

STATE OF ALASKA

WALTER J. HICKEL, GOVERNOR

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July 11, 1994

Walter Stieglitz
Regional Director
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Road
Anchorage, AK 99503

Dear Mr. Stieglitz:

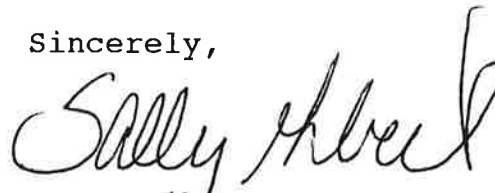
The State of Alaska has reviewed the May 11, 1994 Interim and Proposed Rule at 50 CFR Part 26 concerning public use closures at O'Malley River on the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge.

The State of Alaska continues to object to these regulations, specifically the process used in developing the rules and the justification provided.

The State's views are fully addressed in a June 9, 1994 letter from Paul Rusanowski, Ph.D., Director of the Division of Governmental Coordination and Carl Rosier, Commissioner of the Department of Fish and Game to Mollie Beattie, Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and in correspondence from this office to the Service in response to several draft and final versions of the Kodiak Refuge Public Use Management Plan.

Based on our previously stated concerns, we urge the Service to withdraw these regulations and immediately enter into cooperative discussions to address the deficiencies which have been identified by the State and others. Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.

Sincerely,



Sally Gibert
State CSU Coordinator

Walter Stieglitz, Regional Director, FWS

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cc:

Jay Bellinger, Refuge Manager, Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge

Carl Rosier, Commissioner, Department of Fish and Game

Harry Noah, Commissioner, Department of Natural Resources

John Sandor, Commissioner, Department of Environmental
Conservation

Michael Barton, Commissioner, Department of Transportation and
Public Facilities

Richard Burton, Commissioner, Department of Public Safety

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

**Distribution List
O'Malley River Regulations
July 11, 1994**

Tina Cuning, Department of Fish & Game, Anchorage

Terry Haynes, Department of Fish & Game, Fairbanks

Priscilla Wohl, Department of Environmental Conservation, Anchorage

Ric Davidge, Department of Natural Resources, Anchorage

Jeff Otteson, Department of Transportation/Public Facilities, Juneau

Paul Rusanowski, Division of Governmental Coordination, Juneau

Henry Wilson, Attorney General's Office, Anchorage

Mary Pignalberi, Tourism, Department of Commerce & Economic Development, Juneau

Director, Fish & Wildlife Protection, Anchorage

Stan Leaphart, Citizens Advisory Commission on Federal Areas, Fairbanks