

# STATE OF ALASKA

STEVE COWPER, GOVERNOR

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
DIVISION OF GOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION

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February 18, 1987

Mr. Robert Gilmore  
Regional Director  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
1011 East Tudor Road  
Anchorage, AK 99503

Dear Mr. <sup>Bob</sup>Gilmore:

The State of Alaska appreciates the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (FWS) extra effort to seek early public involvement in planning for the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge as reflected in the FWS October 1986, issue of Plan-It. State agencies also commend the inclusion of detailed identification of the specific islands and shore areas which are so essential to understanding the scope of the planning effort.

Since the document is limited to a general summary of the management categories likely to be proposed in the up-coming draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan, specific comments from state agencies will be made based on review of the full draft plan. At this stage, however, we do wish to note that the state's general comments on previous CCP's would apply to the Alaska Maritime Refuge as well.

These include:

- the need for a broader range of alternatives pursuant to NEPA, which would include greater consideration of the moderate and intensive management categories;
- concerns regarding the FWS process for determining compatibility of oil and gas activities on refuge lands;
- maintaining opportunities for on-shore facilities in support of off-shore oil and gas activities;
- maintaining flexibility regarding provisions for fish and wildlife management techniques and facilities;
- maintaining opportunities for continued subsistence, commercial and recreational use of fish and wildlife resources, including adequate provisions for support facilities, equipment and access.

Thank you for the opportunity to review these preliminary alternatives. The State of Alaska looks forward to continued participation in the Alaska Maritime Refuge planning process and review of the upcoming draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Grogan  
Director

  
by Sally Gilbert  
State CSU Coordinator

cc: Senator Rick Halford, CACFA, Fairbanks  
Commissioner Brady, DNR, Juneau  
Commissioner Collinsworth, DFG, Juneau  
Commissioner Gutierrez, DOT/PF, Juneau  
Commissioner Kelso, DEC, Juneau  
Mr. Rod Swope, Office of the Governor, Juneau

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