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202



GREATER SITKA

Chamber of Commerce, Inc.

May 21, 1984

To: All Members of the House Resources Committee
House of Representatives
Alaska State Legislature

Reference: Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 202 (Finance)
Establishment of the Yakataga State Forest

The Greater Sitka Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors urges your support of the above bill establishing a State forest in the Yakataga area. We heartily support all efforts toward the continuance of the forest products industry in the State of Alaska.

Sincerely,

Dave Knapp
President

DK:kf

cc: Senator Dick Eliason
Representative Ben Grussendorf

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE - SENATE

SENATOR RICHARD I. ELIASON



LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE, CHAIRMAN
RESOURCES COMMITTEE
JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
FISHERIES SUB-COMMITTEE

P.O. BOX 143
SITKA, ALASKA 99835
POUCH V
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
(907) 465-4916

MEMORANDUM

TO: Rep. John Ringstad, Co-Chairman
House Resources Committee

FROM: Sen. Dick Eliason *Dick*

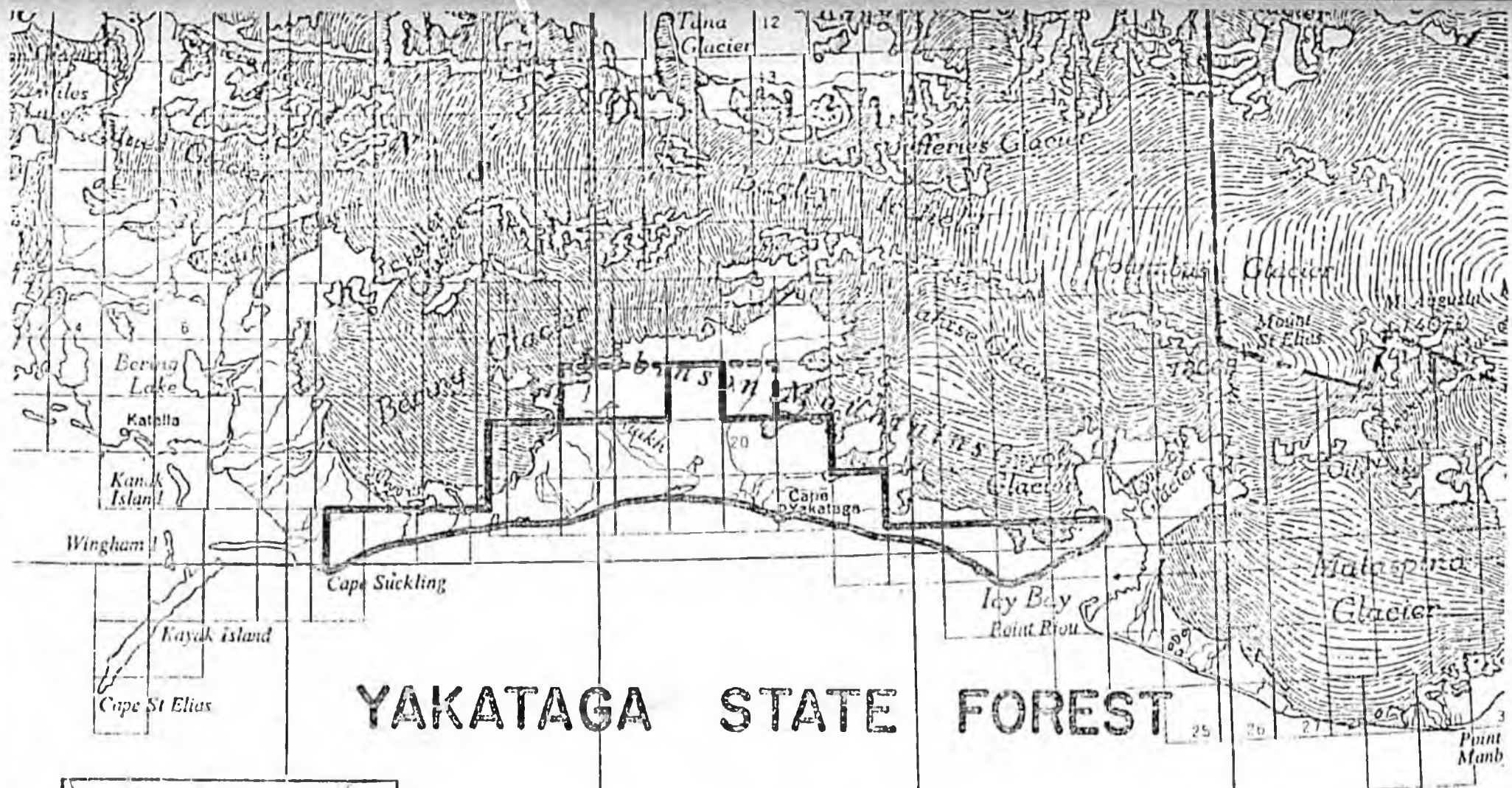
DATE: May 16, 1984

RE: SB 202, Establishing Cape Yakutaga State Forest

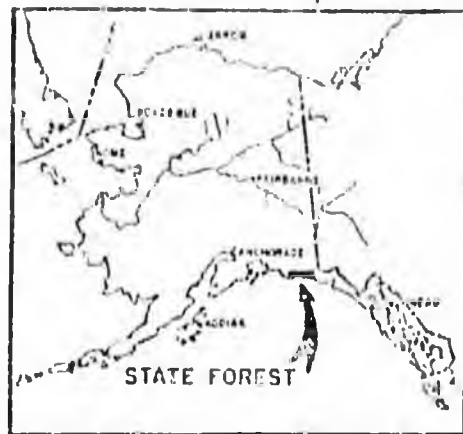
SB 202 is currently in the House Resources Committee and as I understand, has not as yet been scheduled for a hearing. It is a very good bill and I am anxious to see it passed this session. As we are nearing the end of the session, I am hopeful that you also believe in the intent and merit of SB 202 and will schedule it for Resources Committee action soon.

The Senate Resources Committee held hearings and took testimony on SB 202 so Sen. Fahrenkamp's office should be able to supply your office with information from their files and I, of course, will be very happy to discuss the bill with you myself and provide any additional information you may need.



Thank you for your consideration.



YAKATAGA STATE FOREST



LOCATION MAP

-  FOREST BOUNDARY
-  ADDITIONS IF NATIVE RELINQUISHED

STATE OF ALASKA 1984 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date: 4/17/84

Ag. 182
REQUEST
Bill/Resolution No.: CS for SB 202
Title: Yakataga State Forest
Sponsor: Eliason
Requestor: _____
Date of Request: 2/8/84

FISCAL DETAIL
Agency Affected: Natural Resources
Program Category Affected: NRM & EC
BRU, Program or Subprogram(s) Affected:
Forest Management

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89
OPERATING						
100 PERSONAL SERVICES		46.4	46.4	46.4		
200 TRAVEL		15.0	15.0	15.0		
300 CONTRACTUAL		10.0	10.0	10.0		
400 SUPPLIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS						
800 MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING		71.4	71.4	71.4		
CAPITAL						
REVENUE						

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND		71.4	71.4	71.4		
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL		71.4	71.4	71.4		

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME		1.0	1.0	1.0		
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

SOURCE OF FUNDS TO OFFSET FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL:

ANALYSIS: ~~Attach a separate page for~~ *Analysis*

Prepared By: George Hollett Phone: 276-2657
Division: Forestry Date: 2/2/84

MH Approved by Commissioner: Norman D. Donald, Deputy Date: 4/17/84
Agency: Natural Resources

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note):
Legislative Finance
Legislative Sponsor
Requestor
Office of Management and Budget
Impacted Agency(ies)

YAKATAGA STATE FOREST
FACT SHEET

The establishment of a Yakataga State Forest will commit State-owned lands between Cape Suckling and Icy Bay to long term public retention to be managed for multiple use and sustained yields. There are about 460,000 acres within the area, of which an estimated 79,000 acres have more than 20,000 board feet per acre. These are among the most productive forest lands owned by the State and the timber resources are already being managed on a sustained yield basis. Commitment of the natural resources will have a beneficial effect on the economic of Yakutat and Cordova and will likely stimulate long term industrial and commercial development based on a standing sawtimber volume of 4.3 billion board feet with an estimated potential yield of the area of 20 million board feet (MMBF) per year. The annual revenue to the State at today's prices would be one to two million dollars with a total annual product value of 5 to 10 million dollars.

To date, 190 MMBF has been harvested within the proposed State Forest, all since 1970. An additional 49 MMBF was sold in 1983, to be harvested over the next five years. A jetty, log transfer facility, sort yard, logging camp, airstrip, and about 20 miles of mainline road were constructed by the previous logging operator. A DOF office and cabin were built by the State.

The DOF has arranged for multiple use management of the forested lands within the proposed State Forest. The Division has worked with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to protect important wildlife habitat. Also, the DOF has worked out a cooperative use agreement with DMEM and North Coast Mining Company for joint operation on mineral claims.

YAKATAGA STATE FOREST FACT SHEET - SB 202 - MAY 11, 1984

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A YAKATAGA STATE FOREST WILL COMMIT STATE-OWNED LANDS BETWEEN CAPE SUCKLING AND ICY BAY TO LONGTERM PUBLIC RETENTION TO BE MANAGED FOR MULTIPLE USE AND SUSTAINED YIELDS. THERE ARE ABOUT 460,000 ACRES WITHIN THE AREA, OF WHICH AN ESTIMATED 87,000 ACRES HAVE MORE THAN 20,000 BOARD FEET PER ACRE. THESE ARE AMONG THE MOST PRODUCTIVE FOREST LANDS OWNED BY THE STATE AND THE TIMBER RESOURCES ARE ALREADY BEING MANAGED ON A SUSTAINED YIELD BASIS. COMMITMENT OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES WILL HAVE A BENEFICIAL EFFECT ON THE ECONOMIES OF YAKUTAT AND CORDOVA AND WILL LIKELY STIMULATE LONGTERM INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT BASED ON A STANDING SAWTIMBER VOLUME OF 4.3 BILLION BOARD FEET WITH AS ESTIMATED POTENTIAL YIELD OF THE AREA OF 20 MILLION BOARD FEET (MMBF) PER YEAR. THE ANNUAL REVENUE TO THE STATE AT TODAY'S PRICES WOULD BE ONE TO TWO MILLION DOLLARS WITH A TOTAL ANNUAL PRODUCT VALUE OF FIVE TO TEN MILLION DOLLARS.

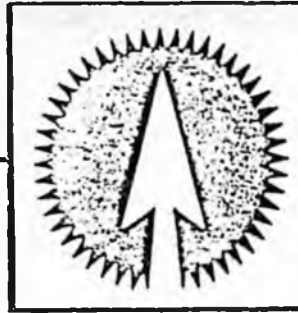
TO DATE, 190 MMBF HAS BEEN HARVESTED WITHIN THE PROPOSED STATE FOREST, ALL SINCE 1970. AN ADDITIONAL 49 MMBF WAS SOLD IN 1983, TO BE HARVESTED OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS. A JETTY, LOG TRANSFER FACILITY, SORT YARD, LOGGING CAMP, AIRSTRIP, AND ABOUT TWENTY MILES OF MAINLINE ROAD WERE CONSTRUCTED BY THE PREVIOUS LOGGING OPERATOR. A DOF OFFICE AND CABIN WERE BUILD BY THE STATE.

THE DOF (DIVISION OF FORESTRY) HAS ARRANGED FOR MULTIPLE USE MANAGEMENT OF THE FORESTED LANDS WITHIN THE PROPOSED STATE FOREST. THE DIVISION HAS WORKED WITH THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH & GAME TO PROTECT IMPORTANT WILDLIFE HABITAT. ALSO, THE DOF HAS WORKED OUT A COOPERATIVE USE AGREEMENT WITH DMEM AND NORTH COAST MINING COMPANY FOR JOINT OPERATION ON MINERAL CLAIMS.

THE SENATE RESOURCES COMMITTEE HELD A TELECONFERENCE ON THIS BILL AND SUPPORT WAS UNANIMOUS. SUPPORTERS INCLUDE: ALASKA LOGGERS ASSOCIATION, ALASKA MINERS ASSOCIATION, CITY OF YAKUTAT, ALASKA SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS, THE CORDOVA LANDS COALITION, AND OF COURSE, THE DIVISION OF FORESTRY.

THE BILL HAS BEEN AMENDED TO ALLOW FOR A MAXIMUM OF 3,000 ACRES WITHIN THE FOREST TO BE EXCHANGED FOR PRIVATE INHOLDINGS WITHIN KACHEMAK BAY STATE PARK, OR OTHER PRIVATE LAND OR INTERESTS IN LAND. THIS AMENDMENT IS SUPPORTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, THE SELDOVIA NATIVE ASSOCIATION, AND CHUGACH NATIVES, INC. IT WILL ALLOW FOR GREATER FLEXIBILITY WITH DNR WHEN NEGOTIATING LAND EXCHANGES.

Alaska Loggers Association, Inc.



SB 202

February 24, 1984

111 STEDMAN, SUITE 200
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA 99901
Phone 907-225-6114

Honorable Bettye Fahrenkamp
Alaska State Senate
Pouch V State Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Fahrenkamp:

The Alaska Loggers Association supports the establishment of Yakataga State Forest as proposed in Senate Bill 202. Inclusion of this area into the State Forest system will greatly benefit all the people of Alaska as well as the forest products industry.

The 460,000 acres in the proposed forest are among the most productive forest lands owned by the State of Alaska. These forest lands are already being managed on a sustained yield basis. Since 1970, 190 million board feet have been harvested. An additional 49 million board feet were sold in 1983. This will be harvested over the next five years. A commitment of this forest land to long term timber management will most likely stimulate more development in Yakutat and Cordova. The standing sawtimber volume of 4.3 billion board feet and estimated potential yield of 20 million board feet of timber per year would have a beneficial effect on the economies of both communities.

Establishment of a Yakataga State Forest would greatly benefit the people of Alaska by adding one more source of steady income to the State's income. The annual revenue to the State at today's prices would be one to two million dollars with a total annual product value of 5 to 10 million dollars.

An additional benefit of committing this land to long term public retention to be managed for multiple use and sustained yield is the assurance of a continuous source of timber to the forest products industry. At the present time, it is difficult for the State Division of Forestry to project an annual allowable cut since the timber land base has been so variable. Classifying this land as a State Forest would insure that this prime State owned timber land will be managed for its best possible uses and would allow the Division of Forestry to do more long range planning.

Again, Alaska Loggers Association fully supports the establishment of Yakataga State Forest and would appreciate your support of Senate Bill 202. Thank you for your consideration of this bill.

Sincerely,

Donald A. Bell
General Manager
ALASKA LOGGERS ASSOCIATION

DAB/mjh

cc: Alaska State Senators

SERVING ALASKA'S TIMBER INDUSTRY



GREATER SITKA

Chamber of Commerce, Inc.

March 29, 1983

Senator Richard Eliason
Alaska State Legislature
Pouch V (MS 3100)
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Senator Eliason:

The Greater Sitka Chamber of Commerce supports SB 202 and is appreciative of such efforts on behalf of the wood products industry. We encourage you to work with the Department of Natural Resources in order to define the boundaries of a State forest in the Yakataga area.

Sincerely,

Ernestine Griffin
Ernestine Griffin,
President

EG:kf

3/16/84

cc:
Senator Bettye Fahrenkamp
Senator Robert Ziegler
Senator Bob Mulcahy
Senator Vic Fischer
Senator Arliss Sturgulewski

ABOVE TESTIMONY RESUBMITTED 3/16/84
TO SENATE RESOURCES COMMITTEE PUBLIC
HEARING ON SB 202 - ESTABLISHING A
YAKATAGA STATE FOREST - VIA
TELECONFERENCE.

bcc: City and Borough Assembly

ALASKA SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS
1123 Ril Circle
Anchorage, AK 99504

March 12, 1984

Senator Richard Eliason
Pouch V
Juneau, Ak 99811

Dear Senator Eliason,

The Alaska Society of American Foresters (SAF), comprised of 280 professional foresters in Alaska, is appreciative of the opportunity to present a statement in support of Senate Bill 202, creating the Yakataga State Forest.

SAF is a strong proponent of multiple use management, whereby all of the natural resources of a given area are managed in a planned and balanced manner. This is a written policy of SAF both at the State and National level.

Establishment of a State Forest at Yakataga is an excellent opportunity for true multiple use management. Plans of the State's Division of Forestry call for timber, mining, fish and wildlife habitat, and other natural resources all being used or maintained compatibly in a multiple use and sustained yield approach. Furthermore, this approach is consistent with the Alaska Forest Resources and Practices Act.

SAF is encouraged by the stated intent and demonstrated commitment of the State's Division of Forestry to (1) sustained yield management of the timber, (2) cooperation with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in the protection of wildlife habitat, and (3) active pursuit of a cooperative use agreement with mining interests in the proposed State Forest area.

A balanced land and resources management program, such as is beginning to evolve thru these efforts, should lead to sound economic development of the resources and the local communities, as well as provide protection for other natural resources of the area.

The Alaska Society of American Foresters strongly urges passage of Senate Bill 202.

Sincerely,



Vernon J. LaBau
State Chairman
Alaska Society of American Foresters

MAR 26 1984

SELDOVIA NATIVE ASSOCIATION, INC.

P.O. DRAWER L

SELDOVIA, ALASKA 99663

(907) 234-7625 • 234-7890

March 23, 1984

Honorable Senator John Sackett
State Capitol
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

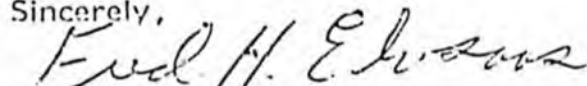
Dear Senator Sackett:

This letter is to express Seldovia Native Association's support of Senate Bill 202, creating a State Forest at Yakataga.

We also support the amendment to this bill by Senator Bettye Fahrenkamp, allowing the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources to make limited land trade within the State Forest.

We have discussed SB 202 with Sam Bessino, the land manager for the Chuqach Natives Inc. As a result of our discussions, we would support a further amendment that may be introduced by Senator Richard Eliason, which would allow the Commissioner of D.N.R. to negotiate with Chuqach Natives Inc., for any lands which are not selected by the Seldovia Native Association as part of the Kachemak Bay State Park.

Sincerely,



Fred H. Elvsaas, President
Seldovia Native Association, Inc.

cc: All State Senators
Chuqach Natives Inc.
Esther Wunnicke
Gary Gustafson

Cordova Lands Coalition
Box 1183
Cordova, Alaska 99574

Feb. 26, 1984

Senator Richard Eliason
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Eliason,

We have recently heard that you have introduced a bill to create a State Forest in the Yakataga area. We would like to express our strong support for this action.

The Cordova Lands Coalition wrote you last year supporting the establishment of a Yakataga State Forest. We appreciate your continued efforts this year as well.

The Yakataga area is the best timber area remaining in State hands. It is also an area of rich wildlife and fisheries resources. So far, the bulk of the area has been little impacted by human use. This area would make a major impact on the State Forest timber base, helping to allow sustained commercial levels of timber harvest. At the same time, State Forest designation would promote multiple use management with protection of key wildlife and fisheries resources.

Thank you for sponsoring this bill to designate a Yakataga State Forest.

Sincerely,



Oliver Osborn
President

MAR 26 1984



CHUGACH NATIVES, INC.

903 WEST NORTHERN LIGHTS, SUITE 201 • ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503
(907) 276-1080 TELEX 26-497

March 22, 1984

Mr. Max Gifford, Staff Assistant
Senate Finance Committee
Pouch V
Juneau, AK 99811

re: CSSB 202 Yakataga State Forest

Dear Mr. Gifford:

Thank you for taking time with me yesterday. CNI is requesting that the following amendments to CSSB 202 be included through the auspices of your office when the Bill comes before the Finance Committee:

- (1) after "Kachemak Bay State Park" add "or other private lands or interests therein"; and
- (2) Change "1985" to "1986".

The effect of our proposed amendments would be to enable the Commissioner of DNR to exchange up to 3,000 acres in the State forest for lands or interests in lands owned by CNI or its Village Corporations. When CNI was negotiating its land exchange agreement, we were repeatedly denied nominations on 60,000 acres in the Yakataga area. If the State is now agreeable to such exchange rights, we feel we should have some opportunity to participate if Seldovia Native Association chooses not to up to 3,000 acres. In addition, if an exchange agreement is to be negotiated between CNI & DNR, we feel that an additional year will be necessary.

Sincerely,

CHUGACH NATIVES, INC.

Sam Bacino

Samuel J. Bacino
Vice President of Lands & Natural Resources

SJB:jdc

cc: Seldovia Native Association
Reed Stoops
Fred Boness

MEMORANDUM

State of Alaska

TO: The Honorable Richard Eliason
Alaska State Senate

DATE: April 3, 1984

FILE NO:

RD Arnold

TELEPHONE NO:

FROM: Robert D. Arnold
Deputy Commissioner
Department of Natural Resources

SUBJECT: SB 202 - Yakataga State
Forest

The Department of Natural Resources has no objections to amending the CS for SB 202, Yakataga State Forest, to indicate that the up to 3,000 acres of land which may be exchanged is not limited to trades for private inholdings within Kachemak Bay State Park. To accomplish this, the words "for private inholdings within the Kachemak Bay State Park" could be deleted from lines 5 & 6 on page 3 of CSSB 202.

cc: John Sturgeon
State Forester

League of Women Voters of Alaska

9151 Skywood Lane
Juneau, Alaska 99801
May 21, 1984

The Honorable John Ringstad
The Honorable Richard Schultz
Co-Chairs, House Resources Committee
Alaska Legislature
Room 116, Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Re: Yakataga State Forest [CS SB 202 (Fin)]

Dear Chairmen Ringstad and Schultz and Committee Members:

The League of Women Voters of Alaska supports enactment of the subject legislation. We hope your Committee will promptly report out the bill.

Sincerely,


Elizabeth Cuadra, Board Member
(Natural Resources Portfolio)

DEC:sd
cc: Paula Ziegler (LWVAK President)