Six Times To The Sun-And Back!

The sheer size of Alaska's coal reserves boggles the mind.

The official state estimate? Five and a half trillion tons! That's over half as much as all the rest of the country combined...

Enough to fill a line of coal cars stretching from the earth to the sun and back—six times!

And seventeen billion tons of that coal are within a few miles of the new intertie linking Anchorage and Fairbanks.

247-15-5-5-F

ATT STATE OF

It's coal that's ideally suited for generating electricity. And today, technology allows us to build new plants that burn it with no smoke plumes, no odors, no pollution.

We'd like to build oneunder an innovative financing partnership with the state. It would provide low-cost power for decades to railbelt residents.

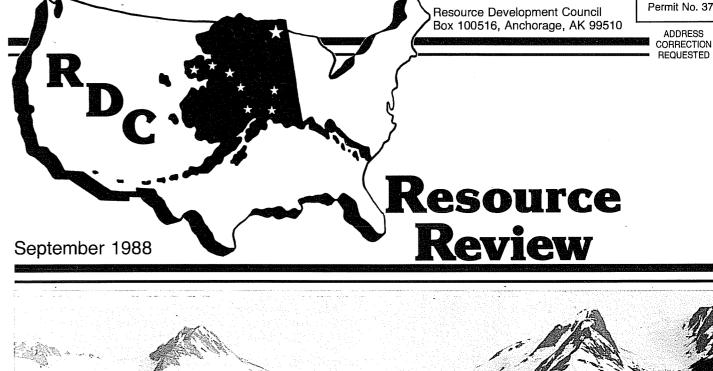
Coal. It had its beginnings in the distant past. But it just may be the fuel of the future.

We thought you ought to know.



This edition sponsored by:





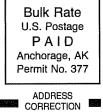


At 500,000 visitors annually, Portage Glacier near Anchorage is the most visited attraction in Alaska. Since Portage is not designated Wilderness, it offers practical access and facilities featuring a variety of opportunities and experiences.



By Carl Portman

How much is enough?

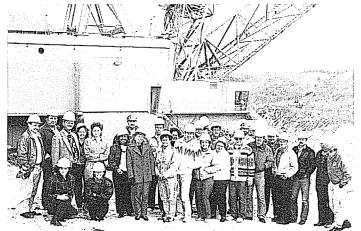


xceptional resource values and unique characteristics of Alaska deserve protection. Wilderness is certainly an ingredient in preserving these values and keeping Alaska unique. But too much of anything, including wilderness, has diminishing social benefit.

The crown jewels of Alaska were acknowledged by Congress in 1980 when it established 104 million acres of conservation system units in the state through the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA). These units, which are equivalent in size to California, comprise 70 percent of the nation's national parks and 90 percent of its wildlife refuges. They are greatly restricted and tightly regulated to assure strict environmental protection.

(continued on page 4)

RDC Board tours Usibelli Coal Mine



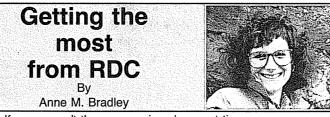
The RDC group in front of the "Ace-in-the-Hole" walking drag-line at Usibelli Coal Mine.



Mitch Usibelli (right), Chief of Engineering for UCM, talks with RDC visitors about the mine.



Members debate action at the Friday evening board meeting at Harper Lodge.



If you weren't there, you missed a great time

RDC's statewide Board of Directors met at Princess Tour's newly completed Harper Lodge in Denali National Park on September 9 and 10 for its Fall board meeting. Travelling north in a dome railroad car were board members Sharon Anderson and her husband Andv of Anderson Tug & Barge Company in Seward. Rex and Ruth Bishopp of Alaska Helicopters, Mayor John Devens of Valdez, Al Hastings of Conoco, Shelby Stastny of Ernst and Whinney and his wife Mary Ellen, Barry Thomson of Associated Services in Kenai and his wife Eleanor, and Lyle Von Bargen of Alveska Pipeline Service Company in Valdez.

Jim Burling and Kathleen Weeks, both of the Pacific Legal Foundation, accompanied RDC staff Kim Duke, Carl Portman, Debbie Reinwand and me. On the train, we were serenaded by the stewards, who had a repertoire that ranged from old standards to some new tunes.

Those travelling to Healy by private car included Executive Director Becky Gay, and Boardmembers Earl Beistline of Fairbanks, Curtis Foster of Arco, and his wife Jan, O.K. "Easy" Gilbreth of AOGA, and his wife Milly. Len and Jeanne McLean of Anchorage, E.H. "Pete" Nelson of Texaco, and her husband Ed, Paul Tweiten of Chugach Alaska Corporation, and Dr. William and Dorothy Wood of Fairbanks. Other guests included Keith Silver of City Insurance in Anchorage, Jennie Gay, Becky's mother who is visiting from Phoenix, Chris and Bud Duke, Kim's parents from Fairbanks, and Dan Egan, also of Fairbanks.

Once at Denali National Park, RDC board members boarded a bus for the short ride to Harper Lodge, a beautiful new facility just above the banks of the Nenana River. An outdoor hot tub proved inviting for some, while others enjoyed the outdoor deck or dined while watching the Nenana River rush by. The formal board meeting followed at 7 p.m. in the Harper Lodge conference room.

On Saturday, it was up bright and early for a bus ride to the Usibelli Coal Mine headquarters in Healy. As we munched on doughnuts and sipped coffee thoughtfully provided by our hosts, a surprise cake in celebration of Lyle Von Bargen's birthday was unveiled.

Assisted by Charlie Boddy, Regulatory Compliance Manager, Usibelli brothers Mitch, Chief of Engineering, and Joe Jr., President, explained all aspects of their operation before loading us onto buses for a field trip to the actual site. Huge veins of coal had been uncovered by the Ace-in-the-Hole, the walking dragline featured in the photo at left.

RDC wishes to publicly express its appreciation to the Usibelli family for the hospitality it was shown in Healy. Special thanks go to Joe Usibelli, Jr. for taking time to make the board meeting in Healy possible.



The Healy Cogeneration Project

In a nutshell, the proposed Healy Cogeneration Project is a marriage of leading edge technologies which could produce very significant benefits for the Railbelt and indeed the whole of Alaska. The Healy Cogeneration Project comprises a coal-fired power plant with the design capacity to produce betwen 100 and 150 megawatts of electric power and a coal processing plant which would utilize heat energy from the power plant to process or dry typical Healy coal to produce a premium quality fuel. The initial capacity of the coal processing facility would be 500,000 tons of product a year from about 650,000 tons of raw feed coal.

The Healy project is expected to cost approximately \$300 million and would be the largest single non-military and non-oil and gas related venture ever tackled in the Alaska Railbelt region. Usibelli Coal Mine Inc., and Brown & Root, joint partners in the project, recently concluded that the time had come to commit the human and financial resources needed to promote and move ahead with the project. Making the Healy project become a reality is a complex and challenging task yet the rewards for Alaska and the Railbelt region cannot be denied.

The proposed powerplant will utilize a technology which has progressed over several decades in Europe and Asia. The boiler will utilize atmospheric circulating fluidized bed technology (A.C.F.B.) which brings new performance levels in terms of efficiency and responsiveness to coal-fired facilities but most importantly has major environmental benefits. In ACFB boilers the sulfur contained in the coal is neutralized in the combustion chamber resulting in very low sulfur dioxide emissions.

ACFB boilers operate at much lower combustion temperatures than conventional coal-fired plants, which virtually eliminates the formation of nitrous oxides providing another major environmental plus. The third important consequence of coal combustion is the formation of fly ash, however, this is controlled by conventional bag filters or by electrostatic precipitation methods which work very effectively on Healy coal. Thus, ACFB combustion technology installed at Healy handily meets the very strict atmospheric standards applicable to a site which is within a few miles of Denali National Park.

Usibelli coal is a low-ash, low-sulfur, but high moisture coal mainly used for power generation. The challenge for Alaska coal, which Usibelli recognizes, is not strictly to produce clean coal, but to produce a low-moisture, low-sulfur processed coal.

Because simple drying results in an unstable product which can rapidly reabsorb moisture and spontaneously combust, the procesproposal would be passed through to the Railbelt consumer in the sing of Usibelli coal is more complex and involved than first impresform of low cost electricity. This should be a formula which the elecsions imply. Different technologies are being evaluated to provide trical utilities would support since it provides for future predictable the best and most-cost effective system for use in the Healy project. low cost power for their customers. The Healy Project, although challenging in terms of human in-Besides expanded marketing opportunities for a better quality processed coal, there are very significant transportation savings that can genuity and resourcefulness, could pave the way for economic recovery and needed diversification in the Railbelt. go far towards offsetting the processing costs.

Final report gives Prudhoe clean bill of health

A final U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service report analyzing predictions made about the development of the Prudhoe Bay oil field concludes that no significant environmental harm associated with North Slope oil development has occurred.

The report shows the envornmental impact of oil and gas development for the most part has been far less than was originally forecast in the 1972 environmental impact statement. The report concludes that "the environmental record for oil-related development on the North Slope speaks well for both the planning and execution of this monumental project."

An earlier draft copy, which alleged oil development had caused more damage than what the government had originally predicted, was leaked to the press. The incomplete and biased draft was trumpted by environmental lobbies and received top billing in newspapers across the nation.

The report had not been approved by either the regional director or national offices of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service because it had not undergone peer review and evaluation to assure objectivity. Such unreviewed documents allow for personal opinions to be taken as fact.

Unfortunately, the facts presented in the final report have been ignored by most national newspapers. As for oil and gas leasing on the Coastal Plain of ANWR, the final report noted that "this analysis provides reason to believe that the outcome would be measurably better in the conduct of an orderly oil and gas leasing program on the 1002 area of ANWR."

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Guest Opinion

by John Sims Vice President Marketing Usibelli Coal Mine



A key element of current efforts is to evaluate the marketability of the processed coal output from the Healy facility. The combined attributes of good heat value and low sulfur content are expected to command a premium price in the future.

A market for the electrical power is fundamental to the project feasibility, therefore the project partners want to win the support of the major Railbelt utilities by convincing them that coal-fired generation provides the best assurance of low cost energy for the Railbelt well into the twenty-first century. Utility power demand projections are currently not very encouraging, however, the Healy project partners are confident that the Railbelt economy will recover and the proposed increment of power will be needed. In fact, the availability of power at an assured low cost could be a major catalyst in the growth cycle that will surely follow the present deep recession.

Historically, utilities have tended to rely on adding gas-fired generation, or most recently state-funded hydro-electric capacity, to satisfy demand growth. With more than 60% of generating capacity in the form of gas-fired units concentrated in relative close proximity to Anchorage, there are legitimate concerns regarding the vulnerability and undue dependence upon natural gas for power generation. The case for coal-fired generation can be argued very effectively, however, the mindset of the utilities must shift somewhat from shortterm considerations to genuine longer term perspectives for the merits of coal to be fully recognized.

Probably the single greatest determinant in the short-term to project viability hinges on use of the Railbelt Energy Fund (REF) to secure favorable financing. Leveraging, not spending, the corpus of the REF to provide low-cost financing through the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA) would ensure viability. The benefit of the low interest financing rate attendant upon this

Publisher tackles environmental **lobby on Tongass**

Ketchikan editor seeks to offset environmental propaganda machine

by Senator Frank Murkowski

It looks a little like the biblical story of David and Goliath. Ketchikan Daily News publisher Lew Williams is on an ambitious crusade to tell America about the importance of the Tongass timber harvest program - and he's challenging the mammoth environmental lobby to stick to the facts.

The lobby groups have been distributing to the national press misinformation and distortions about the timber program in the Tongass. Their emotional appeal has resulted in a number of editorials in national newspapers that are unfair to Alaska, and the Ketchikan publisher has decided to do something about it.

Using his network of newspaper contacts in the Lower 48, Lew receives copies of the propaganda being mailed to the press by the Wilderness Society, Sierra Club and other lobby groups. He then responds with a mailing of his own to the national papers, telling them the facts about the timber industry and its importance to the communities of Southeast Alaska.

For Lew and the other people of Southeast, the outcome of the Tongass debate now before Congress is very significant. It's about their economic survival.

Having followed this issue closely for many years, Lew Williams is probably the best able to explain it to others, and I'll use his summary from one of his recent editorials:

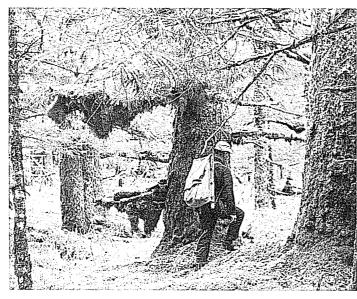
"The forest plan, fought for by Alaskans and professional foresters as far back as the 1920s, calls for harvesting 1.7 million acres of the 16.7 million-acre Tongass over 100 years. At the end of 100 years, cutting of second growth begins in the same areas, providing jobs and opportunities for future Americans in a land of clear air, beautiful scenery and plentiful resources. The second growth will be top quality timber in twice the volume of the old growth, thanks to husbanding of professional foresters. The program can recycle for hundreds of years without touching 90 percent of the forest.

"The plan never really started until pulp mills were attracted to the Tongass in the 1950s. More than one-half of Tongass timber is low grade wood, unsuitable for lumber. To log in a responsible manner means taking the low grade with the lumber grade, not leave it lying in the woods. The only place to send that volume of low grade is to a pulp mill.

"The timber industry in Alaska provides several good side benefits. It provides a stable economic base for people who enjoy and respect the outdoors. It provides roads which open up fishing and recreational areas for residents and visitors. It provides exports which improve the balance of trade.

"The plan went well until Congress began political tinkering in 1980. The tinkering was needless. It also was costly. There were areas that never would be logged even without the wilderness designation. It was all laid out in the Tongass Land Use Plan in the 1970s, the first such land plan in a U.S. national forest.

"When Congress did tinker in 1980, at the instigation of the Wilderness Society and other environmental groups, it destroyed a balanced program. To compensate, Congress authorized \$40 million a year to assure the timber harvest could be maintained despite timber going into wilderness. That solution was the brain-



Approximately one third of the Tongass National Forest (5.4 million acres) has been put into wilderness for all time, compared with one-tenth (1.7 million acres) allocated to the timber industry over 100 years. Modern forest management practices will allow a harvesting cycle to continue for hundreds of years without touching 90 percent of the forest.

child of the environmentalists, used to win support of Alaskans in Congress.

"Now the Wilderness Society is describing the \$40 million as a subsidy for timber. It's more a subsidy for wilderness or compensation for timber lost to wilderness. Now Congress is being panicked into political tinkering again, frightened by the Wilderness Society's editorial pets and its associates in the environmental community."

That's a pretty succinct summary of the Tongass issue - one which the Ketchikan publisher is sharing with editors across America.

Another way that Lew Williams is making his case to the national media is by sharing with them the editorials of other newspapers in Alaska - almost all of whom have come out in support of the position opposing "further tinkering" of the plan.

He has mailed editorials from The Anchorage Times, Fairbanks News-Miner, Juneau Empire and Peninsula Clarion to the major newspapers in the Lower 48 that have shown an interest in the subject.

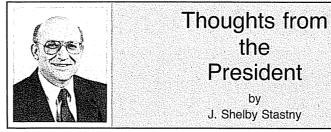
In his quest to offset the environmental propaganda machine and get fair media treatment for Alaska about Tongass, Lew Williams is accomplishing something else.

He's reminding Alaskans of something we learned long ago, but may be forgetting in recent years. If we're going to have any kind of economic base or future for our state, we must rally together. Because Alaska is a big state with a small population, Alaska communities cannot stand by while another community or region is under attack by Outside interest groups.

We're an easy target for special interest environmental organizations that depend on special causes to raise money. It's easier for them to "win" here, because we don't have the population or resources to match their arsenals. We certainly don't have a chance if we don't all band together when one of our communities is under fire.

When Lew Williams writes his editorials in the Ketchikan paper, he's not writing just for the people of Ketchikan. He's hoping the rest of Alaska, and America, is listening as well.

This article appeared September 16 in The Anchorage Times.



ALASKA, INC.

A few weeks ago, a member of the state administration addressed the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce. His remarks centered around the fact that Alaska is different than other states in that much of the wealth and land ownership rests in the hands of the state. For this reason, the actions of our state officials should be measured differently than officials or other states. Since Alaska is an "owner" state, our state officials need to be given the leeway to take more "entrepreneurial" actions. He likened the state administration to the board of directors of a large corporation with 500,000 shareholders. One of the points he made was that the citizens of Alaska have made it difficult for the administration to perform this "corporate" role because it has not been able to gain a consensus among the "shareholders" as to which projects to pursue and in what manner.

While I was encouraged to hear the administration recognizes entrepreneurial actions need to be taken by the officials of our "owner" state, I was disappointed (but not surprised) to hear that they think a consensus is needed in order to take action.

An entrepreneur is defined in Websters New World Dictionary as "a person who organized and manages a business undertaking, assuming the risk for the sake of a profit." I can't imagine any entrepreneur (or corporate board of directors) waiting for a consensus before he takes action. A corporation hires corporate officers and boards of directors to determine the appropriate goals and actions with the attendant risks necessary to reach the goals. Shareholders expect firm, decisive actions from their corporate officers.

Red Dog construction proceeds

Port and mine site work on schedule

RED DOG - With just over a year and a half to install and work installing the offshore loading conveyor supports, the concencomplete all of the necessary facilities to make Red Dog a world trate storage building, and three 2.3 million gallon, double wall, class mine, things are now in full swing at the mine site. This joint fuel storage tanks. One fuel tank was erected in 1987. venture between Cominco Alaska Incorporated and the NANA Re-Activity at the mine site has also been heightened this summer gional Corporation is scheduled to begin operation in early 1990.

With proven reserves of 85 million tons, once in full production, Red Dog will be the largest operating zinc mine in the western world. However, to turn Red Dog into an operating mine is a major project. With development costs estimated at \$420 million, all of the facilities needed to make the mine functional must be brought into this remote site.

Construction on the project began in the summer of 1986 when The mine is scheduled to begin production in early 1990 and a shallow water dock and staging area were installed at the port will employ about 300 people. site. The following year, construction began on a 54-mile road Concentrates will be trucked down the road on a year-round which would link the port site with the Red Dog mine. By November basis. Shipping and receiving materials at the port site will be 1987, the road contractor had completed an initial pioneer road limited to a 90-100 day window during the ice-free months of July into the mine. In August 1988, the road was completed to final through October. grade with all of the necessary bridges and culverts in place.

The majority of the work in 1988 has occurred at the port and mine site. At the port site, three primary contractors have been at

"By employing the entreprenurial approach, the final score card will indicate we are all winners."

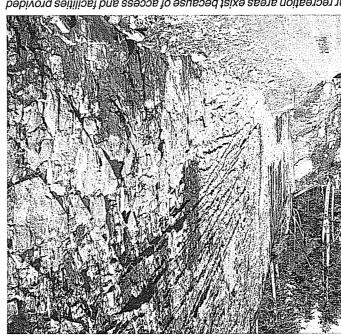
Beneficial results are not possible without taking risks. Since risks are involved, every action will not end up with expected results and no reasonable shareholder expects that the correct decision will be made every time. There is, however, a score card kept. The overall success is, of course, measured by the increase in value or income of the enterprise. Failure to attain the desired result over time will result in the officers and board being replaced by the shareholders.

In the September 1988 issue of Management Review, Alan J. Zakon discusses the differences between corporations which are on the move and growing and those that are not experiencing growth. He observes,"...it is not unusual for corporations to have more staff members planning what will be done, reporting on what has been done, and coordinating what is done than actually doing it." He adds, "this represents the central tendency in all organizations - the almost automatic diversion of energy from the creation of value to the preservation of the organization. Successful companies build strong infrastructures to support value creation; declining companies build overheads."

If our state leaders are to be successful entrepreneurs, it is essential they accept risks (such as long-term timber commitments). Like business people, they need to determine how to add value to our state's vast resources, make decisions on how to do it, and stick with them instead of taking a poll to see how popular the decision is going to be with a particular constituency.

A real corporate board would work hard to add value to its assets while protecting its interests by staying involved in land exchange negotiations. Entering as an intervenor in important lawsuits which have a tremendous impact on state land would also be in its best interests. By employing the entreprenurial approach, the final score card will indicate we are all winners.

as contractors worked to install a building capable of storing up to 35,000 tons of concentrate, as well as water and fuel supply tanks. The accommodations facility which can house 300 workers, and the services complex which includes offices, maintenance and warehouse facilities, are also under construction. Meanwhile, the site work preparation has continued with the completion of the tailings dam and construction of the water supply dam.



access and activities.

hydroelectric generation and motorized vehicles. public or private recreation facilities, new roads and access trails, commercial fishing, bans all resource development, the economic life-line of Alaska's economy, it also prohibits by mining, logging and commercial tourism operations. Designated Wilderness not only In Alaska, nearly all popular recreation areas exist because of access and facilities provided

".bebeen si noitoet is not clear that an additional layer of protional park designation," Stastny added. "It

A host of individuals and organizations ness to the park units under review. true costs or benefits of adding more wilderthan subjective opinion for determining the As a result, RDC found little evidence other analytic, the RDC testimony pointed out. to be more descriptive than evaluative and vironmental impact statements which tend The recommendations are based on en-

warneg. Wilderness is the worst example, Gay frustrate development of every human kind. ment schemes with the ability to severely eral, cumulative overlay of land manage-Throughout the state there exists a gen-

opportunity in America's arctic lands." move is underway to lock out multiple-use fuge and one can reasonably assume a National Petroleum Reserve a wildlife retions and a proposal to designate the vast with the latest wilderness recommenda-Alaskan arctic," Gay said. "Combine them adjacent conservation units presently in the "Take a close look at the contiguous or

which greatly restrict and tightly regulate

ing stringent regulations and procedures

much more difficult for inholders, increas-

the wildemess designations make life

However, as a practical matter, Gay said

islands in the vast sea of wilderness zones.

residents access and use of their private

within AVILCA are suppose to guarantee

RDC recognizes that various provisions

.finu noitsvnes entering at least one highly restrictive conland of Alaska from south to north without -nism teav off ecross the vast maintion of the narrow trans-Alaska pipeline cora conservation system unit. With the excepsula or the Aleutian Chain without crossing to cross north to south on the Alaska Penin-For instance, it is presently impossible

(continued on page (continued)

loses on future opportunity." Gay added, "Wilderness effectively forecsary when an unexpected need arises." ment revisions that are sometimes necessive and flexible system, allowing manageleast provides a somewhat more responsent defacto wilderness management at standards as designated lands, "the prepark lands are managed to the same high explained that although non-designated mote stiff and inflexible management." Gay Becky Gay, "Wilderness designations pro-According to RDC executive director tion adopted by the ALUC in Fairbanks.

25 SESUEN .C oyepi .41 63 ₽9 13. Minnesota ₽9 12. Utah 11. Alaska designated Wilderness 99 62 million acres 10. Oregon

into one state, it would be the 11th largest state in America.

If Alaska's 56 million acres of designated Wilderness were made

FEDERAL WILDERNESS IN THE STATE OF ALBERT

Visitor Use

buffer zone regulations.

working the claim.

₽niniM

fallout wilderness designations could have

wilderness areas," Burling added. "Most in-

invest in mining properties inside or near

in the private sector is the reluctance to

Pacific Legal Foundation. "Equally serious

tance to permit," said Jim Burling of the

amount of bureaucratic inertia and reluc-

level of regulatory gridlock, a terrible

claims near wilderness areas due to the

traordinarily difficult to develop any mining

threatening the livelihood of the people

tual viability of the operation - in turn

ing costs while reducing profits and the ac-

regulations on a mining operation, increas-

designations bring increasingly stringent

to work a valid existing claim. Wilderness

not adversely affect the ability of a miner

Service that a wildemess designation does

since 1980. RDC disagrees with the Park

ficulty and frustration in using their property

national parks have experienced great dit-

rights, inholders and miners within Alaska's

guarantee access and various property

Despite provisions in ANLCA which

"Experience has clearly shown it is ex-

vestors are understandably gun-shy."

RDC is also concerned with the adverse

Comparative state acreage:

done through that provision.

crossing CSUs, the fact is, it has not been

And although Title XI of AVILCA allows for

development adjacent to park boundaries.

threat to potential community and resource

signations within the parks pose a serious

velopment, RDC believes wilderness de-

available for economic or resource de-

withdrawn from multiple use and are not

activities of tourism, mining, timber harvest-

ness are contemplated on the economic

cumulative effects of designated Wilder-

the prospects are frightening when the

the environmental impact statements. Yet

tional security has not been addressed in

cumulative effect on economics and na-

ural resources," Stastny continued. "The

explore for and develop Alaska's vast nat-

designations on the opportunities to

cumulative effect of additional wilderness

(62.1 million acres) and Utah (54.3 million

largest state, between the size of Oregon

algnated wilderness would be the 11th

Stastny said. "Fifty-six million acres of de-

minishing our timber and mineral base,"

been withdrawn from multiple use, di-

tage of Alaska's productive lands have

sidered in isolation since a sizeable percen-

"Wilderness designations must not be con-

and potential wildemess designations.

park are not independent of other existing

concept that wilderness proposals for one

urged the federal agencies to accept the

some 56 million acres, enough to lock-up

the entire state of Minnesota.

(+ əbɛd morì bəuninoo)

At the ALUC Fairbanks meeting, RDC

Alaska wilderness designations cover

acres)," Stastny noted.

"The time has come to consider the

ing and energy resource development."

Although the national parks are already

September 1988 / RESOURCE REVIEW / Page 5

OILC

ыпвуіугілечі

New Jersey

Connecticut

velopment and public access, is comparable in size to the following

large portion of which severely restricts or prohibits economic de-

comprise the second largest state in the union. This acreage, a

The 220 million acres of federal lands within Alaska alone would

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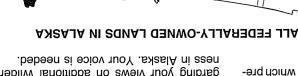
South Carolina

North Carolina

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puelyreM

Delaware



by new wilderness designations, which pretourism industry could be seriously affected In regard to visitor use, Alaska's growing

puelsi ebodh

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97 New Hampshire

combination of 15 states:

garding your views on additional Wilder-Congress or your favorite newspaper re-

Editor's Note: Write Secretary Hodel,

a mining claim. It is not hard for RDC to wilderness character of lands surrounding ment of regulations aimed at protecting the on mine development through the enforce-

After a thorough analysis of the wilder-

The Park Service environmental impact

international tourism market in Alaska.

role in the successful development of the

ment of the public are likely to play a major

of recreational opportunities to a wide seg-

visitor center complexes offering a variety

two million by the year 2000. World-class

tourists expected to visit Alaska will exceed

five percent annually, the number of

to star anticipated growth rate of

brought about by increasing numbers of

Alaska's national parks to relieve pressure

visitor centers and campgrounds in

cedence over primitive recreation on the

much wider variety of park users have pre-

shouldn't tourism operations catering to a

Why" .vaid RDC's Gay. "Why

cedence over other activities on the re-

ner why wilderness values should take pre-

failed to demonstrate in an objective man-

nated Wilderness, the Park Service has

park lands in Alaska are already desig-

clude destination tourism site development

"Considering 33 million acres of national

remaining lands?" she asked.

and practical access.

There is a serious need for new roads,

impacts of the new wilderness proposals statements do not adequately address the

adopted a position against adding more wilness issue, the Alaska Land Use Council since they virtually ignore visitor demand. on such needed facilities, RDC contends,

derness to Alaska's national parks. The

derness" recommendation to Interior Sec-Council will soon advance its "no more wil-

retary Don Hodel. tions could be damaged by viewshed or imagine how the viability of mining opera-

Show much wilderness is enough?

a "no more wilderness" resolution, a posi-Land Use Advisory Committee advanced of the wilderness proposals. In addition, the Federal Areas has been even more critical als. The Citizens Advisory Commission on ments addressing the wilderness propos-Alaska was generally critical in its coming wilderness acreage. The State of tions provide no clear rationale for increasagreed with RDC that the recommenda-

(continued from cover)

acres in national forests. tional wildlife refuges and some 5.4 million national parks, 18.6 million acres in namillion acres of designated Wilderness in Breaking it down, Alaska has some 33

is permitted. Only the most primitive recreation activity generators are not allowed in most cases. use of chainsaws and portable electric and oil development is prohibited. Even the tion, timber harvesting, commercial fishing velopment, including hydroelectric generaaccess trails and cabins. Resource deroads are also banned in addition to new ation facilities. With some exceptions, construction of public and private recreity of any type is permitted, including the statutorily prohibited. No commercial activ-It means development of any sort is that means an uninhabitated piece of land. Designated Wilderness is not just a term

Alaska now contains 62 percent of all access and inholder rights, are of little help. some provisions, such as those addressing policies are so strict and inflexible that For the most part, however, wilderness administering federal Wilderness in Alaska. federal land managers some discretion in A number of ANILCA provisions give

"¿əınpuə հաou additional wilderness can Alaska's ecoleaders and politicians to ask, "how much United States, prompting many business federal designated Wilderness in the

.essang turn forward a recommendation to Conand wildlife refuges. The President will in signated in Alaska units of national parks or not additional wilderness should be de-President of the United States on whether Interior will send a recommendation to the In about 40 days the Secretary of the

ness already exists. so much natural and designated Wilderwarranted and unjustified in a state where tions proposed by the Park Service are unparks. RDC asserts new wilderness addion wilderness additions in Alaska's national 13 draft environmental impact statements filed extensive comments on each of the The Resource Development Council

nated Wilderness to Alaska park lands. tion for adding six million acres of designo substantial rationale in its recommendamaintained that the Park Service provided Units be designated as Wilderness. RDC Interior that no additional lands in these a recommendation to the Secretary of the urged the Alaska Land Use Council to send Earlier this month in Fairbanks, RDC

more than adequately protected by the na-Shelby Stastny. "The lands in question are standards," explained RDC President wilderness are managed to the same high wilderness and areas not designated as "The Park Service policies are such that

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