

# Especially Fisheries...

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We have already seen the feds swoop in and take over marine mammals. They didn't say, "State of Alaska, you have managed marine mammals for many years, so you can manage them."

No. They took over and today even if a walrus climbs out of Gastineau Channel and sits on the governor's mansion steps, it's under federal control and management.

The 200-mile bills say that any stock of fish which lies within the extended jurisdiction zone shall be managed by the feds. Wherever else they go. If that law passes, Alaska will manage clams and maybe a few dungeness crab.

We had hoped that drawing a line 200 miles off our coast was for the purpose of doing away with the foreigners. IT IS NOT!

Can you conceive of the 200-mile law not doing away with the foreigners but rather licensing them to make them legal and then locking them in for the long-term future?

It is doing that. As presently conceived, the 200-mile law will charge the foreigners a fee for their license to fish. Part of that fee will go into a fund created to pay the "excessive fees" charged to American distant water fleets when they enter other nation's 200-mile zones.

Now, 70% to 80% of the fish caught off American shores is caught off Alaska's coast. The only American activity in other nation's 200-mile zones of any significance is tuna fishing. So here's what's happening.

The fish off Alaska are being given away to raise money to ransom the California tuna fleet! Once that program has been started we will never get rid of the foreigners. We'll always need their money to keep the prices of tuna down. And if tuna is cheap, salmon doesn't sell too well.

The 200-mile law will not do away with the foreigners, but rather, will lock them in forever.

The 200-mile law, if passed, unilaterally, will not exclude any new penetrations. The Red Chinese are now building a fishing fleet which they have announced is for fishing the Alaskan area. We know that. Try this scenario.

If we pass this law, unilaterally, and without the weight of world opinion and agreement, the Chinese will thumb their noses and start fishing.

Now, the problem will be, should the United States go to

war to enforce its law? World War III over a few fish? Or should the Secretary of State go over to the Secretary of Commerce, demand a permit and license in order to avoid a confrontation or even an end to detente, then stuff the license into the Chinese ambassador's pocket and tell him, "Your people are now legal?"

I don't have to guess very hard to see that the Chinese will get a permit, plenty of fish and probably some oil thrown in!

The 200-mile law is much like the state's Limited Entry law. Everyone thought the idea was a good one, so no one paid close attention to the details. Then when the law came to being applied, everyone saw what a monster was created.

Everyone assumes that the 200-mile law will be like the 200-mile laws off South America. No one is paying attention to the details. Incidentally, the 200-mile law provides for a federal Limited Entry program.

That's right, part of their management plan calls for Limited Entry, and one plan even calls for allotments where they will tell each fisherman what his quota will be. If he gets a quota at all, since the plan requires the Secretary of Commerce to work toward a number of goals in management.

One of these goals is efficiency in the catching of fish. With Limited Entry and a goal of efficiency, it is conceivable that we will end up with fish traps again!

If the law doesn't do away with the foreigners, gives reason to keep them off our shores, takes away one of our prime reasons for accepting the responsibility and costs of statehood, and tramples our state's rights... why is there such a rush to pass it? I wish I knew.

The fishermen of Kodiak (Kodiak is the U.S.'s largest fisheries port for domestic landings) would rather see no bill than to see the monster being spawned in Washington, D.C. this winter.

All Alaskans should rise up and demand that our delegation warn us of these things and certainly not try to accelerate them. Write your congressmen. Ask for copies of the bills. Read them.

Then write, wire, telephone or scream to the Congress to change that law so that Alaska retains control and management of fish; and the stocks of fish off Alaska do not have to raise the ransom for the tuna fleets.

# Create Permanent PLUC

WASHINGTON — Sen. Mike Gravel, D-Alaska, recently proposed creation of a permanent federal and state Planning and Land-Use Commission that would function as a statewide planning agency.

The Alaska lawmaker announced his proposal as the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee prepared to open hearings on the disposition of up to 80 million acres of federal land within the State of Alaska.

Section 17 D-2 of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act provides that up to 80 million acres are to be considered for inclusion in the four federal systems: national parks, national wildlife refuges, national forests and wild and scenic rivers.

Gravel said he believes it is

impossible for one person or body to determine now the "highest and best use, in perpetuity, of such a sizable portion of Alaska."

He said if any substantial portion of land is immediately placed in the four national systems, "its use and its categorization would remain inflexible to what might prove to be a warranted change." He said Alaska would have to return to Congress for a resolution.

Gravel said the commission he proposed "would have the power and authority to determine, on a continual basis, the highest and best use of all lands in the State of Alaska, both private and public."

Under terms of the settlement act, Congress is required to act on the so-called D-2

lands by Dec. 18, 1978. Gravel said he is confident that Congress can "meet the full measure of the challenge."

He said the commission's concept would provide for cooperative land use planning and management on a statewide basis and would transcend federal and state ownership.

He tentatively suggested a permanent commission of 10 members, five appointed by the President and five by the governor of Alaska.

Gravel said there are areas in Alaska which should be immediately included in the four systems. He said the areas and their sizes should be the subject of direct committee investigation and he urged the Senate committee to travel to Alaska for that purpose.

The Alaska lawmaker said in his statement that the proposal he was offering is a concept rather than concrete legislation. He said it was an innovative approach which must be considered because "the alternatives are staggering."

## Pipeline Layoff and Rehire

House Speaker Mike Bradner has again appealed to Gov. Jay Hammond to develop a pipeline layoff and rehiring monitoring program.

Bradner said that Dec will bring the largest layoffs on the pipeline, and unless the state takes special provisions, Alaskan residents are likely to receive the brunt of the layoffs while non-residents are retained.

He added that in rehiring, "outside" foremen and supervisors are apt to request non-residents to fill pipeline jobs.

"The same problems persists," Bradner told Hammond. "The people who do the hiring and firing are not Alaskans, and they hire their friends and their relatives from outside the state."

Bradner said the state has taken a "non-involvement role" on the pipeline, hoping the problems

and the benefits of the pipeline will soon go away. The problem with that philosophy, Bradner said, is that it sets the precedent for future such projects in Alaska.

"I appeal to you for strong intervention for the purpose of prevention of layoffs," Bradner told Hammond. "It is not enough to say we will investigate complaints."

The Fairbanks lawmaker further asked that Tonsina camp be specifically investigated, and stated that large layoffs have occurred in that camp, with reports that non-residents of shorter job history have been retained. Bradner also charged that reports from the camp indicate that supervisors have retained non-resident relatives on the payroll while residents have been laid off.

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