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July 30, 1993

Mike Strunk
Chief, Planning and Landscape Architecture
National Park Service
2525 Gambell Street, Room 107
Anchorage, Alaska 99503-2892

Dear Mr. *Mike* Strunk:

The State of Alaska has reviewed the Draft Eagle Development Concept Plan and Environmental Impact Statement for the Yukon-Charley National Preserve. This letter represents the consolidated comments of the State's resource agencies.

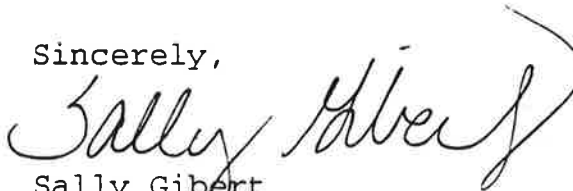
In light of the prevailing community sentiment in Eagle, the State of Alaska supports moving the Yukon-Charley Headquarters to Fairbanks. Such a move will also bring the Superintendent closer to other land managing agencies and policy makers, and will likely render the position more attractive.

We note that the plan proposes to leave ranger activities, resource management, subsistence, maintenance, and visitor contact in the Eagle area, with the specific location to be determined subsequent to this plan. We believe a greater effort should be made to further reduce management presence in the Eagle area. Resource management would appear to lend itself to a Fairbanks location to retain proximity with the Superintendent as well as other resource agencies. A portion of visitor contact could also be located in Fairbanks, since not all preserve visitors spend time in Eagle. There may be other functions, or portions thereof, that could be moved to Fairbanks without compromising effectiveness. We believe that further personnel shifts away from Eagle would make it easier to attract and retain qualified staff in both Fairbanks and Eagle.

The State also urges the NPS to pursue adherence to Section 1306 (a)(2) of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), which calls for location of administrative facilities on Native lands in the vicinity of the unit to the extent practicable and desirable. In addition to basic compliance with ANILCA, any mutually agreeable arrangements with local Native landowners could go a long way toward improving community relations in the Eagle area.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 561-6131.

Sincerely,



Sally Gibert
State CSU Coordinator

cc:

Paul Guraedy, Superintendent, Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve

Harry Noah, Commissioner, Department of Natural Resources

Carl Rosier, Commissioner, Department of Fish and Game

John Sandor, Commissioner, Department of Environmental Conservation

Bruce Campbell, Commissioner, Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

Richard Burton, Commissioner, Department of Public Safety

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

**CSU Distribution List
Eagle DCP
August 2, 1993**

Tina Cuning, Department of Fish & Game, Anchorage

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Priscilla Wohl, Department of Environmental Conservation, Anchorage

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