

# STATE OF ALASKA

WALTER J. HICKEL, GOVERNOR

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

### OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET DIVISION OF GOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION

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March 18, 1994

Walter Stieglitz  
Regional Director  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
1011 East Tudor Road  
Anchorage, AK 99503

Dear Mr. Stieglitz:

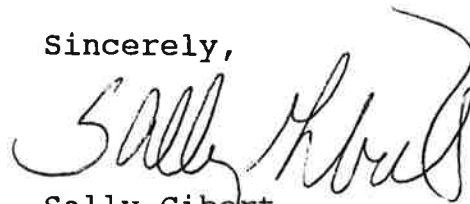
The State of Alaska has reviewed the December 1993 *Draft Management Plan and Environmental Assessment* for the Kisaralik River. This letter represents the consolidated comments of the State's resource agencies.

The State cannot support this plan as currently developed. The Kisaralik River is navigable, owned and managed by the State of Alaska; the State also owns substantial uplands adjacent to the river. It is inappropriate for the Service to unilaterally develop a plan which "focuses on management of river floating" for the State's waterway and uses of such waterway. (Quote from Service's December 15, 1993 cover letter.)

The State of Alaska urged the Service in July 1993 to adopt a cooperative approach to planning for the river and adjacent uplands in light of the multiple jurisdictions along the river. Instead, the Service has chosen to independently proceed with a management plan for the Kisaralik River. Service management objectives must be achieved through a cooperative management document, such as a cooperative management agreement or memorandum of understanding with State and local landowners.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments. If you have any questions, please call this office.

Sincerely,



Sally Gibert  
State CSU Coordinator

cc:

Dave Stearns, Refuge Manager, Yukon Delta Nat'l Wildlife Refuge

Carl Rosier, Commissioner, Department of Fish and Game

Harry Noah, Commissioner, Department of Natural Resources

John Sandor, Commissioner, Department of Environmental  
Conservation

Bruce Campbell, Commissioner, Department of Transportation and  
Public Facilities

Richard Burton, Commissioner, Department of Public Safety

John Katz, Governor's Office, Washington, D.C.

**CSU Distribution List**  
**Kisaralik Letter**  
**March 23, 1994**

*Tina Cunning, Department of Fish & Game, Anchorage*  
*Terry Haynes, Department of Fish & Game, Fairbanks*  
*Priscilla Wohl, Department of Environmental Conservation, Anchorage*  
*Alice Iliff, Department of Natural Resources, Anchorage*  
*Norm Piispanen, Department of Transportation/Public Facilities, Fairbanks*  
*Paul Rusanowski, Division of Governmental Coordination, Juneau*  
*Mary Pignalberi, Tourism, Department of Commerce & Economic Development, Juneau*  
*Director, Fish & Wildlife Protection, Anchorage*  
*Stan Leaphart, CACFA, Fairbanks*