
From: Rep. Steve Thompson
Sent: Monday, March 23, 2015 12:25 PM
To: Helen Phillips
Subject: FW: HB 115 question

Please add to HB 115

-----Original Message-----

From: Fogels, Edmund J (DNR) [mailto:ed.fogels@alaska.gov]
Sent: Saturday, March 21, 2015 9:18 AM
To: Mark A Neuman; Rep. Steve Thompson
Cc: Peterson, Darwin R (GOV); Tom Wright; Sanborn, Courtney L (DNR); Rep. Dan Saddler
Subject: HB 115 question

Co-Chair Thompson and Co-Chair Neuman,

During the hearing on HB 115 last Monday, Representative Saddler asked me about Section 2(b) of CSHB 115, and specifically asked two questions:

-Is there any summary of amounts or injuries that might be identified in this section? (More specifically: what are the injuries or amounts claimed by the federal Government?)

-Is there any estimate of the potential value of such injuries?

To our knowledge, there is no summary of amounts or injuries that might be identified in this section. However, I am prepared to give two prominent examples:

- 1) ANWR. By preventing the exploration and potential development of the oil and gas resources in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, the federal government has caused significant economic injury to the state by depriving the state of revenue, estimated at between \$94.8 billion and \$210.0 billion.
- 2) Tongass National Forest: Federal policies and management practices fail to provide sufficient timber supply for Southeast's timber industry. As a result, the downward spiral of the Southeast timber industry has adversely affected Southeast communities, schools and local economies. An industry that once supported over 5,000 jobs in this sector has shrunk to a few hundred. During the past twenty years, six communities have seen their schools close due to low student enrollment, which in many cases is directly or indirectly related to the health of the forest products industry.

I hope this information is useful for the committee. Please let me know if I can provide any additional information.

Respectfully,

Ed Fogels
Deputy Commissioner
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