

# STATE OF ALASKA

## DEPARTMENT OF FISH & GAME

WILLIAM A. EGAN, Governor

188 So. Franklin Street  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

January 31, 1973

Ms. Aurora Loss  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
PO Box 7002  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

RE: NPACO-OP-P Tenakee Inlet 17, Dump & Rafting Area, Alaska Lumber  
and Pulp Company

Dear Ms. Loss:

The Department of Fish and Game has been involved in controversy over the subject project for over a year, with the Pulp Company and the U.S. Forest Service. As a result of a meeting with the Forest Service pre-logging study team on January 24, 1973 we were informed that "alternate sites" had been considered but that none of these were given in depth analysis due to their seeming unsuitability. The Pulp Company assures us that due to the size of the logging show proposed, time constraints and lack of technology, they are unable to consider any alternates to the project as it has been proposed. The problem then resolves itself to the following issue:

- (a) issue the permit as proposed;
- (b) do not issue the permit and thereby indefinitely post-pone logging in the Corner Bay drainage.

Alternative (b) does not seem to be a real alternative due to economics, but on the other hand, economics is not our primary area of expertise. To issue the permit as proposed then seems to be the only real alternative. However, the issue is clouded by two factors:

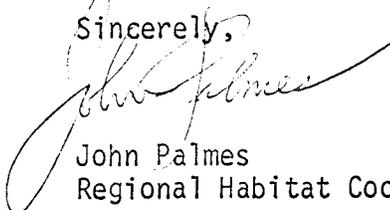
1. Tenakee Inlet is an important crab and salmon producing area and we therefore are opposed to the policy of rafting and or storage of logs in its bays or estuaries.
2. Though logging in the Corner Bay drainage is proposed to take about 5 years to cut 80 million board feet of timber, it is very possible that the Corner Bay dump will also be used to handle logs from the larger, adjacent drainage of Kadashan Creek. If Kadashan timber is to be taken out through the subject dump, it will increase the amount of bark introduced and the duration of use of the surrounding waters.

Increase of the duration of the operation also increases its economic worth and thus should increase the feasibility of alternatives to the action proposed. However, due to the short range nature of the planning that has gone into the subject project, there is an inherent inability to grasp or cope with long range problems.

Therefore, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game requests that if the permit is to be issued that it include the following provisions that:

1. no more than 4 rafts of logs in addition to those under construction be stored in Corner Bay at any one time; *Raft size - best stated in MMBP*
2. that the proposed dump facility be used only for handling of timber cut in the Corner Bay and Kook Lake drainages;
3. that the U.S. Forest Service agrees that no further rafting of logs be planned in the bays along the south shore and at the head of Tenakee Inlet until it has been shown that log leachates do not constitute a significant hazard to shellfish and salmon larvae. *Don't ignore food chain probabilities*
4. The company conduct a sampling program semiannually to determine the extent of buildup of log bark adjacent to the dump and raft building area. *not the ideal monitor?*

Sincerely,

  
John Palmes  
Regional Habitat Coordinator

cc: V. Olson  
J. Rynearson  
W. Oien  
M. Smith  
D. Cantillon  
M. McHugh  
L. Johnson