

Summer Strait Fish and Game Advisory Committee

PO Box 777

Port Protection,

AK 99950-0180

March 4, 2009

Dear Senator,

I am writing to express the strong support of the local Fish and Game Advisory Committee for the proposal to make North Prince of Wales Island a Karst National Preserve under the Core Protection Act.

This would achieve several positive results:

- ① World-Class Karst would receive much-needed Federal Protection from dynamiting, roading and clearcut logging.
- ② Irreversible scientific information would be saved.
- ③ Fish streams within the Karst would continue to produce healthy fish, valuable for the local subsistence, commercial and sport fisheries, instead of being collapsed, or ruined by acidic leachate, from above ground logging.
- ④ ANILCA Title VIII protections would continue for local subsistence villages, which are dependant on them.
- ⑤ Continued public ownership would protect the existing investment of tax dollars.

- ⑥ Continued public ownership would ensure continued public access by all to the area.
- ⑦ This is a perfect application for the Core Protection Act. It would be a national treasure, an asset both below and above ground.

Our Fish and Game Advisory Committee, which advises both the State and the Federal Governments on local resource issues (as per ARNLCA), has worked almost 30 years with the US Forest Service to protect the resources on North POW from damage, including the irreplaceable karst areas. We are presently involved with the USFS and the Nature Conservancy in a restoration project for North POW Island. If the Federal Government chose to apply the Core Protection Act to the area, we would gladly give its implementation any help we could.

My phone number is 907-484-2252. I will be glad to answer any questions. Thank you very much for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,
Gretchen V. Goldstein
Vice-Chair