

Introduced: 3/5/86
Referred: resources and
Finance

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1 IN THE HOUSE

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SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 570

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to state forest management."

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

8 * Section 1. AS 38.05 is amended by adding a new section to article 4
9 to read:

10 Sec. 38.05.122. FOREST MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT. (a) Notwithstand-
11 ing AS 38.05.110 - 38.05.120, the commissioner may enter into an
12 agreement with a person for the management on a sustained-yield basis
13 of state forest land and state land commercially valuable for forest
14 development. The commissioner may consult with other state agencies
15 regarding the provisions of the agreement but the concurrence of
16 another agency of the state is not required.

17 (b) The commissioner shall establish the limitations, condi-
18 tions, and terms of the sale and each agreement shall set out the
19 silvicultural specifications that govern the harvest, regeneration,
20 and management of state land that is the subject of the agreement.

21 (c) The commissioner may provide in the agreement for

22 (1) the harvest of state timber and the prices to be
23 charged for the timber;

24 (2) the construction and maintenance of roads within the
25 area that is the subject of the agreement;

26 (3) the preparation of reports determined necessary by the
27 commissioner;

28 (4) incentives to the person entering into the agreement,
29 including the extension of the term of the agreement;

1 (5) penalties for a violation of a provision of the agree-
2 ment including termination of the agreement;

3 (6) other limitations, conditions, and terms determined in
4 the public interest by the commissioner.

5 (d) The commissioner shall provide the legislature with

6 (1) a copy of the agreement within 15 days of the execution
7 of the agreement or within the first 15 days of the next regular
8 session of the legislature;

9 (2) a report by March 1 on the areas of the state harvest-
10 ed, regenerated, and managed under an agreement during the preceding
11 calendar year.

12 * Sec. 2. (a) The commissioner of natural resources shall request
13 proposals for the management of 200,000 acres of commercial forest land
14 under AS 38.05.122 as enacted in sec. 1 of this Act. The proposals shall
15 be requested within one year of the effective date of this Act and the
16 agreement shall be in effect within 18 months of the effective date of this
17 Act.

18 (b) The agreement must

19 (1) mandate an annual allowable harvest level compatible with
20 the principles of sustained yield of the timber resources within the agree-
21 ment area;

22 (2) be for a period of 20 years subject to amendment by mutual
23 agreement of the commissioner and the contractor regarding an extension or
24 shortening of the term or a decrease in the area of the agreement.

25 (c) The commissioner shall evaluate a proposal received under this
26 section on the basis of

27 (1) a potential contractor's ability to process the forest
28 products in the state;

29 (2) the professional and financial qualifications of the poten-

1 tial contractor;

2 (3) the stumpage offered to the state; and

3 (4) the experience of the potential contractor with silviculture

4 in the state.