

News & Announcements

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Governor Delivers Speeches

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Governor Speaks to Resources Expo and Cruise Ship Association

(Juneau) – Governor Frank H. Murkowski delivered speeches this week to the resource exposition in Vancouver, British Columbia and the NorthWest CruiseShip Association meeting in Seattle, stressing the importance of access to our natural resources.

Speaking at the Native Investment and Trade Association's Resource Expo '05 on Tuesday, Murkowski urged the audience to speak out forcefully to federal leaders in favor of allowing responsible oil and gas development in our nation.

"At this moment, powerful environmental organizations are lobbying Congress in an effort to deny America the benefit of producing billions of barrels of domestic oil from the coastal plain of ANWR," Murkowski said. "Given our experience in the Arctic developing Prudhoe Bay, there is no scientific evidence to suggest that we cannot explore and produce energy from ANWR."

The Resource Expo '05 was attended by Canadian government and energy leaders. Murkowski urged attendees to achieve greater energy independence for both nations.

The issue of access was also raised at the NorthWest CruiseShip Association meeting on Wednesday, where Murkowski again asked for their assistance in fighting for greater access for Alaskans into Glacier Bay National Park. Murkowski had previously called on the National Park Service -- which has been studying the issue for at least 20 years -- to allow two ships per day to enter the expansive bay.

"Their Science Advisory Board has found no evidence of resource damage as a result of cruise ship traffic. Being in the industry, you know the truth. Their argument that larger ships will allow more people to see the park evades the entire issue of a decision based on science," Murkowski said.

Murkowski plans to raise the issue when he meets with Interior Secretary Gale Norton later this week in Washington, D.C.

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Photo archive: The Governor and First Lady wanted to remind Alaskans that getting your flu shot is always very important (esp. for infants and seniors who are at the greatest risk). They gave this reminder in the form of receiving their own flu shot in Anchorage before the media. [Enlarge >](#)

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(Updated October 28th, 2005)

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