

STATE OF ALASKA

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File: CSU-NPS-Melozitna

14 May 1982

Mr. Jack Mosby
National Park Service
540 West Fifth Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Jack:

The following corrections to the Melozitna draft brochure were received from the State agency reviewers.

Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

The following comments refer to the section on Transportation and Access (p. 12). "First, our department's name is the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities; also the study referred to at the end is the Western and Arctic Alaska Transportation Study. The transportation and utility corridor just north of the Yukon continues both north and west to the Seward Peninsula. The statement that, 'the Tanana portion would connect with the Anchorage/Fairbanks Highway at Nenana' is misleading. This implies that the corridor referenced is a highway corridor, when in fact it is a transportation corridor that could be for various modes. We suggest changing the statement to read, '...connect with the Anchorage - Fairbanks corridor at Nenana.' This we feel is more accurate since the Parks Highway and the Alaska Railroad together form a corridor between Anchorage and Fairbanks."

Alaska Power Authority

The following comments refer to Page 24. APA requests that the following information be added. "The Alaska Power Authority has recently received the draft of the energy reconnaissance reports for Galena and Ruby. These reports address, among other energy alternatives, the potential development of a hydroelectric project on the Melozitna River. Three hydroelectric development scenarios were discussed: low head (20MW installed powerhouse capacity), medium head (64MW installed capacity), and high head (104.8MW installed capacity). The scenario best matched to the demands of nearby communities as presently projected is the low head scenario. The economic analysis of this energy alternative compared to the present situation (base camp) indicates that a greater electrical load will be required to make this project economically feasible. Development of mining operations in the area could provide the necessary market for the power which would be available here."

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Alaska Department of Fish and Game, FRED Division

Reference Page 14, Par. 4, Line 2: "Phrase 'lower mile' is unclear. Does this mean one mile from the southern end of the study area? On page 3 #3, there is supposed to be sufficient water for water-related outdoor recreation."

Reference Page 8, Par. 5, Line 1: "A map showing the location of the four refuges in relation to the river would be helpful. 'Surrounding' means 'to be on all sides' and it implies that the river may flow through the refuges."

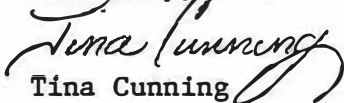
Reference Page 15, Par. 1, Line 2: "The Melozitna River and its tributary, Hot Springs Creek, have good potential for salmon enhancement. Because little is known about the salmon in the Melozitna system, investigations need to be conducted on life history and other related topics. Life history studies on feeding and rearing areas may include (but not limited to) chum and king salmon smolt collection at the mouth of the Melozitna. Depending on the result of these future studies, a site about 12 miles upstream on Hot Springs Creek may be suitable for installing stream incubation boxes or a hatchery. Until additional salmonid research data is available, specific opportunities for fisheries enhancement projects cannot be identified. Delete sentence 'Currently...no fisheries...projects ...River.'"

Reference Page 19, Par. 1, Line 7: "Power boat access for miles 1 - 12 or only 'at...mile 12'?"

Reference Page 21, Par's 1-3: "The description here of vegetation and all types of land form and topography create a visual picture that is better than the presentation under 'Scenic Resources', p. 19-20. Perhaps the two topics of scenic resources, stream flow and water quality could be separated more distinctly."

Thank you for the opportunity to review the draft. We hope our comments are of assistance to you. Please let us know if we can provide any further involvement.

Sincerely,



Tina Cunningham
Acting CSU Coordinator

cc: State CSU Contacts