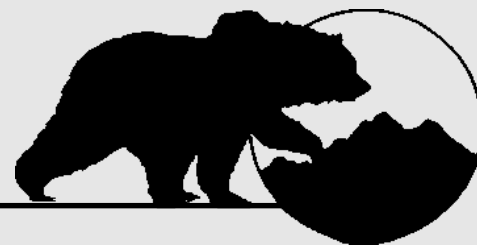


The Journal of the Northern Alaska Environmental Center
Spring 2005
Volume XXVII, Number 1

THE NORTHERN LINE



"You can realign oil-based technologies. You can't reclaim an ecosystem once it's been turned into a natural resources warehouse. To capitulate to the demand for what little oil the refuge may harbor is to capitulate to industrial tithing. It signals a collective failure of imagination"

-- Barry Lopez, author



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Update Your Contact Information

In an effort to reduce our consumption of paper, the Northern Alaska Environmental Center is asking members to help us update personal contact information. Please send an email to info@northern.org with your current mailing and email address. NAEC also offers five email alert lists -- Arctic Action, Boreal Briefs, Camp Habitat, Denali Watch, and Mining Memos. If you would like to join any of these email alert lists, let us know in your email or sign up at our website, www.northern.org, using the "contact us" link.

THE NORTHERN LINE



Environmental News of Arctic and Interior Alaska

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The Northern Alaska Environmental Center promotes conservation of the environment in Interior and Arctic Alaska through advocacy, education, and sustainable resource stewardship. The Northern Alaska Environmental Center has 1,000 members.

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This issue of *The Northern Line* was produced by Nicole M. Braem.

Front Page photo: View of the Hula Hula River Valley, in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, by William Finley. Page 20 photo: Snowy Owl, by Charlie Ott.

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Please return to: NAEC, 830 College Road, Fairbanks AK 99701

Fairbanks Rallies for the Refuge

By Kelly Hill Scanlon
Arctic Coordinator



Photo by Andrew Borner

Nearly 400 gathered in downtown Fairbanks on Thursday, March 3rd, to tell a Senate delegation visiting North Slope oil fields to just say “no” to drilling the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge coastal plain.

“We want to send a message to the Congress and to Alaska’s delegation,” said local author Debbie Miller. “No drilling the Arctic Refuge!”

Miller reminded the crowd that even though some would have us believe that the coastal plain is a “white nothingness,” it is actually home to an inland denning polar bear population. With the polar climate changing, denning opportunities on land are becoming more important. Underground dens are a safe haven for mother bears and their cubs. During this time of year the cubs are no bigger than sled dog puppies and if the mothers are disturbed in any way, such as seismic tests for oil, they will abandon the den.

Alaskan Native speakers, including Luci Beach of the Gwich’in Steering Committee, Howard Luke, and Etok Charles Edwardson, told the crowd sub-

sistence rights and native ways of life were dependent upon protecting the coastal plain. Broken promises of the past only serve to reinforce the importance of defending this area from industrial encroachment.

Fran Mauer sees other value in such a surprising show of public support for the Arctic Refuge. Retired from 22 years as a wildlife biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, he says, “It’s nice to see Alaskans supporting the purposes for which the Arctic Refuge was established. The managers appreciate that kind of guidance.”

During their visit, the Senate delegation continued to hear views contrary to those of Alaska’s Senators.

Word of the rally and Alaskan’s support for protecting the coastal plain moved throughout Capitol Hill as copies of the *Fairbanks Daily News Miner* story on the rally were given out to congressional offices as a gentle reminder that Alaska’s delegation does not speak for all Alaska...



Photo by Andrew Borner

Fight to protect Arctic Refuge is not over

By Kelly Hill Scanlon
Arctic Coordinator

The battle to protect the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge's coastal plain is on!

Alaskans came out in full force to let the nation know we oppose drilling in the arctic. Activists lobbied in D.C., a pro-Refuge rally in Fairbanks drew national attention, and people shared copies of *Being Caribou* with friends and family — sending more than 400 copies across the country. Senators from around the nation received phone calls and letters urging them to protect the Refuge. We commend everyone for all of their tremendous work thus far.

While we were disappointed that the Senate narrowly defeated Senator Maria Cantwell's (D-WA) amendment which would have removed Arctic drilling from the budget by a margin of 49-51, we are confident our voices will prevail as the budget process moves forward.

For a complete list of the votes cast on the Cantwell amendment, visit our website at

www.northern.org.

So, what's next?

Both the House and the Senate have passed their own versions of the budget. These will now go to a joint conference committee for reconciliation. A final version needs to be passed out of the conference committee and both houses of Congress before arriving on the President's desk. Because of all the contentious issues (such as Medicaid cuts) in this year's budget resolution, this process is guaranteed to be quite cumbersome. (For a full description of the budget process please see: http://www.sierraclub.org/wildlands/arctic/budget_process.asp).

Alaskans against drilling play a unique role in the political process. We are charged with letting the rest of the country know that our Congressional delegation does not speak for all Alaskans on this issue. During these budget discussions members of Congress need to hear from you.

Over 400 copies of *Being Caribou* sold

By Kelly Hill Scanlon
Arctic Coordinator

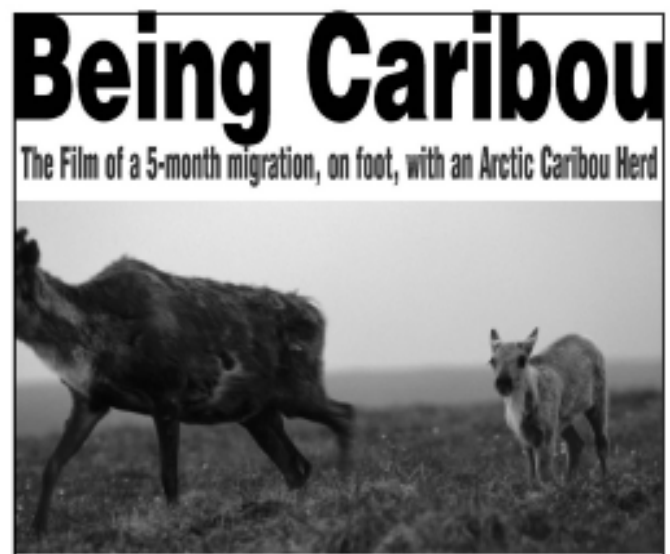
Who would have thought the epic adventure of two Canadians following the Porcupine Caribou Herd on their migration route to the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge could capture the spirit of the Refuge and so many Fairbanksans hearts?

Over the past two months more than 600 people in Fairbanks attended screenings of *Being Caribou*. People were touched by the documentary and felt it was the perfect way to convey the spirit of the Refuge and what is truly at stake in the drilling controversy. So moved were people that more than 400 copies of the movie have been purchased and shared with family and friends all over the country.

If you are interested in sharing the experience of *Being Caribou*, a limited number of copies is still available at the Northern Alaska Environmental

Center for \$6 each.

To everyone who took part in this grassroots effort to publicize the plight of the Refuge — thank you!





How YOU can help save the Refuge

- **Call Senators:** Call Senators from your home state or states in which you have friends and family. If those Senators voted to protect the Refuge, thank them for their vote. If they voted against the Refuge, remind them this is one of the last truly wild places in America. Its wilderness and subsistence values far outweigh any short-term gain from oil production. Tell the Senators that using the budget to open the Refuge to drilling deprives the American public of the democratic debate necessary for decisions of such national significance. Senators can be reached by calling 1-800-247-2971. You may write to Senators at:

The Honorable (full name)
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Senators may also be contacted by email or fax. For contact information, go to www.senate.gov.

- **Contact Members of the House of Representatives:** Members of the House will be important to the upcoming budget battle — remember the budget must pass in both the House and Senate. Due to the large number of members in the House of Representatives, we recommend that you visit the House web site at www.house.gov to access individual member's information. Congressmen and women can be called at 1-800-247-2971, or written to at:

The Honorable (full name)
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

- **Join the Northern Center's Arctic Alert list:** The Northern Center regularly sends out updates on Arctic-related items related to drilling. The list does not swamp your inbox with undue messages every day. We only send out messages when they are timely and necessary. This alert list will be very active during the next month while budget discussions take place. To join the list, please contact Kelly Hill Scanlon at kelly@northern.org and request that your name be added.
- **Spread the Word:** Ask everyone you know to contact their Congressional delegation, too. It is important they hear from many people, especially those in their own state. You can adapt all of our email alerts as you see fit.



Arctic Ribbon

Tie a Green Ribbon:
Unite Around Our
Arctic Refuge
arcticribbon.org

Show your support for the Arctic Refuge by joining the Green Ribbon Campaign.

Stop by the Northern Alaska Environmental Center for more information or to pick up a green ribbon for your lapel, your home, or your office.

Fifteen dollars per gallon?

Study looks at the indirect costs of gasoline

By Nancy Fresco
Local Issues Coordinator



If the price of gas goes up a few cents, consumers complain. But how many of us realize in how many other ways we're paying – indirectly – for our dependence on gasoline?

If the full costs of driving were borne by drivers and paid at the pump, rather than being paid indirectly through healthcare costs, environmental costs,

taxes, and insurance, how much would each gallon cost?

The International Center for Technology Assessment (CTA)¹ tried to answer this question in an exhaustive 1998 study. In summary, this is what they found:

- The federal government gives the oil industry a wealth of tax breaks and subsidies, and state governments often augment these. Tax breaks that support gasoline production and use amount to roughly **\$10 - \$15 billion annually**.
- Taxpayers also subsidize the military protection of oil supplies around the world to the tune of over **\$50 billion annually**. This doesn't include the enormous cost of wars; it includes only routine "safeguarding" and maintenance of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve.
- We're so accustomed to automotive infrastructure being paid for via taxes that we don't question it — but what if the cost of building and maintaining roads — some **\$40 to \$110 billion** each year — were paid directly by drivers?
- Car culture leads to urban sprawl, which in turn costs society heavily due to additional environmental, social, and aesthetic degradation. CTA discounted all estimates in this category by 25% to 50% to account for uncertainty in accounting, but still came up with a figure of **\$160 to \$250 billion** per year.
- The vast quantity of pollution released by motor vehicles results in the greatest hidden costs of all. Global climate change, uncompensated health costs, decreased agricultural yields, reduced visibility, water pollution, noise pollution, and damage to buildings and materials cost an estimated **\$230 to \$940 billion** every year.

Grand Total: between \$5.60 and \$15.14 per gallon

In the seven years since the study was completed, the projected ramifications of global climate change have become more severe, and oil-related war and violence (which are not accounted for at all in the study) have skyrocketed. Thus, the results are likely to represent a very low estimate.

When the price of gasoline is so drastically underestimated in the minds of drivers, it becomes difficult, if not impossible, to convince them to change their driving habits, accept alternative fuel vehicles, support mass transit, or consider progressive residential and urban development strategies.

If subsidies were removed, if hidden costs were accounted for, and if drivers were faced with the cost of their gasoline usage up front, they would have a more difficult time ignoring the harmful effects that automobiles and the internal combustion engine have on national security, the environment, their health, and their quality of life.

¹The International Center for Technology Assessment (CTA) is a non-profit, bi-partisan organization committed to providing the public with full assessments and analyses of technological impacts on society. They can be found on the web at www.icta.org

Alaska Legislative Update

By Brendan Buckley
Legislative Intern

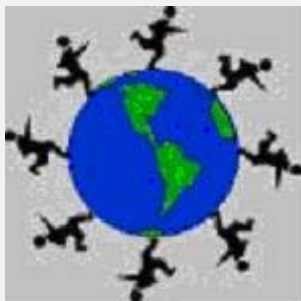
Kudos are in order for Fairbanks Representative Jay Ramras. Ramras introduced HB 196, which would authorize the state to offer 10-year, interest-free loans for producers of alternative and renewable energy. The loans will cover the start-up costs associated with developing and beginning the operation of alternative fuel sources, enabling Alaska to take a lead role in developing the energy sources of the 21st century. Currently, the bill is residing in the House Labor and Commerce Committee, with no hearing scheduled.

HB 19, the Pesticide Right-to-Know Bill, has passed the House by a vote of 33-3, due in part to the work of the Defend Alaska Now! Campaign. It is now waiting for a hearing in the Senate Resources Committee. This bill would charge a small fee for the registration of pesticides in Alaska, which would

bring the state in line with the practices of the other 49 states. Additionally, it would require the posting of public notice before and after the spraying of pesticides in public spaces, government buildings, apartment complexes, and multi-unit residences. As pesticide exposure has been linked to childhood and adult cancers, and Alaska has a cancer rate well above the national average, the bill is a good step towards protecting the health of Alaska's citizens.

The University Lands bill has passed the House Resources Committee, and moved on to House Finance, albeit in amended form. Due to intense opposition from affected communities in Southeast Alaska and on Kodiak Island, just under 10,000 of the most controversial acres have been stripped from the bill.

These parcels, if granted to the University, would
...Continued on page 22



Earth Day Kids' Festival **IMAGINATIONS GONE WILD!**

Saturday, April 23, 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Ryan Middle School

- *Fun crafts – seed mosaics, homemade paper, 3-D bird models and more!
- *Games, music and storytelling
- *Live birds!
- *Face painting & creation of a childrens' mural
- *Used book sale



**Bring your aluminum cans
for recycling**

Suggested donation \$5 per family
Proceeds support Camp Habitat



Calendar of Earth Friendly Events

April 22-24, Earth Day Events:

- UAF Sustainable Campus Task Force 3-day event - the overarching themes of this year's conference are "Living Simply," "Environmental Issues in Alaska," and "Sustainable Energy."
- Earth Day, Friday the 22nd, afternoon, Wood Center: music, booths, food and art.
- Saturday the 23rd: workshops, talks, films and panel discussions covering a vast array of topics from bio-diesel and organic gardening to public health.
- Sunday the 24th: tour of Fairbanks residences and businesses that operate from a sustainable angle.

For more information or to be a part of the Sustainable Living Conference 2005, contact the Sustainable Campus Task Force at fbsctf@uaf.edu.

April 23rd, Camp Habitat Earth Day, Saturday 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. at Ryan Middle School -- fun activities for kids, info for adults, presentations, and a fundraising bake sale.

May 23, NAEC Clean Up Day, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Get outside for the afternoon and join us for our spring cleanup of the Northern Center's adopted stretch of College Road. Garbage bags, gloves, and refreshments provided.

Trip Report: Washington D.C.

Alaskans travel to testify on behalf of the Arctic Refuge

By Ken Whitten
NAEC Board Member

In February 2005, John Wright and I traveled to Washington, D.C. to testify against drilling in the Arctic Refuge.

Many Alaskans make this trip each year in what seems like a neverending effort to convince Congress to protect the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Alaskans who can speak convincingly about the values of the Arctic Refuge and why it must be protected are always in demand in Washington to counterbalance the hype from the Bush Administration, our own state Administration, our Congressional delegation, and groups like Arctic Power.

Most Alaskans working to protect the Refuge coordinate with the Alaska Wilderness League (AWL) while in Washington. AWL provides an office to work from and can usually find lodging for visitors.

We stayed in the home Pat and Wayne Fisher, whose daughter Kerynn is on NAEC's Board. AWL also has an apartment as well as connections with other individuals who can make their homes available for visiting Alaskans.

Getting to and from AWL's building is easy on Washington's excellent Metro system, and from there it is a short walk to the Senate and House office buildings. It is also just a short walk to the Capitol Mall with its monuments and museums when you need a break from meetings.

Almost every Alaskan has some particular expertise they can use as a basis for their presentations. Some of us are wilderness travelers who have spent precious moments in the Refuge. Some of us have business connections. All of us live in Alaska and care deeply about our environment and how to care for it.

In the case of John and I, we are both retired wildlife biologists who used to work for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. John also worked as a private consultant in the North Slope oilfields.

Our visit coincided with release of a letter signed by over 1,000 prominent biologists and ecologists urging President Bush not to drill in the Arctic Refuge. This letter turned out to be an ex-

cellent introduction for discussing Refuge issues with Congressional staff; private citizens rarely get to meet directly with Congressmen or Senators.

It is also common for Alaskans with diverse backgrounds to work together on congressional visits. For example, John and I were joined in most of our appointments by Peter Solomon of the Gwitch'n Steering Committee, who could speak from the standpoint of a traditional subsistence user of Refuge resources.

Congressional staff are generally courteous and well informed, eager for information, and ask intelligent and probing questions.

In some cases, however, staff are woefully ignorant or misinformed and require considerable patience and tact to educate. They are also very busy, so expect to be frequently turned away or asked to return later, but persistence often results in productive face-to-face meetings. Written materials are always courteously accepted. Success in protecting the Arctic Refuge is incremental, and every visit by each Alaskan helps.

Thank you to the Alaska Conservation Foundation for your generous support through an operating grant for 2005.

From the Director's Desk:

By Sally Smith
Interim Executive Director



There are advantages to retirement.

For one, you can work when and where you choose. Choosing to return to Fairbanks to spend four months with the Northern Alaska Environmental Center is a decision that has enriched my life, not just because of the opportunity to work with meaningful environmental issues as an advocate, but because of the opportunity to work with people who are dedicated to improving the world in which we live by being FOR things rather than against.

It is easy to rant, rave, and rail at ideas and issues that go against our grain, actions that usually elicit a negative response, yielding no gain and eliminating a field of possibilities. But this organization is different. Both board and staff are committed to researching issues, analyzing the information, and developing reasonable, useful arguments to advocate FOR positions.

The result is a respected place at any table in the community and an opportunity to contribute to decision-making processes. In fact, it has been my pleasure to receive calls asking that we participate. Other groups WANT our endorsement, a fact that is pretty telling.

With a staff of three full-time, four part-time, and two seasonal employees, plus a lot of help from our friends, the workload that seems daunting on Monday is doable by Wednesday and under control by Friday.

Our efforts to influence decisions on drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge have included screenings and distribution of the film "Being Caribou," financial backing for the film "Oil on Ice," lobby trips to Washington, D.C., support for a local rally, and nation-wide phone calling.

We have been actively involved with the Alaska

Coalition, the Gwitch'in Steering Committee and other strategic planning groups to consider how our voice can be most effective. And we're still working hard and optimistic that the Refuge will remain intact.

We have also been actively participating in issues surrounding a proposed land swap in the Yukon Flats Wildlife Refuge, tracking environmentally sensitive issues in the Alaska State Legislature, mapping a plan for mining oversight with our new mining coordinator, organizing Camp Habitat (our summer youth camping program), and negotiating a plan to restart paper recycling in the Fairbanks area.

It is easy to rant, rave, and rail at ideas and issues that go against our grain, actions that usually elicit a negative response, yielding no gain and eliminating a field of possibilities. But this organization is different.

These efforts, along with many others that the Center is addressing, require a healthy working relationship with state and federal agencies, private businesses, and local citizens in order to develop the best possible recommendations and solutions to the environmental problems that confront our nation, state, and community.

While we are from time-to-time viewed as the "minority report," we are at the table.

In many ways I envy the person who comes forward to lead the NAEC. She or he will inherit a highly motivated, informed, and dedicated staff. He or she will work with a board that has vision and the flexibility to grow and meet changing times. Northern Alaska is incredible, and the work of the Center is vital to maintaining the values that draw and/or hold us here.

It has been a privilege to serve this wonderful organization. As I said, retirement does have its rewards.

North Slope objects to NPRA leasing plan

By Kelly Hill Scanlon
Arctic Coordinator

In February 2005, the North Slope Borough (NSB) lodged formal objections to the latest federal proposal for oil and gas leasing around Teshekpuk Lake in the National Petroleum Reserve.

The Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) preferred alternative lacks scientific analysis and ignores fundamental concerns of the Inupiat who live nearby and depend on the area for its subsistence resources, said NSB Mayor George Ahmaogak in written comments.

The 29-page letter commented on the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the northeastern section of the reserve. The letter asks Interior Secretary Gail Norton to reject BLM's leasing plan.

BLM's plan would clear the way for leasing 629,000 acres of federally owned land around Teshekpuk Lake.

In 1998, the original EIS for the Northeast NPRA declared the area off limits to drilling because of its wildlife resources. However, BLM claims that with improved technologies the estimated two billion barrels of oil around Teshekpuk Lake can be recovered without significant environmental impacts.

Ahmaogak criticized the final version of the plan, partly because BLM's preferred alternative represents a new management approach rather than a refinement of

elements in the draft EIS. This means stakeholders had no opportunity to comment on any of the novel concepts before the final EIS went to print. Ahmaogak said he sees very few of the borough's concerns reflected in BLM's final preferred version.

"Don't get me wrong – we support leasing and development in NPRA," Ahmaogak said. "As long as it responds to the biggest concerns of local stakeholders. Those concerns have to do with protection of wildlife and access for subsistence."

Ahmaogak said BLM's plan acknowledges that subsistence will be significantly affected by expanded development in the area, yet that doesn't seem to modify the agency's enthusiasm for leasing.

"What's the rush here? There are plenty of areas open to leasing in NPRA right now and plenty of leased areas that haven't been explored. BLM should get its hands dirty and do the science on Teshekpuk, then come back with a plan that's based on information, not just wishful thinking," he said.

The borough's complaints revolve around BLM's proposed wholesale changes to management of the area without much

information to justify the shift.

"They're basically telling us to trust them, but their plan doesn't give us much reason for trust," Ahmaogak said.

The borough knocks the BLM's preferred plan for falling short in its assessment of the impacts of roads and industrial activity around the sensitive lake region, which is a major nesting area for migratory birds. The plan also fails to incorporate studies and monitoring that could answer questions about impacts.

Other defects in the BLM plan, according to the letter, include:

- Confusing descriptions of BLM's intentions and overly broad definitions that water down agency promises and protections
- Hollow mitigation measures
- Inadequate protection of subsistence cabins and campsites
- Failure to recognize BLM's federally mandated duty to protect Alaska Native subsistence rights

Ahmaogak said the agency isn't ready to propose changes to the current leasing policy.

"What's the rush here? There are plenty of areas open to leasing in NPRA right now and plenty of leased areas that haven't been explored. BLM should get its hands dirty and do the science on Teshekpuk, then come back with a plan that's based on information, not just wishful thinking," he said.

Tribes question Yukon Flats land exchange

By Kelly Hill Scanlon
Arctic Coordinator

A “value-for-value” land exchange between the Doyon Corporation and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is being called into question as public comment continues.

In February and March managers of the Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge conducted 10 public meetings in Yukon Flats communities impacted by the exchange and in Anchorage and Fairbanks. The meetings were held “open house” style — USFWS and Doyon presented the components of the exchange and then took questions and comments from the audience. Doyon affirmed their plans to explore and develop their exchanged lands for economically recoverable oil and gas reserves.

“Slow down” seemed to be a common thread among the more than 4,000 comments received by USFWS so far.

The comment period, originally scheduled to close on April 1st, has been extended until July 31st.

Taking comments at this time does not allow for public comment upon the *actual* appraisals of the lands in question because those appraisals won’t be finished until the summer of 2005.

Another shortcoming of the current proposal is that the land exchange can be finalized without the completion of an environmental impact statement (EIS) as part of the assessment process. The Northern Center and other conservation groups argue that this omission is a mistake because an EIS could paint a realistic picture of what is actually at stake in the exchange. An EIS would be required if Doyon planned to develop oil and gas resources, but this would be after the exchange has already been approved.

Those most directly impacted by the exchange have spoken out against it. Six Yukon Flats tribes have adopted a statement opposing the Yukon Flats land exchange. The statement was signed by chiefs of Fort Yukon, Venetie, Chalkyitsik, Circle and Canyon Village. A tribal representative from Arctic Village joined them.

Doyon’s selected lands are 110,000 acres southwest of the village of Birch Creek. Doyon will also take title to approximately 96,000 acres of subsurface oil and gas interests in a “halo” of lands around the core selected lands.

Taking comments at this time does not allow for public comment upon the *actual* appraisals of the lands in question because those appraisals won’t be finished until the summer of 2005

If marketable oil and gas resources are discovered, Doyon will be able to access their halo land interests only by directional drilling from their adjacent surface holdings. However, the ban on surface use of the halo lands does not apply to pipelines and other technologies needed to transport oil and gas out of the Refuge.

In exchange, Fish and Wildlife has selected parcels of high quality waterfowl habitat near the villages of Chalkyitsik, Fort Yukon, Birch Creek, Beaver, Stevens Village and Circle.

Comment Period Extended

The comment period on the Yukon Flats Land Exchange has been extended until July 31st, 2005. Send comments to:

Refuge Manager
Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge
101 12th Avenue, Room 264, Box 14
Fairbanks, AK 99701

Or via email at yukonflats@fws.gov.

There is more information on the exchange at the Northern Center’s web site:
(www.northern.org).

CAMP HABITAT



Summer 2005

2005 Camp Habitat Dates

Preschool Program

9:00am-Noon

Pre-schoolers explore Creamer's Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge through hands-on activities and games. Children are introduced to the wonders of nature through age-appropriate, fun-filled songs, games, hikes, crafts, and projects.

Nature Sprouts I

Ages 4-5

June 6-10

\$105

Nature Sprouts II

Ages 4-5

June 13-17

\$105



Day Camp Program **9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.**

Children are taught different aspects of the nature-based curriculum by instructor/junior counselor teams. Environmental concepts are creatively explored through new crafts, games, songs, hikes, projects, and activities throughout the week. Older campers (ages 8-11) venture out for an overnight camping trip at week's end.

Nature Detectives

Ages 6-7

June 20-24

\$170

Water Striders

Ages 8-9

June 27-July 1

\$185

Refuge Adventurers

Ages 6-11; grouped by age

July 11-15

\$185

Backpacking Program

Backpacking programs emphasize group cooperation, minimum-impact camping, outdoor skills, and individual leadership development.

Backpacking I: Granite Tors Trekkers

Ages 11-13

June 20-24

\$275

Monday and Tuesday 9:00am-4:00pm

Wed-Fri: 3 days/2 nights backpacking trip on the Granite Tors Trail

Participants spend two days at Creamer's Field in preparation for a two night/three day camping adventure on the Granite Tors trail. Campers will discover the natural flora and fauna of interior Alaska while enjoying a wilderness backpacking experience.

Backpacking II: White Mountain Explorers

Ages 13-16

\$300

Monday 9:00am-4:00pm

Tue-Sat: 5 days/4 nights backpacking trip in the White Mountains

Pre-requisite: Backpacking I or prior backpacking experience.

On this excursion, without maintained trails, backpackers explore the White Mountains. The group spends a gear, food, and self preparation day at Creamer's Field followed by a four night/five day camping and hiking trip. This wilderness adventure provides an excellent opportunity for backpackers to improve their outdoor skills and learn more about themselves and their interactions with Alaska's habitats and wildlife.

Junior Counselor Program

Ages 16-18

Junior counselors assist the pre-school and day camp instructors in leading campers through fun and educational activities that help them discover, explore, and appreciate nature. Junior counselors are paid a stipend of \$13 for a half-day (pre-school program) and \$25 for a full-day (day camp program). Call for a position description and an application.

Time commitment:

June 1,16,17

June 6-10, June 13-17

June 20-24, June 27-July 1, July 11-15

Training/preparation/evaluation for camp

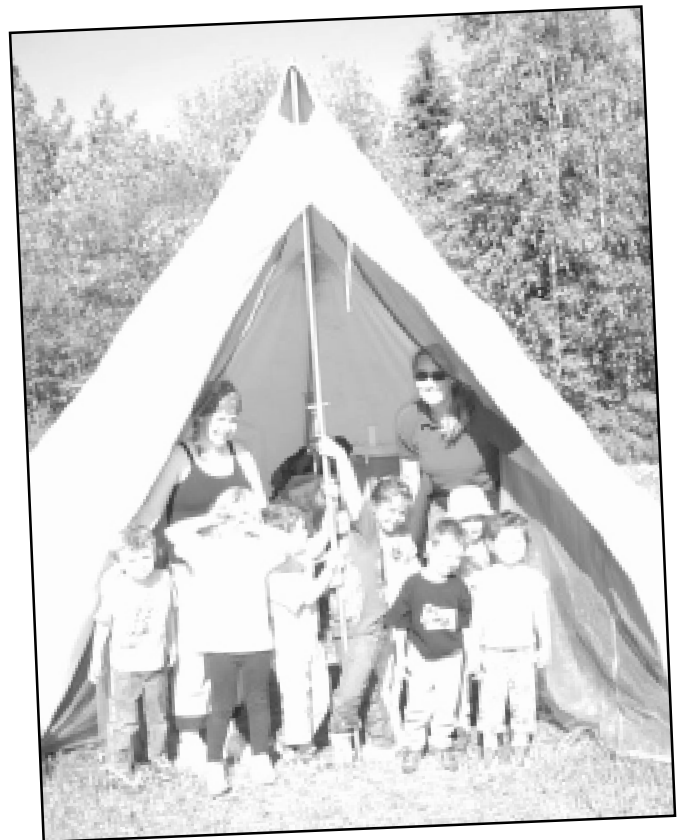
Pre-school Program, 8:30-12:30

Day Camp 8:30-4:30

CAMP HABITAT



Summer 2005



For more information call the Camp Habitat office at 452-4021 ext 26. Download a 2005 registration form online at www.northern.org.

The Northern Center welcomes new faces

The Northern Center is happy to introduce our newest staff members, Meg, Amber, and Brendan.

Meg Schlesinger **Mining Coordinator**

I have recently arrived in Fairbanks from Plymouth, Massachusetts and am a graduate of Bridgewater State College, in Bridgewater, MA. There, I majored in Geography with concentrations on Natural Resource Management and Geomorphology.

I have spent the last few years working as a Natural Resource Officer for the Town of Plymouth and as the Wildlife Director for the Waquoit Bay National Estuary Research Reserve on Cape Cod.

I've worked with local, state, and federal agencies, as well as other environmental organizations, to highlight resources that are critical not only to the ecosystem but to the entire community. Through grassroots efforts and hard work I have learned how to develop a balance between environmentalism and modern development.

I am looking forward to being here in Fairbanks, having already been so graciously welcomed by so many at the center and throughout town.

Amber Borner **Camp Habitat Director**

Six years ago I moved to Fairbanks, Alaska from Boulder, Colorado.

When I first came to Fairbanks



New to NAEC: (from left to right) Amber Borner, Brendan Buckley, and Meg Schlesinger. Photo: NAEC.

I worked for Dr. Skip Walker, at the University's Alaska Geobotany Center. I did field work associated with the Circumpolar Arctic Vegetation Map.

In 2000-2003 I worked for Dr. Michelle Mack studying nutrient cycling in the boreal forest following fire and co-managed Dr. Terry Chapin's lab at the University of Alaska.

My past experience working with children includes being an outreach teacher for the Science Squad at the University of Colorado. As a Science Squad teacher, I brought hands-on science labs to Denver area schools. The goal was to encourage women and minority students to pursue careers in medicine and science.

Brendan Buckley **Legislative Intern**

I was born here in Fairbanks, and grew up here, attending Pearl Creek Elementary, Ryan Middle,

and West Valley High Schools.

I went east to attend Harvard, which I graduated from in June 2004, with a degree in government. After graduation, I drove back to Fairbanks, and worked on Tony Knowles' Senatorial campaign.

As part of the Defend Alaska Now campaign, an Alaska Conservation Alliance program, we track the progress and attempt to influence the course of conservation-related legislation.

The campaign works to: solicit public testimony in committee hearings, engineer direct contact with legislators, place letters to the editor and editorials in the News-Miner, and cultivate favorable media. In this, I'm working with counterparts in Juneau and Anchorage, who are working through the Southeast Alaska Conservation Council and Alaska Center for the Environment.

Coal bed methane applications at Healy

Both shallow and deep gas development under consideration

By Nancy Bale
Denali Citizens Council

Coalbed methane gas is often touted as a “clean-burning” fossil fuel superior to coal or oil for emissions.

Coalbed methane exploration is a relatively new technology, a little more than a decade old. However, the means of extraction has been very controversial in many areas of the Lower 48 because of adverse environmental impacts and impacts on surface landowners that occur when states or the federal government lease the sub-surface rights beneath private lands.

Unlike conventional gas and oil extraction, methane is recovered using a greater concentration of wells. A small road is built for each well pad. In order to extract shallow gas, a large quantity of groundwater must first be pumped out, permitting a change in pressure that allows the gas to flow to the wellhead. A number of wells are tied together by pipelines that feed a compressor station. The gas is used locally or sent to distant markets, most likely by pipeline.

A Brief History of Healy interest

Usibelli Coal Mine, Inc. first showed an interest in shallow gas development in Healy almost two years ago.

The company, a respected Healy business that has been mining coal there for decades, filed an application to explore for shallow gas in late spring 2003. The Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Division of Oil and Gas was considering the company’s application when the State Legislature abolished the shallow gas program in the spring of 2004.

HB 531 abolished the shallow gas program and established some mandatory baseline water quality monitoring. In addition, DNR, in cooperation with Mat-Su citizens, developed Enforceable Standards for Coalbed Methane in the Mat-Su Borough and promised to develop similar standards for wherever gas development might occur in the state.

Best Interest Finding under way in Healy

After these changes in state law, Usibelli filed new exploration license applications in the fall of 2004. The new applications covered a much larger area, 240,000 acres, and proposed to explore for both conventional deep gas and unconventional shallow gas, or coalbed methane.

The State of Alaska must prepare a Best Interest Finding (BIF) before granting Usibelli a license to explore for gas. The procedure will be similar to that employed when Andex Corporation applied to explore for gas in the Minto Flats area. The Healy Best Interest Finding, however, will give special consideration to impacts from shallow gas development as part of the analysis.

Coalbed methane extraction is still experimental, with plenty of unknowns. Potentially irreversible negative impacts of any gas exploration must be considered seriously.

According to DNR’s Pat Galvin, who has met with local citizens, the BIF must consider impacts of this technology and include mitigations. In addition, DNR has agreed to develop Enforceable Standards for Healy.

As a starting point, DNR plans to copy the Mat-Su Standards into the draft Best Interest Finding, due out in April 2005. The agency has stated that it will meet with local citizens in Healy twice: first simply to share information on Enforceable Standards and any other issues of concern, then to take formal testimony on the draft Best Interest Finding. The additional informational meeting and potential delays in developing the BIF could push the release of the final finding into late summer or even further.

Denali Citizens Council has been involved in disseminating information in the local area since

...Continued on page 16

*Coal bed methane applications at Healy**Continued from page 15*

Usibelli's first applications were filed. We have sponsored four meetings in the Denali Borough on this topic, attended by over 80 local citizens. Presenters from Usibelli Coal Mine, Friends of Mat-Su, Powder River Basin Resource Council, Oil and Gas Accountability Project and Cook Inlet Keeper have joined locals in sharing information and concern.

Despite positive changes that have resulted from the efforts of Mat-Su landowners and legislators, and despite DNR's assurances that Enforceable Standards will be protective, there exist lingering concerns. Although public process has been promised by DNR, DNR itself has not yet sponsored a meeting in the Healy area and would only have conducted one had we not requested another after the BIF is published.

Gas exploration raises multiple concerns

We hope that there will be ample public involvement in the BIF process and that the license will spare residential, critical habitat, and lands that are valuable for their scenic and wilderness qualities. Coalbed methane extraction is still experimental, with plenty of unknowns. Potentially irreversible negative impacts of any gas exploration must be considered seriously. A few concerns are listed below:

- *Property rights of surface landowners should not be trumped by those of subsurface developers.* Gas development activities could occur whether desired by the surface owner or not. DNR has promised that surface use plans will be developed and that mitigations will be mandated. Under current law, however, the surface owner may not be able to "just say no" to gas development.

- *Public notice should include mailed notification to local citizens, not just internet postings.* Exploration and development may occur over several years. Local citizens should be notified by mail of significant licensing and permitting processes.

- *Resource extraction should not conflict with Denali Borough land selections.* The Denali Borough is currently going through another land clas-

sification and selection process with DNR through the Tanana Basin Area Plan. The gas exploration license process must consider the designated intent for borough lands.

- *DNR Enforceable Standards should be tailored specifically to Healy.*

- *Water quality and quantity must be protected from:*

1. Reduction of aquifers as water is pumped to the surface, impacting drinking water wells.
2. Potential contamination of drinking water wells with methane.
3. Contamination of surface water by toxins in groundwater pumped to the surface.
4. Contamination from poorly lined settling pits at the well pad.

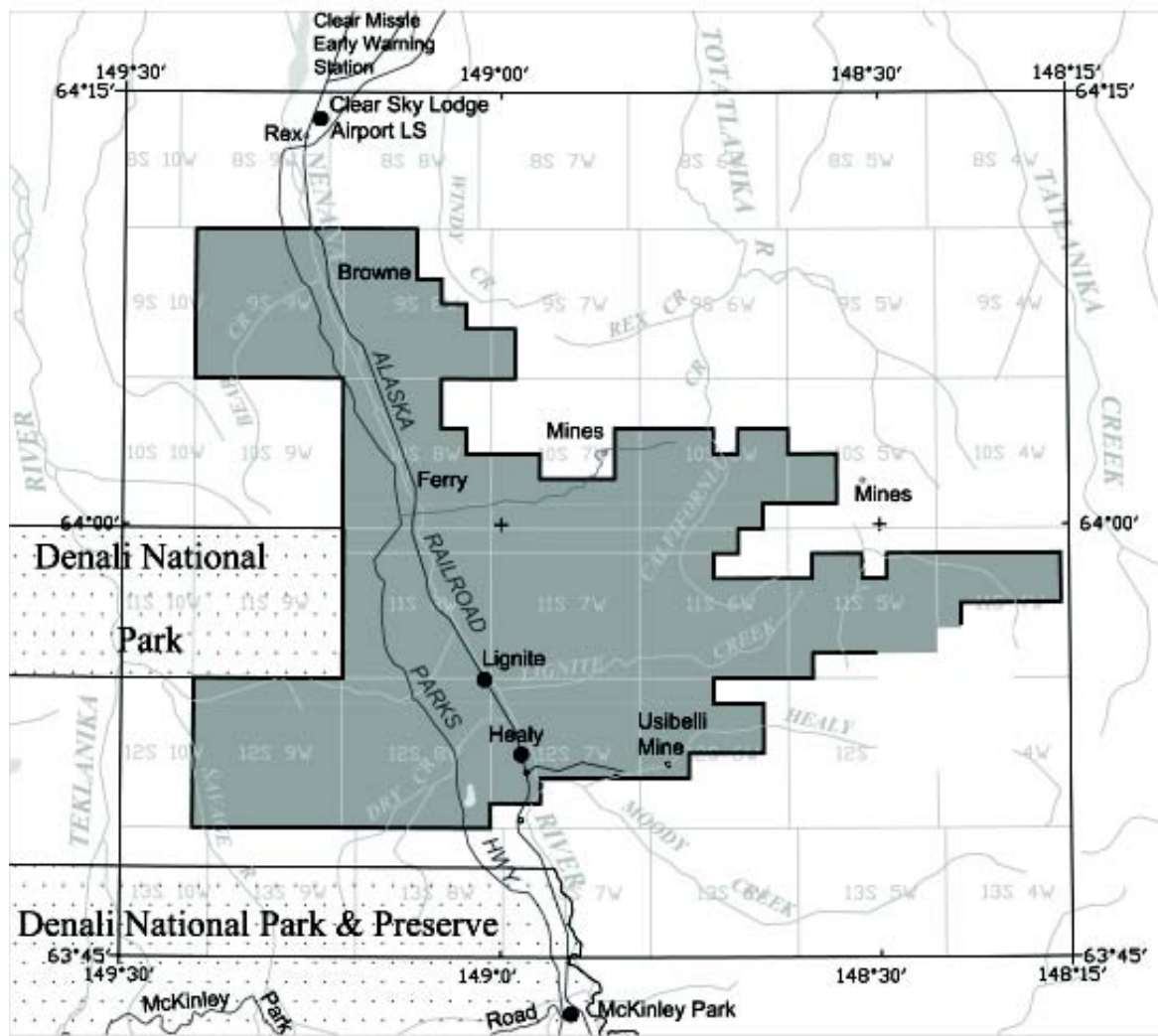
- *Gas development infrastructure should avoid conflict with other uses and values.* Roads, drilling pads and compressor stations with attendant noise and regular servicing by trucks may conflict with residential, recreational and tourism uses and values.

- *Minimum well pad densities must be written into law, regulation and local ordinance.* Developers can request down-spacing of wellheads from the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission. A certain minimum spacing should be set and variance from it not permitted.

- *Insufficient bonding could leave public and private lands permanently impaired.* Bonding and surface use agreements must compel developers to remove the industrial infrastructure and reclaim the land after extraction is finished (the life of a well can be up to 20 years.)

- *Large-scale impact on open space and wild lands by roads and industrial facilities could be irreversible.* Loss of habitat for area wildlife, potential loss of access for hunters in the vicinity of well pads, all these could be difficult to mitigate or reclaim after 10-20 years of development.

...Continued on page 17



Proposed Healy Basin Exploration License

Coal bed methane applications at Healy

Continued from page 16

- *Local ordinances and land use plans that protect citizens and public lands must be honored.* Some local citizens have recognized the need to approach the Borough Assembly and Planning Commission to obtain plans and ordinances that allocate resource development to areas where it is appropriate to protect private property, wildlife habitat and tourism.

The Importance of Staying Involved

Moving from application to licensing and exploration in the Healy area could occur within the next year. If the license to explore is granted, Usibelli will pay DNR \$1 an acre for up to ten years of exploration. Then, over this period, exploration could move to development. It is important for citi-

zens to keep in touch with this process through public comment opportunities and through self and community education.

The deadline for scoping comments was March 11, 2005. However, additional opportunities for involvement will occur after publication of the Draft Best Interest Finding (approximately April 2005.)

If you want to get involved, call Pat Galvin at DNR at: (907)-269-8775. To learn more about Usibelli Coal Mine, Inc., call Vice President for Business Development Steve Denton at 907-683-9710. For more information on Denali Citizens Council's involvement, call our office in Denali at (907)-683-3396, email us at mail@denalicitizens.org or visit our website at www.denalicitizens.org.



From the Woodpile. . .

by Ginny Hill Wood,

founding member of NAEC, and regular columnist

The first Letter to the Editor I read in the the Daily News Miner after landing in Fairbanks on New Year's Day 1947 was about wolf control in the the Territory of Alaska. Fifty-seven years later in the State of Alaska the subject is still being debated in the same newspaper.

I'm bemused by the incongruity that the first wild animal Homo sapiens invited into his cave to share his hearth was *Canis lupus* – the wolf. He has also become a varmint to be culled if not eliminated. His domesticated progeny is still “man's best friend” – *Canis familiaris* – the dog, which is now bred in assorted colors, shapes and sizes from diminutive Chihuahuas to huge Saint Bernards. The dog can still biologically, if not always anatomically, be interbred with a wolf. In the case of the Alaska sled dog the relationship is still very close in order to retain the wolf characteristics of endurance, intelligence, speed and cold hardiness.

Yet the family pet's closest wild relation is regarded by many sportsmen, government bureaucrats, and the public as a vicious predator of the same game hunters seek. In Alaska that's moose and caribou. Others regard wolves as a danger to children, although few if any children have been harmed in North America by wolves, whereas many have by dogs.

Why this love/hate relationship that man has with *Canis lupus*? The dichotomy, I surmise in Alaska, is that wolves and hunters compete for the same quarry, the latter more for sport than hunger; the wolf because he can't buy groceries or eat at restaurants. Except for rural Natives or homesteaders living off the road system on a subsistence economy, nowadays mankind hunts with high powered rifles and uses airplanes, snowmachines, and offroad vehicles to assist his “hunt.” The wolf has only tooth and claw and his feet to overtake what he eats.

Ironically, both man and wolf sometimes kill their own species – man more often. Maybe that's the rub. Their behavior patterns have too much in common. Both are predators and thus competitors. But I anthropomorphize – a forbidden sin if you want credibility in the scientific community or the press. So let's get commercial. For most of my 57 years in Alaska I have been involved in private tourism and backcountry guiding.

In 1952 Celia Hunter, Morton Wood and I homesteaded and built Camp Denali, probably Alaska's first eco-tourism resort, although we didn't know the term at the time. Its 80 acres were located above Moose Creek in the Kantishna area just north of the old Mt. McKinley National Park boundary. Camp Denali was not for overnight guests, but for multi-day visitors who wanted to explore the Park's outback with us to learn about its natural history and ecosystems.

After 25 years we turned its operation over to Wally and Jerri Cole who have expanded its natural history program, attracting guests worldwide because of its educational program, offroad hikes and a sweeping view of Mt. McKinley.

Then, for the next fifteen years I guided backpacking and paddling trips in the Brooks Range above the Arctic Circle and in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Both in Mt. McKinley National Park and the Arctic most of my clients put seeing wolves at the top of their wish lists outranking viewing Mt. McKinley and a caribou migration. Wolves are Alaska's “golden egg” of tourism. How would we want to hear elephants were being exterminated officially whether or not we'd ever get to Africa?

Last summer I spent a day in Denali National Park with a small group of guests from Camp Denali supposedly on a quest to photograph wildflowers.

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*From the Woodpile**Continued from page 18*

Instead, we unexpectedly spent it glued to our binoculars watching from a safe distance the drama of a pair of wolves vying for possession of a Dall Sheep carcass near the Toklat River. But that experience won't be available for Park visitors this summer. The alpha female we saw and most of her pack were trapped, legally, when they strayed outside the park's northern boundary. If a northern access road to Kantishna is constructed, as our Governor and the Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce advocate, winter trappers on snowmachines could legally soon wipe out all or most of the park's wolves – unless that area would be closed to trapping. Fat chance! This Toklat wolf pack has been monitored and documented for over 50 years – and enjoyed by Park visitors from the present Park road for years.

I concede that there are snow conditions and wildlife population dynamics in certain areas where limited and specific wolf control may be warranted to level the predator/prey field. Left alone, nature usually does this over time. But impatient man and politics can't wait. Thus, this present, ever expanding area and quota aerial war on wolves in Interior Alaska continues authorized by Alaska's present

state Fish and Game Department and Governor.

From my viewpoint, this has become out of control itself. Now bears are on the "bad animals" wanted list too. They are also programmed by nature to eat meat. Wolves don't waste their energy hunting for fun – just survival. Except for Native villages and "homesteaders" off the sparse Alaska road system on a subsistence economy, hunting is all too often done primarily for sport with the aid of aircraft spotting, radio communication, and offroad vehicles for the chase. And with cozy trailers or motorhomes to "camp out" in, no longer is it "fair chase" with the hunter pitting his skills against that of an animal.

So I guess this puts me in the category of an "old fuzzy fur lover." There are always zoos to preserve species. But like listening to a symphony with some of the instruments the score called for missing, I want all the parts. Lois Crisler, who with her wildlife photographer, Herb, spent two years living with wild wolves in Alaska's Arctic put it this way:

"Wilderness without all its wildlife is only scenery."

NAEC *Wish List*

- ★ Plants
- ★ 1 or 2 Small Bookcases
- ★ Filing Cabinets (3-4 drawer is preferable)
- ★ Small Desk
- ★ Matching Curtains
- ★ A small dish drainer that will fit in the sink
- ★ Framing for posters
- ★ Lawnmower, Weed whacker
- ★ ★ Housing for an intern for 3^{1/2} months

Materials and labor to:

Build attractive display racks, replace or relocate the bulletin board(s), replace the flush mechanism in the toilet tank, and repair a head bolt heater

Northern Voices: Authors on the Environment

This monthly series features prominent authors known for their works on the environment and the human relationship with it.



Sponsored by the Northern Alaska Environmental Center and the Fairbanks Library Association, each speaking engagement is held at 7 p.m. at the Noel Wien Library in Fairbanks

***Please join us
for the following:***

- April 14, 2005:
Majorie Cole
- May 12, 2005:
Dan O'Neill

Improvements to Stampede Road?

DOT directed to begin a “pioneer road” at 8 Mile Lake

By Linda A. Paganelli
Denali Watch Coordinator

The feasibility of a second access route being constructed from the Parks Highway to Denali National Park north of the existing park road is presently being investigated by the Alaska Department of Transportation [DOT].

Monies for conducting the study were appropriated by then Senator Frank Murkowski. According to Janet Brown, DOT Project Manager, “No decision as to route, mode or terminus will be made as a result of the reconnaissance report.”

So, it was a surprise to learn that Governor Murkowski wants to dedicate 5 million dollars of state money to begin the westward expansion of the Stampede Road.

Initially, the Stampede Road Project was listed on the DOT website and in HB 68, the Capitol Budget Bill, as an improvement to the first 8 miles of the Stampede Road. The stretch of road, which is chip-sealed, was to be paved and some improvements were to be made at the parking area at 8-Mile Lake.

The obvious question that arises from this situation is, “How can the State of Alaska study the various aspects of a potential north access, including where it might be located, while simultaneously beginning construction of north access?”

Most locals viewed this improvement as unnecessary and a misdirection of essential funding needed for real road improvements in the Denali Borough. It was assumed that the improvement of the first 8 miles was an incremental step to pursuing north access by the Murkowski Administration.

With the recent change in the scope of the project, that assumption, to begin construction of north access, is more real than ever.

Recently, David Sanches, DOT Planner, informed the Denali Borough that instead of improving the first eight miles of the Stampede Road, DOT was being directed to start construction of a “pioneer road” beginning at 8-Mile Lake and proceeding west toward the Savage River.

The obvious question that arises from this situation is, “How can the State of Alaska study the various aspects of a potential north access, including where it might be located, while simultaneously beginning construction of north access?”

A route through the Wolf Townships following the Stampede Corridor and then on through the National Park’s Northern Additions to Kantishna is contentious. The NPS is opposed to development occurring in these additions and increased development in the western regions of the Park.

Local conservation and hunting groups and many residents oppose development on the state land that comprises the cutout to Denali National Park.

It is obvious that Governor Murkowski believes that north access into Denali National Park and Preserve is essential.

However, there is no reason to, in mid-stream, shortchange the public process that DOT has undertaken, under a directive from Congress, to explore all the venues of increasing tourism opportunities in the Denali Borough via a north access route. The North Denali Access Reconnaissance Study should be allowed to run its course.

Once the study is completed and many of the questions answered, the Governor, the state, and the residents of the Denali Borough should sit down at the table and discuss the future of the Stampede Road and the Wolf Townships.

Denali Park Road capacity under study

By Linda A. Paganelli
Denali Watch Coordinator

Three decades ago, as the newly extended George Parks Highway reached the portal to Denali National Park and Preserve [DNP&P], park managers implemented a mandatory public transportation system.

The aim of the new policy was to minimize disturbance to wildlife and scenery. Today, many visitors to Denali applaud the foresight of National Park Service managers and the system that transports them into and out of the National Park.

In the 1986 General Management Plan for DNP&P, a vehicle ceiling level of 10,512 round trips annually was put into regulation. The number was based on 1984 use levels plus a 20% increase.

The bottom line issue for NPS and its supporters is, if visitation to the National Park continues to expand, will the regulation defining the number of vehicles per year hold fast or will external pressures force an increase?

The NPS, in light of the predicted continued increase in visitation and the highly politicized nature surrounding access to the Park Road, has opted to take a proactive approach to the impending situation. Park managers are formulating and readying to implement a 3-year Denali Road Capacity Study. The planned study is multi-faceted and will investigate various aspects of the impacts of Park Road travel on wildlife and the visitor.

The initial thrust of the study and one that will continue for the duration, will focus on wildlife, specifically what is the relationship between road traffic and its effects on indicator wildlife species such as Dall sheep, grizzly bears, and wolves. Data will be amassed using Global Positioning System tags on wildlife and vehicles.

A review of the literature about the effects of road traffic on wildlife will be combined with the data collected on the ground to establish "modeling rules." An example of modeling might be to determine that x number of vehicles at a wildlife stop cause disruption of sheep migration across the

Park Road.

In conjunction with the wildlife studies, the NPS will assess social factors, such as visitor experience and satisfaction, and logistical constraints of the entire Denali Park Road transportation system. As with the wildlife studies, information gathered on social and logistical issues will be used to establish modeling rules.

These three aspects of the larger study will be meshed together and result in a Predictive Road Capacity Model. The model will serve as a gauge for management to assess whether the traffic on the Park Road is at capacity, could potentially be increased, or that mitigating measures need to be taken due to overuse. The model alone will not determine that increased traffic levels will not have negative effects.

If it is deemed that the Park Road is underused, the NPS will develop an Environmental Impact Study with alternatives to be reviewed by the public. Any increases in traffic would be staggered over multiple years and on alternate days to allow for an adaptive management approach. Additionally, Before-After-Control-Impact studies would be conducted to evaluate the impacts of any increases with adjustments made to prevent resource damage or a degradation of the visitor experience.

This scientific approach to assessing Park Road capacity and impacts to wildlife and resources and the public's enjoyment of Denali National Park is welcome. Pressures to increase Park Road traffic continue to mount. Growth near the entrance to Denali National Park and Preserve continues unabated; at least 300 new rooms are being constructed in "Glitter Gulch" for the 2005 season.

It is hoped the results from the Denali Road Capacity Study will provide park managers, the public and the tourism industry with a realistic assessment of what levels of traffic the park's natural resources can withstand and the visitors tolerate before degradation of either becomes the norm.

Alaska Legislative UpdateContinued from page 6

have overtaxed inadequate rural infrastructure, cut off public access to popular recreation areas, and decimated vital local fisheries. There are still a number of parcels that could have a detrimental effect on local communities if granted, though. The bill has not yet been scheduled for an initial hearing in House Finance.

Senator Seekins is again attempting to open the Dalton Highway corridor to ATV use. After failing in the last session, Seekins has introduced a bill that would repeal all restrictions on ATV use within the five mile corridor surrounding the highway, thereby opening all of the land in that area to unrestrained off-road vehicles.

To do this would have a negative effect on the game populations in the area which residents depend on for food. It would also irreparably damage the slow-growing tundra, incur higher costs for the state in road maintenance, law enforcement, land

management and potential rescue operations. Finally, it has the potential to drive away millions of dollars in research money that go to the Toolik Field Station, at which sensitive experiments are conducted less than a mile from the highway. The potential that their experiments would be disturbed would drive scientists, and their millions of dollars, to other arctic locales in Canada and Europe.

Despite these arguments, the bill has passed from the Senate Transportation Committee to the Senate Resources Committee, where it has been heard once, and is still awaiting a second hearing.

The Defend Alaska Now! campaign tracks conservation-related legislation in the Alaskan Legislature and mobilizes grassroots support/opposition for those bills. To subscribe to the email list for the campaign, Alaska Legislative Session 2005, email Brendan Buckley at buckley@northern.org



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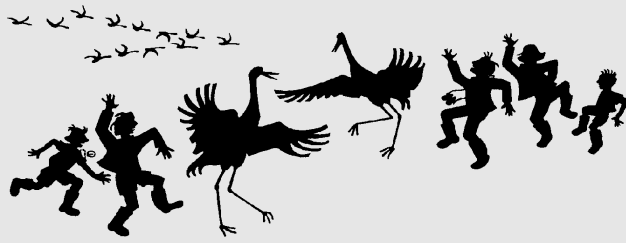


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- **bandanas — \$3.00** • **frisbees — \$3.00**

Fairbanks Manufacturer Wins Statewide Award

The Alaska Rag Company, an enterprising business located in downtown Fairbanks, has won the 2004 Made In Alaska Manufacturer of the Year Award. This award was given to the unique business for the production of hand-woven rag rugs, table runners, placemats, and mug rugs using materials donated by the Fairbanks community. The business employs 25 individuals and is a venture of the Fairbanks Community Mental Health Center's Vocational Program.

In addition to this recent award, in 2003 Alaska Rag Company was a Green Star Award recipient for their commitment to environmentally responsible business practices in our Fairbanks community. They have two donation bins set up in the community to recycle old worn clothing and materials.



Camp Habitat

Nature Education Camp
for children ages 4-16

...is looking for Qualified Instructors

Camp Habitat is a summer, nature education program for young people ages 4-16, and is sponsored by Friends of Creamer's Field, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and the Northern Alaska Environmental Center.

Backpacking Instructors:

Experience working with children; backcountry experience; current Wilderness First Responder certification. Dates: June 20-24, July 11-16, and four training/preparation days, dates to be determined.

Day Camp Instructors:

Experience working with children; background and interest in environmental education. Must have CPR/First Aid certification by June 1, 2005. Dates: June 1-July 20.

For a full list of qualifications and more information call the Camp Habitat office at 452-5021 ext. 26.



To apply: Send letter of interest, resume, and three references to:
Camp Habitat, 830 College Rd,
Fairbanks, AK 99701 by April 1, 2005

...is looking for Junior Counselors

Do you enjoy working with children?
Do you enjoy being outside?
Do you care about the environment?
Do you want volunteer experience for college applications?

Junior Counselors (ages 16-18) assist instructors in leading campers through fun and educational activities that help them discover, explore and appreciate nature.

TIME COMMITMENT:

Training/preparation	June 1, 16, 17
Pre-school Program, 8:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m	June 6-10, June 13-17
Day Camp, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	June 20-24, June 27-July 1, July 11-15

For more information, position description, and application call:
Camp Habitat at (907) 452-5021 ext. 26



1989 Valdez, Alaska



2020 Galena, Alaska

Northern Center member Jamie Smith's Alaskan cartoons have appeared in numerous publications including the *Ester Republic* and *Fairbanks Daily News-Miner*; he has published two collections of the cartoon, *freeze•frame: freeze•frame* and *freeze•frame ii - beaver fever*.

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