

Senator Kristensen, do you think that next year we should perhaps address this problem by establishing some sort of an interrelationship between the Department of Roads and Game and Parks for the care and maintenance of the wetlands that the department would need to acquire?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Certainly, Senator, as there are more wetlands acquired some maintenance is going to have to occur, at least some inventory or some responsibility. Whether Game and Parks is the proper division, whether Department of Roads, do you then get Game and Parks involved with which wetlands, certainly all things appropriate for the study, but I mean that is, that's the issue to come. We had to get this first step just to get the roads built. Second step is once you've got the wetlands, what are you going to do with them will be the issue into the future, no doubt about it.

SENATOR ELMER: Senator Kristensen, do you think that the Department of Roads will have any liabilities that are difficult to foresee in the ownership of this land?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Quite frankly, I don't see a huge liability exposure at this point in time, but perhaps there is. There is certainly governmental immunity in those areas, but I mean...who knows what theory of liability may occur into those areas and there is some duty to of course keep it as a wetland and maybe that's the area of liability with the federal government in the future.

SENATOR ELMER: Do you think that we should next year or in the near future, address whether or not the Department of Roads should allow public access to those lands that will belong to the Department of Roads?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Oh, I think that's a legitimate discussion point. I think those are things that at least ought to be examined. There's a...I mean, it's a whole lot of what do you do with any state land that you have like that or is it an open field, do you invite what liability you may have.

SENATOR ELMER: Okay. Do any of the wetlands defined as such have economic value so that the department could lease them to someone for an economic benefit?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Well, we don't have any of those that we