

Page 9, Daily Sitka Sentinel, Sitka, Alaska, Friday, June 13, 1986

Feds OK Diversion Of River for Project

ANCHORAGE (AP) — The U.S. Interior Department has agreed to let the Alaska Power Authority divert a small river to help feed the Bradley Lake hydroelectric power project, the power authority announced Thursday.

The river is the Nuka, which flows from the Nuka Glacier into the Kenai Fjords National Park, about 60 miles northwest of Homer. The APA has wanted to divert the river's headwaters to make them flow into the Bradley River, saying they could supply an average 15 percent of the 800 million hydroproject's annual power.

But some environmentalists have opposed the diversion, saying it would deprive the park of water and set a precedent for efforts to cut off water flowing into other national parks.

The specific diversion plan announced Thursday differs from the original proposal, a gravel berm that would have cut off all water to the Nuka River, said Lee Nunn, chairman of the APA's board of directors.

The new diversion — costing up to \$200,000, about double the original plan's cost — would have an adjustable outlet to let some water continue flowing down the Nuka River and into the park.

At the point at the base of the Nuka Glacier is high enough to reach the diversion outlet, the APA would release an average of at least five cubic feet of water per second, Nunn said.

The National Park Service would be allowed to study the upper Nuka Basin during the next decade to determine if the flow met the park's needs. If it did not, the Park Service could request flows up to 10 cubic feet per second, Nunn said.

"If the studies indicate five cubic feet per second is not enough to determine the river's flow, which now varies greatly because of shifting gravel bars and weather conditions. Last week, the

Anderson Pulls Out

ANCHORAGE (AP) — Former legislator Ned Anderson of Dillingham said he's quitting because of treatment government because he's been unable to raise enough money to mount an effective campaign.

"Without an expensive campaign, I cannot win," Anderson said. "Therefore, I feel it is best to withdraw from the race at this time."

Anderson said he started too late to get a campaign going. His withdrawal leaves just incumbent Steve McIntosh and former Anchorage Assemblywoman Jane Angok in the Democratic ballot.

Republicans seeking the nomination are former Lt. Gov. Terry Miller, Senate President Don Hensell, of Fairbanks, state Sen. Edna W. Vrakas, former state Rep. Mike Betros of Anchorage, Tim Staudenmaier of Eagle River and Ken Stout of Anchorage.

Also running is Libertarian Aldgra Barnes of Fairbanks.

Report on Crash at Soldotna Raps FAA

ANCHORAGE (AP) — In a report on a controlled flight into terrain crash that killed nine people near Soldotna last year, the National Transportation Safety Board chides the Federal Aviation Administration for not keeping a close eye on the airline.

The NTSB's report on the Feb. 4, 1985, crash of a North Pacific Airlines plane in Soldotna concludes that the plane's crew tried to land when the weather was below recommended minimums for the approach.

It also blasted the FAA for letting violations slip by. It said the aircraft had many mechanical problems and that the airline's pilot's weather reporting equipment was inadequate.

"The FAA should have detected and corrected these deficiencies before the accident," the NTSB report said. "Several safety board investigations in recent years have revealed similar

Oil Spill from Ferry Grows

JUNEAU, Alaska (AP) — The fuel spill around the flooded ferry M.V. Vashon is more than twice the size first estimated, the U.S. Coast Guard said today.

The guard and workers from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation will try to drain three fuel tanks covered by water when the ferry went aground June 4 in Johnson Cove, about 10 miles southwest of Ketchikan.

The 197 foot vessel so far has leaked an estimated 4,000 gallons of various fuels at a rate of about 600 gallons a day, said Petty Officer Glenn Rosenholm.

"Most of the fuel that leaked since a boom was set up around the ferry Thursday has been contained or skimmed from the surface," Rosenholm said. Early estimates, based on data from ferry owner Bay Armored, placed the size of the spill at 1,000 gallons, Rosenholm said.

Wild Kingdom Co-Host Injured

FAIRBANKS, Alaska (AP) — Peter Gross, co-host of the television show "Wild Kingdom," had a wild time recently trying to film some moose and grizzly bears in interior Alaska.

Gross and his film crew were working with biologists over 70k on May 27, trying to place a radio collar on a moose. The same was to be a re-enactment of a "beaver study" to determine why 80 percent to 90 percent of the moose calves in that area were dying before they reached the age of six.

The second day on the job, a producer named Gross is jumping from the shore at hovering helicopter to collar a moose calf. Gross makes a successful jump, but he and his crew are stuck in the mud. "About halfway to the moose, he fell and impaled himself on a dead tree growing straight up from the ground," said Dave Kucharski, "the area biologist with the state Department of Fish and Game."

Small Planes Collid

FAIRBANKS (AP) — Four people successfully escaped injury late Wednesday when two small planes collided in mid-air near Chena Ridge and Reata Creek, then crashed into the Tanana River.

The Superb and Taylorcraft planes remained stranded upside down Thursday on gravel bars where they tried to land.

A spokesman for the Federal Aviation Administration said Rip Bernheim had just taken off in his Superb from the Chena Marina Airport and Robert Everts had just departed Motie Field in the Taylorcraft. Authorities weren't sure which plane was carrying passengers Susan Berg and Richard Callison.

5 Members Withdraw from Anchorage Visitors Bureau

ANCHORAGE (AP) — Anchorage's three largest hotels and Alaska's two largest airlines withdrew Friday from the Anchorage Convention and Visitors Bureau.

The Hotel Captain Cook, the Ritz-Carlton, the Sheraton, Alaska Airlines and Marklar canceled their memberships and employees of three of them resigned their positions on the ACVB board of directors.

In separate letters of resignation, the companies cited "concern over the current management direction of the bureau," according to Dave Bess, a spokesman for the five companies.

The move comes one week after ACVB executive director Reyn Bowman survived on a 107 vote effort to oust him.

The Anchorage Times reported that critics maintain the ACVB isn't doing an adequate job of promoting off-season convention traffic. They also object to Bowman's management style. The Times quoted an unidentified board member as saying Bowman has ousted high turnover at the bureau.

"Whenever there's a dissent, it's directed at me," Bowman said in the wake of the vote. "If I look it that personally, I'd be a mess."

Witness: Peel Disliked Coulthurst

KETCHIKAN, Alaska (AP) — John Kenneth Peel was a cocky 22-year-old who expressed dislike for Mike Coulthurst shortly before the investor skipper was killed in a fishing boat accident last August.

"I think it has a lot to do with the way John Peel," Hawkins said. "He's real cocky and sure of himself. Plus he drinks a lot of our beer on the boat on the way up."

But in response to defense questioning, Hawkins said he'd referred to acquaintances using the same terms Peel applied to Coulthurst. The fishing vessel was hit on the side of the shore of Craig.

Hawkins, a 34-year-old fisherman, said he gave Peel a ride to Ketchikan on his boat on the fishing vessel, and that Peel used profanity which he referred to Coulthurst during the trip.

Candidate Withdraws

JUNEAU (AP) — Nim Cesar, Democratic candidate for Juneau House district 4-B, has dropped out of the legislative race.

The Republican Cesar, currently executive director of the Southeast Alaska Regional Health Coalition, said in a prepared statement that after consulting with the SEARHC board of directors it became clear that he could not administer the corporation and still mount an effective campaign for the House seat.

"SEARHC has a number of projects which I feel require my full attention," Cesar said. "I am grateful for the support and encouragement I received to date and I will work towards the election of those Democratic candidates that will represent all of the citizens of Juneau equitably."

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TONIGHT

Sitka Summer Music Festival

Debussy
Sonata No. 3 in G Minor for Violin and Piano (1916)

Beethoven
String Quartet in E Flat Major, opus 74 ("Harp")

Dohnanyi
Piano Quintet in C, opus 1

Christian Bor, violin
Kathleen Lemski, violin
Paul Neubauer, viola
Jeffrey Solow, cello

Andres Cardenes, violin
Paul Rosenthal, violin
Toby Saks, cello
Doris Stevenson, piano
Irma Vallicello, piano

FRIDAY, JUNE 13
8:15 p.m. Sharp
The Centennial Building

SATURDAY

Sitka Summer Music Festival

Mendelssohn
Octet in E Flat Major for Strings, opus 20

Janacek
Sonata in D Flat Minor

Schubert
Piano Trio in E Flat Major, opus 100

Christian Bor, violin
Kathleen Lemski, violin
Paul Neubauer, viola
Toby Saks, cello
Doris Stevenson, piano

Andres Cardenes, violin
Paul Rosenthal, violin
Marcus Thompson, viola
Jeffrey Solow, cello
Irma Vallicello, piano

SATURDAY, JUNE 14
8:15 p.m. Sharp
The Centennial Building