

S B

3 0

Alaska State Legislature

ARLISS STURGULEWSKI, Chairman
BETTYE FAHRENKAMP, Vice Chairman
JACK COGHILL
DICK ELIASON
VIC FISCHER
RICK HALFORD
FRED ZHAROFF



POUCH V
JUNEAU, ALASKA. 99811
(907) 465-4807

Senate Committee on Resources

February 8, 1985

COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES LETTER OF INTENT FOR SB 30

The Yakataga State Forest will comprise most of the habitable state owned land in the area between Cape Suckling and Icy Bay along the north coast of the Gulf of Alaska.

The legislature recognizes that certain future demands for land in the Yakataga area may be beyond the criteria allowed in a state forest designation.

Therefore in this unique situation the legislature intends for portions of township 215 Range 17E to be managed within the Department of Natural Resources general land management program for future use.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Arliss Sturgulewski".

Senator Arliss Sturgulewski
Chairman, Senate Resources Committee

COMMITTEE REPORT
SENATE

FURTHER: FINANCE

1/14/85

Date 2/8/85

Mr. President

The Committee on RESOURCES considered SB 30
establishing the Yokataga State Forest, efd.

and (~~a majority of the committee~~) (the committee) reports it back with the following recommendations:

- do pass
- do pass with attached amendment(s)
- replace with/or adopt CS for SB 30 (RESOURCES)
- new title
- same title and recommends _____
- and attached a "LETTER OF INTENT" [] NEW FISCAL NOTE
- reports it back without recommendation
- recommends referral to _____ Committee

MEMBERS SIGNING
DO PASS

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

MEMBERS HAVING
OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

[Signature]
Chairman

[Signature]
Chairman recommendation

February 8, 1985

Physical and legal description of land excluded from the state forest by
proposed committee substitute for SB 30

About 960 gross acres, fairly flat with several minor glacial streams. Small resident moose population present. Vegetation varies from dense old-growth forest to cottonwood to grassy meadows. No mining claims are known. Access via public easement from Yakataga airstrip through about one mile of Chugach native land on an unmaintained roadway. The road ends at foot bridge just to the southwest in this section. Residential development would probably be dispersed throughout the exclusion area with any commercial activity likely to develop near the southwest corner. Based on existing information, this exclusion would probably have the least long-term impact on the resource values/development of the Yakataga State Forest.

Legal Description--in T21S R17E CRM

Sections 1-9; W1/2 Sec. 10; E1/2 Sec. 11; Sec 12-13; E1/2, SW1/4 Sec. 14;
W1/2, SE1/4 Sec. 15; Sec. 16-36.

SENATOR
ARLISS STURGULEWSKI

2957 SHELDON JACKSON
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99508
SENATE DISTRICT F, SEAT A

Alaska State Legislature



While in Juneau
POUCH V
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
(907) 455-2818

Senate

MEMORANDUM

January 24, 1985

TO: All Members
Senate Resources Committee

FROM: Senate Resources Staff *MJE*

RE: SB 30 "An Act establishing the Yakataga State Forest; and providing for an effective date."

Senate Bill 30 would establish Yakataga State Forest along the coast of the Gulf of Alaska, between Cape Suckling and Icy Bay. Maps are included in the attached packet.

All land affected by this bill is state owned. Designating this land as a state forest, will commit the state to managing the land for multiple use under a long-term development plan. This development plan will provide the long-term stability needed by users of resources that require large capital investments.

A summary of factual information from the State Forester and letters of support for creation of the forest are in the packet, as well as a position paper and fiscal note from the Department of Natural Resources. The letters of support are from last year; however, John Sturgeon, the State Forester, has told us that all these groups remain in support of the creation of the forest. The recent report by the Alaska Timber Task Force listed the creation of new state forests as a key recommendation and included Yakataga as a priority area.

We have attempted to notify all concerned parties of this hearing and we are not aware of any opposition to the creation of the Yakataga State Forest.

*Alaska State Soc. of Amer. Foresters
Alaska Loggers Assoc
Ordma Hands Coalition
Mt. Sitka CFC
City & Borough Sitka*

FILE
SB30

APR 27 1985



CITY of YAKUTAT

P.O. Box 6
YAKUTAT, ALASKA 99689
(907) 784-3323

April 24, 1985

Honorable Adelheid Herrman
Honorable Richard Shultz
Co-Chairs
House Committee on Resources

Alaska State Legislature
Pouch V (Ms 3100)
Juneau, Alaska 99811

RE: SB 30 Creating a Yakataga State Forest

Enclosed is a copy of a resolution passed by the Yakutat City Council at its meeting of April 22, 1985. The resolution marks a change in the position of the City of Yakutat relative to SB 30.

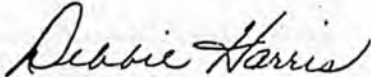
At first the City of Yakutat supported SB 30 as a way of gaining weight for local interests when decisions were being made for the Yakataga foreland area. Recently the City of Yakutat has begun considering annexation, borough formation, and the formation of a Coastal Resource Service area. We have come to realize that SB 30 and the creation of a Yakataga State Forest are a great disincentive to bringing those areas under any sort of incorporated local government. With the formation of a State Forest in the area we can no longer think of any incentives why Yakutat would initiate the formation of a local or regional government in that area, and it seems unlikely that any other group would form a borough if Yakutat did not.

It seems to us that the decision to establish a Yakataga State Forest might be a de facto decision that neither borough nor Coastal Resource Service Area will ever be formed in the Yakutat area. Certainly it will reduce the chances of that happening and will set back the time of its happening for many years.

SB 30.
Page Two.

In light of the State's long time policy encouraging the formation of local governments; and in light of its commitment to the formation of Coastal Resource Service Areas, we would urge the members of the House Committee on Resources to consider the potential impact of SB 30 on the Formation of both local government and Coastal Resource Service Areas. We urge you to consider Yakutat's reasons for changing its position from support of the proposed to opposition. We urge you to consider Yakutat Council Resolution 85-9 and to consider opposing the formation of a Yakataga State Forest.

Sincerely,
Larry Powell
Mayor



Debbie Harris
City Clerk

cc: Committee members
DCRA

CITY OF YAKUTAT, ALASKA

RESOLUTION NO. 85-9

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A YAKATAGA STATE FOREST.

WHEREAS, The Alaska Legislature is currently debating passage of SB 30 establishing a Yakataga State Forest; and

WHEREAS, The residents of Yakutat are traditional users of that commercial, sport and subsistence area which has been designated for inclusion in the Yakataga State Forest; and

WHEREAS, The community of Yakutat is currently considering both Coastal Resource Service Area and borough formation in the Yakutat area; and

WHEREAS, The establishment of a state forest at Yakataga would be a clear disincentive to the formation of a borough in the area; and

WHEREAS, The establishment of a state forest at Yakataga would be a clear disincentive to the formation of a Coastal Resource Area; and

WHEREAS, It is the policy of the State of Alaska to encourage the formation of boroughs and Coastal Resource Service Areas; and

WHEREAS, The establishment of a state forest at Yakataga would require the development of a state plan for the area in advance of a Coastal Resource Service Area being established, thus removing area uses from the purview of locally-elected body; and

WHEREAS, It is the policy of the state to support decision making at the local level; and


THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Common Council of the city of Yakutat opposes the establishment of a Yakataga State Forest; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Council urges the legislature of the State of Alaska to consider fully and completely the impact which the formation of a Yakataga State Forest will have on the potential formation of either a borough or a Coastal Resource Service Area.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 22nd DAY OF APRIL, 1985.

CITY OF YAKUTAT, ALASKA

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK


MAYOR

STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE LIBRARY

POUCH Y - STATE CAPITOL
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
907-465-3800

May, 1988

Copies of minutes listed below were originally included in this file. The minutes are available on the STAIRS database CMPR. In order to save space copies of minutes have not been left in the files.

Mary Van Nimwegen

SR 1-25-85 1:30pm

COOK INLET CHAPTER
JUNEAU CHAPTER
KETCHIKAN CHAPTER
YUKON RIVER CHAPTER
SITKA CHAPTER
STIKINE RIVER CHAPTER

ALASKA STATE SOCIETY
OF
AMERICAN FORESTERS



Cook Inlet Chapter

Senate Committee on Resources
Alaska State Legislature
Pouch V
Juneau, AK 99811

February 22, 1985

Dear Committee Members:

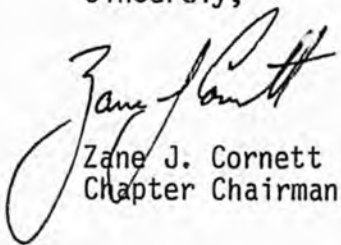
The current legislative session provides another opportunity to assure that responsible, active management of the State's forested land is initiated. By this, I mean land management actions based on recognition of the presence and values of the various land resources and on objectives to preserve, protect, conserve, enhance, and harvest those resources as appropriate. The productive forest lands in State ownership need management if they are to provide the full range of products, services and amenities of which they are capable. A system of State Forests is provided for in the statutes. Appropriate units of forest land need to be added to the system, which now includes only the Haines and Tanana Valley State Forests.

Senate Bill 30 would add a Cape Yakataga Forest to the system. A bill, yet to be introduced, would add a Susitna Forest to the system. Both of those forests are of high priority because one contains the most productive forest lands in State ownership (Yakataga) and the other a portion of the forest land available in the Susitna River Basin where on half of the State's population resides.

Both provide excellent opportunities for wood production and growth, wildlife habitat enhancement and protection, dispersed recreation opportunities, and all of the additional benefits of forested land. The people of Alaska will receive the full benefits of public land ownership when those lands are actively and efficiently managed for multiple resource protection and use.

Your support of the establishment of these units of the State Forest system is needed. The Cook Inlet Chapter of the Society of American Foresters urges you to provide that support to speed passage of these bills.

Sincerely,



Zane J. Cornett
Chapter Chairman



Alaska State Legislature

ARLISS STURGULEWSKI, Chairman
BETTYE FAHRENKAMP, Vice Chairman
JACK COGHILL
DICK ELIASON
VIC FISCHER
RICK HALFORD
FRED ZHAROFF



POUCH V
JUNEAU, ALASKA. 99811
(907) 485-4907

Senate Committee on Resources

February 15, 1985

Fred Harnisch
201 Meadow Creek
Eagle River, AK 99577

Dear Fred:

Thank you for your message in support of Senate Bill 30 "An Act establishing the Yakataga State Forest." The Senate Resources Committee, of which I am chairman, was the first committee of referral for this bill. The first public hearing on SB 30 was held on January 25. That hearing resulted in work sessions between the Department of Natural Resources, Resources committee members and Resources committee staff. Public testimony was again taken on SB 30 at the February 8 Resources meeting and CS SB 30 (Resources) was passed out of the committee with my support.

Committee Substitute Senate Bill 30 (Resources) is now in the Finance Committee and I encourage you to advise them of your support for this legislation.

Again, thank you for contacting me regarding this important bill. You may be assured that it will continue to have my support as it moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Arliss".

Senator Arliss Sturgulewski
Chairman, Senate Resources Committee

bh:bh

*Yakutaga
Response
Do we have one?*

*
* DELIVER TO: JFOM
*
*
* ORIGINAL
* SENT: 02/04/85 TIME: 13:42
* FROM: FLORENCE CARNAHAN
* SUBJECT: POM
* PRINT DATE: 02/04/85 TIME: 13:43
*

TO: SENATORS STURGULEWSKI, FAHRENKAMP, COGHILL, ELIASON, V. FISCHER, HALFORD AND ZHAROFF

FROM: FRED M. HARNISCH 201 MEADOW CREEK, EAGLE RIVER, ALASKA 99577 (H) 694-2645 (W) 279-5541

RE: SB30

I WISH TO SUPPORT SB 30 WHICH CREATES THE YAKUTAGA STATE FOREST AND WOULD LIKE TO SEE THIS BILL MOVED THROUGH YOUR COMMITTEE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT.

standard
SB 30 response
please

ch to see
if it needs
to be updated
MCH

*
* DELIVER TO: JPOM
*
* ORIGINAL
* SENT: 01/31/85 TIME: 13:27
* FROM: FLORENCE CARNAHAN
* SUBJECT: FOM
* PRINT DATE: 01/31/85 TIME: 13:27
*

TO: SENATORS COGHILL, ELIASON, FAHRENKAMP, V. FISCHER, HALFORD,
STURGULEWSKI AND ZHAROFF

FROM: BILL VAN HEES 7011 STELLA PLACE, ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99507
(H)349-4818 AND (W)272-5502

RE: SB 30

I STRONGLY SUPPORT SB 30 CREATING THE YAKUTAGA STATE FORREST. I
REQUEST THAT YOU FACILITATE MOVING THIS BILL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
THANK YOU.

TO: SENATORS COGHILL, ELIASON, FAHRENKAMP, V. FISCHER, HALFORD,
STURGULEWSKI AND ZHAROFF

FROM: BOB WILHELM, SR1 BOX 2784, CHUGIAK, ALASKA 99567 (H)
688-3754

RE: SB 30

I STRONGLY SUPPORT SB 30 CREATING THE YAKUTAGA STATE FORREST AND
I RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THAT YOU PLEASE FACILITATE THE MOVEMENT OF
THE BILL OUT OF COMMITTEE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THANK YOU.

*
* DELIVER TO: JPOM *
*
* ORIGINAL *
* SENT: 01/31/85 TIME: 09:40 *
* FROM: LANA TRUJILLO *
* SUBJECT: POM *
* PRINT DATE: 01/31/85 TIME: 09:41 *
*

TO: SEN. COGHILL, ELIASON, FAHRENKAMP, VIC FISCHER, HALFORD,
STURGULEWSKI AND ZHAROFF

FROM: RAY KOLESER, 1445 VIRGINIA CT., P.O. BOX 10-4665,
ANCHORAGE, 99510, 279-4068(HM), 272-5502(WK)

RE: SB 30

AS A RESIDENT OF ALASKA I WANT TO SUPPORT THE PASSAGE OF SB 30,
YAKATAGA STATE FOREST, AND I WOULD LIKE TO SEE IT MOVED OUT OF
COMMITTEE FOR FURTHER LEGISLATIVE ACTION.

Makie

```

*****
*
* DELIVER TO: JFOM
*
* ORIGINAL
* SENT: 01/31/85 TIME: 09:59
* FROM: LANA TRUJILLO
* SUBJECT: POM
* PRINT DATE: 01/31/85 TIME: 09:59
*
*****

```

TO: SEN. COGHILL, ELIASON, FAHRENKAMP, VIC FISCHER, HALFORD, STURGULEWSKI AND ZHAROFF

FROM: KEN WINTERBERGOR, 8516 BOUNDARY, #5, ANCHORAGE, 99504, 333-2383(HM)

RE: SB 30

I SUPPORT SB 30 YAKATAGA STATE FOREST BILL. I'D LIKE TO SEE IT MOVE OUT OF COMMITTEE FOR FURTHER LEGISLATIVE ACTION.

FROM: FRED LARSON, 2420 GLENKERRY DR., ANCHORAGE, 99504, 272-5502(WK)

RE: SB 30

I SUPPORT SB 30 FOR THE YAKATAGA STATE FOREST AND REQUEST IT BE MOVED OUT OF COMMITTEE FOR FURTHER LEGISLATIVE ACTION.

FROM: VERNON J. LABAU, 1123 RILL CIRCLE, ANCHORAGE, 99504, 337-2842(HM)

RE: SB 30

I STRONGLY SUPPORT SB 30 CREATING THE YAKATAGA STATE FOREST. PLEASE FACILITATE MOVING THIS BILL THROUGH YOUR COMMITTEE ASAP.

*
* DELIVER TO: JPOM *
*
* ORIGINAL *
* SENT: 01/29/85 TIME: 14:16 *
* FROM: PAULA GRAY *
* SUBJECT: FOM-FAIRBANKS *
* PRINT DATE: 01/29/85 . TIME: 14:16 14 *
*

TO: SENATE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

SENS: STURGULEWSKI, FAHRENKAMP, ELIASON, ZHAROFF, HALFORD,
COGHILL, V. FISCHER

INTERIOR DELEGATION

SENS: BENNETT

REPS: FRANK, DAVIS, KOPONEN, M.W. MILLER, RINGSTAD

FROM: CHRIS POLSON
834 GOLDFINCH ROAD
FAIRBANKS, AK, 99701

PHONE: 479-0170-H 474-7114-W

RE: SB 30, YAKATAGA STATE FOREST

MSG: I WOULD LIKE TO GIVE MY SUPPORT TO THE PASSAGE OF SENATE
BILL 30 FOR THE YAKATAGA STATE FOREST, RECOGNIZING ITS VALUE TO
THE STATE ALONG THE SAME LINES AS THE TANANA VALLEY STATE FOREST
AS INSURANCE THERE WILL BE A TIMBER RESOURCE FOR THE FUTURE.

*
* DELIVER TO: JFOM
*
*
* ORIGINAL
* SENT: 01/29/85 TIME: 13:08
* FROM: PAULA GRAY
* SUBJECT: POM-FAIRBANKS
* PRINT DATE: 01/29/85 TIME: 13:09 14
*

TO: SENATE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

SENS: STURGULEWSKI, FAHRENKAMP, ELIASON, ZHAROFF, HALFORD,
COGHILL, V. FISCHER

INTERIOR DELEGATION

SENS: BENNETT

REPS: FRANK, DAVIS, KOPONEN, M.W. MILLER, RINGSTAD

FROM: JOHN ZASADA
1551 LARUE
FAIRBANKS, AK, 99701

PHONE: 479-4160-H NO WK PH

RE: SB 30, YAKATAGA STATE FOREST

MSG: I SUPPORT THE YAKATAGA STATE FOREST AND URGE YOU TO
CREATE THE FOREST THIS SESSION.

Makie

```

*****
*
* DELIVER TO: JPOM
*
* ORIGINAL
* SENT: 01/29/85 TIME: 10:40
* FROM: FLORENCE CARNAHAN
* SUBJECT: POM
* PRINT DATE: 01/29/85 TIME: 10:40
*
*****

```

TO: SENATORS COGHILL, ELIASON, FAHRENKAMP, V. FISCHER, HALFORD, STURGULEWSKI, ZHAROFF

FROM: DAN KETCHUM, 8830 CORDELL CIRCLE, ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99502 248-4816

RE: SB 30 AND SUSITNA

I URGE YOUR SUPPORT OF ESTABLISHMENT OF YAKUTAGA AND SUSITNA STATE FORESTS. SF SYSTEM PROVIDES BEST OPTION FOR ACTIVE, EFFICIENT FOREST LAND MANAGEMENT WHICH WILL INSURE A FLOW OF GOODS AND SERVICES FROM STATE OWNED FOREST LANDS TO ALASKANS.

STOOPS ASSOCIATES

Reed R. Stoops

Suite 218 Merchants Wharf

Lee M. Stoops

*No. 2 Marine Way**Consulting, Government**Juneau, Alaska 99801**Relations, Management**907-586-3561**Services*

February 7, 1985

Arlis Sturgulewski
Alaska State Senate
Chairman, Senate Resource Committee
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Senator Sturgulewski:

It is our understanding that an amendment to Senate Bill 30, "An Act establishing the Yakataga State Forest", has been proposed which would remove approximately 1,000 acres of state land from the boundaries of the prospective Yakataga State Forest. The purpose of the boundary adjustment would be to anticipate demand for a state land disposal sometime in the future.

On behalf of the Chugach Alaska Corporation, I wish to advise the Committee that it does not view the boundary adjustment as either necessary or desirable. First, the proposed deletion lies immediately north of, and adjacent to a 1,040 acre tract of land containing the Yakataga airstrip which was conveyed to Chugach as a part of its 1982 Settlement Agreement with the federal government. Should there be a demand for commercial or recreational land use in the area, the Chugach tract is better suited to development as it surrounds the only access to the area.

Second, the likelihood that future demand for the land will materialize is very small. The land is remote and not particularly suited for recreational use, and the opportunities for commercial


use are quite limited. To date, Chugach has not been contacted by anyone with an interest in either commercial or recreational use.

Third, we believe that the sale of state land for recreational use would be in conflict with the objectives of the State Forest, which we understand to be the sustained harvest of the timber resources. Why create potential conflicts when Yakataga is now unique in the absence of conflict?

If the Committee does elect to delete land for potential disposal, then we strongly urge that you require the Department of Natural Resources to demonstrate that there is a demand for a disposal which cannot be reasonably accomodated by Chugach Alaska Corporation, and that the timber on the state tract be included as part of the timber inventory for the State Forest for the purpose of calculating sustained yield.

We thank you for the opportunity to express our views on this issue.

Sincerely,


Reed Stoops

Alaska State Legislature

ARLISS STURGULEWSKI, Chairman
BETTYE FAHRENKAMP, Vice Chairman
JACK COGHILL
DICK ELIASON
VIC FISCHER
RICK HALFORD
FRED Z'VAROFF



POUCH V
JUNEAU, ALASKA. 99811
(907) 465-4907

Senate Committee on Resources

February 8, 1985

COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES LETTER OF INTENT FOR SB 30

The Yakataga State Forest will comprise most of the habitable state owned land in the area between Cape Suckling and Icy Bay along the north coast of the Gulf of Alaska.

The legislature recognizes that certain future demands for land in the Yakataga area may be beyond the criteria allowed in a state forest designation but within state land use plans.

Therefore in this unique situation the legislature intends for portions of township 215 Range 17E to be managed within the Department of Natural Resources general land management program for future use.

Senator Arliss Sturgulewski
Chairman, Senate Resources Committee

February 8, 1985

Physical and legal description of land excluded from the state forest by proposed committee substitute for SB 30

About 960 gross acres, fairly flat with several minor glacial streams. Small resident moose population present. Vegetation varies from dense old-growth forest to cottonwood to grassy meadows. No mining claims are known. Access via public easement from Yakataga airstrip through about one mile of Chugach native land on an unmaintained roadway. The road ends at foot bridge just to the southwest in this section. Residential development would probably be dispersed throughout the exclusion area with any commercial activity likely to develop near the southwest corner. Based on existing information, this exclusion would probably have the least long-term impact on the resource values/development of the Yakataga State Forest.

Legal Description--in T21S R17E CRM

Sections 1-9; W1/2 Sec. 10; E1/2 Sec. 11; Sec 12-13; E1/2, SW1/4 Sec. 14; W1/2, SE1/4 Sec. 15; Sec. 16-36.

OPTIONS FOR YAKATAGA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ON STATE LANDS

OPTION I -- ABOUT 960 GROSS ACRES. FAIRLY FLAT WITH SEVERAL MINOR GLACIAL STREAMS. SMALL RESIDENT MOOSE POPULATION PRESENT. VEGETATION VARIES FROM DENSE OLD-GROWTH FOREST TO COTTONWOOD TO GRASSY MEADOWS. NO MINING CLAIMS ARE KNOWN. ACCESS VIA PUBLIC EASEMENT FROM YAKATAGA AIRSTRIP THROUGH ABOUT ONE MILE OF CHUGACH NATIVE LAND ON AN UNMAINTAINED ROADWAY. THE ROAD ENDS AT FOOT BRIDGE JUST TO THE SOUTHWEST OF THIS OPTION. RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT WOULD PROBABLY BE DISPERSED THROUGHOUT THE OPTION WITH ANY COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY LIKELY TO DEVELOP NEAR THE SOUTHWEST CORNER. BASED ON EXISTING INFORMATION THIS OPTION WOULD PROBABLY HAVE THE LEAST LONG-TERM IMPACT ON THE RESOURCE VALUES/DEVELOPMENT OF THE YAKATAGA STATE FOREST.

OPTION II -- ABOUT 640 GROSS ACRES WITH MOST BEING SUITABLE FOR DEVELOPMENT. AREA IS FLAT TO SLOPING WITH COASTLINE FRONTAGE INCLUDED. PROBABLE GOAT WINTER HABITAT FOR ANIMALS COMING OFF YAKATAGA RIDGE. VEGETATION PRINCIPALLY DENSE OLD-GROWTH FOREST WITH SMALL INTERSPERSED BOGS. SOME CONFLICTS WITH MINING CLAIMS ON COAST. ACCESS VIA PUBLIC EASEMENT FROM THE YAKATAGA AIRSTRIP ACROSS ONE-HALF MILE OF CHUGACH NATIVE LAND AND DEPENDENT ON AN EXISTING BRIDGE WHICH IS IN POOR CONDITION. THE BRIDGE REQUIRES NEAR TERM REPLACEMENT AND CONTINUOUS MAINTENANCE, BOTH OF WHICH WILL ULTIMATELY BE ACCOMPLISHED VIA TIMBER SALE CONTRACT AT SOME TIME IN THE FUTURE. THE EXISTING ROADWAY PARALLELS THE COAST. A BRANCH RUNNING THROUGH THE WESTERN PORTION WILL BE CONSTRUCTED IN THE FUTURE TO ACCESS FORESTED AREAS AND MINERAL CLAIMS UP THE SOUTH FORK OF THE YAKATAGA RIVER. THE REMAINDER OF SECTIONS 24 AND 25 WERE NOT INCLUDED IN THIS OPTION IN AN EFFORT TO REDUCE CONFLICTS WITH GOAT WINTER HABITAT, BROWN BEAR MIGRATION ROUTES AND MINING CLAIMS. RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT COULD OCCUR AS EITHER DENSE OR DISPERSED WITH COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT MOST PROBABLE NEAR THE FUTURE INTERSECTION OF THE TWO TRANSPORTATION ROUTES. THIS OPTION WOULD PROVIDE THE HIGHEST AMENITY RESIDENTIAL LAND. IMPACTS ON LONG-TERM RESOURCE MANAGEMENT WOULD INCLUDE ACCESS LIMITATIONS AND A REDUCTION OF OPERABLE, COMMERCIAL FOREST LAND BASE ABOVE THAT OF OPTION I BUT BELOW THAT OF OPTION III.

OPTION III -- ABOUT 900 GROSS ACRES. FLAT WITH WET GRASSY MEADOWS AND HEAVILY FORESTED AREAS IN ALTERNATING BANDS PARALLEL TO THE COASTLINE. SMALL YEAR ROUND MOOSE POPULATION. POSSIBLE MINING CLAIM CONFLICTS DIRECTLY ON COASTLINE. ACCESS AT PRESENT WOULD BE VIA YAKATAGA AIRSTRIP AND FORDING THE DUKTOH RIVER WHICH IS SENSITIVE TO BOTH GLACIAL MELT AND RAINFALL. ACCESS IS ALSO POSSIBLE VIA BEACH LANDINGS HOWEVER WINDS AND TIDES ARE MAJOR CONCERNS THAT MUST BE CONTINUOUSLY MONITORED. FUTURE ACCESS WILL ULTIMATELY BE DEVELOPED TO THE AREA BY FOREST MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS. RESIDENTIAL USE COULD EITHER BE CONCENTRATED OR DISPERSED WITH ANY COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT MOST LIKELY TO OCCUR ALONG THE TRANSPORTATION ROUTE WHEN IT DEVELOPS. THIS OPTION WOULD HAVE THE MOST IMPACT OF THE THREE ON THE COMMERCIAL FOREST BASE AND WOULD INCLUDE THE GREATEST LENGTH OF MAIN TRANSPORTATION ROUTING.

LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS FOR THE OPTIONS ----- ALL IN T21S R17E CRM

OPTION I --- SECTIONS 1-9; W1/2 SEC.10; E1/2 SEC.11; SEC.12-13;
E1/2, SW1/4 SEC.14; W1/2, SE1/4 SEC.15; SEC.16-36.

OPTION II --- SECTIONS 1-22; W1/2 SEC.23; E1/2 SEC.24; E1/2,
SW1/4 SEC.25; SEC.26-36.

OPTION III --- SECTIONS 1-16; W1/2 SEC.18; SEC.19-36.



Alaska Environmental Lobby, Inc.

~~410 5th Avenue, Suite 338~~ Juneau, Alaska 99801
204 N. Franklin St. Suite 3

907-586-2345

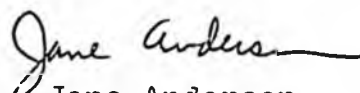
January 24, 1985

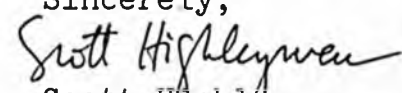
Senator Richard I. Eliason
State Capitol
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Eliason,

The Alaska Environmental Lobby would like to congratulate you on your recent introduction of SB-30 "An Act establishing the Yakataga State Forest". Setting aside acreage as forest land benefits all Alaskans by establishing multiple use management principles with a mechanism for public comment. The establishment of the Yakataga State Forest will help to insure the kind of quality environment Alaskans have a right to expect.

Please feel free to contact us at our Juneau office for further information on the Alaska Environmental Lobby's position on this or other pieces of legislation. We look forward to working with you on SB-30.


Jane Anderson
Staff Lobbyist

Sincerely,

Scott Highleyman
Executive Director

cc: Senator Jay Kerttula
Senator Vic Fischer

ALASKA CENTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT • ALASKA CHAPTER, SIERRA CLUB
ALASKA WILDERNESS GUIDES ASSOCIATION • ANCHORAGE AUDUBON SOCIETY
ARCTIC AUDUBON SOCIETY • DENALI CITIZENS' COUNCIL • FRIENDS OF THE EARTH
JUNEAU AUDUBON SOCIETY • KACHEMAK BAY CONSERVATION SOCIETY • KENAI AUDUBON SOCIETY
KODIAK AUDUBON SOCIETY • LYNN CANAL CONSERVATION • NORTHERN ALASKA ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER
SITKA CONSERVATION SOCIETY • SOUTHEAST ALASKA CONSERVATION COUNCIL

P.O. Box 1135
Juneau, Alaska 99802
February 1, 1985

Senator Arliss Sturgulewski
Alaska State Senate
Room 508
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Sturgulewski:

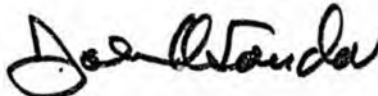
I refer to hearings the Senate Resources Committee have been holding on SB 30 - the proposal to establish the Yakataga State Forest.

Recognizing the busy hearing schedule facing the Senate Resources Committee and the general agreement of those testifying on the proposed legislation, I believe it is adequate that my statement simply be placed on the record. As noted in the copy of the enclosed letter to Senator Bennett - I was prompted to develop the statement as a reaction to his remarks. I am hopeful that a majority of legislators would be supportive of a variety of actions necessary to encourage resource development projects in the State. I am well aware of your position on this matter and appreciative of your excellent record in support of wise resource use.

I will be travelling extensively the next three months and wish you and your colleagues success in the completion of this legislative session. All of us are encouraged by the more positive climate of this session.

Best regards,

Sincerely,



John A. Sandor

P.O. Box 1135
Juneau, Alaska 99802
January 27, 1985

Don Bennett
President
Alaska State Senate
Room 113
Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Bennett:

Your excellent remarks to the Juneau Rotary Club last week - and our brief conversation afterward prompted me to prepare a statement for the Senate Resources Committee. A copy of the statement is enclosed.

If Alaska is to move forward with significant resource development projects and be competitive in the international market, a number of different initiatives should be pursued.

Thank you again for your comments.

Sincerely,



John A. Sandor

Statement Presented Before the Alaska State Senate Resources
Committee

January 25, 1985

My name is John A. Sandor. I have been a resident of Alaska for seventeen years and have served in a variety of professional forestry, land and resource management assignments. I was Regional Forester for the Alaska Region, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture from 1976-84, and was a member of the Alaska Land Use Council from 1981-84.

I have a special interest in international business/government activities. I was a participant in the 1979 World Forestry Congress in Indonesia; U.S. Delegate to the North American Food & Agriculture Conference held in Can Cun, Mexico in 1980; a member of the 1983 Forestry Trade Mission to Japan and the Peoples Republic of China; and a participant in the 1984 Conference of Professional Forestry Societies in Quebec, Canada.

I am the owner of Alaska-Pacific Rim Enterprises and a Senior Associate of Alaska Resource Analysts, Inc.

My statement before this Committee is presented as an Alaska resident and resource management professional deeply concerned about the opportunities for the development of Alaska's resources; the promotion of foreign and domestic markets for Alaska products; the encouragement of a more diversified economy; and the improvement in transportation/energy systems for community development, recreation-tourism and commercial purposes.

The prolonged economic recession and related problems adversely affecting the forest products and other industries of this and other countries can be expected to continue for the short term, but will improve over time. It is essential that the government and private sectors work closely together to improve Alaska's resource development capability and competitive position in the international market.

I am encouraged by and strongly endorse the various efforts underway by the State Administration, Legislature and the Alaska Congressional Delegation to promote foreign markets particularly with the Pacific Rim countries. These efforts, however, must also be coordinated with other initiatives and actions which will help eliminate or at least reduce the existing barriers to resource management and economic development. Without such initiatives and actions, Alaska will

not be able to achieve its potential in the international market. It should be noted that such actions can be taken with proper safeguard of the environment and natural resource values.

The following are a few of the actions and initiatives which I believe merit priority attention:

1. Improvement of access and transportation systems including port facilities.
2. Cooperative development of energy generating and intertie systems; including the encouragement of private power generation and linkage to such systems.
3. Conveyance of appropriate Federal-State lands to communities and the private sector; cooperative land management planning and development.
4. Reform and simplify excessive and redundant Federal/State laws and regulations which result in project delays, high production costs or are barriers to sound development and marketing actions.
5. Encourage additional inventory and research of Alaska's natural resources to aid land management planning, development and resource protection.
6. Provide additional education/training opportunities which would promote a better understanding of potential trading countries and an improvement in international business management skills.
7. Encourage the establishment of State Forests where such designation is consistent with over-all State objectives and the lands are appropriate for multiple-use and sustained yield management.

Inasmuch as this Hearing is focusing attention on SB-30; the proposal to establish the Yakataga State Forest, I would like to direct my remaining comments on this specific proposal.

Federal and State government reports indicate the forest products industry in Alaska during 1987 provided 5,500 jobs and generated a product value of over 350 million dollars. Although the forest products industry has been severely depressed in this current (1982-1985) period, the market situation can be greatly improved in the future. In the long-range future, Alaska could be a world class producer of forest products from public and private forest lands. Ten

percent of the nation's softwood timber volume is located in this state which is in close proximity to pacific-rim markets.

In addition, domestic markets have not been developed. For example, the Alaska rail-belt region utilizes over 100 million board feet of forest products. However, only about 15% of these products are produced from Alaska's forests and processing plants.

Single use allocations of public lands has hampered the development of a larger, more viable forest products industry in the state. A State Forest System, dedicated to sustained-yield and multiple-use management can help assure the wise use of the various resources of the forest including access for hunting, fishing and other forms of recreation. Mineral development is also provided for under such management.

The establishment of a Yakataga State Forest would commit the highly productive forest lands between Cape Suckling and Icy Bay to such management. The management of this forest land would greatly improve the timber supply situation in the Prince William Sound-Southeast Alaska regions. This could be particularly beneficial to Cordova, Yakutat, Seward and other communities of this region.

The establishment of such long-term supplies of productive timber would also be beneficial to securing long-term trade commitments with the potential purchasers of forest products in Japan, The Peoples Republic of China, Korea, Taiwan and other countries.

The Department of Natural Resources has a strong corps of professional staff; have demonstrated the ability to work with other governmental organizations and the private sector to achieve the objectives beneficial to all Alaskans.

I appreciate the opportunity to appear before this Committee to endorse the proposal to establish the Yakataga State Forest and to urge the adoption of other initiatives and actions to promote the wise use of Alaska's resources.

Thank you.

Statement Presented Before the Alaska State Senate Resources
Committee

January 25, 1985

My name is John A. Sandor. I have been a resident of Alaska for seventeen years and have served in a variety of professional forestry, land and resource management assignments. I was Regional Forester for the Alaska Region, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture from 1976-84, and was a member of the Alaska Land Use Council from 1981-84.

I have a special interest in international business/government activities. I was a participant in the 1979 World Forestry Congress in Indonesia; U.S. Delegate to the North American Food & Agriculture Conference held in Can Cun, Mexico in 1980; a member of the 1983 Forestry Trade Mission to Japan and the Peoples Republic of China; and a participant in the 1984 Conference of Professional Forestry Societies in Quebec, Canada.

I am the owner of Alaska-Pacific Rim Enterprises and a Senior Associate of Alaska Resource Analysts, Inc.

My statement before this Committee is presented as an Alaska resident and resource management professional deeply concerned about the opportunities for the development of Alaska's resources; the promotion of foreign and domestic markets for Alaska products; the encouragement of a more diversified economy; and the improvement in transportation/energy systems for community development, recreation-tourism and commercial purposes.

The prolonged economic recession and related problems adversely affecting the forest products and other industries of this and other countries can be expected to continue for the short term, but will improve over time. It is essential that the government and private sectors work closely together to improve Alaska's resource development capability and competitive position in the international market.

I am encouraged by and strongly endorse the various efforts underway by the State Administration, Legislature and the Alaska Congressional Delegation to promote foreign markets particularly with the Pacific Rim countries. These efforts, however, must also be coordinated with other initiatives and actions which will help eliminate or at least reduce the existing barriers to resource management and economic development. Without such initiatives and actions, Alaska will

not be able to achieve its potential in the international market. It should be noted that such actions can be taken with proper safeguard of the environment and natural resource values.

The following are a few of the actions and initiatives which I believe merit priority attention:

1. Improvement of access and transportation systems including port facilities.
2. Cooperative development of energy generating and intertie systems; including the encouragement of private power generation and linkage to such systems.
3. Conveyance of appropriate Federal-State lands to communities and the private sector; cooperative land management planning and development.
4. Reform and simplify excessive and redundant Federal/State laws and regulations which result in project delays, high production costs or are barriers to sound development and marketing actions.
5. Encourage additional inventory and research of Alaska's natural resources to aid land management planning, development and resource protection.
6. Provide additional education/training opportunities which would promote a better understanding of potential trading countries and an improvement in international business management skills.
7. Encourage the establishment of State Forests where such designation is consistent with over-all State objectives and the lands are appropriate for multiple-use and sustained yield management.

Inasmuch as this Hearing is focusing attention on SB-30; the proposal to establish the Yakataga State Forest, I would like to direct my remaining comments on this specific proposal.

Federal and State government reports indicate the forest products industry in Alaska during 1983 provided 5,500 jobs and generated a product value of over 350 million dollars. Although the forest products industry has been severely depressed in this current (1982-1985) period, the market situation can be greatly improved in the future. In the long-range future, Alaska could be a world class producer of forest products from public and private forest lands. Ten

percent of the nation's softwood timber volume is located in this state which is in close proximity to pacific-rim markets.

In addition, domestic markets have not been developed. For example, the Alaska rail-belt region utilizes over 100 million board feet of forest products. However, only about 15% of these products are produced from Alaska's forests and processing plants.

Single use allocations of public lands has hampered the development of a larger, more viable forest products industry in the state. A State Forest System, dedicated to sustained-yield and multiple-use management can help assure the wise use of the various resources of the forest including access for hunting, fishing and other forms of recreation. Mineral development is also provided for under such management.

The establishment of a Yakataga State Forest would commit the highly productive forest lands between Cape Suckling and Icy Bay to such management. The management of this forest land would greatly improve the timber supply situation in the Prince William Sound-Southeast Alaska regions. This could be particularly beneficial to Cordova, Yakutat, Seward and other communities of this region.

The establishment of such long-term supplies of productive timber would also be beneficial to securing long-term trade commitments with the potential purchasers of forest products in Japan, The Peoples Republic of China, Korea, Taiwan and other countries.

The Department of Natural Resources has a strong corps of professional staff; have demonstrated the ability to work with other governmental organizations and the private sector to achieve the objectives beneficial to all Alaskans.

I appreciate the opportunity to appear before this Committee to endorse the proposal to establish the Yakataga State Forest and to urge the adoption of other initiatives and actions to promote the wise use of Alaska's resources.

Thank you.

Bradley
2/7/85 ✓

Original sponsors: Eliason, V.Fischer
and Kerttula

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 30 (Resources)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act establishing the Yakataga State Forest; and
7 providing for an effective date."

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

9 * Section 1. AS 41.17 is amended by adding a new section to read:

10 ARTICLE 5A. YAKATAGA STATE FOREST.

11 Sec. 41.17.410. YAKATAGA STATE FOREST. (a) Subject to valid
12 existing rights and except for land owned by or transferred to the
13 University of Alaska under ch. 41, SLA 1983, the state-owned or
14 acquired land and water lying within the parcels described in (c) of
15 this section is designated as the Yakataga State Forest.

16 (b) The commissioner shall consider and permit the uses des-
17 cribed in AS 41.17.230(e) within the Yakataga State Forest, subject to
18 the procedures established in AS 41.17.230(f).

19 (c) The Yakataga State Forest includes the state-owned or
20 acquired land and water lying within the following described parcels:

21 Township 19 South, Range 14 East, Copper River Meridian

22 Township 19 South, Range 15 East, Copper River Meridian

23 Township 19 South, Range 16 East, Copper River Meridian

24 Township 19 South, Range 17 East, Copper River Meridian

25 Township 20 South, Range 12 East, Copper River Meridian

26 Township 20 South, Range 13 East, Copper River Meridian

27 Township 20 South, Range 14 East, Copper River Meridian

28 Township 20 South, Range 15 East, Copper River Meridian

29 Township 20 South, Range 16 East, Copper River Meridian

- 1 Township 20 South, Range 17 East, Copper River Meridian
- 2 Township 20 South, Range 18 East, Copper River Meridian
- 3 Township 21 South, Range 9 East, Copper River Meridian
- 4 Township 21 South, Range 10 East, Copper River Meridian
- 5 Township 21 South, Range 11 East, Copper River Meridian
- 6 Township 21 South, Range 11 1/2 East, Copper River Meridian
- 7 Township 21 South, Range 12 East, Copper River Meridian
- 8 Township 21 South, Range 13 East, Copper River Meridian
- 9 Township 21 South, Range 14 East, Copper River Meridian
- 10 Township 21 South, Range 15 East, Copper River Meridian
- 11 Township 21 South, Range 16 East, Copper River Meridian
- 12 Township 21 South, Range 17 East, Copper River Meridian
- 13 Sections 1 - 9
- 14 Section 10, W1/2
- 15 Section 11, E1/2
- 16 Sections 12 - 13
- 17 Section 14, E1/2, SW1/4
- 18 Section 15, W1/2, SE1/4
- 19 Sections 16 - 36.
- 20 Township 21 South, Range 18 East, Copper River Meridian
- 21 Township 21 South, Range 19 East, Copper River Meridian
- 22 Township 22 South, Range 9 East, Copper River Meridian
- 23 Township 22 South, Range 19 East, Copper River Meridian
- 24 Township 22 South, Range 20 East, Copper River Meridian
- 25 Township 22 South, Range 21 East, Copper River Meridian
- 26 Township 22 South, Range 22 East, Copper River Meridian
- 27 Township 22 South, Range 23 East, Copper River Meridian
- 28 Township 22 South, Range 24 East, Copper River Meridian,
- 29 that portion west of Icy Bay

1 Township 23 South, Range 21 East, Copper River Meridian

2 Township 23 South, Range 22 East, Copper River Meridian

3 * Sec. 2. The commissioner shall prepare a management plan for the
4 Yakataga State Forest under AS 41.17.230. The commissioner shall submit
5 the management plan to the legislature for its approval within the first 10
6 days of the Second Session of the Fifteenth Alaska State Legislature. The
7 management plan for the Yakataga State Forest is approved unless the
8 legislature adopts legislation disapproving the management plan.

9 * Sec. 3. This Act takes effect July 1, 1985.
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29

STATE OF ALASKA 1984 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date: 4/17/84

REQUEST
Bill/Resolution No.: CS for SB 202
Title: Yakataga State Forest

FISCAL DETAIL
Agency Affected: Natural Resources
Program Category Affected: NRM & EC

Sponsor: Eliason
Requestor: _____
Date of Request: 2/8/84

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: 276-2653
Division: Forestry Date: 2/8/84

M.H. 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)

12/1/83

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 80,000 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 long term industrial and commercial development based on the estimated potential yield of the area of 20 million board feet per year. The annual revenue to the State at today's prices would be one to two million dollars with a total product value of 5 to 10 million dollars. Establishment of a State Forest will cost the State an additional 71 thousand dollars per year for planning and forest development of the area.

SPONSOR'S APPROVAL

John Taylor



ROUGH DRAFT

In Memoriam

* JOHN KAER *

The members of the 14th Legislature wish to remember a pioneer Alaskan and prominent member of the Wrangell community, John Kaer, who passed away recently at the age of 83.

Born in 1901 in Denmark, John arrived in the United States in 1919 and, as a young man, lived in South Dakota before moving to Wrangell in 1927. With the exception of service at Skagway for the Army during World War II he was to spend the remainder of his life there.

In 1945 John began his life as a fisherman. He was to continue to earn his living from the sea until he retired in 1979. When he was not fishing he was employed at times by the City of Wrangell. During the thirties he served as the city's fire chief and, when he retired from that position, was named as an honorary member of the department. He was a member of the Wrangell Redmen and the Elks Lodge.

A measure of the great respect, admiration and love for this fine man was expressed at a recent social event in Wrangell. Following a short speech at a game dinner, the assembled residents gave John Kaer a long and loud standing ovation.

We wish to express our sincere regrets to Verna and to the sons, Alvin, Robert, Richard and Wayne and to the grandchildren of John Kaer. While we realized this is a time of sadness for you, we are confident you know of the great affection for John throughout the community and of the fact that he will be missed.

app 3/13 KC

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

Date:

Requested by: Representatives Taylor & Sund;
Senator Ziegler

SPONSOR'S APPROVAL

OK



ROUGH DRAFT

In Memoriam

* MARLIN S. STEWART *

The members of the 14th Alaska Legislature note with great sadness the passing of a pioneer Alaskan, Marlin S. Stewart.

Born in 1903 in Kansas, Marlin arrived in Alaska in 1942 and for several years worked as an electrician.

In 1948 a small group of Alaskans from the greater Anchorage area began to discuss the provision of electricity to those who still were without power. Marlin Stewart was a leader of that group, which was to become the Chugach Electric Association. He became the co-operative's first employee that year. Later he served as general manager and as a member of the board of directors.

In 1957 this quiet, unassuming man moved to Glennallen to manage Copper Valley Electric, showing the same ability, enthusiasm and dedication that had earned him the respect of so many Alaskans before that time.

Marlin was a member of the I.B.E.W., Local #1547, and took pride in that membership. His friends are many, and live all across Southcentral Alaska.

Marlin S. Stewart was a builder, a creator, a man who cared about his fellow Alaskans and wished to see them progress and prosper. The accomplishments he leaves behind will serve to remind us for many years to come that we had the opportunity during our lifetime to know a fine, dedicated Alaskan.

To Minnie and the children we extend our heartfelt condolences. We too shall miss him.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

Date:

Requested by: Senator Rodey

STATE OF ALASKA

BILL SHEFFIELD, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

POUCH M
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
PHONE:

January 22, 1985

*law already req. at 30 days completion
in fact 10 days req. session
after adoption.
also 0 final note*

The Honorable Arliss Sturgulewski
Alaska State Senate
Pouch V
Juneau, AK 99811

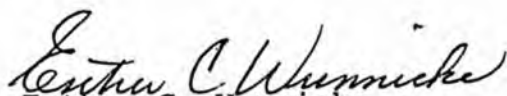
Dear Senator Sturgulewski:

The Department of Natural Resources supports the establishment of the Yakataga State Forest, as described in Senate Bill 30.

Section 1 amends AS 41.17, Forest Resources and Practices, to commit approximately 460,000 acres of state-owned land between Cape Suckling and Icy Bay to long-term retention and management for multiple use and sustained resource yields.

Section 2 requires the Commissioner to prepare a management plan for the forest which permits use of the forest for timber harvest, mining, mineral leasing and material extraction, recreation, wildlife and fisheries management, subsistence and other activities.

Sincerely,


Esther C. Wunnicke
Commissioner

cc: Ray Gillespie, Office of the Governor
Senate Resources Committee

STATE OF ALASKA 1985 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date: _____

REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No.: SB 30

Title: Yakataga State Forest

Sponsor: Eliason

Requestor: _____

Date of Request: 1/22/85

FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected: Division of Forestry - DNR

Program Category Affected: Resource Management

BRU, Program or Subprogram(s) Affected: _____

Forest Management, Land & Water Resources

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90
OPERATING						
100 PERSONAL SERVICES	49.9	49.9	49.9			
200 TRAVEL	10.0	10.0	10.0			
300 CONTRACTUAL	20.0	20.0	10.0			
400 SUPPLIES	5.0	5.0	5.0			
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS						
800 MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	84.9	84.9	74.9			

CAPITAL						
----------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

REVENUE	850.0	850.0	850.0			
----------------	--------------	--------------	--------------	--	--	--

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	84.9	84.9	74.9			
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL	84.9	84.9	74.9			

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	1.0	1.0	1.0			
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: Attach a separate page if necessary

* Timber sale receipts from state forest.

Prepared By: Dave Wallingford Phone: 265-4499
Division: Division of Forestry Date: 1/22/85

Approved by Commissioner: [Signature] Date: 1/22/85
Agency: _____

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note):

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor
- Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)

7/1/84

1.	POSITION TITLE Natural Resource Manager 1				RANGE/STEP 18A	BARG. UNIT GGU	FORM 72 PAGE/LINE	COV.	APPROV.	DISAPP.
2.	TYPE OF POSITION PFT	STAFF MONTHS 12	RP NUMBER	PCN NUMBER New	BRU PRIORITY	LOCATION Anchorage	ELECTION DISTRICT 92	REL.		
3.	CONTINUATION LEVEL	ADDITION		JUSTIFICATION						
4.	TYPE OF EXPENDITURE			AMOUNT						
	1	2		3						
	PERSONAL SERVICES									
5.	Salary	37,356								
6.	Benefits									
7.	Supplemental Benefits	9,874								
8.	Fixed Benefits	2,732								
9.	TOTAL PERSONAL SERVICES	01		49,962						
10.	Travel	02		10,000						
11.	Contractual	03		20,000						
12.	Commodities	04		5,000						
13.	Equipment	05								
14.	Other									
15.	TOTAL COST			84,962						
RECEIPT CODE FUNDING SOURCE										
16.		Federal Receipts 1002								
17.		G.F. Match 1003								
18.		General Funds 1004		84,962						
19.		I-A Receipts 1005								
20.		Program Receipts 1028								
21.		Other								
FDR B&M USE ONLY										
4A KEY NUMBER _____										

This position will coordinate the development and implementation of State Forest Management Plans within Southcentral Region. Incumbent will be responsible for organizing and chairing Interagency planning teams for gathering pertinent planning information, for preparing draft plans, for arranging and conducting public hearings, and for preparing final plan for submission to and approval of commissioner. Subsequent to management plan completion Incumbent will be responsible for coordinating implementation of the plans. Incumbent will coordinate development of operating plans for interagency review. Will review and recommend amendments to plan, and will coordinate preparation of plan updates.

13 REQUEST FOR
NEW POSITION

AGENCY Natural Resources

PROGRAM Mgmt. of Forest, Land & Water Resources

BRU Forest Manager

COMPONENT Forest Management

FY 86

Page _____ of _____

Revised Date _____

SB 202 AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE YAKATAGA STATE FOREST; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATEAMENDED TITLE: CS*(FIN)PRIME SPONSORS: ELIASON

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SEQ. NO.</u>	<u>JOURNAL PAGE</u>	<u>SENATE ACTION</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>SEQ. NO.</u>	<u>JOURNAL PAGE</u>	<u>HOUSE ACTION</u>
03/24/83	01	0486	FIRST READING -- COMMITTEE REPORTS	05/14/84	12	3828	FIRST READING -- COMMITTEE REPORTS
03/22/84	02	2427	RES -- CS04, NR01, OTHER01	05/22/84	13	3959	RES -- CS03, NR05
05/03/84	03	2901	FIN -- CS04, NR01	05/29/84	14	4126	FIN -- DP05, NR03
05/03/84	04	2902	FIN F/NOTE SEN SUPPL #79	** 05/29/84	15	4126	FIN F/NOTE EQUALS ZERO
05/11/84	05	3050	RLS -- FIN CS04, OTHER04 TAKEN UP IMMEDIATELY				RULES
05/11/84	06	3050	SECOND READING				
05/11/84	07	3050	FIN CS ADOPTED BY UNAN CONSENT				
05/11/84	08	3051	ADVANCED TO 3RD READING BY UNAN CONSENT				
05/11/84	09	3051	THIRD READING				
05/11/84	10	3051	PASSED BY DIV 18-01-01				
05/11/84	11	3051	EFFECTIVE DATE VOTE SAME AS PASSAGE				

SB 203 AN ACT RELATING TO ASSESSMENT OF OIL TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATEPRIME SPONSORS: FERGUSON

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SEQ. NO.</u>	<u>JOURNAL PAGE</u>	<u>SENATE ACTION</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>SEQ. NO.</u>	<u>JOURNAL PAGE</u>	<u>HOUSE ACTION</u>
03/24/83	01	0486	FIRST READING -- COMMITTEE REPORTS FINANCE RULES				

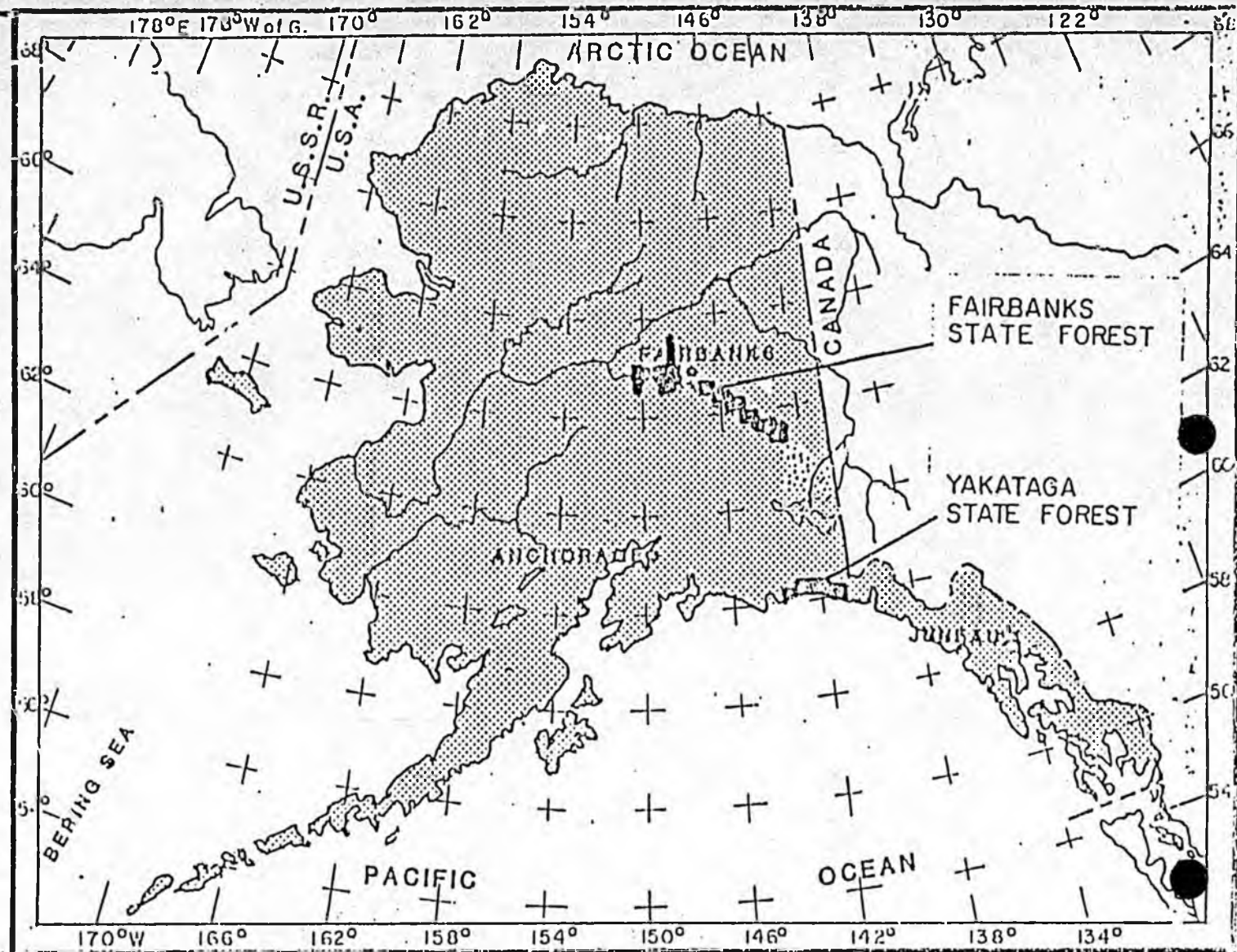
YAKATAGA STATE FOREST
FACT SHEET

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 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 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.

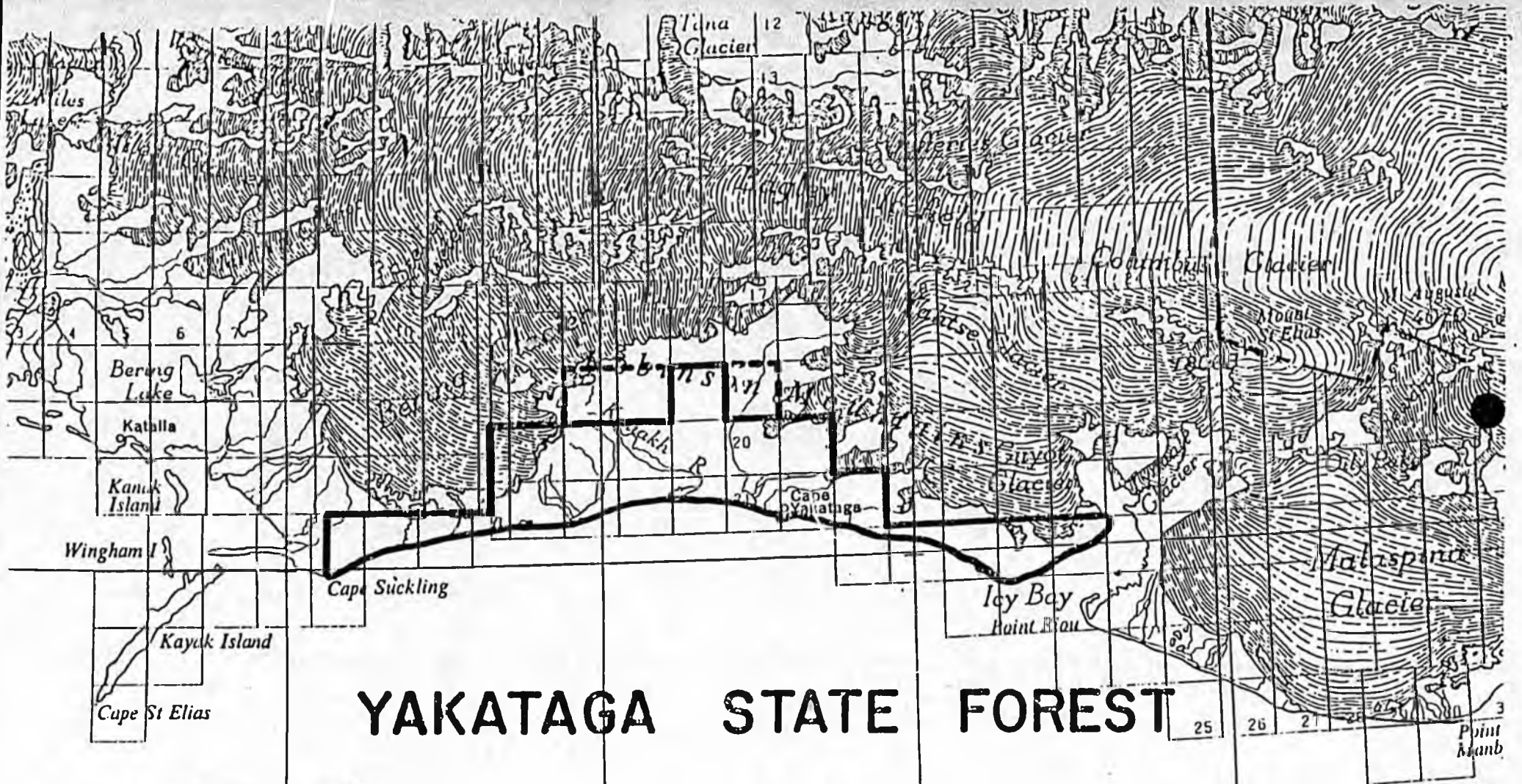
The DOF has arranged for multiple use management of the forested lands within the proposed State Forest. The Division has worked with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to protect important wildlife habitat. Also, the DOF has worked out a cooperative use agreement with DMEM and North Coast Mining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

Provided by John Sturgeon, State Forester
Division of Forestry, DNR



ALASKA
LOCATION MAP OF FOREST AREAS



SCALE 0 100 200 300 400 500 MILES



YAKATAGA STATE FOREST



LOCATION MAP

-  FOREST BOUNDARY
-  ADDITIONS IF NATIVE RELINQUISHED

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES SOUTHCENTRAL DISTRICT
LAND PLANNING REPORT - YAKATAGA

Existing classification - None
Recommended classification - Forest

Proposed Classification

The proposed classification to Forest was requested by the Southcentral District Forestry Section to facilitate implementation of a sustained yield timber use program in the Yakataga area. The proposed Yakataga Forest area represents a relatively small but significantly rich area of spruce and hemlock forests on the Alaska gulf coast. The current estimate of sustained yield production per year from the Yakataga area is 25 million board feet on an eighty year rotation.

Location

The Yakataga area proposed for classification is located between the Suckling Hills on the west, Icy Bay on the east, the Gulf of Alaska on the south and Bering Glacier and the Robinson Mountains on the north (see attached location map). ~~All lands are tentatively approved for patent to the State of Alaska.~~

The legal descriptions for the proposed Yakataga Forest area are:

Township 23 South, Range 21 and 22 East, C.R.M.
Township 22 South, Range 24 C.R.M., that portion on the West side of Icy Bay
Township 22 South, Range 19 through 23 East, C.R.M.
Township 21 South, Range 9 East, C.R.M. East of Chugach National Forest Boundry
Township 21 South, Range 10 through 19 East, C.R.M.
Township 20 South, Range 13 through 18 East, C.R.M.
Township 19 South, Range 16 through 17 East, C.R.M.
Total area, 480,530 acres.

Physical Description

The geomophology of the area is glacial in origin. Topography ranges from a series of glacial till benches at the foot of glaciated mountains between Cape Yakataga and Icy Bay to glacial outwash plains formed by Bering Glacier. Elevations range from sea level to 4,500 feet on Mt. Duktok.

The climate of the Yakataga Forest area is maritime. Temperatures are modified by the Gulf of Alaska and provide relatiavely mild winters and cool summers. The climate is similar to that of Southeast Alaska but is influenced by offshore winds in the summer and in the winter from the Interior of Alaska. These offshore winds occur for short periods of time resulting in a wider range of annual temperatures for this area as compared to Southeast Alaska. The annual precipitation averages 103 inches.

Physical Description (continued)

Based upon information provided in the Soil Conservation Service publication, Exploratory Soil Survey of Alaska, three major associated classes of soils are found within the proposed area; typic cryorthents, typic cryaquents, and typic cryofluents.

Typic Cryorthents occupy moraines close to steep mountains and large glaciers. Thick forests occupy well drained hillsides and wet treeless sloping valleys from peat accumulation. Elevations range from slightly above sea-level to about 1,000 feet. There is no permafrost in these soils, which are usually very stony and gravelly till with large boulders near the surface.

Typic Cryaquents occupy broad outwash plains which extend to the steep slopes of the coastal mountains. Elevations are between sea level and 200 feet. The plains are primarily sandy, waterlaid sediment with irregular areas of peat accumulating in shallow basins. The water table is often near the surface and flooding is common. Moraines consisting of gravelly till occur near the mountains. The principle vegetation is aquatic plants with forests of spruce and hemlock occupying the moraines. In general, intensive use of these soils is greatly restricted because of the high water table and frequent flooding. Many of these soils support coastal meadows that are used heavily by migrating birds for stopover areas and resting sites.

Typic Cryaquents - Typic Cryofluents are a very gravelly, nearly level association of soils occupying outwash plains and alluvial fans in the northern coast of the Gulf of Alaska. Elevations are low, from sea level to 100 feet and the water table is generally near the surface. These plains consist mainly of outwash deposits covered with waterlaid sediment. Dense stands of spruce and hemlock occur on well drained sites where cool moist summers and mild winters promote high forest productivity. Aquatic vegetation such as sedges, mosses and willows dominate the wetter sites.

Resource ValuesFish and Game

The Yakataga area supports a wide variety of fish and game resources. A memo from the Commissioner of Fish and Game, Ronald Skoogs, to the Commissioner of Natural Resources, Robert LeResche, states that this area contains ~~twenty-five anadromous streams~~. The drainages east of Cape Yakataga to Icy Cape contain mostly pink and coho salmon. These drainages are predominantly first order short drainages because of their very close proximity to steep glaciated mountains. The only drainage that currently

Fish and Game (continued)

supports a commercial fishery in this area is the Priest River. According to Commissioner Skoogs memo this river produces less than 1,000 fish annually for commercial purposes. The drainages west of Cape Yakataga to Cape Suckling are more important as a commercial fishery. Coho salmon still are present in the major drainages and are the main dollar producer. The two drainages that produce a major setnet fishery are the Kalikh which produce a coho escapement of 12,000 and the Tsiu-Tsiuat which produce up to 50,000 coho salmon. The proposed forest management program in Yakataga area could enhance the commercial shore fisheries by increasing access to fishery sites.

This area supports wildlife species such as black and brown bear, mountain goats, moose and small furbearers, such as muskrat, beaver, and martin. The major habitat of bear occurs within the areas west of Yakataga in the spring and summer and along the salmon streams in the fall. The major range of mountain goats are the steep mountains to the north along the coast between Cape Yakataga and Icy Bay.

Mineral Resources

This area has a potential for minerals, oil and gas. The area has had exploration for oil and gas in the late 50's and early 60's. This exploration and subsequent drilling required road construction and various improvements which are used currently by logging interests. No major producing wells were discovered. Interest in offshore drilling may be renewed under future Federal lease sales.

Based on a review of the mineral status plat, the dominant mineral of this area is gold. A potential for hard rock mineral exists but little or no serious prospecting has taken place. Gold mining in this area is placer with all recorded claims occurring on the beaches and up the White River drainage.

Archeology

The Division of Forest, Land and Water Management has made request for a historical analysis of the proposed area. The archeology data for this area is limited. The area was known as a major migration route for the natives from the interior to the Yakataga area. There are no known native settlements in this area.

Forestry

The principle type of overstory vegetation of the proposed area is a mixture of Sitka Spruce and western hemlock with a small volume of Alaska yellow cedar occurring above the 500 foot contour and cottonwood with red alder occurring within riparian zones.

Forestry (continued)

The Southcentral District through a combination of air photo interpretation, cruise and inventory techniques has estimated the total area of potential commercial timber to be 30,000 acres. The evaluation of commercial forest was based on any timber stand having a volume per acre of 20,000 board feet or greater.

Economic Impact

Fisheries

The fish resource of this area is small compared to other areas of the State, but should not be discounted due to local dependence on this resource. Using data supplied by Alaska Department of Fish and Game, the 1978 and 1979 fishing season in this area returned between \$251,000 and \$354,000 annually. Another factor to consider is the potential to support a larger fishery as transportation problems are solved.

Minerals

The only mineral being mined presently in the area is gold. The total dollar values returned to the local communities is difficult to determine due to the type of mining operations.

Wildlife

No data is currently available to determine a figure but it can be assumed, through recorded hunting visits, to be relatively low.

Recreation

Due to the remoteness and the poor climate conditions, this area has shown little recreational usage and the total dollar return is insignificant.

Forestry

The economic impact of sustained yield forestry management in the Yakataga area is significant. In funds returned to the State's general fund based on a 25,000,000 board foot allowable cut would be at least \$1,000,000 per year based on an average stumpage of \$40.00 per thousand board feet.

The cash flow returned directly to the local economy of the surrounding area based on Southcentral Timber Developments logging expenditures for 1979 is \$2,500,000.

LAND PLANNING REPORT - YAKATAGA
Page 5

Summary of Resource Values

The following resources are ranked according to the dollar return to the State and to the local economics annually.

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 1. Forestry | \$3,500,000 |
| 2. Fishing | \$ 354,000 - with fishing held to current levels |
| 3. Minerals | undetermined - value considered less than
Forestry or fishing |
| 4. Recreation | undetermined |

Resource Conflicts

The following conflicts relate sustained yield forestry to other resource use.

Timber/Wildlife

The conflicts between forestry management will be kept to a minimum due to State and District forestry management practices and policies. A summary of these policies and practices are:

1. Timber will be harvested in a patch cut with staggered entries.
2. Leave strips or buffer zones will be left along all major drainages, which include all anadromous fish streams.
3. Special use area for wildlife will be identified by Alaska Department of Fish and Game before completing a timber sale.
4. All operations will take place according to Alaska Statutes 16.10.010 and 16.05.840.
5. All timber will be harvested and managed according to the Best Management Practices as outlined by the Forest Practices Act.
6. Limited harvesting of timber above the 500 foot contour.
7. All timber harvesting programs will be subject to comment by the Department of Environmental Conservation and Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

Timber/Fisheries

The impact on commercial fisheries in this area will be low and with increased access to fishing sites could increase commercial fishing potential.

Timber/Mining

The impacts on mineral extraction will be low because of the subsurface character of minerals. Placer operations require little timber for operations. Timber operations could improve mining potential by increasing accessibility.

Timber/Recreation

Due to the inaccessibility of this area it's use for recreation purposes is limited. Therefore the impact of timber management on recreation resources will be low.

Coastal Zone Consistency

The Alaska Coastal Policy Committee's standard and guidelines and the Department of Natural Resources Forestry Practices Act have set operation standards and policies for coastal timber management programs.

Recommendations

The Southcentral District recommends this area be classified as Forest to facilitate a program of sustained yield management. The District further recognizes the potential forestry value of the area and recommends consideration be given to placing this region in the State forest system. As the designation as a State Forest is legislative and requires a significant portion of time the District supports, as an interim measure, declaration of this area as a Forest Reserve.

DENNIS R. THOMASON
District Classification Officer

August 12, 1980

RATIONALE FOR A STATE FOREST SYSTEM

Historically, the forests of Alaska have provided its inhabitants with building materials, fuel, recreational opportunities, diversity of wildlife and untold other benefits. Recent rapid shifts in ownership patterns and single-use allocations of that land have severely hampered public availability of these resources and stifled the development of a viable forest products industry, especially in the interior of Alaska.

The full impact of these encroachments on the public use of the land, if allowed to continue, will not be fully realized for years and possibly decades. Continued pressures to further reduce the publicly owned forest land available for multiple-use management is eroding this base.

It is in the best interest of the State to legislatively designate large tracts of primarily forested lands for long-term public retention and management for a multiplicity of resources, as envisioned by the framers of the Constitution of the State of Alaska.

Simple classification of the land as "forest" does not assure that this diversity of benefits, so needed by Alaska, will remain available for future generations.

Forest land in private ownership might well produce the forest products necessary for the development of the State, but not allow the use of the land for its other resource values by the general public.

A state forest system is a use-oriented concept. It would not only provide the incentive to develop a stable forest products industry capable of reducing the amount of lumber being imported to meet our needs (some 75% of the sawn lumber used in the Interior), but also provide access for hunting, fishing, camping, berry picking, etc. State forests are not a lockup, but a dependable year-after-year source of all the renewable resources of the State, for all the residents of the State.

A Juneau SAF member
will present the statement
March 16.

Testimony of the Alaska State
Society of American Foresters on
SB 202, creating the Yakataga State Forest

Senate Resources Committee, March 16, 1984 hearing
Juneau, Alaska

The Alaska State Society of American Foresters (SAF) would like to thank Chairman Bettye Fahrenkamp and members of the Senate Resources Committee for the opportunity to testify before you. The Alaska 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.

We commend Senator Eliason for introducing this important bill, and appreciate the work that has been devoted to this measure. We believe that the dedication of carefully chosen state land to long-term multiple use management is essential for the further orderly development of the forest products industry and for a continuing supply of other public benefits that these lands can and do produce.

The Need a Multiple Use State Forest at Yakataga

Timber--Although Alaska is a large state with approximately 375 million acres, much of the state is not biologically capable of growing trees. Statewide, only about 30 million acres (8% of the total) meet the productivity test for commercial forest land; that is land that is capable of producing at least 20 cubic feet of usable wood per acre per year. These statistics are available from forest survey reports (Hutchison, 1967). Because of the relative scarcity of highly productive forest lands in Alaska, such lands need to be given careful consideration for inclusion in multiple use programs.

Forest inventories and timber harvesting were initiated in the 1970s by the State's Division of Forestry in the Icy Bay/Yakataga area. These were the first steps in forest management of the area. The forest survey found over 150,000 acres of commercial forest land, with about 104,000 acres of sawtimber within the proposed State Forest area, producing about 3,700,000,000 net board feet (International 1/4 inch scale) of timber.

The forests included in the area of the proposed Yakataga State Forest are some of the most productive in the state. The Yakataga area sawtimber stands average nearly 35,000 board foot per acre compared to the average of 27,000 for sawtimber stands throughout the rest of southeast Alaska. Many Yakataga area sawtimber stands produce over 60,000 net board feet per acre and some stands produce 80,000 net board feet per acre. Much of the higher volume per acre in the Yakataga area can be attributed to a combination of good timber sites and to the lack of decay in the stands.

Mining--The Yakataga State Forest area also has historic precedent established for mining. Gold mining has been an active enterprise in this area for decades and those interests need continued recognition, maintenance, and development.

Wildlife--Resident moose and goat herds in the proposed Yakataga State Forest area have provided excellent opportunities for hunting, photography, and aesthetic enjoyment. Management planning needs to be implemented to protect and enhance these natural resource values.

The establishment of the Yakataga State Forest 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 evolving thru these efforts, will 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.

Literature Citation

Hutchison, O. Keith. 1967 Alaska's Forest Resource. U. S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Resource Bulletin PNW-19, 74 p.

Prepared by Vernon J. LaBau, State SAF Chairman

With review and comment from the Alaska Division of Forestry.

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

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



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 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.

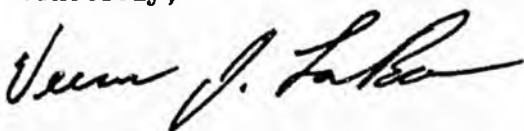
Establishment of a State Forest at Yakataga is an excellent opportunity for true multiple use management. Plans of the State's Division of Forestry call for timber, mining, fish and wildlife habitat, and other natural resources all being used or maintained compatibly in a multiple use and sustained yield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

53202

BILL SHEFFIELD, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

P.O. BOX 3-2000
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99802
PHONE: (907) 465-4100

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

March 2, 1983

The Honorable Richard I. Eliason
Senator
Alaska State Legislature
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Eliason:

In a recent letter, State Forester John Sturgeon indicated that you wished to know the Department of Fish and Game's position on the State Forest being proposed for the Yakataga area. I am pleased to inform you, that we are in complete support of such a concept, provided we are offered the opportunity to be an active participant in the management planning process.

The area being proposed for Forest designation contains significant fish and wildlife resources which we believe should be adequately protected during any land use activities which are eventually conducted. We have been working closely with the Department of Natural Resources on this issue, and I feel confident that our concerns will be addressed.

If I can provide you further information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Don W. Collinsworth
Commissioner

cc: John Sturgeon, State Forester, ADNR
Paddy McQuire



City and Borough of Sitka

P.O. BOX 79 · SITKA, ALASKA · 99835

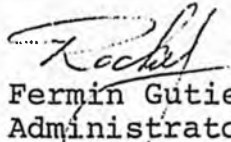
March 17, 1983

Senator Richard Eliason
Alaska State Legislature
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Dick:

Due to the fact that Sitka's economy is dependent on a healthy woods industry, you are encouraged to work with the Department of Natural Resources in order to define boundaries for a state forest in the Yakataga area.

Sincerely,


Fermin Gutierrez
Administrator

cc: Peter M. Huberth, ALP