D. C.	1	5	6
Wisconsin		14	14
Wyoming		3	3
Canada		1	1
Totals	14	264	278

## B. Testimonies by Groups

### 1. Communications from Elected Officials

Mr. Robert W. Pavitt, Director of the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, representing the Governor of Alaska in oral testimony at the Anchorage hearing, stated that the State Administration "subscribes to the basic principles expressed in the Wilderness Act of 1964..."and believes that "it is...wise that the Federal and State Governments, as trustees of the public lands, should be jointly and comprehensively analyzing and evaluating these lands so that formal wilderness designations may be proposed." He also agreed that the Aleutian Chain National Wildlife Refuge "constitutes one of this nation's magnificent defacto wilderness resources." In addition the State agrees that "Unimak Island is far removed from any known oil and gas provinces of Alaska," "that it is extremely unlikely that any valuable mineral deposits exist there," and that "the likelihood of urban development occurring much beyond the fishing-oriented village of False Pass is not seriously regarded as a probability."

In spite of the above, Mr. Pavitt indicated that..."the State must vigorously object to the proposal before us at this hearing." His reasons were:

(a) Concern that perhaps all islands of the Aleutian Island National Wildlife Range might also be recommended for wilderness status by the Bureau.

(b) That "any wilderness proposal for the refuge must allow for fisheries rehabilitation and development by reasonable means."

(c) That "wilderness areas allow for reasonable access...(to) any area safe to land on that does not injure habitat."

(d) The absence of an Environmental Impact Statement.

(e) Lack of evidence in the proposal "that the Fish and Wildlife Service has made a serious attempt to work with the State, the Aleut League, or even with the other federal agencies having substantive programs and interests in the Aleutians."

(f) That "It is...patently false to assert that a nine-page brochure, which does not even comment on the relationship of Unimak to its sister islands in the Fox group, should purport to be the document that helps concerned Americans decide the island's fate."

(g) The desirability that joint State-Federal planning efforts be undertaken before classifying land as wilderness.

Mr. Pavitt concluded that "The State of Alaska must oppose this wilderness proposal and all future proposals unilaterally advanced by a federal agency where the State's sole input must be based on a cursory review of an already firm and printed presentation."

U.S. Senator Ted Stevens and U.S. Congressman Nick Begich both wrote expressing interest in the proposal, but neither committed himself for or against it.

## 2. Communications from State and Local Departments

Max C. Brewer, Commissioner of the State Department of Environmental Conservation, lamented the "paucity of data" in the proposal brochure, and questioned whether it meets the National Environmental Protection Agency requirements. He also suggested that "an extension of time for accomplishing the purposes of the Wilderness Act be obtained, particularly as it applies to Alaska, in order that both the State and Federal Governments can properly carry out a reasonable assessment of the best uses of public lands." He also indicated that "This Department would like to work with the Fish and Wildlife Service to try to obtain the information required to allow a responsible review of lands having potential for wilderness designation."

### 3. Communications from Federal Departments and Agencies

Seven federal agencies commented in writing.

Mr. Weymouth Long, State Conservationist of the Soil Conservation Service at Palmer, Alaska indicated that his agency had no technical information on the Unimak Island for consideration by the Bureau in preparing its proposal, and assumed that wilderness classification would still permit the Bureau to manage the island's wildlife resources.

W.E. Eckart of the Bureau of Mines in Juneau pointed out the desirability of being able in the future to install instrumentation on Mt. Shishaldin to monitor possible future volcanic activity. He also indicated that "available information indicates the potential for petroleum occurrences on the island are remote" and that "no record was found indicating that the geology of the island has been investigated and mapped in sufficient detail to form a judgement on its possibilities for deposits of sulfur, perlite, or pumice."

J.A. Rutter, Regional Director of the National Park Service in Seattle, gave complete endorsement of the proposal. He also urged that a buffer zone or surrounding strip of State tidelands be negotiated for, and that EO 1733 be amended to exclude military activity from the wilderness area.

Rear Admiral J.A. Palmier, Commander of the 17th Coast Guard District in Juneau, pointed out that in addition to the Loran site at Cape Sarichef and light station at Scotch Cap, "the Coast Guard maintains, in the vicinity of St. Catherine's Cove, False Pass Light and Bechevin Bay Day Beacon. These navigational aids were established under special use permit #RO-90, issued 17 July 1968 by the Regional Director, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Region One. In part, this permit allowed for site clearance as necessary, ingress and egress for maintenance and provision for renewal of the permit at its expiration, 17 July 1988. It is requested that similar provisions be established under the proposed wilderness for these navigational aids and for the light at Cape Pankof, which was established prior to the creation of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Range."

Also, "while there are no immediate plans for additional

Coast Guard use of Unimak Island, it is conceivable that changing traffic patterns may, in the future, require establishment of added navigational aids. It is requested that provisions for such use be incorporated into the Secretary of the Interior's recommendations to the President."

The Geological Survey, through its Director V.E. McKelvey, testified that "the U.S. Geological Survey has not made a mineral survey of the 965,042-acre area that is being proposed for inclusion in the Wilderness System, nor have we made other geologic studies to any extent; consequently, we have no basis for commenting on the mineral potential of the area. We do not know, however, of any mineral deposits on the Island."

The U.S. Navy (Commander-in-Chief Pacific) through Capt. C.S. Christensen of the Alaskan Command at Elmendorf Air Force Base concurs "in the exclusion from wilderness status of land on the western end of Unimak Island as shown in the map accompanying the wilderness proposal. Classified Air Force and Navy uses for sites in the vicinity of Cape Sarichef, Sennett Point and Scotch Cap exist. While the area requirements for each site are relatively small, a maneuver area for their ground defense is needed. This maneuver area should include access to beaches and potential logistic corridors. While the excluded area is not ideal for such operations it should be adequate. In support of the wilderness concept, Commander-in-Chief Pacific does not wish to see any more land than necessary excluded from the Unimak proposal for defense purposes."

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) through Q.S. Taylor, Acting Director Alaskan Region at Anchorage, stated that "From a specific aviation viewpoint, we have no objection to the Unimak Wilderness Proposal."

He also indicated that "there would appear to be merit in deferring action on Wilderness Proposals at this time until they can be considered by the Joint Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission as part of total land-use planning for Alaska."

#### 4. Communications from Organizations

Thirty organizations commented. Alaskan-based organizations which favored the proposal in one form or another were:

Kenai Peninsula Chapter, Alaska Conservation Society	Soldotna
Students for Environmental Action	Fairbanks
Kodiak Aleutians Chapter, Alaska Conservation Society	Kodiak
Tongass Conservation Society	Ketchikan
Fairbanks Environmental Center	Fairbanks
Upper Cook Inlet Chapter, Alaska Conservation Society	Anchorage
Reeve Aleutian Airways	Anchorage

Organizations from outside Alaska which favored the proposal were:

The Wilderness Society	Washington D.C.
Montana Wildlife Federation	Montana
Michigan United Conservation Clubs	Michigan
Association of Interpretive Naturalists	Maryland
Hennepin County Park Rescue District	Minnesota
Pelican Island Audubon Society	Florida
Northern Environmental Council	Minnesota
Federation of Western Outdoors Clubs	Washington
Committee for the Preservation of Tule Elk	California
Four-Corners Wilderness Workshop	New Mexico
North American Habitat Preservation Society	Maryland
Chemithon Corporation	Washington
Tampa Audubon Society	Florida
The Conservation League	New York
The Mountaineers	Washington
Florida Audubon Society	Florida
Southeast Washington Junior Sports Council	Washington
Sierra Club	California

The Peter Pan Seafoods Company, Inc. of Seattle asked questions about the proposal, but did not commit itself.

The only Alaskan organization which opposed the proposal was the Greater Anchorage Chamber of Commerce of Anchorage.

Organizations outside which opposed the proposal were:

Colorado Mining Association  
Phelps Dodge Corporation  
American Mining Congress

Colorado  
Arizona  
Washington D.C.

The Wilderness Society, in conjunction with many conservation organizations, supported the Bureau's proposal, and in addition recommended\*:

1. The Western tip of the island has been excluded by the Bureau from the proposed wilderness because of the presence of an active lighthouse and communications station, several miles apart and connected by roads. This exclusion is delineated on maps by section lines when actually a more recognizable wilderness boundary could be placed along the road systems, and conservationists are so stating. The increase in acreage would be small but significant if this improved method of locating the wilderness boundary is adopted in final recommendations.

2. The order which established the Aleutian Islands National Refuge stated, in part, "The establishment of this reservation shall not interfere with the use of the islands for lighthouse, military, or naval purposes." Conservationists are urging the Secretary of the Interior to amend the order to eliminate this clause to assure that Unimak Island and the wilderness will not be subjected to military intrusion in the future."

In addition, the Wilderness Society orally testified (and many others recommended) that a  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile tidelands buffer zone around the island wilderness area be negotiated with the state.

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\* A verbatim copy of the Wilderness Society's Hearing Alert announcement on Unimak.



The Tampa Audubon Society and the Association of Interpretive Naturalists supported the basic proposal, plus prevention of military use of the area. The Naturalists also urged "further study of the Island's ecology with a view to provide passive public use facilities tied to the history and unique physical features of Unimak Island..."

Supporting the Bureau's proposal plus two modifications, i.e. use the road as wilderness boundary, and renegotiation of the military use agreement, were the Four Corners Wilderness Workshop, the North American Habitat Preservation Society, Federation of Western Outdoors Clubs, Florida Audubon Society, and Fairbanks Environmental Center.

The Conservation League and the Mountaineers supported the basic proposal, plus the two Wilderness Society amendments and also the idea to provide a ¼ mile tidelands buffer zone.

The Sierra Club approved the basic proposal, the military exclusion, the Tidelands, and a variation of the Western exclusion to the effect that the excluded area should be restricted to merely a "road corridor between existing installations, and that further construction on the western end be discouraged. The Sierra Club pointed out that the village of False Pass will soon have title to an additional 69,000 acres that can be used for any needed "development" on the island, thus rendering unnecessary and undesirable the 33,000 acres of exclusion at the western end.

Reeve Aleutian Airlines approved of the proposal, but "only if the withdrawal is limited to a minimum of 5 and not more than 10 years total. Then take a final look at it."

Peter Pan Seafoods of Seattle requested additional information after having received the brochure and hearing notice. It pointed out "that it owns and leases certain lands in the vicinity of its cannery at False Pass, Unimak Island, Alaska. It also owns two tracts of land at Ikatan which might still be listed under the name of Pacific Alaska Fisheries, Inc., a former subsidiary, now merged into Peter Pan." The requested information was supplied by the Bureau on December 8, 1971, but Peter Pan never did approve or disapprove of the proposal.

The Greater Anchorage Area Chamber of Commerce opposed the proposal for these reasons:

1. "Withdrawal of National Forest lands clearly violates the language, spirit, and intent of paragraph 6.g. of the Alaska Statehood Act (PL 85-508, 72 stat 339) until such time as the State has had the opportunity to select its land entitlement granted thereunder.
2. Alaska, in contrast to other states, lacks surface transportation facilities that would permit reasonable access to boundaries of Wilderness Areas (emphasis on this point is directed to the Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal). The physiography of the State creates "de facto wilderness," and denial of principal means of travel other than on foot, canoe, or horseback will prevent the majority of people from deriving any use or enjoyment from such areas designated 'wilderness'."
3. The Wilderness proposals submitted to date by the responsible federal agencies charged with review of areas as suitable or unsuitable for wilderness, are insufficient to justify wilderness designation, are biased in content, and violate the intent of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA); which directs all federal agencies with natural resource management responsibilities to provide input into organizations or activities that influence or have an impact on the total environment."

The Chamber pointed out that its opposition to the present Wilderness Proposal for Unimak Island is identical in principle to the Chamber's position on the Wilderness Proposals for Kenai National Moose Range, the Katmai National Monument and the Glacier Bay National Monument."

## 5. Communications from Individuals

Two hundred thirty-seven pieces of communication were received from private individuals (not including multiple signatures or petitions).

Of the 237 communications received from private individuals, 5 were opposed, 2 approved of the proposal with some reservation, 136 approved plus additional features, and 93 approved of the basic proposal.

Mike Uttecht, testifying at the Cold Bay hearing, objected on the grounds that there would be no possibility of constructing harbors other than at False Pass: for instance from False Pass to Ikatan (an abandoned cannery is at Ikatan) or at Dora's Harbor (years ago a codfish station), and potential harbor sites from Ikatan up to St. Catherine's Cove. In answer, the Bureau's representative agreed that the brochure erred in not mentioning that the proposal actually does exclude from wilderness 42 acres of privately owned land at Ikatan (including 10 acres owned by Peter Pan Fisheries)- thus new dock construction would be possible, under the proposal, if ever needed.

David Krueger, testified at Cold Bay against the proposal because "all it is going to do is put added restrictions upon an area which is not utilized at all other than one particular spot, or maybe two. One by the military and one by a fish company..." "Why are we trying to put more restrictions upon a place that is doing quite well as it is? And is it really going to be beneficial to the area?"

Dale P. Tubbs of Anchorage opposed because "Controls and regulations presently promulgated by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife are sufficient to protect the habitat and resources on the island. Do not lock out the possibility of responsive management."

W. R. Hutson of Anchorage opposed, because "...no mention as to cost of investigation and possible annual costs for this operation are included."

Mr. and Mrs. Collin A. Niver of Anchorage opposed because: "We have entirely too much wilderness now. Reserving this island as a private fiefdom for a handful of bureaucrats is not only wrong, it would be criminal."

Leonard C. Weimer of Seward who lived, hunted, fished and trapped on the Western Aleutian Peninsula between 1957 and 1969 agreed to support the proposal if certain conditions were met:

(a) the Village of False Pass should be able to withhold some land from the Wilderness Proposal that would assure growth of the Village. (This letter was written before the Native Claims Settlement, which apparently guarantees False Pass residents this right).

(b) He also wished that "the presently uninhabited cabins continue to be available for use." "The use of many cabins increases during poor salmon cycles as many turn to trapping, hunting, and subsistence fishing late in the fall. Late runs of salmon are salted and smoked at these sites. During the gill net season some cabins are used at set net sites. Beach areas from Swansons Lagoon on Northeast tip all the way past Ikatan Bay around Pankof, East Anchor, West Anchor, Dona Harbor, Ottor Cove, and almost out to Cape Aksit are used for set net sites. As these cabins and sites have been used and rebuilt from time to time I don't think they should be in the proposed area."

(c) "The Air Force-Coast Guard occupy the Western portion of Unimak with navigational aid stations and Dew Line site and seldom have more than 60 men at the Peak, so why should they be allowed to have over 33,000 acres exempted from the proposal?"

M. L. Spear of Mahwah, N. J., who has spent "extended time upon Adak and Kiska," supports the proposal, but with minor modifications:

(a) "Boats. I feel that outboard motors as used on canoes or small boats, otherwise paddled or rowed, could be allowed on any water, either tidal or fresh water without undue nullification of the wilderness aspect of the proposal, if strictly limited to a size not exceeding 5 to 7½ H.P."

(b) "Aircraft. All aircraft devastate any wilderness area. They always panic and stampede the wildlife awing, on foot or afloat. They eliminate the sense of wilderness to mankind who have sought such solitude for recreational, sporting or scientific pursuits. Thus I feel that aircraft should be strictly limited to existing strips, and, possibly, to a very few appropriate beaches. Aircraft should be prohibited from inland lakes and prohibited from flying over any part of the inner land mass for any purpose other than emergency or rescue operations."

(c) "Sports hunting should be eliminated entirely, not merely limited or restricted. However, as a modification to such severe elimination, no sports hunting should be permitted from or in conjunction with any motorized vehicle, either by land, water, or from the air.

Of the 134 who approved the basic proposal, and also wanted increased coverage:

- 109 individuals favored --Amending Executive Order 1733 to the degree that the Wilderness will not "be subject to military intrusion in the future."
- 91 individuals favored --Utilizing an existing road (rather than section lines) to delineate the western border of the wilderness area.
- 1 individual favored --Utilizing natural boundaries to delineate the western border.
- 32 individuals favored --Taking more of the western end than proposed.
- 4 individuals favored --Taking all of the western end.
- 17 individuals favored --Negotiating with the State for a tidelands lease out to  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a mile or more to provide a buffer zone around the island's wilderness area.
- 33 individuals favored --Prohibiting aircraft in interior.
- 1 individual favored --Prohibiting all vehicles in interior.
- 1 individual favored --Prohibiting hunting of Brown Bears.
- 1 individual favored --Eliminating sports hunting, or eliminating it as assisted by motorized vehicles.
- 1 individual favored --Prohibiting all hunting.
- 2 individuals favored --Restricting visitors.
- 1 individual favored --Eliminating all navigational aids for the islands.
- 1 individual favored --Placing more islands of the Refuge into the Wilderness System.
- 1 individual favored --Placing all islands of the Refuge into Wilderness System.

Among the testimonies of 93 individuals who favored merely the basic Bureau proposal the following statements or reasons for support were given:

Sam Wright of Anchorage: "There are, and will be, many who will never know this wilderness of Unimak Island first hand, but to assure that it will be there for our children is the greatest gift we can bestow."

"I am speaking not only for myself but for my species, man, because the most important human resources are endangered today. Without serenity, beauty and solitude we cannot survive."

Nancy Lethcoe of Anchorage, an obvious seafarer: "For the sailor, Unimak Island is special not only because of its abundant wildlife, but also because of its long and rich history as an important landmark in the exploration of the North Pacific, and because it marks the first western pass connecting the Gulf of Alaska with Bristol Bay. Vitrus Bering sailed past Unimak Island in 1741. Later Captain Cook on the Discovery, following Staehlin's Map of the "New Northern Archipelago," spent approximately a week in this area where he was impressed by Mr. Shishaldin."

Gene Kvalvik of Anchorage, Registered guide and Board Member of the Alaska Professional Hunter's Association: "Let's remember that in 1972 when the Yellowstone became a park, most of those opposed to it believed people would never visit such a remote area. However, this park will probably soon have to be visited by appointment only."

"If our State's Fish and Game Department does not soon change its meat market approach to game management, I'll probably have to resort to taking sportsmen down to that island to find a fully-developed caribou, as their favorite management tool seems to be the wild-eyed snowmachine hunter and he will not be able to drive his camping car down there."

"Opponents of wilderness, such as the respected Mr. Kelly, should not oppose this proposal, as there is no immediate financial gain to be made on this island. Let we who need wilderness and travel as a way of life have it."

Ted Burton of Anchorage, Attorney: "I wish to speak on a variety of fallacies which have been presented in the testimony of those opposed to wilderness."

"One of these is the fallacy that wilderness designation has an impact on the land or environment...Such designation, merely assures that it will receive no impact until such time as pressing national need requires the use of this land in some other fashion."

Also, "the fallacy of endless wilderness" - "The State of Alaska tells us time and again that we have several hundred thousand square miles of defacto wilderness. This is entirely true. Didn't we at one

time have fifty whole states as wilderness? My family first settled in the mainland in 1636. At that time, the community of Providence in which they settled was a little fishing village and farming town on the edge of a salt cove. The cove no longer exists and the river which fed it is a flowing sewer. And I have no doubt that someone who, at that time, in that place, said, "Let's not fill in that cove, or let's not build that factory, or let's not reserve that park,"--- I'm sure that that person was told, "Move west to Connecticut. The wilderness is endless."

"I have been asked, 'Why Unimak?' Of all the islands in the Aleutian Chain, why should we pick Unimak? I know (from the biologists and ecologists) that the island of Unimak has a relatively unique flora and fauna population for the Aleutians, and as such, is worthy of being singled out."

"As a casual tourist and taker of photographs, I can recognize the inestimable value of Shishaldin Volcano."

"I join earlier statements concerning what an insult to Alaska and to Alaskans, and, indeed to all other Americans it is to state that this proposal would keep the American citizen from enjoying his countryside."

"It's shocking to think that we...went from the east to the west coast in horse-drawn wagons, purchased Alaska, admitted California to the Union and various other actual steps -- all without aid of the automobile, the snowmachine, and the airplane. I'd like to think that America still has men who can figure out some way to get from here to Unimak and enjoy Unimak on foot or on horse-back. And I do not feel that the entire North American Continent must be subjected to those who are incapable of getting there without aid of automobile, airplane, snowmachine, trail-bike, etc."

"I submit that the State policy which proceeds from the fallacy that wilderness designation is an irrevocable commitment of lands, from the fallacy of endless wilderness, from the fallacy that while we study the thing, somehow it will remain available for ultimate disposition leads the State to a policy which is directly contrary to its express belief in wilderness. A policy of somewhere, sometime, perhaps - if it's still there."

James E. Fisher of Kenai: "I do not think an impact study is required under the National Environmental Protection Act because the impact of the administrative designation does not change the environment as is contemplated under the quoted act."

Cynthia Wentworth of Anchorage: "I am a lifetime Alaska resident. During my lifetime of 24 years I have seen much of the de-facto wilderness character of Alaska disappear."

Albert Weeks of New York: "Amchitka has done more than enough damage to the fragile ecology of the Aleutians..."

Dr. Harold Steinhoff, Professor of Wildlife Biology at Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado: "Its accessibility is of about the right magnitude. Some effort and expense is necessary to reach Unimak Island, so one can feel the important sense of achievement. Yet once the visitor has reached Cold Bay, it is fairly easily accessible by motor boat and light aircraft."

Gary L. Pearson, DVM of North Dakota: "Over the past months I have had opportunities to review several proposals to preserve remnants of the once vast North American prairie wilderness. These have been admirable proposals, aimed at saving from the plow, the cow, and the Corps a few surviving microcosms so future generations might glimpse what once was one of the most diverse and productive ecosystems ever known to man."

"It is important that these areas be preserved, along with their now unique fauna--because this is ALL THAT IS LEFT of the prairie wilderness. And conservationists are working diligently to save them--incredibly, still amidst the tired old harangue of "locking up resources" and "being against progress" parroted by a few."

"But even sadder and more ironic is the fact that these wilderness proponents must work to preserve, not a prairie wilderness, but only a fading memory of what the prairie wilderness once was."

"Is then the proper course any less clear for wilderness areas which still have their great bears and where the howl of the wolf may yet be heard? If we recognize the need to preserve wilderness areas devoid of their more majestic species, what sane man cannot see the even greater wisdom of preserving those remaining areas where they still persist?"

"I strongly suspect that no amount of reasoning...would span the void of those who would maintain that wilderness designation is not appropriate for Unimak Island, so I shall not waste my time or theirs. As Leopold observed, "Either you know it in your bones, or you are very, very old."

Jon M. Ingelman, M.D. of Elmendorf Air Force Base: "Alaska has been my home for only 2½ years, but already I have been a witness to the destruction which can result from allowing snowmachines, tracked vehicles, automobiles, airplanes, etc., to travel about the Alaskan countryside. This may be our last chance to set aside lands which have not been disturbed by these man-made machines."



O.H. Degener, Naturalist of Hawaii National Park: "Unimak was one of the main stepping stones for the emigration of man from Asia to America to evolve into the American Indian. Unstudied sites have a good chance of solving many archaeological puzzles. To open Unimak to exploitation would destroy many of them."

J. A. "Jim" Hunter of Fairbanks: "I am an Alaskan businessman with interests in both Fairbanks and Kodiak and desire to be placed on record as in favor of this area being classified as a wilderness area for perpetuity."

William Schrier of Soldotna: "With the possible exception of Mining, it would apparently be of little use for any purpose other than the proposed one...I can see no possible arguments against such a proposal."

Bob Maquire of Allakaket: "Perhaps more and more people will soon come to realize that we cannot continue to consume the resources of our mother earth at our present rates if we wish to survive for any length of time. And when all of us have come to these realizations we will need the wilderness areas, such as Katmai, Glacier Bay, and Unimak Island."

"I leave you with the powerful statement of an anonymous Indian spokesman: The land does not belong to man; Man belongs to the land."

William W. Smoker of Washington D. C.: "In the last two years I served aboard a Coast Guard Cutter out of Kodiak which commonly operated near Unimak Island; the opportunities I had to go ashore there were rewarding ones."

Daniel G. Childs of Oregon: "Having fished for Salmon in Prince William Sound many years ago in the days of the fish traps, I understand the conditions along the Alaskan coast line."

"With the intrusion of motorized vehicles, roads and commercial interests, the ecological values will be completely destroyed in a few years under its present refuge status."

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Meacham of Anchorage: "Seventy years ago, many persons in the western states had wilderness in their backyard, but where is it today?"

"The Unimak Island proposal, and others like it, give us the chance to protect a piece of land large enough to sustain the wildlife which the Refuge was established to protect, while at the same time providing for a type of human enjoyment which is fully compatible with the primary object of wildlife maintenance."

"The adamant opposition of the State of Alaska to this and all other wilderness proposals...seems to be founded upon some unspoken and undesirable premises. The most obvious premise is that, given the joint State-Federal land use planning the state calls for...the Federal wildlife refuges and parks in Alaska would be put to more "beneficial" uses: transportation corridors, mineral extraction, timber production, or any other use offering immediate cash benefits to the State. The long-range protection of the wildlife habitat for which Alaska is famous rates very little consideration, if any at all."

"The opposition of the State of Alaska in essence proposes that the federal wildlife refuges be managed to meet the primary desires of the State; and their original purposes, the protection of a national (not local) resource, would be modified or discarded to meet the State's goals. This position ignores the fact that the federal refuges, whether designated as formal Wilderness or not, will be managed much as they are today, to protect wildlife habitat. They will not be opened to "development" unless the Interior Department disregards its public trust."

"The State of Alaska also protests that the impact statement on the Unimak Island proposal, as well as on others, is inadequate -- a blatant attempt to "turn the tables" on the environmentalists. The National Environmental Policy Act does contain some language which would require an analysis of the "impact" of wilderness, but the legislative history and the fundamental purpose of the Act demonstrates beyond doubt that environmental degradation was the "major federal action" it sought to control. Wilderness by definition has no adverse impact on the natural environment. It is the natural environment, maintained in perpetuity."

"Of course, the entire...plan for Unimak...may have features, such as excluded areas, access roads, docks, trails, etc.,...not inside the wilderness area proper. These features may well have an effect on the natural environment, and should be thoroughly studied pursuant to NEPA. But the wilderness area itself? A slightly ridiculous position, and one that does a dis-service to this State's citizens."

"We...urge that the position of the State of Alaska be entirely disassociated from the position its various citizens might take...I doubt that it speaks for many Alaskans who have an opinion on the subject of wilderness."

Frank and Mary Reuter of Fairbanks: "Since the area is already a defacto wilderness and since no other benefits could possibly accrue from the island in the foreseeable future, it is only reasonable to include the area in the wilderness system."

D.J. Coolidge of Anchorage: "When I homesteaded on the Kenai Peninsula in 1953, it was a peaceful and almost untouched wild area. Now it is slashed and criss-crossed with the ugly scars of bulldozed oil exploration trails, scattered with trash, oil drums, and other debris, and traversed by the noisy, stenchy snowmobiles, tractors, 'weasels,' etc."

"Governor Egan and his administration do not speak for me when they ask for delay and 'planning.' It is almost too late now."

Robert W. Swift of Nevada: "I will probably never visit Unimak Island, never climb Shishaldin Volcano, nor watch sea otter from the beach. For me and many others this does not lessen its value. Knowing it is there undisturbed; sculptured as time ordained, adds a measure of substance to us."

"Snowmobiles, motor cycles, dune buggies, and air boats all share one thing in common. They are instruments of a bored people desperately seeking relief. However, relief is not to be found in these mechanical contrivencies. We are rooted in the soil. We need areas like Unimak so we can remember who we are."

George R. Pollard, Licensed Master Guide, Kasilof: "At this point in history when even the remote, inaccessible areas of the North American continent are in danger of unplanned, commercial exploitation it becomes imperative to set aside "islands" of high scenic and wildlife value."

"Unimak Island is one of these remote areas that deserves the full protection of Wilderness classification. Many of us may never visit Unimak (the writer has) yet the intrinsic value of wilderness lies not so much in how many people can enjoy it physically but in knowing that its there, a natural ecological entity unaltered by the artificial endeavors of man."

Michael C. McGoodwin, M.D., Anchorage: "As a physician in the United States Public Health Service, I have travelled to False Pass on three occasions...I have seen enough of the island to recognize its magnificent potential for wilderness-oriented recreation. Moreover, my travels to more inhabited areas nearby such as Cold Bay and King Cove have convinced me that immediate definitive steps must be taken to insure the preservation of at least parts of this unique area of Alaska."

"I am pleased to learn that there are no known mineral resources on Unimak. In scenic resources such as Shishaldin, Isanotski, and Roundtop mountains and its bird and mammalian species, it is clearly unexcelled on the Aleutian chain.

"Undoubtedly the cost of travel will...fall and tourism to the island will greatly rise. Moreover the burgeoning of Cold Bay and the growing popularity of motorized recreation poses a long range threat of great magnitude to this fragile and vulnerable ecosystem."

J. Sutton Myers of Delaware: "I remember this area from a passing ship many years ago when the 'Fuji of America,' Shishaldin, stood out so clear and brilliant, with a plume of smoke by day and a bit of glow by night to guide our boat."

"I note that even now this area has no known mineral deposits and that its greatest function is to serve as a habitat for wildlife for sea, shore, bird, and land varieties. The home and migrant local of the various inhabitants must be protected."

Allen P. McCartney, Assistant Professor, Arkansas: "As the first island in the Aleutian chain and the closest to the tip of the Alaska Peninsula, Unimak is strategically located at the "gateway" to the archipelago and should evidence very important archaeological remains covering most of the 8,000+ years of Aleutian prehistory. Recent excavations carried on by me in the Izembek Refuge give evidence of the fact that there was a cultural break between Aleuts and Peninsular Eskimos at least at AD 1000 and probably earlier. Thus, Unimak falls at this transitional zone between two major Eskimo units and any preservation possible of that island will enhance our chances of scientifically investigating such archaeological problems."

"No systematic archaeological surveys or excavations have ever been carried out on Unimak; the closest work is that which we conducted around Cold Bay during 1971, the testing of a site in 1953 at Tigalda and the 1970 and 1971 tests made by my colleague Dr. C.G. Turner II on Akutan and Akun. Because the direct and indirect military destruction which affected other islands as Unalaska-Amaknak, Umnak, Adak, Amchitka, Shemya and Attu did not affect Unimak, all efforts should be made to control access to the island to insure that prehistoric sites dotting the coast are not looted by casual 'pothunters'."

C. Positions (Alternatives) Suggested:

Many testifiers suggested revisions of the original proposal. A goodly number were associated with the position of the Wilderness Society and it is appropriate to quote their suggestions verbatim:

"Conservationists are extremely pleased with the Bureau's proposal, and are supporting it, but feel that the wilderness area can be improved. They are recommending the following:

1. The western tip of the island has been excluded by the Bureau from the proposed wilderness because of the presence of an active lighthouse and communications station, several miles apart and connected by roads. This exclusion is delineated on maps by section lines when actually a more recognizable wilderness boundary could be placed along the road system, and conservationists are so stating. The increase in acreage would be small but significant if this improved method of locating the wilderness boundary is adopted in final recommendations.

2. The order which established the Aleutian Islands National Refuge stated, in part, "The establishment of this reservation shall not interfere with the use of the islands for lighthouse, military, or naval purposes." Conservationists are urging the Secretary of the Interior to amend the order to eliminate this clause to assure that Unimak Island and the wilderness will not be subjected to military intrusion in the future."

However some testifiers recommended only one or the other of those two changes, thus it is of value to consider each separately, along with the other suggestions: (It might be noted that all those who suggested the following modifications also approved of the basic Bureau proposal)

- o Amending Executive Order 1733 to the degree that the Wilderness will not "be subject to military intrusion in the future."--8 organizations, 1 Federal Agency, and 109 individuals.

- o Utilize an existing road (rather than section lines) to delineate the western border of the wilderness area--6 organizations, and 91 individuals.
- o Utilize natural boundaries to delineate the western border--1 individual.
- o Put more of the western end into wilderness--1 organization, and 32 individuals.
- o Negotiate with the State for a tidelands lease out to  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a mile or more to provide a buffer zone around the island's wilderness area--1 Federal Agency, 3 organizations, and 17 individuals.
- o Prohibit aircraft in interior--3 individuals.
- o Prohibit all vehicles in interior--1 individual.
- o Allow outboard boats up to  $7\frac{1}{2}$  horsepower on all waters--1 individual.
- o Do not exclude the possibility of locating additional navigational aids on the island in the future in case they are needed.--U.S. Coast Guard.
- o Do not exclude more land for defense purposes than necessary.--U.S. Navy.
- o Defer action until the proposal can be considered by the Joint Federal-State Land-Use Planning Commission--FAA.
- o Limit the "withdrawal" to only 5 to 10 years, then take a final look at it--Reeve Aleutian Airlines.
- o Do not withdraw lands around False Pass that may be granted the natives under the Land Claims Act--1 individual.

- o Exclude cabins at numerous points as these are used by set-netters, etc.--1 individual.
- o Prohibit hunting of Brown Bears--1 individual.
- o Prohibit all hunting--1 individual.
- o Eliminate sports hunting (or eliminate it as aided by motorized vehicles)--1 individual.
- o Restrict visitors--2 individuals.
- o Eliminate all navigational aids for the island--1 individual.
- o Place more islands of the Refuge into the Wilderness System--2 individuals.
- o Place all islands of the Refuge into the Wilderness System--1 individual.

The following suggested "changes" are, in effect, to reject the entire proposal because of the following reasons:

- o Controls and regulations presently promulgated by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife are sufficient to protect the habitat and resources on the Island--1 individual (Dale P. Tubbs).
- o The lack of study of the mineral potential during the study and review of the area--D.R. Cole, Colorado Mining Association, W.J. Walker, Phelps Dodge Corporation; and W.H. Gray, American Mining Congress.
- o No mention as to cost of investigation and possible annual costs for this operation are included--1 individual, W.R. Hutson.



- o There would be no possibility of constructing harbors (other than at False Pass), for instance from False Pass to Ikatan (an abandoned cannery is at Ikatan) or at Dora's Harbor (years ago a codfish station), and from Ikatan up to St. Catherine's Cove--Mike Uttecht.
- o All that the proposal would accomplish would be to put added restrictions on an area which is not utilized at all except at two locations (False Pass and Western end)--David Krueger.
- o The contention or concern:
  - (a) That perhaps all islands of the Aleutian Island National Wildlife Range might also be recommended for wilderness status by the Bureau.
  - (b) That "any wilderness proposal for the refuge must allow for fisheries rehabilitation and development by reasonable means."
  - (c) That "wilderness areas must allow for reasonable access to any area safe to land on that does not injure habitat."
  - (d) Over the absence of an Environmental Impact Statement.
  - (e) Over lack of evidence in the proposal "that the Fish and Wildlife Service has made a serious attempt to work with the State, the Aleut League, or even with the other federal agencies having substantive programs and interests in the Aleutians."
  - (f) That "it is...patently false to assert that a nine-page brochure, which does not even comment on the relationship of Unimak to its sister islands in the Fox group, should purport to be the document that helps concerned Americans decide the island's fate."
  - (g) Over the desirability that joint State-Federal planning efforts be undertaken before classifying land as wilderness--Robert W. Pavitt, representing the Governor of Alaska.

o The contention that:

(a) Withdrawal of "National Forest" lands violates the intent of paragraph 6.g. of the Alaska Statehood Act until such time as the State has had the opportunity to select its land entitlement.

(b) Alaska, in contrast to other states, lacks surface transportation facilities that would permit reasonable access to Unimak Island. Denial of principal means of travel will prevent the majority of people from deriving any use or enjoyment from such wilderness areas.

(c) Wilderness proposals to date are insufficient to justify wilderness designation, are biased in content, and violate the intent of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

(d) The Chamber's position in opposition is identical to its position on the wilderness proposals for Kenai National Moose Range, the Katmai National Monument and the Glacier Bay National Monument--Greater Anchorage Chamber of Commerce.

D. Numbers expressing various opinions

1. Oral

The numbers of oral testimonies of the five categories of testifiers that expressed various opinions are shown in Table 2. Of the 14 testifiers, 10 approved of the project in one form or other, one was uncommitted, and 3 opposed.

2. Written

The numbers of written testimonies of the five categories of testifiers that expressed various opinions are shown in Table 3. Of the 264 written testimonies, 250 approved in one form or other, 7 were uncommitted, and 7 opposed.

3. Total Testimonies

The numbers of total testimonies (both oral and written) of the five categories of testifiers that expressed various opinions are shown in Table 4. Of the 278 testimonies of all types, 260 (94%) approved in one form or other, 8 (3%) were uncommitted, and 10 (3%) opposed.

**Table 2**      Numbers of oral testimonies of the five categories of testifiers that expressed various opinions.

Category	OPINION					ALL OPINIONS
	YES	YES+	YES-	UNCOM- MITTED	NO	
Elected Officials	-	-	-	-	1	1
State and Local Agencies	-	-	-	-	-	-
Federal Agencies	-	-	-	-	-	-
Organizations	1	3	-	-	-	4
Individuals	4	2	-	1	2	9
All Categories	5	5	-	1	3	14

Table 3      Numbers of written testimonies of the five categories of testifiers that expressed various opinions.

Category	OPINION					ALL OPINIONS
	YES	YES+	YES-	UNCOM- MITTED	NO	
Elected Officials	-	-	-	2	-	2
State and Local Agencies	-	-	-	1	-	1
Federal Agencies	-	1	3	3	-	7
Organizations	12	8	1	1	4	26
Individuals	89	134	2	-	3	228
All Categories	101	143	6	7	7	264

Table 4 Numbers of total testimonies (both oral and written) of the five categories of testifiers that expressed various opinions.

Category	OPINION					ALL OPINIONS
	YES	YES+	YES-	UNCOM- MITTED	NO	
Elected Officials	-	-	-	2	1	3
State and Local Agencies	-	-	-	1	-	1
Federal Agencies	-	1	3	3	-	7
Organizations	13	11	1	1	4	30
Individuals	93	136	2	1	5	237
All Categories	106	148	6	8	10	278

#### 4. By Geographic Area

Table 5 shows the opinions as related to origin of testimony. As can be seen, of the 278 testimonies, 82 came from Alaska locations, and 196 from other states.

The 82 Alaska testimonies were 69 For\* (84%), 7 Against (9%), and 6 were Uncommitted (7%).

The 196 testimonies from other areas were 191 For (98%), 3 Against (1%), and 2 Uncommitted (1%).

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\* The number counted as For includes those favoring the Bureau's basic proposal and/or modifications thereof.

Table 5. Opinions as affected by geographical origin of testimony

Origin of Testimony	Total Number of Testimonies	Number in favor	Number Opposed	Number Uncommitted
Alaska	82 (100%)	69 (84%)	7 (9%)	6 (7%)
Other States	196 (100%)	191 (98%)	3 (1%)	2 (1%)
All Origins	278 (100%)	260 (94%)	10 (4%)	8 (2%)



5. Credit for Additional Signatures

The Bureau wished us to give credit to all those who actually signed joint letters or petitions, but wished that we not count lists of merely typed (unsigned) names, or estimates of the total membership of organizations.

Thus in addition to the 278 separate testimonies, we found 15 additional actual signatures on petitions and joint letters (other than those already counted). 11 were in favor of the basic Bureau proposal, 4 in favor of the Bureau proposal plus the Wilderness Society additions.

If one wishes to accept these signatures, the grand total number of people who expressed an opinion rises from 278 to 293. Of these:

<u>275</u>	were For (94%)
<u>10</u>	were Against (3%)
<u>8</u>	were Uncommitted (3%)

It is recognized that the above does not cope with the problem of how many people a Senator, Governor, Federal agency, State agency, business or corporation, or organization actually represents when speaking in favor or in opposition to any proposal. The opinions, and the reasons of these various officials, agencies and organizations were handled on a non-additive basis in the earlier sections.

E. Summary

Of 278 countable testimonies, 260 (94%) of them approved of the Bureau's proposal or approved of it with modifications, 8 (3%) were uncommitted and 10 (3%) were opposed.

Of 82 Alaskan testimonies, 69 (84%) approved, 6 (7%) were uncommitted, and 7 (9%) were opposed.

Of 196 non-Alaskan testimonies 191 (98%) approved, 2 (1%) were uncommitted, and 3 (1%) were opposed.

February 1, 1972

  
Howard A. Schuck

SECTION XVI b. WILDERNESS  
PROPOSAL SYNOPSIS

## SYNOPSIS

### UNIMAK ISLAND WILDERNESS PROPOSAL

#### A. Background

Unimak Island is an integral part of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge in the Third Judicial Division, Alaska. It is the first and largest island in the 1100-mile Aleutian Chain and lies at the tip of the Alaska Peninsula, 670 air miles southwest of Anchorage. Refuge headquarters are in the village of Cold Bay, 35 miles distant on the mainland. Approximately 965,042 acres of this nearly one-million-acre island appear suitable for inclusion into the National Wilderness Preservation System.

The Refuge was established by Executive Order Number 1733 by President William H. Taft on March 3, 1913, as a preserve and breeding ground for native birds, for the propagation of reindeer and furbearing animals, and for the encouragement and development of the fisheries.

Refuge goals have been refined through the years and today the primary objective of management is to insure the survival, in a natural state, of the many ecological values of the Aleutian Islands.

Unimak supports a diversity of wildlife. This results from a blending of both mainland and insular species.

The Alaskan brown bear, largest of the land carnivores, is the most impressive of the 25 species of mammals that inhabit the island, where it reaches its westernmost distribution in North America. This bear is one of the most unique and exciting big-game animals in the world, and requires a wilderness

environment to survive. Elsewhere in Alaska, serious inroads are being made into its habitats by a rapidly expanding civilization.

A herd of approximately 2,500-3,000 barren-ground caribou roams the rolling tundra of the Bering Sea lowlands where they are pursued by their chief predator, the wolf. The Urilia Bay area on the island's northern coast supports the majority of brown bear, caribou and wolves, and numerous other wildlife including wolverine, river otter, red fox, mink and weasel.

Offshore a variety of marine mammals can be observed. The once-rare sea otter, which played an important role in the settlement of Alaska, attracts the greatest attention because of its charming behavioral traits and valuable fur. Sea lions and harbor seals are also abundant, and ringed seals, bearded seals and Pacific walrus appear on occasion. Thousands of fur seals annually pass through the turbulent and fog-shrouded waters of Unimak Pass to and from their ancestral breeding grounds on the Pribilof Islands. Northern whales and porpoises may also be seen swimming by offshore.

Unimak Island and its environs are a virtual haven for northern birds. This is due primarily to the island's strategic location along traditional migratory flyways, its remoteness, and the biological productivity of its habitats. Ninety-one species of birds have been identified on Unimak.

The area is an important staging area of spectacular assemblages of waterfowl, both in spring and fall. Tens of thousands of Emperor and lesser Canada geese, and smaller numbers of Pacific brant assemble in the islands lagoons and larger lakes. The endangered Aleutian race of Canada goose may even appear on occasion.

Migratory waterfowl are particularly attracted to the Swanson Lagoon on the northeast coast. It is in these waters that eelgrass forms the base of a highly productive food chain. Since eelgrass is adapted to a narrow range of water temperature and salinity, protection of these waters in a natural condition is vital to the survival of this plant and the life forms that depend on it for food or shelter.

Whistling swans are year-round residents and raise their young on the larger lakes in company with mallards, Harlequin ducks, and common loons. Thousands of mallards, pintails, green-winged teals, scaup, and goldeneyes are found on the freshwater lakes, marshes and lagoons. Offshore sea ducks such as eiders and scoters assemble by the thousands where they mingle with restless flocks of common murrelets, black-legged kittiwakes, northern phalaropes, crested auklets, and ancient murrelets.

The millions of slender-billed shearwaters that concentrate in Unimak Pass constitute one of the most spectacular assemblages of seabirds in the world.

All of the aforementioned birds are at one time or another in their life cycle closely associated with the marine environment, particularly its estuarine areas. The greatest immediate potential threat to their survival appears to be contamination with environmental pollutants such as persistent pesticides, petroleum products and other chemicals which are fouling oceans worldwide. Such a situation only makes more urgent the need to provide permanent protection to major bird concentration areas such as Unimak Island.

Several raptorial birds of national interest inhabit the island. These include the peregrine falcon and northern bald eagle. Both are endangered

species in the United States outside of Alaska. Rough-legged hawks and gyrfalcons, although seldom seen, have been known to occur. All four species survive best in a wilderness environment.

The island's productive inshore waters support a food web that has taken eons to evolve. The web includes numerous invertebrates and 29 species of fish. Four species of Pacific salmon (red, silver, pink and chum) spawn in island streams. These fish are of special significance because of their importance as a food source to brown bear, bald eagles, certain marine mammals and man. The commercially valuable king and tanner crabs and halibut also occur offshore, and razor clams can be dug from certain of the tidelands. Dolly Varden trout inhabit island streams where they present a challenge to the occasional sport fisherman.

Management of Unimak's wildlife resource is directed primarily toward maintaining the ecological integrity of their natural habitats. No habitat manipulation has occurred and none is deemed necessary.

Periodic patrols by motor-powered boat or small aircraft will be required in the future as in the past to adequately conduct wildlife inventory and environmental monitoring activities, and to regulate hunting and fishing by sportsmen.

Although only infrequently visited at present because of its remoteness, Unimak Island offers many fine opportunities to the wilderness enthusiast or student of wilderness ecology. The favored pursuit of the visitor at present is brown bear or caribou hunting. Fur trapping and waterfowl and upland game hunting, although excellent, do not attract a great deal

of attention. Other recreational pursuits to be enjoyed include fishing, sightseeing, hiking, camping, picnicking, beachcombing, wildlife observation and study, berrypicking, mountain climbing and other non-mechanized pursuits compatible with wilderness enjoyment.

With wilderness designation, essentially no changes are planned to accommodate refuge visitors. Rather, emphasis will be on the individual's resourcefulness to derive maximum benefits from the wilderness experience.

The island, although little studied to date, will undoubtedly attract increased attention from scientists in the future. A wealth of untapped information awaits the attention of the geologist, archeologist and marine and terrestrial ecologist, etc.

The blending of insular and mainland plants and animals on Unimak is of special interest to the student of evolution and biogeography. The island also has a rich Aleut history.

Research studies in various scientific disciplines could well be launched from the marine field laboratory planned for Grant Point on the adjacent Izembek National Wildlife Refuge. Wilderness designation would, therefore, enhance the scientific values of Unimak Island. Baseline data gathered here could be used to measure man's influence on insular ecosystems elsewhere in the world.

Existing developments on the island include the Native village of False Pass on Isanotski Strait. Fewer than 100 people reside there permanently, and most derive their livelihood from the local commercial fishery. Some use



the island for recreational use, such as hunting and berry picking.

Private tracts in False Pass total approximately 32 acres. An additional 745 acres of adjacent refuge lands are recommended for exclusion from wilderness. The State of Alaska maintains a 4,200-foot airstrip adjacent to the village. The local cemetery lies at the north end of the runway and is connected to the village by a short road.

It is anticipated that a total of three townships (69,120 acres) of land contiguous to False Pass will eventually be withdrawn for Native use under terms of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971.

The abandoned village and cannery of Ikatan at the base of the Ikatan Peninsula contain a 10-acre private tract. This is an excluded acreage that is recommended for purchase unless Native land selections are made adjacent to the tract.

There are 27 known Native-use sites (campsites or cabins) on the periphery of the island, only one of which is currently in use. The 10 cabins still usable are in a state of disrepair. None are known to have been the primary place of residence of Natives as of August 31, 1971, so would not appear to qualify for 160-acre homesite withdrawals under terms of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

The U.S. Coast Guard maintains several facilities on Unimak for navigational purposes. These include the LORAN transmitting station at Cape Sarichef and an unmanned light station at Scotch Cap. Two narrow service roads connect these two installations. There is also a five-mile service road extension from Cape Sarichef to First River near Raven benchmark. Some use of these

roads is made by military personnel for recreational purposes.

The Coast Guard also maintains navigational aids in the vicinity of St. Catherine Cove (the False Pass light and Bechevin Bay day beacon), and at Cape Pankof (navigational light). The approximately 100 acres which have been reserved at the latter site for lighthouse purposes are to be excluded from wilderness.

The U.S. Air Force operates a White Alice Communications station at Cape Sarichef and maintains a runway there to provide access.

There are no known mineral deposits on the island, although comprehensive mineral surveys or other geological studies have never been undertaken.

The island lies outside the petroleum provinces of Alaska, but exploratory well drilling has occurred within 100 miles of the Alaska Peninsula. Oil spills from extensive petroleum development that might someday occur in the Bering Sea could have very serious consequences on the marine life (particularly seabirds) of the region.

## B. Description

Unimak Island is the most easterly and largest island in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge. Separated from the mainland by the two-to-seven-mile-wide Isanotski Strait, it extends approximately 80 miles from east to west, is 19 to 32 miles wide and contains 998,260 acres. The Pacific Ocean lies off its southern shores, while to the north is the Bering Sea.

The forces of volcanism, glaciation, wind and water erosion, and marine deposition have shaped Unimak since it first appeared as an island following the Pleistocene glaciation. Beautiful and rugged snowcapped mountains dominate the island's interior. Here beautiful Mount Shishaldin rises to 9,978 feet, making it the highest peak in the Aleutians. This mountain, one of the more perfect volcanic cones in the world, was dedicated as a National Natural Landmark in 1969.

High in the mountains is the scenic Fisher Caldera, a 7-by-9-mile-long crater lake. The lake's beautiful waters of robin's-egg-blue serve a striking contrast with the adjacent mountain peaks, snowfields and glaciers.

Numerous streams flow seaward from the interior mountains. On the relatively steep Pacific slope, they pass over an occasional scenic waterfall, while those that flow northward become "braided" as they cross expanses of lush green tundra in the Bering Sea lowlands.

Unimak's 265 miles of coastline consist primarily of broad black sand beaches. On the Bering Sea coast, the beaches are backed by shifting sand dunes. Only occasional rocky cliffs or promontories interrupt the otherwise gently

sweeping and mist-shrouded coastline.

Below the mountain peaks, fell-fields and cinder flats predominate. These grade into areas of glacial till at lower elevations. Tundra soils are light, shallow and very acidic. Fine-grained black volcanic sand comprises the coastal beaches and sand dunes.

The vegetation is typically sub-Arctic with mosses, lichens, sedges, and heaths predominating. Dense growths of willows and alders occur along some of the island streams, but there are no trees native to the island. Beach rye and a few other hardy plants are continually invading the shifting sand dunes. Here they offer fine opportunities for the study of plant succession. A beautiful array of wild flowers adds splashes of color to the tundra during the summer months. Numerous wild berries such as crowberry, cranberry, blueberry, elderberry, and salmonberry are especially relished by wild birds in season.

The three coastal lagoons are shallow and contain luxuriant growths of eelgrass. Numerous freshwater lakes and marshes important to waterbirds occur in the Uruia Bay area. Most of the lakes are connected to the sea by streams that support substantial runs of salmon.

The climate is maritime with frequent cyclonic storms bringing cloudiness, fog, and gale-force winds. Temperatures are relatively mild for this latitude and range from 70 degrees in summer to minus ten degrees in winter. Precipitation occurs throughout the year and averages 30 inches.

The proposed Unimak Island wilderness embraces all lands above the line of

mean high tide except for the following recommended exclusions:

False Pass: BEGINNING at Near benchmark on the beachline of Isanotski Strait in the southwest corner, SW 1/4, SW 1/4, Section 34, T 61 S, R 94 W; west about 1 1/8 mile to the southwest corner of Section 33; thence one and one-half miles north to midway on the western boundary of Section 28; thence east, bisecting Section 28 to the mean high-tide line of Isanotski Strait; thence following the coastline south bisecting Sections 28, 33, and 34 to the point of BEGINNING of Near benchmark, southwest corner, SW 1/4, SW 1/4, Section 34, T 61 S, R 94 W. This withdrawal totals 745 acres.

Ikatan: U.S. Survey 1574 is of approximately 10 acres of SE 1/4, SE 1/4 Section 6, T 63 S, R 93 W. This is the remains of an abandoned cannery. This is private land and it is recommended that this parcel of land be acquired and returned to refuge status. At that time, it should be evaluated as to suitability for inclusion into the National Wilderness Preservation System. This recommendation will be rescinded if, under the Native Land Claims Act, surrounding lands are selected by Natives.

Cape Pankof: Recommended exclusion of that area covered by Executive Order 3406 dated February 13, 1921, in Sections 1, 2 and 11, T 63 S, R 92 W, containing approximately 100 acres as not considered suitable for wilderness. This land was reserved for lighthouse purposes and presently has a navigational light.

Cape Sarichef and Scotch Cap: This exclusion as described in the Wilderness Field Study Report has been changed at the suggestion of the public as expressed in the public hearing record. A total of 91 individuals and 6 organizations recommended that an existing road be used as the wilderness boundary on the west end of the island. As pointed out in the public hearing testimony, the road would provide a more easily recognizable geographical boundary than the unmarked section lines initially proposed, yet provide an exclusion acreage deemed adequate to accommodate any future expansion of Coast Guard facilities. This suggestion was accepted as reasonable and practical. The exclusion now proposed, therefore, includes all lands within the following boundary:

BEGINNING at a point at low-water mark on Unimak Island, said point being 3 miles easterly of Scotch Cap, of a point at mean high tide water mark opposite Scotch Cap Pinnacle in SW 1/4, Section 1, T 67 S, R 104 W,

which is the southeast corner of lighthouse withdrawal dated August 27, 1901; thence due north one mile; thence north  $71^{\circ}$  W, true, two miles to intersection with road in NE  $1/4$  of Section 34, T 66 S, R 104 W; thence northwesterly 8 miles along said road bisecting Sections 34, 27, 21, 29, 20, 17, 8 and 7 in said township and range, and Section 12 and 1 of T 66 S, R 105 W; thence north  $29^{\circ}30'$  west, true, which is northeast boundary of lighthouse withdrawal dated January 9, 1902,  $3/4$  mile to point of intersection with road in NE  $1/4$  of Section 2 of said township and range; thence north and west  $5\ 3/4$  miles along said road bisecting Sections 36, 25, 24, 13, 12 and 11 in T 65 S, R 105 W; thence north  $1\ 1/2$  miles to the northeast corner of Section 3 of said township; thence east one mile to the southeast corner of Section 35, T 64 S, R 105 W; thence north two miles to the southwest corner of Section 24 of said township; thence east two miles to the southeast corner of Section 19, T 64 S, R 104 W; thence north approximately two miles to the northeast corner of Section 18 of said township and Tundra Vee benchmark; thence following the windings of mean high-tide water mark to place of BEGINNING.

This revised exclusion totals approximately 24,405 acres, rather than the 32,200 acres originally proposed. The additional 7,795 acres of proposed wilderness changes the total wilderness acreage to approximately 973,000 acres.

It must be recognized that land withdrawal privileges granted Natives residing in the village of False Pass under terms of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971 (P.L. 92-203) take precedence over wilderness designation.

Final wilderness acreage and boundaries on Unimak will, therefore, depend on the pattern of land withdrawn in the vicinity of False Pass. This village is entitled to 3 townships (69,120 acres) of surface estate within the Refuge and shall include all of the township in which the village is located, with the remaining acreage (totalling 3 townships) to be selected in reasonably compact tracts in contiguous whole section units not less than 1,280 acres in size.

C. Management

Unimak, like other islands in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, has been managed essentially as wilderness since the refuge was established. This has required little more than periodic patrol by boat and small aircraft to monitor the environment, enforce game regulations, and conduct wildlife population surveys.

No developments are planned to facilitate administrative or public access and use. Access by boat or airplane will not be affected below the line of mean high tide by wilderness designation, since the Bureau has no jurisdiction over these state tidelands. Use of motorized vehicles on upland areas will be prohibited, however, and it is to be recommended that aircraft be allowed to land only on designated lakes.

Sport hunting is the major recreational pursuit at present. Motorized vehicles have never become an established use and would not be permitted under wilderness status. Excellent opportunities exist for other recreational activities compatible with wilderness, such as hiking, camping, fishing, beachcombing, nature study, wildlife observation, etc. Scientific research activities could also be encouraged, but supervised so as to protect the wilderness resource.

Management would also allow for continued use and maintenance of existing developments and facilities on the island. Future expansion of these facilities would be accommodated within the excluded acreages, should the need arise. Access would also be assured to the U.S. Coast Guard to adequately service and maintain their navigational beacons and lights along the coasts.

The island has been withdrawn from provisions of the mining laws. The major economic interest in the area is commercial fishing in the marine environment. There is some limited potential for economic benefits from fur trapping and Native guiding. Such activities are very minor at present and will not be greatly affected by wilderness designation.



D. Wilderness Public Hearing Record

An official public hearing announcement was published in the FEDERAL REGISTER on October 16, 1971. Written notification of the hearing and informational materials were sent William A. Egan, Governor of the State of Alaska; U.S. Senators Mike Gravel and Ted Stevens and Representative Nick Begich of Alaska; 60 members of the Alaska State Legislature; 35 officials representing 17 agencies of the State of Alaska; Justice William O. Douglas of the U.S. Supreme Court; the respective Chairmen of the Senate and House Committees on Interior and Insular Affairs, Commerce, and Merchant Marine and Fisheries of the U. S. Congress; 40 officials representing 25 agencies and departments of the federal government; 280 citizen organizations; and approximately 2,570 private citizens.

A total of 38 Alaska television stations and newspapers were also notified, along with 65 newspaper and magazine representatives outside the state.

Each of the above was sent a public hearing "package" which included a copy of the Unimak Island wilderness brochure, a letter-size map, the public hearing announcement and the Alaska Area Director's notice of public hearing. These mailings were made between November 11 and 16, 1971, or more than 30 days in advance of the public hearing.

The public hearing began in the COMSERFAC Theater, Cold Bay, Alaska, at 9 a.m. on December 14, 1971, and was continued at the Alaska Methodist University Auditorium, Anchorage, Alaska, at 7 p.m. on December 17, 1971. Mr. Robert E. Price, Regional Solicitor for the Department of the Interior, served as Hearing Officer. David L. Spencer, Refuge Supervisor, Division of Wildlife Refuges, Alaska Area, and Gordon W. Watson, Alaska Area Director,

represented the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at Cold Bay and Anchorage, respectively. In addition to these individuals, 10 adults attended the hearing in Cold Bay, along with 19 children. In Anchorage, about 60 persons attended, of whom 49 filled out attendance cards.

1. The Public Hearing

The public hearing began at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, December 14, 1971, in Cold Bay, Alaska, and was continued at 7 p.m. on Friday, December 17, 1971, in Anchorage, Alaska. Total attendance was about 90, with 14 persons testifying. There was also a letter read into the hearing record at Cold Bay. Of the 14 persons who testified, 10 were essentially in support of the wilderness proposal, three were definitely opposed, and one was noncommittal.

Mr. Robert Pavitt, Director of Planning and Research, State of Alaska, testified on behalf of the State Administration. While stating that the State of Alaska subscribes to the basic principles expressed in the Wilderness Act, Mr. Pavitt said they must vigorously oppose this wilderness proposal, "...and all future proposals unilaterally advanced by a federal agency where the State's sole input must be based on a cursory review of an already firm and printed presentation."

As expressed by Mr. Pavitt, the State also feels that, "...only through the mechanism of joint state-federal planning, and the involvement of all concerned parties in a comprehensive study of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge can a meaningful proposal be put forth."

"...Time is needed to do an adequate job of intergovernmental and multi-disciplinary land-use planning," Pavitt said. Governor Egan, therefore,

has requested the State's Congressional delegation to seek a 5-to-10-year extension of the reporting requirements of the Wilderness Act as they pertain to lands in Alaska.

Mr. Pavitt also stated that, "...nowhere in the proposal do they find evidence that the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service has made a serious attempt to work with the State, the Aleut League, or even other federal agencies having substantive programs and interests in the Aleutians."

As pointed out by Mr. Pavitt, the State also feels that the Fish and Wildlife Service must allow for fisheries rehabilitation and development by reasonable means, and that access by aircraft should be allowed on any safe landing site providing the habitat is not damaged. He also stated that the State finds the absence of an Environmental Impact Statement distressing and feels that concerned Americans deserve a more comprehensive look at the proposed Unimak Island wilderness than provided in the Bureau's nine-page brochure.

These various criticisms again reflect the present State Administration's opposition to all wilderness proposals being put forth by various federal agencies in Alaska. While it cannot be argued that joint state-federal land-use planning is indeed desirable for all lands in Alaska, including potential wilderness areas, such planning has been talked about for many years but has yet to become a reality. To delay the wilderness review process on Alaska's national wildlife refuges for several more years would appear quite unrealistic in the state whose population growth rate is one of the highest in the nation, and where man's technology is altering the natural environment at an accelerating rate.

This is particularly true in view of the fact there is no guarantee that de facto wilderness areas such as Unimak will be provided the protection necessary to keep them inviolate from the intrusions of man and his technology during the time that would be required to complete such studies. In this regard, it must also be remembered that it was clearly the intent of Congress in the Wilderness Act that the Fish and Wildlife Service study the national wildlife refuges which they administer to determine their suitability or unsuitability for inclusion into the National Wilderness Preservation System. Also, the Fish and Wildlife Service has in fact made numerous serious attempts to cooperate with the State, the Aleut League, and with other federal agencies having an interest in the Aleutians. In fact, much of the information pertaining to fish and wildlife presented in the Unimak field study report was derived through cooperation with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

In addition to the State of Alaska, two Cold Bay citizens, Messrs. Mike Uttecht and David Krueger, opposed the proposal. Mr. Uttecht, a Native guide, pointed out that the livelihood of local residents (in False Pass) depends primarily on commercial fishing, and, therefore, he would like to see the coast from Ikatan to St. Catherine Cove remain available for possible future development of fish processing plants and boat-docking facilities.

While it is true that commercial fishing is extremely important to the local economy, recent trends indicate future commercial development is unlikely to occur in areas so remote from state population centers. This is particularly true since floating canneries are slowly replacing land-based facilities, especially in the Aleutians. Furthermore, the coastline in question

is subject to Native selection under terms of the Native Claims Settlement Act. Not to be overlooked, however, is the great scenic and recreational values of the Isanotski Strait area.

Mr. Krueger, a commercial airline pilot, voiced strong opposition to the proposal because he feels no further restrictions are necessary at this time since only very limited use is being made of the island. Rather than having government-designated aircraft landing sites, he would prefer to leave this to the discretion of the individual pilot.

These objections cannot be compromised, since the amount of public use is only one measure of the value of wilderness areas to society, and unrestricted motorized access is incompatible with the wilderness concept as is made clear in the Wilderness Act.

A letter from Robert C. Reeve, President, Reeve Aleutian Airways, was read into the record. Mr. Reeve expressed approval for conservation aspects of the proposal if it contributes to the good of wildlife. He expressed disapproval, however, with the way brown bear have been managed on the island in the past and would approve of wilderness designation "...only if the withdrawal is limited to a minimum of 5 and not more than 10 years total. Then take a final look at it."

Such a time limitation on wilderness designation is not possible under terms of the Wilderness Act, since it was the intent of Congress to grant protection in perpetuity to areas that qualify for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Representatives of the following private organizations voiced support for the proposal at the Anchorage hearing:

<u>Testifyer</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Celia M. Hunter	Wilderness Society
James Kross	Fairbanks Environmental Center
Jack Hession	Sierra Club
Walter Parker	Upper Cook Inlet Chapter of the Alaska Conservation Society

Miss Hunter, a 25-year resident of Alaska from Fairbanks, feels that Unimak should remain in a pristine condition for the enjoyment and inspiration of future generations. She also recommended (1) that the road connecting Scotch Cap with Cape Sarichef serve as a more recognizable boundary on the west end of the island; (2) that the Executive Order (No. 1733) which created the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge be ~~amended to exclude~~ the clause,..."The establishment of this reservation shall not interfere with the use of the islands for lighthouse, military, or naval purposes...", so as to assure that Unimak Island will not be subjected to military intrusion in the future; and (3) that the Secretary of the Interior should recommend to Congress that an appropriate buffer of state-owned tidelands be included in the refuge and the wilderness area. As a less desirable alternative to the latter, Miss Hunter recommended the negotiation of a state tidelands lease out to one-quarter of a mile or more, provided the lease was in perpetuity.

James Kross, Anchorage, Alaska, representing the Fairbanks Environmental Center, also recommended revision of Executive Order 1733. The Environmental Center favors using the aforementioned road as a more logical wilderness boundary also.

Jack Hession, Alaska Representative of the Sierra Club, Anchorage, Alaska, prefers limiting the size of the excluded acreage at the island's western end. He suggested excluding only those lands immediately surrounding the Scotch Cap and Cape Sarichef installations, and allowing for only a road corridor between the two facilities. This would leave the stretch of coastline and adjacent uplands in wilderness. Mr. Hession doubts that future developments at the existing installations would require an additional 30,000 or more acres, and urges the Fish and Wildlife Service to exclude only what is absolutely necessary so as to preclude future unnecessary developments.

Mr. Hession would also like to see Executive Order 1733 revised, and a buffer established around the island. He questions whether the present state administration can adequately protect, or even desires to protect, the wildlife resources along the Bristol Bay side of the Alaska Peninsula. He urges that the state negotiate joint management plans with the Bureau that would give the tidelands increased protection, or grant to the Bureau a tidelands lease in perpetuity.

Mr. Walter Parker, President of the Upper Cook Inlet Chapter of the Alaska Conservation Society, Anchorage, Alaska, discussed what he feels has been an erosion of hunting quality in Alaska through the years, and feels that only on wilderness areas and like lands can what is left of ethics in hunting be maintained. Mr. Parker urged that Fish and Wildlife Service personnel carefully think out how public access is to be provided. "Too much access would destroy the wilderness." He feels that any fisheries development that may become necessary to improve fish spawning in Unimak's

streams could be done by non-mechanized means. He concluded his remarks by stating that it must be remembered that wilderness is the easiest and least expensive land management.

Mrs. Nancy Lethcoe, a sailboating enthusiast from Anchorage, Alaska, was among seven citizens to testify on their own behalf at the Anchorage hearing. She discussed the value of insular wildernesses like Unimak to the sailor. Mrs. Lethcoe says that Unimak is particularly interesting to the sailor because of its long and rich history as an important landmark in the exploration of the North Pacific, and because it marks the first western pass connecting the Gulf of Alaska with Bristol Bay. She feels that many boaters cruise for solitude and adventure and pointed out the need boating families have for untrammelled coastal areas such as Unimak's where they can go ashore to hike, beachcomb, camp, climb, fish, hunt, and observe wildlife without encountering scars of man's technology. She sees Unimak's severe weather as a challenge to accept and meet as the many sailors before her have done, and feels there are at least eight anchorages around the island suitable for recreational craft.

Mr. Ted Burton, an attorney from Anchorage, Alaska, feels that the entire continent must not be subjected to those incapable or unwilling to get from point A to point B without the aid of an automobile, airplane, snowmachine, trail bike, etc. In addition, he does not want to see the Aleutians subjected to military operations in peacetime, such as have occurred on Amchitka Island.

Mr. Llewellyn Johnson, Anchorage, Alaska, felt it was unfortunate there was no specific proposal in the Bureau wilderness brochure for tidelands



management which Alaskans might use in demanding that their elected officials exercise responsible tidelands management policies.

Miss Barbara Winkley, an environmental consultant from Anchorage, Alaska, also wants to see the eelgrass beds and tidelands protected by the State of Alaska. Miss Winkley believes that, only if portions of the natural environment such as Unimak are set aside and protected from human interference, can man-caused changes elsewhere be measured and evaluated accurately. Therefore, she sees these areas as of great value even to those who may never see or use them.

Reverend Sam Wright of the Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship was another who sees value in wilderness designation for Unimak Island even though he will probably never know this Unimak wilderness first-hand. Reverend Wright feels that, "...to assure that it will be there for our children is the greatest gift we can bestow." He also considers the human species to be endangered today, and feels that without serenity, beauty, and solitude it cannot survive.

Mr. Gene Kvalvik, a registered guide and 10-year resident of Alaska, stated that, "With an eye to future generations, let us preserve as much of Alaska as possible in its natural state." Mr. Kvalvik is especially upset with what he refers to as the Alaska Department of Fish and Game's "meatmarket approach to game management" and feels their favorite management tool is the "wild-eyed" snowmachine hunter.

Mrs. Lille McGarvey, Secretary-Treasurer of the Aleut League, Anchorage, Alaska, was the last to testify. Born and raised in the Aleutians, she gave

a lengthy narration of the terrible aftermath of World War II on various of the Aleutian Islands. Mrs. McGarvey was uncommitted to the Unimak wilderness proposal, saying, "I don't know whether I want the wilderness on Unimak or not. What good does it do to make a wild bird refuge out of an island when the AEC and people like that come in and destroy the wildlife? What good does it (wilderness designation) do?" Dr. Gordon Watson, Alaska Area Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, answered this query by explaining that wilderness classification is an act of Congress which would permanently protect Unimak from the rape that has occurred on the various islands described so vividly by Mrs. McGarvey.

2. Communications from Elected Public Officials

U. S. Senator Ted Stevens and U. S. Congressman Nick Begich both wrote expressing an interest in the proposal, but neither took a position for or against it.

Governor William A. Egan of Alaska communicated his vigorous opposition through Mr. Robert W. Pavitt, Director of the Governor's Office of Planning and Research. (See public hearing transcript, pp. 36-44).

3. Communications from State and Local Officials, State Departments and Agencies

Max C. Brewer, Commissioner of the State Department of Environmental Conservation, lamented the "paucity of data" in the proposal brochure, and questioned whether it meets the National Environmental Protection Agency requirements. He also suggested that "an extension of time for accomplishing the purposes of the Wilderness Act be obtained, particularly as it applies to Alaska, in order that both the State and Federal Governments can properly

carry out a reasonable assessment of the best uses of public lands."

He also indicated that "This Department would like to work with the Fish and Wildlife Service to try to obtain the information required to allow a responsible review of lands having potential for wilderness designation."

It is the intention of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service to work closely with all departments of the Alaska state government which have an interest in our wilderness proposals. This includes the Department of Environmental Conservation.

It must be recognized, however, that Dr. Brewer's department was not yet in existence at the time the wilderness field study was in progress on Unimak. Furthermore, there is more than ample evidence to indicate that Unimak Island possesses many outstanding wilderness features worthy of permanent protection.

To further delay the wilderness review process on this or any other refuge in Alaska will only serve to place the wilderness resource in jeopardy unless executive or legislative action is taken to guarantee its protection during any extended review period. There is no indication at this time, however, that the Department or Congress would be sympathetic to an extension of the Wilderness Act review period.

#### 4. Communications from Federal Departments and Agencies

Mr. Weymouth Long, State Conservationist with the Soil Conservation Service in Palmer, Alaska, had no technical information to offer the Bureau, but expressed the hope that wilderness classification would allow proper management of the island's wildlife.

W. E. Eckard of the Bureau of Mines in Juneau wishes to be able to install equipment on Mount Shishaldin to monitor future volcanic activity. He indicated that insufficient work has been done to form a definite opinion regarding the mineralogy of the island.

J. A. Rutter, Regional Director of the National Park Service in Seattle endorsed the entire proposal, and urged the negotiation of a tidelands buffer strip from the State and the exclusion of military activity.

Rear Admiral J. A. Palmer, Commander of the 17th Coast Guard District in Juneau requested that special-use provisions be established to guarantee the Coast Guard access to established navigational aids and permission to establish new aids as future traffic patterns may demand.

V. E. McKelvey, Director of the U.S. Geological Survey, commented that, although no mineral survey has been made of Unimak, there is no basis for believing the island to be mineralized to any great extent.

Captain C. S. Christensen, speaking for the U. S. Navy Commander-in-Chief Pacific, supported the size of the original exclusion areas around the Scotch Cap, Sennett Point, and Cape Sarichef installations, and remarked, "In support of the wilderness concept, Commander-in-Chief Pacific does not wish to see any more land than necessary excluded from the Unimak proposal for defense purposes." (Emphasis added).

The Federal Aviation Administration stated that, "From a specific aviation viewpoint, we have no objection to the Unimak Wilderness Proposal," but felt such action should await a federal-state land-use planning commission.

##### 5. Communications from Organizations

Thirty organizations commented on the proposal. Eight from Alaska and 18 from Outside were basically in favor. Four organizations were opposed.

The Peter Pan Seafoods Company, Inc., of Seattle, Washington, which owns and operates the fish cannery at False Pass, requested information on the proposal but did not commit themselves one way or the other.

The Wilderness Society, Four Corners Wilderness Workshop, North American Habitat Preservation Society, Federation of Western Outdoors Clubs, Florida Audubon Society, and Fairbanks Environmental Center all supported the basic proposal but recommended two major modifications:

- (1) Use the road on the western end of the island rather than section lines as a more recognizable boundary.
- (2) Have Executive Order 1733 amended to preclude further military intrusion in the future.

The Conservation League and the Mountaineers also recommended the above two modifications be made, and in addition urged that a tidelands lease be negotiated with the State of Alaska to provide a 1/4-mile buffer zone around the island.

All three of these recommended modifications to the original proposal were accepted as sound and will be submitted as final recommendations.

The Sierra Club approved of the proposal plus all the aforementioned modifications. In addition, they would prefer that the excluded area on the island's western end be restricted to only a road corridor. Although this recommendation has considerable merit, it was not accepted because of

three valid military withdrawals in the area, and because there are a number of secondary roads and trails between the two primary roads which have quite severely altered the naturalness of the area.

Organizations from outside Alaska which opposed the proposal were the Colorado Mining Association, Phelps Dodge Corporation and American Mining Congress. All three believe a thorough mineral survey should be conducted on Unimak Island prior to wilderness classification.

Phelps Dodge mentioned they know of no mineral deposits on the island, but pointed to the geothermal potential of the volcanic environment. They also feel that restrictions on use of aircraft and tracked vehicles of all types would have an adverse effect on those wishing to study volcanic phenomena such as the Fisher Caldera. Phelps Dodge believes there is no need to classify the area as wilderness because of its remoteness.

While it is true that no intensive mineral survey has been conducted, it is the wish of many citizens and the intent of Congress that lands with high wilderness values such as Unimak not be subjected to commercialization such as mining.

Remoteness is no guarantee in itself that lands such as Unimak will forever remain in a pristine state. This was elucidated by numerous citizens who pointed to what has happened to Amchitka Island farther out on the Aleutian Chain.

The only Alaska-based organization that opposed the proposal was the Greater Anchorage Area Chamber of Commerce. They gave the following reasons:

- "1. Withdrawal of National Forest lands clearly violates the language, spirit, and intent of paragraph 6.g of the Alaska Statehood Act (PL85-508, 72 Stat 339) until such time as the State has had the opportunity to select its land entitlement granted thereunder.
2. Alaska, in contrast to other states, lacks surface transportation facilities that would permit reasonable access to boundaries of Wilderness Areas (emphasis on this point is directed to the Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal). The physiography of the State creates "de facto wilderness", and denial of principal means of travel other than on foot, canoe, or horseback will prevent the majority of people from deriving any use or enjoyment from such areas designated 'wilderness'.
3. The Wilderness proposals submitted to date by the responsible federal agencies charged with review of areas as suitable or unsuitable for wilderness, are insufficient to justify wilderness designation, are biased in content, and violate the intent of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA); which directs all federal agencies with natural resource management responsibilities to provide input into organizations or activities that influence or have an impact on the total environment."

The Chamber further pointed out that its "opposition to the present Wilderness Proposal for Unimak Island is identical in principle to the Chamber's position on the Wilderness Proposals for Kenai National Moose Range, the Katmai National Monument and the Glacier Bay National Monument."

Unfortunately, this opposition was apparently based on considerable misin-

formation, for withdrawal of National Forest Lands in violation of the Statehood Act is not involved. Furthermore, the intent of the National Environmental Policy Act has been complemented rather than violated, since the proposed action would provide permanent protection to the natural environment as it exists at present. Also, Congress never intended wilderness areas to be giant playgrounds for the majority of the people. Therefore, the argument that wilderness is not justified because the majority will not derive any use or enjoyment from it is irrelevant.

##### 5. Communications from Individuals

Citizen communications prior to the hearing record closing date totalled 237. Of these, 229 were in favor of the proposal in some form, 2 were in favor with some reservation, 1 was uncommitted, and 5 were opposed. An additional 80 letters were received after the hearing record closed on January 17, 1972. All were in favor and if counted would have brought the total number of testimonies in favor to 319.

Messrs. Mike Uttecht and David Krueger of Cold Bay voiced their opposition to the proposal at the public hearing (pp. 15-22 of the hearing transcript).

Dale P. Tubbs of Anchorage was opposed because he felt the area was adequately protected at present and that we should not "...lock out the possibility of responsive management."

Mr. W. R. Hutson of Anchorage was opposed because no mention was made of the cost of the investigation, and Mr. and Mrs. Collin Niver of Anchorage also opposed because they feel we have entirely too much wilderness now.



Ninety-three citizens favored the Bureau's basic proposal as presented. Of the 136 who approved the proposal with additions, 109 favored amending Executive Order 1733 so the wilderness will not be subject to military intrusion in the future; 91 favored utilizing an existing road (rather than section lines) to delineate the western boundary of the wilderness area; 32 favored taking more acreage at the western end; 4 favored taking all the acreage at the western end; and 17 urged the negotiation of a state tidelands lease out to 1/4 mile or more to provide a buffer around the wilderness.

One individual favored placing more islands in the National Wilderness Preservation System, and another felt that all Refuge islands should be added to the system. Offshore rocks and islets excluded from this proposal and other islands in the Chain will be included in an upcoming wilderness proposal for the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge.

There were also a number of recommendations put forth by individuals which pertained more to wilderness management. These included the following: prohibit the hunting of brown bear; prohibit all hunting; prohibit aircraft in the interior; prohibit all vehicles in the interior; restrict the number of visitors; and eliminate all navigational aids.

The Unimak proposal would allow for sport hunting with wilderness designation in accordance with state and federal regulations. Motorized vehicles will be prohibited within the wilderness except that it will be recommended that aircraft be permitted to land on certain designated interior lakes. To remove Coast Guard navigational aids would be both unnecessary and unreasonable.

Many individuals who wrote on the proposal expressed their great concern

for the State of Alaska's unilateral opposition to wilderness proposals being put forth by federal agencies in Alaska.

For example, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Meacham of Anchorage stated, "We... urge that the position of the State of Alaska be entirely disassociated from the positions its various citizens might take...I doubt it speaks for many Alaskans who have an opinion on the subject of wilderness."

And D. J. Coolidge also of Anchorage wrote, "Governor Egan and his administration do not speak for me when they ask for delay in 'planning.' It is almost too late now."

Mr. George R. Pollard, licensed master guide of Kasilof, Alaska, summed up the concern of many of those who submitted testimony: "At this point in history when even the remote, inaccessible areas of the North American continent are in danger of unplanned, commercial exploitation, it becomes imperative to set aside 'islands' of high scenic and wildlife value... Unimak Island is one of these remote areas that deserves the full protection of wilderness classification."



## PROPOSED RECOMMENDATIONS

### Unimak Island Wilderness Proposal

Recommendation 1: Include approximately 973,000 acres of the nearly one-million-acre Unimak Island, Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska, into the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Recommendation 2: Exclude the following acreages from the proposal:

False Pass	745 acres
Ikatan	10 acres
Cape Pankof	100 acres
Cape Sarichef and Scotch Cap	24,405 acres
	<hr/> 25,260 acres

Recommendation 3: Purchase the 10 acres of private land at Ikatan and include in the Refuge, unless Native selections under terms of the Native Claims Settlement Act make this unfeasible. This tract could then be considered for inclusion in the Unimak Island Wilderness at a later date.

Recommendation 4: Amend Executive Order 1733 to exclude the clause, "The establishment of this reservation shall not interfere with the use of the islands for lighthouse, military, or naval purposes." This recommendation was supported by 109 individuals, 8 organizations, and 1 federal agency.

Revision of EO 1733 in this manner would preclude any further military encroachment on Unimak and other islands in the Refuge.

Recommendation 5: Use the most interior road to delineate the western boundary of the wilderness area as urged by 91 individuals and 6 organizations. This is considered a sound recommendation since the road would provide a more easily recognizable boundary than the unmarked section lines initially proposed.

The revised wilderness boundary would follow the road except where said road lies within the three valid lighthouse withdrawals, and the withdrawal covered by cooperative agreement with the U.S. Air Force (in which case the wilderness boundary would follow the appropriate boundaries of the withdrawals).

Recommendation 6: Following wilderness designation, negotiate, if possible, a tidelands preference right title lease with the State of Alaska out to 1/4 mile or more, surrounding the island. This would provide a buffer zone around the Unimak Island Wilderness and preclude future developments and activities below the line of mean high tide which could jeopardize the wilderness resource. This recommendation was voiced by 1 federal agency, 3 organizations, and 17 individuals.

Recommendation 7: Prohibit the use of all motorized vehicles above the line of mean high tide, except that aircraft be permitted to land on designated lakes at the discretion of the Secretary.

SECTION XVI d. DRAFT LETTER OF  
THE SECRETARY

DRAFT LETTER FOR USE BY THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

It is with great pleasure that I recommend the Unimak Island Wilderness, encompassing the major part of the nearly one-million-acre Unimak Island of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, State of Alaska, for inclusion into the National Wilderness Preservation System. Unimak has been managed essentially as wilderness since its designation as an integral part of the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge by President William H. Taft in 1913 (Executive Order 1733).

Of the island's 998,260 acres, approximately 973,000 acres have been determined to be suitable for wilderness status. This acreage includes rugged interior mountains, approximately 200 miles of scenic coastline, several biologically productive lagoons, numerous rivers and streams, lakes and marshes, and wide expanses of rolling tundra supporting a rich flora and fauna. The Fisher Caldera, a beautiful volcanic lake high in the mountains, and Mount Shishaldin, a nearly perfect volcanic cone rising to 9,978 feet, are two of the island's most dramatic physical features. Mount Shishaldin has been designated a National Natural Landmark because of its striking beauty and long history as an early navigational aid to mariners.

Because of its unique position as the first and largest island in the Aleutian Arc, Unimak has an unusual mixing of both insular and mainland plants and animals and therefore enjoys a high potential for ecological research of both marine and terrestrial ecosystems. The island supports a rich diversity of wildlife including 25 species of mammals and 91 species of birds. The majestic Alaskan brown bear is present in good numbers and barren-ground caribou, wolverine and gray wolves roam the tundra. Numerous sea mammals including the once-rare sea otter occupy offshore waters. The island is a virtual haven for migratory birds, including a variety of ducks and geese, and the endangered bald eagle and the peregrine falcon are known to nest on high promontories. There are several valuable salmon runs on the island which contribute to the area's commercial fishery.

Notices of public hearings on the wilderness proposal were issued by the Department in accordance with the requirements of the Wilderness Act of September 3, 1964 (78 Stat. 890). Governor William Egan and all interested local, state and federal agencies and departments were notified of the proposal. The public hearing was held at Cold Bay on December 14 and continued in Anchorage on December 17, 1971. The hearing record was held open for 30 days following the hearing or until January 17, 1972. Fourteen persons testified orally and 264 by written communications. Ninety-four per cent of all respondents expressed favor toward the proposal. These views are summarized in the enclosed synopsis of the public hearing record.

Several worthwhile suggestions were stressed repeatedly in these testimonies. At the request of 91 citizens, the initially-proposed wilderness boundary has been redrawn to follow the roadway connecting the navigational aid sites at the island's western end. The roadway will constitute a more recognizable



boundary than the section lines originally proposed. In those cases where the road actually enters a lighthouse or military withdrawal area, the wilderness boundary will coincide with the withdrawal boundary until it again intersects the roadway. A total of 109 testimonies favored amending Executive Order 1733 to preclude any further military intrusions into the island during peacetime. The Department urges that this action be taken to provide greater protection to Unimak's unusual wilderness resource.

It must be recognized, however, that the final wilderness boundary at the island's eastern end will be affected by Refuge lands allocated to the village of False Pass under terms of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of December 18, 1971 (P.L. 92-203). It is not known at this time where these Native selections are likely to be made.

A complete record has been compiled for the Unimak Island Wilderness proposal. This record is of course available for inspection.

Unimak Island is highly qualified for designation as wilderness, and I urge submission to Congress of the enclosed draft legislation to incorporate approximately 973,000 acres of the island into the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Respectfully yours,

Rogers C. B. Morton



(DRAFT)

A B I L L

To designate certain lands in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, Third Judicial Division, Alaska, as wilderness.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in accordance with Section 3 (c) of the Wilderness Act of September 3, 1964 (78 Stat. 890; 892; 16 U.S.C. 1132 (c)), certain lands in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska, which comprise about 973,000 acres and which are depicted on a map entitled "Unimak Wilderness Proposal" revised February 1972, are hereby designated as wilderness. The map shall be on file and available for public inspection in the offices of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Department of the Interior.

Sec. 2. As soon as practicable after this Act takes effect, a map of the wilderness area and a description of its boundaries shall be filed with the Interior and Insular Affairs Committees of the United States Senate and the House of Representatives, and such map and description shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act: Provided, however, that correction of clerical and typographical errors in such map and description may be made.

Sec. 3. The area designated by this Act as wilderness shall be known as the "Unimak Island Wilderness" and shall be administered by the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Wilderness Act governing areas designated by that Act as wilderness areas, except that any reference in such provisions to the effective date of the

Wilderness Act shall be deemed to be a reference to the effective date of this Act, and any reference to the Secretary of Agriculture shall be deemed to be a reference to the Secretary of the Interior.

Sec. 4. Executive Order 1733 which established the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge is hereby amended to exclude the clause: "The establishment of this reservation shall not interfere with the use of the islands for lighthouse, military, or naval purposes."

SECTION XVI f. DRAFT LETTER OF  
THE PRESIDENT

DRAFT LETTER FOR USE BY THE PRESIDENT

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Remote and stormy Unimak Island, the first and largest island in the 1100-mile-long Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, is an area of unique wildlife and scenic resources. This island is the breeding or resting ground for a large variety of migratory birds, including swans, ducks, and geese. The endangered bald eagle and peregrine falcon occupy eyries on this island. The majestic brown bear roams the tundra and the once-rare sea otter frolics in offshore waters.

It is an area of austere and rugged natural beauty. Spectacular Mount Shishaldin is the highest peak in the Aleutians and one of the most perfect volcanic cones in the world.

Although far removed from the population centers of Alaska at present, Unimak Island nonetheless deserves Congressional protection from future encroachment by modern man and his machines. At a time when the environment of the entire earth is being altered rapidly and irrevocably, it is imperative that we set aside some areas for use as benchmarks against which to measure man-caused changes in that environment, so that we may be better guided in our future decisions. Unimak's fragile estuarine and tundra systems can serve not only in this scientific capacity, but will also prove to be a challenge and a promise to the restless spirit of man, a place where there are yet tests to be met and peace to be found.

Therefore, I am recommending today that approximately 973,000 acres of Unimak Island be included into the National Wilderness Preservation System to assure that the full drama of life in this remote and rugged environment may continue for generations to come. I enclose a letter from the Secretary of the Interior in support of this proposal.

I urge Congress to act quickly to grant much-needed legislative protection to this wild island.

Sincerely yours,

Richard M. Nixon

SECTION XVI g. COST AND TIME DATA



COST AND TIME DATA

1. Field Work

6 months' time

\$14,000.00

2. Analyzing Data and Research

6 months' time

\$10,000.00

3. Printing and Preparing Brochure

3 weeks' time

\$2,000.00

4. Public Hearing

1 week's time

\$1,500.00

5. Court Reporter

\$511.60

6. Assembling and Duplicating

1 month's time

\$7,000.00

TOTAL COST: \$35,011.60

