

2017 SESSION OPERATING BUDGET AMENDMENT PROPOSAL

OFFERED IN: The House Finance Subcommittee

TO: HB 57

OFFERED BY: Representative Justin Parish

DEPARTMENT: Department of Natural Resources
APPROPRIATION: Fire Suppression, Land & Water Resources
ALLOCATION: Forest Management & Development

ADD: Increment of \$82,000 UGF (1004)

DELETE:

POSITIONS:

EXPLANATION: The non-permanent Forester II position in Haines supports timbers sales, firefighting, and all other activities in and near the Haines State Forest (HSF). The HSF is the longest established state forest in Southeast Alaska, and Southeast Alaska timber sales make up 75% of statewide timber sales. It is important to note that while supporting timber related activities, the same activities coincidentally support other valuable industries such as providing road access to the developing Constantine-Palmer mine.

Funding the position would ensure that recent timber sales had sufficient on-site oversight, would maintain the area's firefighting posture, and would ensure that there was a position to deal with forest road issues as the Constantine-Palmer mine moves from exploration toward production.