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August 31, 1995

John Martin, Acting Refuge Manager
Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge
c/o Refuge Planning
1011 East Tudor Road
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

Dear Mr. Martin:

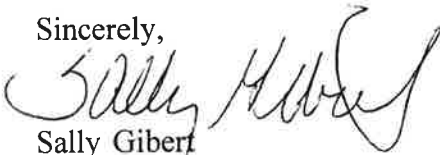
The State of Alaska requests consideration of the following supplemental comments in final preparation of the Environmental Assessment for the Safety Sound Interpretive Site.

The biological Environment Section implies wolves may be observed in the vicinity of the interpretive site, which the Department of Fish and Game believes is highly unlikely. Based on first hand observations, the following may be a more accurate list of terrestrial animals seen in the area: parka squirrels, tundra hare, muskoxen, brown bear, polar bear, arctic fox, red fox, ptarmigan, raptors, jaegers, gulls, ducks, swan, crane, and passerine birds.

The proposed site, which has been subject to considerable human impact over the years, is at the old ferry boat landing which explains the old piling and metal riprap. The ferry operated prior to about 1978 when it was replaced with the current bridge. The site is currently used as a boat landing and beaching area by local residents, including for subsistence marine harvesters (both mammals and fish). The fish rack at the site is additional evidence of those activities since 1978. We appreciate that the Service intends to maintain access to the boat launch area and believe that current use of site for boat landing and beaching is appropriate.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments. If you have questions, please call me.

Sincerely,


Sally Gibert
State CSU Coordinator

cc: Poppy Benson, Refuge Planner, Homer, AK

cc: Diane Mayer, DGC-Jun
Tina Cunning, DFG-Anch
Terry Haynes, DFG-Fbx
Patty Bielawski, DNR-Anch
Priscilla Wohl, DEC-Anch
Joyce Beelman, DEC-Fbx
Norm Piispanen, DOT/PF
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