



CALISTA CORPORATION  
www.calistacorp.com

September 20, 2019

Dear Tribal Leader:

Calista Corporation (“Calista”) writes to encourage the federally-recognized Tribes of the Yukon Kuskokwim Region to consider exercising their right to seek tribal consultation with the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (“BLM”) on the Bering Sea - Western Interior Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (“BSWI RMP/EIS”), which the BLM is currently in the process of finalizing. The BSWI area includes much of the YK Region, and how it is managed will impact all of the Tribes in our region.

Calista has grave concerns that the Tribes and Village Corporations of the YK Region were not adequately consulted during the BLM’s development of the BSWI plan and were not informed of its profound consequences for our rural communities.

For example, the plan’s extensive use of special designations in the YK Region could harm the ability of Tribes, tribal members, Alaska Native corporations and shareholders to access and use federal and Native lands for many purposes, including:

- Subsistence and cultural activities
- Access to Native Allotments
- Building emergency cabins and other safety infrastructure, e.g. access roads and airstrips
- Sourcing gravel for village projects such as schools, roads and sanitation projects
- Other important infrastructure projects such as airports, bridges, barge landings, utility corridors and village relocation projects

We are also deeply concerned about the BSWI plan’s impact on 69,000 acres of Village Corporations and Calista land selections that have not yet been conveyed to us, even though it has been nearly 50 years since the passage of Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (“ANCSA”).

Furthermore, we are seriously concerned about the impact of the BSWI plan on the availability of federal land for the selection of Native Allotments by our honored Alaska Native Vietnam War-Era Veterans, who recently won a hard-fought battle to select Native Allotments under the Alaska Native Vietnam Veterans Land Allotment Act of 2019.

For decades to come, the BWSI plan will be used by the BLM to adjudicate permits. This will dictate whether our communities will be able to access resources from outside the region, including high-speed internet and cheaper sources of energy such as natural gas or hydroelectric power.

Calista understands and appreciates the need for the federal government to use special designations for lands, such as wildlife refuges, to protect our lands, waters, and subsistence resources. Unfortunately, the BSWI plan goes far beyond existing legal requirements and makes virtually any project in the YK Region – including on Alaska Native-owned lands – subject to being arbitrarily shut down at the whim of federal bureaucrats.

Attached to this letter is Calista's request for consultation on the BSWI plan, as well as a template letter your Federally-recognized Tribe may wish to use to request tribal consultation. Tribes may request a translator when seeking consultation. Your use of this information is entirely at your discretion. Please do not hesitate to contact the Calista Lands Department if you have any questions.

We also encourage you to contact the Alaska Congressional Delegation directly at:

**Senator Lisa Murkowski**

510 L St., Suite 600  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
Toll free: (907) 271-3735  
Fax: (877) 857-0322

**Senator Dan Sullivan**

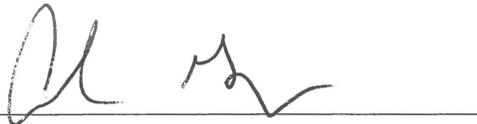
510 L St., Suite 750  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
Tel: (907) 271-5915  
Fax: 907-258-9305

**Congressman Don Young**

471 W. 36th Avenue, Suite 201  
Anchorage, AK 99503  
Tel: (907)271-5978  
Fax: (907) 271-5950

Quyana,

CALISTA CORPORATION



Andrew Guy, President/CEO



Robert Beans, Board Chair

Enclosed: Letter to BLM Requesting ANCSA Corporation Consultation on BSWI Plan  
Template Letter to BLM Requesting Tribal Consultation on BSWI Plan