



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

JUN 27 1980

Honorable
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator :

On July 21, the Senate is scheduled to take up the Alaska national interest lands bill. This legislation constitutes the most important conservation measure of our time and provides an historic opportunity to preserve some of the most spectacular remaining scenery and wild-life habitat in North America.

As Secretary Bergland and I indicated in a letter sent to all Members of the Senate last fall, the Administration believes that the bill reported by the Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee would provide inadequate protection for this priceless heritage. To insure adequate protection, we support the amendments that will be offered by Senators Tsongas, Roth, Hart, Nelson, Mathias, Proxmire, Eagleton, Chafee, Randolph, Culver, Church, Levin, and McGovern.

Because of the critical nature of this issue, I urge you to reread the enclosed letter and to support the strengthening amendments.

Sincerely,

(Sgd) Cecil D. Andrus
SECRETARY