

STATE OF ALASKA

JAY S. HAMMOND, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

333 RASPBERRY ROAD
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99502

Phone: 344-0541, ext. 199

File: CSU-BLM-Steese/Wh

24 February 1982

Mr. Carl D. Johnson
District Manager
Fairbanks District Office
P. O. Box 1150
Fairbanks, Alaska 99707

Dear Mr. Johnson:

We have received additional comments from State agency representatives for your consideration during the scoping phase of planning the Steese and White Mountains conservation system units. Per our letter of 12 January 1982 to you, several agencies were not able to respond within the time frame allowed and these additional comments were received after the deadline. As we continue to receive information for you to consider in the plans, we will provide them to you.

The Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Water Management Section, requests the Bureau of Land Management to allow historical (or traditional) navigation of waterways within, or adjacent to, Bureau of Land Management Lands to continue.

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities stated that there are a number of activities and proposals which could potentially be impacted by the plans for these units:

"There is significant interest in improving Nome Creek Road (US Creek Road) for mining purposes and extending it to Beaver Creek for recreational purposes. Our department is in fact doing some design work on this now.

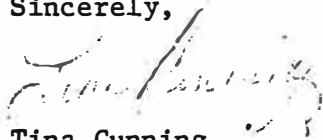
"We are in agreement with the BLM on addressing issues regarding public access for mining, recreation and other activities. Of particular interest is access to mining claims along Harrington Fork, Fryingpan Creek, Acme Creek, Great Unknown Creek and Clums Fork. Previously, miners used an access road along upper Birch Creek to reach their claims.

"Also of interest are past proposals to extend Chena Hot Springs Road into the Circle Hot Springs area, the improving of Montana Creek Road along Bachelor Creek and recreational access points to Birch Creek and Beaver Creek. In addition, we would like to point out a past proposal for a road between Eagle and the Circle area; such a road would have to cross Birch Creek."

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We have been contacted by Dave Wickstrom of your office to meet with him and other members of his planning staff on Friday, 26 February 1982. We hope to be brought up-to-date on the Bureau's planning methods, schedule and status, as well as acquaint the representatives with our organization, schedule and needs. We are appreciative of this opportunity and look forward to improving our communication and close coordination with the Bureau of Land Management in the implementation of ANILCA in the public's interest.

Sincerely,



Tina Cunning
Acting CSU Coordinator

cc: M. Robus
G. Bos
State CSU Contacts