

INFORMATION ITEM



733 W. FOURTH AVE.
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

For Joe Hillman

FEDERAL-STATE LAND USE PLANNING COMMISSION FOR ALASKA



November 10, 1975

TENTATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NATIONAL INTEREST LANDS (d)(2)

One of the most massive and dynamic land redistributions in the history of the United States is now in process in Alaska--a land of extremes, geographic, social and economic in character. Land selection rights granted to the State of Alaska at statehood and to Alaska Natives in settlement of their land claims are guides given by Congress for this land distribution.

The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act also directs the Secretary of the Interior, and the Joint Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission to study and identify lands in Alaska for possible additions to the National Forests, Parks, Wildlife Refuges, and Wild and Scenic Rivers systems.

The implications for the Nation, the State, and Alaska's Natives are enormous. The Nation has recognized that Alaska is a place where environmental quality can be maintained, and that areas with unique wildlife and scenic grandeur may be set aside as a heritage for future generations. At the same time, the Nation is concerned with finding and developing new energy resources and other mineral and timber resources to meet national needs.

The State of Alaska shares these national concerns over energy and other resources, and related environmental issues. Also of immediate national importance is the economic viability of the State and the well-being of its people.

The third set of interests--those of Alaska Natives--involves both the Nation and the State. The entire culture and social structure of Alaska Natives is intimately linked to traditional land use patterns. While desiring to maintain their unique relationship with the land, Alaska Natives may also seek to move into the broader economy of the State and Nation.

Two difficult land use planning challenges are presented when the National, State, and Native interests are combined. The first is the possibility of conflict between preserving lands of unique wildlife and scenic values and developing resources. The Commission has had to weigh this possibility whenever scenic values and mineral values coincide. Thus, the Commission has sought to balance competing values, taking into account the probable effects of its recommendations upon the economic and social structure of Alaska. The second challenge is the need to protect significant waterfowl and wildlife habitat at the same time that subsistence needs of Alaska Natives and other rural Alaskans are met through the coordinated taking of fish, game, and other renewable resources.

It is within this framework that the Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission has studied and proposed tentative recommendations for additions to the National Parks, Refuges, Forests, and Wild and Scenic Rivers of Alaska. The Commission, in August of 1973, submitted to the Secretary of Interior its initial recommendations for the use of lands withdrawn under Section 17(d)(2) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. These recommendations were based on a detailed resource analysis that was prepared by the Commission and later printed as a Senate document by the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs. The Commission did not make recommendations on the selection of management systems (Parks, Forests, Refuges, etc.) at that time, although some general management recommendations were made.

On October 25, 1975, the Commission met and agreed on tentative recommendations to Congress for the addition and management of Federal land conservation systems in Alaska. The proposal calls for certain additions to the National Park, Refuge, Forest, and Wild and Scenic Rivers systems, and explores the establishment of a new management concept for many of the remaining public lands in the state.

what do you think. . .

What do you think of these recommendations? We would like to know your opinion so we can incorporate your ideas into our recommendations to Congress. We expect to hold some information meetings on this subject early in 1976, but why wait until then to tell us what you think. Your opinion is welcome. Please forward any comments or suggestions you might have on these tentative recommendations to the Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission, 733 West 4th Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska 99501.

IN SHORT...

ADDITIONS TO PRESENT SYSTEMS

- o The Commission has recommended that additions be made to the existing National Parks, Forests, Refuges, and Wild and Scenic Rivers in Alaska. These are logical additions, which would improve land patterns, follow natural topography, and provide for management of recognized prime values.

In addition, the Commission has recommended that new land "core" areas be established. These areas are of particular importance for values such as scenic, wilderness, unique features, wildlife, recreation, historical, and archaeological sites. These lands are of national significance and should be added to the present Parks, Forests, Refuges, and Wild and Scenic Rivers systems on the basis of their prime values.

NEW MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

- o Development of a new management system, possibly called National Land Reserves, has been recommended by the Commission. This system is needed to manage large areas of the State which contain multiple resource values, such as minerals, timber, and scenic places. It will provide better management of Federal lands in Alaska that have resource values of national significance which can sustain with regulation other resource uses. Under this system, the lands would be designated by Congress as a National Land Reserve. Planning and classification for the use of the land would be done by a joint Federal-State effort, and management would be carried out by one of the existing land management agencies. This does not preclude the Native land selection process.

COOPERATIVE PLANNING AREAS

- o Large areas of land, encompassing Federal, State, and private lands have been recognized by the Commission as areas which contain resources (such as migratory caribou herds) which cannot be confined within one land ownership. Cooperative planning and management by all landowners would be extremely important to properly maintain these common resources.

PETROLEUM RESERVE NO. 4








- o In addition to these areas and systems, the Commission identified areas in Naval Petroleum No. 4 which contain valuable resources such as caribou and migratory waterfowl. Since these resources are not confined to Pet 4, the Commission recommended that an agency with expertise in management of these common resources should be a part of the surface management program of the reserve.

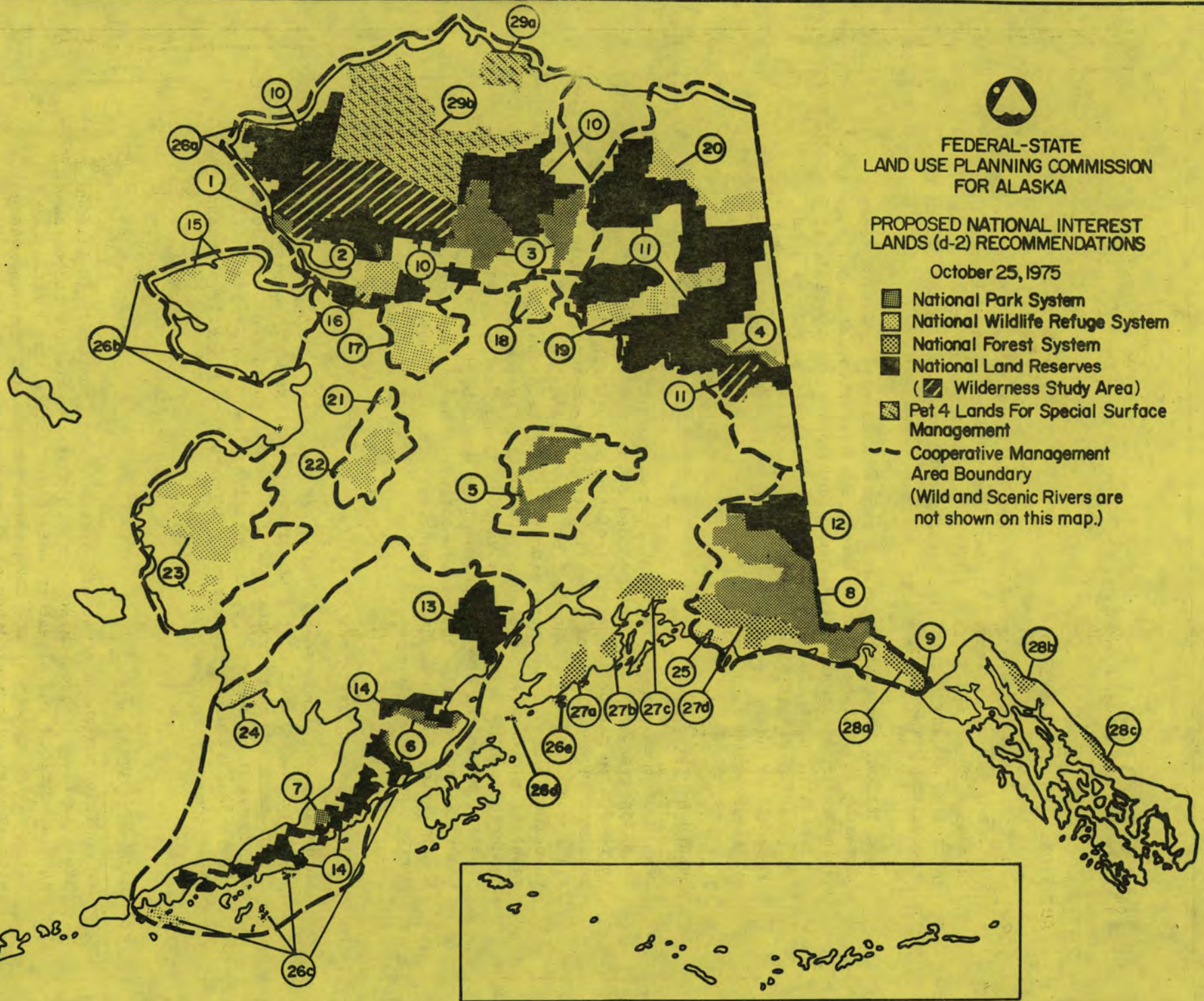


FEDERAL-STATE
LAND USE PLANNING COMMISSION
FOR ALASKA

PROPOSED NATIONAL INTEREST
LANDS (d-2) RECOMMENDATIONS

October 25, 1975

-  National Park System
-  National Wildlife Refuge System
-  National Forest System
-  National Land Reserves
( Wilderness Study Area)
-  Pet 4 Lands For Special Surface Management
-  Cooperative Management Area Boundary
(Wild and Scenic Rivers are not shown on this map.)



10/25/75

Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission
National Interest (d-2) Lands Recommendations
Additions and New Units

Map No.	Proposal	Values
1	Cape Krusenstern National Monument	A series of archaeological sites spanning several thousand years, numerous beach ridges from coastal outbuild, arctic coastal tundra and wildlife, coastal lagoon, migratory birds, sea mammals, primitive lands.
2	Kobuk Sand Dunes National Monument	Sand dunes of several shapes in an arctic setting, archaeological sites, varied wildlife habitats, spruce-birch boreal forest, successional vegetation on and around dunes, primitive lands.
3	Gates of the Arctic National Park	Vast scenic arctic mountain wilderness of great diversity, wild rivers, Walker and other lakes, wildlife, Arrigetch Peaks.
4	Yukon National River	Scenic section of Yukon River, historic features, wildlife and habitats, rock strata display and paleontological values.
5	Mount McKinley National Park extensions	Completes habitats of park mammals. Adds lowlands enhancing geological and vegetative features of the park. Completes geologic complex of Mt. McKinley massif including Great Gorge of Ruth Glacier and colorful Yentna Glacier. Scenic foreground to main peaks of Alaska Range. Primitive lands.
6	Katmai National Park and additions	Active volcanoes and other volcanic features, brown bear, cultural features, coastal fjords and islands, scenic wilderness, Naknek Lake and River system, and anadromous fisheries. Boundary adjustments to complete watersheds and add certain features.
7	Aniakchak Caldera National Monument	Large dry volcanic caldera, other volcanic features, Surprise Lake, upper Aniakchak River, brown bear and other wildlife in a pristine setting.

NATIONAL PARKS

Map No.	Proposal	Values
8	Wrangell-St. Elias National Park	Scenic Wrangell, St. Elias, and Chugach Mountains, lakes and rivers, large glaciers, wildlife, coastal zone, cultural features, habitat for Dall sheep, primitive lands.
9	Glacier Bay National Monument extension	Adds north side of scenic Mt. Fairweather to monument. Highest peak in monument and a major Alaskan mountain.
10	West Arctic National Land Reserve	Brooks Range Mountains. Largest caribou herd in North America, fish, wildlife, scenic beauty, primitive areas, geologic features, cultural-historical features, minerals, forests, rangeland, wild and scenic rivers, subsistence living, sport hunting and fishing.
	Noatak Wilderness Study Area	A pristine large Arctic Valley Ecosystem, Noatak River, wildlife, caribou range and migration routes, subsistence living, Native land selection, minerals, hydropower potential, transportation routes, sport hunting and fishing.
11	East Arctic National Land Reserve	Mountains of the Brooks Range and Yukon-Tanana uplands. Important wildlife habitat and watersheds of Yukon River, minerals, timber, primitive areas, hydroelectric potential, waterfowl habitat, scenic beauty, geologic features, subsistence living, sport hunting and fishing. Potential agriculture, potential oil and gas.
	Charley River Wilderness Study Area	Pristine river basin surrounded by mountains, range of vegetation systems, Dall sheep, caribou, and other wildlife, wild river, sport hunting and fishing, minerals.
12	Chisana National Land Reserve	A part of the Alaska Range with scenic beauty, geologic features, minerals, and primitive areas. Also sheep, moose, caribou herds, other wildlife, forest and rangeland, subsistence living, sport hunting and fishing.
13	Lake Clark National Land Reserve	Contains a rugged and scenic section of Alaska Mountain Range bordering Cook Inlet. Includes large lakes, wild and scenic rivers, primitive areas, minerals, wildlife, fisheries, timber, geologic features, subsistence living, sport hunting and fishing.

RESERVES
LAND
NATIONAL

Map No.	Proposal	Values
14	Alaska Peninsula National Land Reserve	Lands and waters noted for fish, bear, moose, and caribou. Also scenic mountains, geologic features, minerals, primitive areas, cultural and historical aspects, subsistence living, sport hunting and fishing.
15	Shishmaref National Wildlife Refuge	Prime waterfowl habitats, land and marine wildlife, relic of Bering Land Bridge area, cultural features, tundra communities. Also subsistence living, reindeer herding, Native land selection, primitive areas.
16	Selawik National Wildlife Refuge	Prime waterfowl production area, other wildlife and habitats, primitive lands, subsistence living, Native land selection.
17	Koyukuk National Wildlife Refuge	Prime waterfowl production area, Nogahabara Sand Dunes, Koyukuk River and examples of oxbow and meander scroll lakes, and primitive lands. Subsistence living, sport hunting and fishing.
18	Kanuti National Wildlife Refuge	Prime waterfowl production area, primitive areas, rivers and lakes. Subsistence living, sport hunting and fishing.
19	Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge	Prime waterfowl production area, other wildlife and habitats, primitive lands. Subsistence living, Native land selection. Potential agriculture, oil and gas and timber on private lands. Transportation routes.
20	Arctic National Wildlife Range additions	Caribou and other wildlife habitats, waterfowl, scenic mountain wilderness, wild rivers. Subsistence living, sport hunting. Improved boundaries. Potential utility corridor.
21	Kaiyuh National Wildlife Refuge	Prime waterfowl production area, unusual complex of interconnecting lakes in a pristine condition. Subsistence living, sport hunting and fishing.
22	Innoko National Wildlife Refuge	Prime waterfowl production area, other wildlife and habitats, rivers, primitive areas. Subsistence living, sport hunting and fishing.

REFUGES
WILDLIFE
NATIONAL

Map No.	Proposal	Values
23	Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge	Prime swan, goose, and other waterfowl and shorebird habitats, primitive lands. Subsistence living, Native land selection, potential reindeer herding.
24	Cape Newenham National Wildlife Refuge additions	Prime waterfowl habitats, other wildlife and sea mammal habitats, seabirds, medium-sized primitive island with unusual 5-mile long sand spit. Subsistence living, Native land selection, reindeer herding.
25	Copper River Delta National Wildlife Refuge	Key resting, nesting, and feeding area for migratory waterfowl and other birds, important habitat for dusky Canada goose and trumpeter swan. Subsistence living, sport hunting and fishing, oil, and gas potential.
26	Coastal National Wildlife Refuges a. Chukchi b. Bering Sea c. Shumagin Islands d. Barren Islands e. Aialik	Prime seabird rookeries, hauling out grounds for sea mammals, primitive lands. Subsistence living.
27	Chugach National Forest additions a. Harding Icefield-Kenai Fjords b. Nellie Juan addition c. College Fiord addition d. Copper River addition	Rounding out watersheds and management units. Large ice cap, glaciers, coastal fjords, abundant bird and marine life, close to Anchorage. Native land selection, subsistence and commercial fishing, forest. Scenic Nellie Juan River valley, surrounding mountains, and Sargent Icefield. Native land selection, sport hunting and fishing, mineral potential, wilderness study area. Scenic complex of high mountains, fjords, and tide-water glaciers, wildlife, and mineral potential. Scenic valley and mountain complex, glaciers, wildlife, waterfowl habitat, lower Copper River, Bering Glacier. Transportation corridor, hydro-electric potential, sport hunting and fishing, oil and gas potential, Native land selections.

FORESTS
NAT.

Map No.	Proposal	Values
28	Tongass National Forest additions	Rounding out watershed and management units.
	a. Alsek River	Scenic mountains and glaciers cut through by large swift river, wildlife, primitive lands. Sport hunting and fishing, possible transportation corridor, mineral potential.
	b. Juneau Icefield	Scenic mountain and glacier complex, subject of extensive glacial research, wildlife, primitive lands. Sport hunting, mineral potential.
	c. Kate's Needle	Scenic mountain and glacier backdrop, wilderness study area.
29	Petroleum Reserve No. 4 special surface management areas	Key waterfowl area, goose molting, oriented lakes, tar seeps, Ikpikpuk River features and delta, Pik Sand Dunes, frost and tundra features, arctic wildlife, sea coast, primitive lands, oil and gas potential, subsistence living.
	b. Utukok - Colville area	Arctic rivers and lakes, caribou calving areas and other arctic wildlife and habitats, arctic tundra features, coastal lagoon and barrier islands, geological features, archaeological values, primitive lands. Oil and gas potential, coal, sport hunting and fishing, subsistence living.

PET. NO. 4



The Joint Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission for Alaska was established by Congress and the Alaska legislature to undertake a process of land use planning and to make recommendations regarding the use and management of Alaska's Federal and State public lands and resources.

The Commission was also directed to improve coordination between State and Federal governments, to provide assistance in implementing the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, and to recommend policies that will work to insure that economic development in Alaska is orderly and compatible with State and national environmental and social objectives.

The Commission, created by the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971, is headed by the Governor of Alaska or his full-time Co-Chairman, and by a Federal Co-Chairman appointed by the President of the United States. Four Commissioners are appointed by the Secretary of the Interior, and four by the Governor of Alaska.

NEWS RELEASE

11/3/75
(REVISED)



733 W. FOURTH AVE.
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

FEDERAL-STATE LAND USE PLANNING COMMISSION FOR ALASKA



FOR RELEASE 12:00 NOON
October 25, 1975 *

Paul T. Steucke
279-9565

Commission Suggests New Approach on Federal Lands

Anchorage, Alaska The Joint Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission for Alaska today reached agreement on tentative recommendations to Congress for additions to the federal land conservation systems in Alaska. The proposal calls for certain additions to the national park, refuge, forest, and wild and scenic rivers systems, and explores the establishment of a new management concept for many of the remaining public lands in the state.

Co-Chairmen of the Commission, Burton Silcock and David Jackman, explained that the purpose of getting this tentative position before the public now is to allow adequate time for thorough public discussion and review before the Commission makes its final recommendations to Congress. "This represents the Commission's best thinking at this time, but we are not locking ourselves in. Substantial changes may seem advisable in the light of public comment and further work by our staff before we spell out our final position early next year", said Federal Co-Chairman Silcock.

The Co-Chairmen noted that this proposal was developed looking at the land patterns, resource values and human needs of the whole state, and not just focusing narrowly on the so-called "d-2" lands. "We built upon the base developed during previous Commission hearings and debates on the uses of national interest lands", said Silcock. The Commission believes that its approach would provide a higher level of protection for more of Alaska's lands without eliminating compatible uses that will not jeopardize environmental values.

In discussing this new management approach, Silcock went on to say that, "A new management system is needed in Alaska because many of the lands in Alaska are not logical additions to the other systems. These lands should be reserved by

-OVER-

Congress because they have resource values of national significance, but they can also sustain, under close regulation, other resource uses."

The Commission would ask Congress to establish a new system of "national land reserves" in Alaska to be classified for appropriate uses by a joint federal-state commission located in Alaska. "Congress would have to dissolve the present Commission and establish new authority along somewhat different lines", said Jackman. "No large new bureaucracy would be required because actual field management and implementation could fall to existing agencies such as the Bureau of Land Management", Jackman added.

The Commission's proposal goes on to lay the basis for cooperative management programs including federal, state, and on a voluntary basis even private lands. This is similar to the Commission's current cooperative planning and management effort in the Mt. McKinley area. The Commission recommends that a number of Cooperative Management Areas be designated, within which additional federal lands and some state lands might also be placed under the classification authority of a joint federal-state body. "This would foster an integrated approach to land management which is essential for safeguarding resources common to state, federal and private lands, such as the arctic caribou herds or the valuable fisheries of the Bristol Bay watersheds", explained Jackman.

Under the Commission's plan about 39 million acres would be designated for addition to the existing national systems. This would include about 18 million acres of new national parks, 15 million acres of new wildlife refuges, and 6 million acres of national forest additions. Most wild and scenic river proposals would be included in those acreage figures, with less than a million acres applying to that system alone. The new system of national land reserves would include 5 management units totaling *59 million acres, with 9 million acres of this slated for wilderness study. Because some mineral development could be permitted within refuges, only the proposed national parks and wilderness study areas would be closed to present mineral development - this amounts to about 27 million acres. Only the proposed national parks would be closed to sports hunting.

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* Revised 11/3/75

INFORMATION ITEM



733 W. FOURTH AVE.
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

FEDERAL-STATE LAND USE PLANNING COMMISSION FOR ALASKA



10/25/75

(* Revised 11/3/75)

Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission
National Interest (d-2) Lands Recommendations
Additions and New Units

Summary

	Estimated Acreage (in millions)
National Park System	18.320
National Wildlife Refuge System	14.840
National Forest System	5.980
National Wild and Scenic Rivers System (Less than 1 million acres additional)	-----
Total Additions to Four National Conservation Systems	<u>39.140</u>
Alaska National Land Reserves Includes wilderness study areas (9.100 acres)	58.938*
Total of all Systems	<u>98.078*</u>

General Use Categories for the National Interest Lands
Refers to Proposed Additions and New Units Only

	Estimated Acres (in millions)
Single purpose or primary use lands	42.260
National Park System	18.320
National Wildlife Refuge System	14.840
National Wild and Scenic Rivers System (Less than 1 million)	
Alaska National Land Reserve System (special wilderness study areas)	9.100
Multiple Purpose Lands	55.818*
National Forest System	5.980
Alaska National Land Reserves	49.838*
Lands closed to sport hunting	
National Park System	18.320

Lands <u>closed to mineral development</u>		27.420
National Park System	18.320	
National Land Reserve - wilderness study areas	9.100	
Lands subject to <u>mineral development</u> under a permit and lease system		70.658*
Alaska National Land Reserves	49.838*	
National Wildlife Refuge System	14.840	
National Forest System	5.980	

Selected Existing Land Classifications and Reserves in Alaska

<u>Status</u>	<u>Approximate Acres</u>
Est. total Area of Alaska	375,304,000
Est. total Area - Land	362,516,000
Est. total Area - Inland Waters	12,787,000

Federal Reserves:

National Park System	7,535,000
National Wildlife Refuge System	19,906,000
National Forest System	20,723,000
Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 4	23,152,000
Other Military Reserves	3,019,256
Transportation and Utility Corridors	5,515,859
Department of Transportation	111,000
National Interest Lands (d-2)	78,095,000
Replacement Lands for Wildlife Refuges	2,130,397
Remaining Federal public lands (d-1) for classification and management and selection of remaining state entitlement (approximately 35,447,000 acres)	101,450,558
Subtotal	261,638,070

State and Private Withdrawals

Native selections (expected total)	43,698,000
Private lands patented	965,000
State selections to date	69,002,930
Subtotal	113,665,930
Total	375,304,000

Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission
National Interest (d-2) Lands Recommendations
Additions and New Units

Estimated Acreage

National Wildlife Refuge System (in millions)

Shishmaref NWR		0.622
Selawik NWR		1.225
Koyukuk NWR		2.400
Yukon FLats NWR		2.144
Arctic NWR additions		2.063
Yukon Delta NWR		3.421
Kaiyuh NWR		0.121
Innoko NWR		1.839
Cape Newenham NWR additions		0.265
Copper River Delta NWR		0.121
Kanuti NWR		0.447
Chukchi NWR		0.074
Cape Lisburne	63,000	
Cape Thompson	11,000	
Bering Sea NWR		0.001
Fairway Rock	60	
Sledge Island	700	
Egg Island	very small	
Shumagin Islands NWR		0.070
Sandman Reefs	927	
Bird Island	4,300	
Karpa Island	610	
Mitrofanina Group	1,095	
Koniuji Islands Group	36,932	
Puale Bay Group	25,878	
Barren Islands NWR		0.010
Barren Islands	10,000	
Latax Rocks	20	
Aialik NWR		0.020
Aialik Peninsula		
Harris Peninsula		
Granite Island		
Pye Islands		
Chiswell Islands		
	Total	14.843

National Park System		(in millions)
Proposed:		
Cape Krusenstern N.M.		0.194
Kobuk Sand Dunes N.M.		0.106
Gates of the Arctic N.P.		5.005
Yukon National River		0.538
Mount McKinley N.P. extensions		2.720
Katmai N.P. and extensions		0.542
Aniakchak Caldera N.M.		0.183
Wrangell - St. Elias N.P.		9.000
Glacier Bay N.M. extension		<u>0.030</u>
	Total	<u>18.318</u>

National Forest System		(in millions)
Chugach National Forest additions		
Kenai Fiords - Harding Ice Field		0.578
Nellie Juan		0.297
College Fiord		0.964
Copper River		<u>2.040</u>
	Subtotal	3.879
Tongass National Forest additions		
Juneau Ice Field		0.479
Kate's Needle		0.470
Alsek River		<u>1.150</u>
	Subtotal	<u>2.099</u>
	Total	5.978

Alaska National Land Reserves		(in millions)
West Arctic		27.544
East Arctic		20.528*
Chisana		2.321
Lake Clark		2.705
Alaska Peninsula		<u>5.840</u>
	Total	<u>58.938*</u>

Wilderness Study Areas		(in millions)
Noatak		7.809
Charley River		<u>1.289</u>
	Total	<u>9.098</u>