

# Southeast Village Corporation Presidents voice concern over D-2 Proposals and Development

By CHARLOTTE A. SIVERLY  
Totem Times Editor

HOONAH — Meeting informally in Juneau recently to discuss the Senate and House bills

coming out of Washington were Native corporation presidents from Southeast Alaska.

Of particular interest to them were Rep. Morris K. Udall's H.R. 39 and 3454, Rep. John

Seiberling's H.R. 5605, and Sen. Lee Metcalf's S. 1050.

Essentially, these bills have inclusions to designate portions of Southeast Alaska as wilderness areas with single-use classification, causing concern among corporation presidents that these lands will receive "instant preserve" status.

The Native corporation presidents fear that the impact of the bills on Southeast Alaska village and urban corporations will be to prohibit development because most land conveyances would lie adjacent to these wilderness study areas, prohibiting transportation access to the Native lands and thereby prohibiting development.

"This would prohibit any type of development to take place on Native corporation lands when they are finally conveyed as they would be locked out of wilderness areas and locked into Native lands, leaving them virtually isolated," a spokesman for the group said.

The Subcommittee on Federal Oversight of Alaska Lands of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, chaired by Rep. Seiberling, has scheduled hearings and a field trip to Southeast Alaska.

Hearing dates have been set for July 3 in Hoonah, July 5 in Sitka, July 6 in Angoon, and July 10 at Ketchikan.

Huna Totem President Gerald Gray, spokesman for the informal gathering, urged those corporation stockholders wishing to participate in the hearings to prepare for written or oral testimony for presentation.