

**HB**

**5741**

# HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

FILE

(11)

Date Referred: March 15, 1990

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Date of Committee Action: 4/20/90

The FINANCE Committee considered:

HB 574

HOUSE BILL NO. 574

APPROP: KENAI PENINSULA FIRE HAZARD

"An Act making special appropriations to the Department of Natural Resources to build certain fire breaks and to take other action to control the fire hazard on the Kenai Peninsula created by the bark beetle infestation; and providing for an effective date."

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- [ X ] be replaced with CS HB 574 (FIN) [ ] the same title [ X ] a new title
- [ ] have attached amendment(s)
- [ X ] do pass
- [ ] do not pass
- [ ] no recommendation
- [ ] individual recommendations
- [ ] additional referral to the \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

ADOPTS: \_\_\_\_\_ letter of intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(s):  
(Dept)

APPROVES PREVIOUS: (Date/Dept)

- [ ] fiscal impact \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] fiscal note(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- [ ] zero fiscal note \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] zero fiscal note(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- [ ] zero with analysis \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] zero fn/analysis \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNING DO PASS:**

**SIGNING:**

(Check approp. column)

Do Not Pass    No Rec    Amend

| Name                                | Signature                    | Do Not Pass | No Rec | Amend |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------|--------|-------|
| <u>Ronald J. Larson</u> LARSON      | <u>Laura Hoffman</u> Hoffman | X           |        |       |
| <u>Carl Swackhammer</u> SWACKHAMMER | <u>J. Ulmer</u> Ulmer        | X           |        |       |
| <u>Ed Brown</u> BROWN               | <u>Dick Shultz</u> Shultz    | X           |        |       |
| <u>Koponen</u> KOPONEN              | <u>Steve Rieger</u> Rieger   | ✓           |        |       |
| <u>Barnes</u> BARNES                |                              |             |        |       |
| <u>Phillips</u> PHILLIPS            |                              |             |        |       |
|                                     |                              |             |        |       |
|                                     |                              |             |        |       |

Ronald J. Larson Larson  
 Chairman's Signature  
Laura Hoffman Hoffman

|                             |              |                  |
|-----------------------------|--------------|------------------|
| <u>Funding Information:</u> | General Fund | \$900,000        |
|                             | Other Funds  | -0-              |
|                             |              | <u>\$900,000</u> |

Original sponsor(s): Resources Committee

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 574 (Finance)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act making special appropriations to the Depart-  
7 ment of Natural Resources to build certain fire  
8 breaks and to take other action regarding controlling  
9 the fire hazard created by the bark beetle infesta-  
10 tion; and providing for an effective date."

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

12 \* Section 1. The sum of \$700,000 is appropriated from the general fund  
13 to the Department of Natural Resources for the division of forestry to  
14 build fire breaks in the Cooper Landing vicinity of the Kenai Peninsula and  
15 on other state land to control the fire hazard created by the bark beetle  
16 infestation.

17 \* Sec. 2. The sum of \$200,000 is appropriated from the general fund to  
18 the Department of Natural Resources for the division of forestry to iden-  
19 tify and develop a public consensus on how to treat state land in order to  
20 control the fire hazard created by the bark beetle infestation.

21 \* Sec. 3. The unexpended and unobligated balances of the appropriations  
22 made by this Act lapse into the general fund June 30, 1991.

23 \* Sec. 4. This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29



# Alaska State Legislature

## HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

P.O. Box V  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99811  
(907) 465-3715

### MEMORANDUM

TO: REP. RON LARSON, CO-CHAIR HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
REP. LYMAN HOFFMAN, CO-CHAIR HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

FROM: REP. CURT MENARD, CO-CHAIR HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE *Curt*  
REP. CLIFF DAVIDSON, CO-CHAIR HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE *Cliff*

DATE: MARCH 26, 1990

RE: ~~OSMEL 574 (RES) AMENDMENT~~

We would like to thank you for your prompt scheduling of HB 574, a special appropriation bill to address the spruce bark beetle problem on the Kenai Peninsula.

Following our review of the bill and passage out of the Resources Committee, we discovered a potential problem in Section 3 regarding the date on which the unobligated and unexpended balances will lapse into the general fund. The lapsing date in the original bill was June 30, 1990.

It is likely that the firebreaks project, estimated at a cost of \$700,000, cannot realistically be completed by June 30, 1990. The solution we believe is to change the date in Section 3 to June 30, 1991. Also, please note that in the final printing, a typographical error existed on line 23. The date reads June 30, 19. We would recommend that the date read June 30, 1991.

Thank you for your attention to this suggested change.

*Am # 1  
Adopt  
U.C.*

EVALUATION OF SPRUCE BEETLE ALTERNATIVES ON THE KENAI PENINSULA  
ALASKA DIVISION OF FORESTRY  
March 9, 1990

Outline of Project Proposal

The Division of Forestry has submitted an appropriation request to the legislature to fund an evaluation of alternatives to deal with spruce beetle (*Dendroctonus rufipennis*, kby.) infestations on the Kenai Peninsula. The three areas of highest priority for evaluation of beetle infestations on State lands on the Peninsula are Moose Pass, Kalgin Island, and Bear Cove. These areas will be prioritized for evaluation and field review will be undertaken to assess forest conditions and beetle population levels. The evaluation process will include interagency activities, landowner interface and public involvement. A summary document will be prepared listing areas of concern by priority, alternatives for action, a preferred alternative, a funding estimate to implement the preferred alternative and a decision document.

Minimum staffing to manage and complete the actions outlined in this project proposal are outlined below. The new positions are temporary and will only last until June 30, 1991, which is the projected completion date of this project.

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| Natural Resource Manager I (new)   | \$51.0 |
| This position will be the project leader. The employee will lead field crews in the collection of field data; will coordinate agency, landowner and public involvement; will develop and evaluate alternatives; will prepare cost estimates of alternatives; and will prepare decision documents for line officer approval.  |        |
| Clerk-Typist III (new)   | \$30.0 |
| This position will provide clerical support to the project including formulating newsletters, maintaining mailing lists, typing documents and correspondence, recording minutes of meetings, serving as receptionist for the group, etc.   |        |
| Information Officer I (new)  | \$45.0 |
| Design public participation program and implement that program. Ensure compliance with public meeting regulations. Identify opportunities for better keeping the general public informed of the merging issues as well as steps being undertaken to effect control. Get results of annual aerial surveys out to everyone. Design other publications and brochures as needed. |        |
| Forest Tech III (extension - 8mm)  | \$25.6 |
| Forest Tech II (extension - 8mm)   | \$20.9 |
| Extend present seasonal technicians to gather data and do preliminary map preparation; verification of ownerships, classifications and infestation levels. These positions would also gather stand data to allow determination of treatment alternatives.  |        |

Required start-up cost increment for this initiative:

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| Personal Services (new positions)  | \$126.0 |
| (extensions of seasonals)  | \$ 46.5 |
| Travel   | 6.0     |
| Contractual (phones, utilities, copies, brochures, professional services)                    | 103.5   |
| (Advertisements, printing, helicopter/aircraft flights<br>Vehicle lease and operating costs) |         |
| Commodities  | 6.0     |
| Equipment (computer, printer, peripherals)   | 7.0     |
| (Desks, chairs, bookcases, etc.)   | 5.0     |

TOTAL START-UP INVESTMENT \$300.0

For additional information, contact Jim Peterson, the Kenai-Kodiak Area Forester and Project Manager at:

Alaska Division of Forestry  
Kenai-Kodiak Area  
HC 1, Box 107  
Soldotna, AK 99669  
(907) 262-4124

**STATEMENT OF  
DUANE HARP  
DISTRICT RANGER, SEWARD DISTRICT  
CHUGACH NATIONAL FOREST, USDA FOREST SERVICE**

**Before the  
Joint House and Senate Resources Committee  
Alaska Legislature**

**Concerning  
*Beetle infestation on the Kenai Peninsula.***

**March 12, 1990**

**MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:**

As Dr. Holsten has pointed out, the Kenai Peninsula has been infested with an epidemic of spruce bark beetle over the past 10 years. In particular, the Cooper Landing area has been severely affected.

In 1986, the Forest Service initiated plans to deal with the beetle epidemic. Based on an environmental assessment completed in July 1987, a decision was made to 1) reduce the spread of the infestation by thinning green stands of spruce trees susceptible to beetle attack, 2) to salvage harvest timber where feasible and 3) to reduce the threat of fire to the Cooper Landing area by harvesting dead and dying trees and by constructing fuelbreaks around trailheads and campgrounds. That decision was appealed, and consequently, harvest was limited to dead trees in areas posing only the highest fire threat to Cooper Landing.

The threat of wildfire to the Copper Landing area is very real. The Kenai Peninsula has a history of large wildfires including a burn of over 350,000 acres in 1947, the 10,000 acre Kenai Lake Burn of 1959, and in 1969, the 86,000 acre Swanson River Burn and the 2,600 acre Russian River Burn. Each of these fires was man caused. Each summer we experience fire starts in the Cooper Landing area. To date, weather and wind conditions have allowed us to suppress the fires before they became large.

Since the 1987 decision, the beetle infestation has increased in intensity. Currently, in the Cooper Landing area, some 27,000 acres of spruce on National Forest System lands are affected. Estimates of tree mortality range from 65 to 95 percent of all spruce 5 inches in diameter and larger. Of the total affected acreage, only 950 acres are currently scheduled for harvest; and to date, less than 100 acres have actually been logged. The Forest Service continues to reduce hazardous fuels in and around heavily used areas such as campgrounds and trailheads.

Over the past three years, the U.S. Forest Service, the State Division of Forestry, and the residents of Cooper Landing have become increasingly concerned about the potential for a catastrophic wildfire in the Cooper Landing area. Trees which have been dead for five years or more are now starting to fall, creating large concentrations of dry fuels on the forest floor. These concentrations increase both the severity of a fire and the difficulty of suppressing one. If no additional fuel reduction work is done, we can expect such hazardous fuel conditions to exist for 20 to 40 years.

In response to these concerns, in June 1989, the Forest Service, State Division of Forestry, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Kenai Peninsula Borough strengthened plans for responding to a wildfire in the Cooper Landing area.

Last August, the Chugach National Forest began planning to deal with the present situation. In October, I initiated an environmental assessment process to examine alternatives to meet two primary objectives on National Forest System lands: 1) to reduce the risk of a catastrophic wildfire in the Cooper Landing area to an acceptable level; and 2) to restore forest health by re-establishing a vigorous and diverse forest. A working group consisting of Cooper Landing area residents, representatives of the local timber industry, the

environmental community, the Kenai Borough Economic Development District, the Department of Fish and Game, and the Division of Parks, was formed to participate in the planning process. The State Division of Forestry, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Kenai Peninsula Borough are also key in integrating and coordinating our efforts with their own plans.

The working group recommended a concentrated effort in three areas: 1) reduce fire hazards around residences and on private property, 2) construct fuelbreaks in strategic locations, and 3) reduce large concentrations of dead fuel. Public forums to discuss these actions are scheduled this week in Soldotna, Anchorage, and Cooper Landing.

The deadline for a decision based on the environmental assessment is June 29, 1990. However, it has become apparent that the situation is too urgent to wait and that some action is needed before the 1990 fire season. As a result, the Forest Service plans to construct two major fuelbreaks and several smaller fuelbreaks in critical areas. In addition, we will increase our fire suppression forces and fire prevention efforts. The Forest Service and State Division of Forestry will also conduct a workshop for Cooper Landing residents on how to make homes fire resistant.

I must stress that the fuelbreaks are only a small part of the solution to the problem. The 200 to 500 foot wide breaks will provide lines of defense for fighting wildfires. To adequately lower the risk of wildfire hazardous fuels must be reduced over a large area. The forest health and vigor must also be restored so that bark beetle infestations will not reach epidemic proportions in the future. The environmental assessment scheduled for completion in late June will assist me in making that decision for the National Forest System lands in the Cooper Landing area.

It is also crucial that actions be implemented on State of Alaska lands. The Division of Forestry has been working closely with us in developing coordinated strategic plans to deal with the spruce bark beetle epidemic and associated wildfire problem. I urge the Committee to give full support to the Department of Natural Resources efforts to work with the Forest Service on this important issue.

COOPER LANDING SPRUCE BEETLE PROJECT  
ALASKA DIVISION OF FORESTRY  
MARCH 7, 1990

Outline of Project Proposal

Over the years, the Kenai Peninsula has been impacted time and time again by spruce beetle (*Dendroctonus rufipennis*, kby). Approximately 538,000 acres has been infested from the late 60's through '75. Presently, the area of primary concern is the area from Kenai Lake to Skilak Lake along the Kenai River corridor and northward towards Hope. Within this area, an estimated 130,000 acres of spruce trees have been killed or infested. Due to the extensive amounts of beetle killed trees surrounding the community of Cooper Landing, this area has been given first priority for attention.

The State of Alaska owns approximately 6,400 acres in the Cooper Landing area. The lands have been selected by the Kenai Peninsula Borough under the Municipal Entitlement Act. Transfer of these lands to the Borough are still pending. Approximately 2,000 acres have been infested. The Division of Forestry has identified the following priorities:

1. Protect life and property from wildland fire;
2. Reduce the fuel loading adjacent to private lands;
3. Salvage usable forest products from the beetle killed forest and create employment opportunities;
4. Put the forest back into productivity as quickly as possible.

To achieve these objectives, the Division has embarked on the following course of action. Presently, the Division has seven active or completed salvage sales in the Cooper Landing Area. Additional salvage areas are currently being prepared. These actions are being completed under existing budget dollars.

The Division has requested an additional \$700,000 to be appropriated by the Legislature to help meet the above objectives. With these additional dollars, the Division proposes to develop two fuelbreaks of approximately 500 feet in width and 4,000 feet in length (92 acres). A containment line to mineral soil will be developed within these fuelbreaks. One is proposed east of Cooper Creek and will utilize the old Cooper Creek dam road as the containment line and the other is proposed west of Shackelford Creek and will require construction of a containment line. Within the fuelbreaks, all dead and infested spruce will be removed. The hardwoods and hemlock will be left untouched. The harvested trees will be tree length yarded to landings where they will be limbed and topped, cut to log length and decked. The slash will be disposed of by burning. The fuelbreaks will be regenerated to primarily hardwoods. Estimated cost of the fuelbreaks is \$117.1.

The Division is also proposing to reduce fuel loading in areas immediately adjacent to private land by the creation of fuel reduction areas. The fuel reduction areas total 655 acres. These areas will be treated similarly to the

## Cooper Landing Spruce Beetle Project

fuelbreaks but will not include containment lines. Some of this area is currently under salvage contracts, but additional treatment and regeneration of areas is necessary to reduce the potential of fire spread. These areas are located within 1/2 mile of private lands and do not have any vegetative buffers between the treatment area and private lands. Estimated cost of the fuel reduction areas is \$477.4.

The areas outside of the fuelbreaks and fuel reduction areas are called vegetative management areas. Stands and pockets of beetle killed trees will be salvaged as part of the Division's normal budget process.

The Division also wants to remove the hazard trees on State land along the Sterling Highway. The field work is completed, but dollars are needed to contract the removal. The estimated cost of the project is \$25.0.

To administer these various contracts, the Division is proposing to hire a temporary position at the Forest Tech IV level for the life of the contracts. The Division also proposes to upgrade our radio system into Cooper Landing to allow better coordination on initial attack fires. At the present time, our initial attack vehicles do not have communications with our dispatch office by radio. Costs for this position plus administrative support dollars for the project are estimated to be \$20.5

The purpose of this project is to rapidly develop two fuelbreaks in the vicinity of Cooper Landing and to reduce fuel loading on areas adjacent to private lands in an effort to diminish the potential for loss of life or property from wildfire. This project is also designed to return the forest back into productivity by reforesting the treated areas with primarily hardwoods to reduce the potential of fire spread. Due to the seasonal time constraints of portions of this project proposal, the funds should be allocated as a capital improvement project (CIP). That portion of this project that may extend into the fall of 1991 is the regeneration and possibly slash burning. Some of the costs allocated are for cone and seed collection which will be undertaken in the fall of 1990. Approximately 110,000 seedlings will need to be ordered and should be old enough to outplant in the fall of 1991. To get a jump on the grass competition, we will want to scarify just prior to seeding and planting. This means scarification will be conducted in the late summer and early fall of 1991. Some of the slash and debris piles will need to be burned in the late fall of 1991.

### Project Cost Summary:

|                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Fuelbreak(s)         | \$ 117.1       |
| Fuel Reduction Areas | 477.4          |
| Hazard Trees         | 25.0           |
| State Administration | <u>\$ 80.5</u> |
|                      | \$ 700.0       |

### Cooper Creek Fuelbreak

Project size: 500 feet by 4,000 feet (46 acres)

Current conditions: 85% of the spruce is dead. Stand structure is roughly  
2/3 spruce and 1/3 hemlock.

Special concerns: This bench has a very thin soil depth overlaid by alluvial deposits of silty sand.

#### Project Proposal:

1. Open up old Cooper Creek dam road and put to bed after completion of use.  
Cost \$6.0.
2. Remove all dead spruce 7" DBH and larger. Tree length yard, limb and top at landings and deck merchantable material. Burn slash and unmerchantable material at landings. Work to be completed by vendor service contract.  
Cost: \$41.8 (\$160/MBF @ 5 MBF/ac - total 46 acres) (plus \$5.0 slash burning)
3. Mechanically pile ground fuel accumulations during winter months with dozer and brush blade. Vendor service contract on approximately 35 acres.  
Cost: \$1.9 (\$50/acre + mobilization costs)
4. State crew to burn mechanically piled slash.  
Cost: \$0.2
5. Regeneration of fuelbreak with birch by direct seeding. Some interplanting with spruce. Seed collection, handtool site prep and direct seeding to be accomplished by vendor service contract.  
Cost: \$7.3 (\$150/acre and cone/seed collection and seedling cost)

#### Project Totals:

|              |         |
|--------------|---------|
| Open Road    | \$ 6.0  |
| Removal      | 41.8    |
| Piling       | 1.9     |
| Burning      | .2      |
| Regeneration | 7.3     |
| Total        | \$ 57.2 |

Shackleford Creek Firebreak

Project size: 500 feet by 4,000 feet (46 acres)

Current Conditions: Predominately spruce forest with approximately 90% of the spruce dead.

Special Concerns:

1. Project will be highly visible from the Sterling Highway while crossing the Kenai River Bridge.
2. Lower sidehill is on unstable soils capable of mass movement.

Project Proposal:

1. Remove dead spruce 7" DBH and larger. Two vendor service contracts will be developed. One will address the lower sidehill with unstable slopes which may require unconventional harvest systems. The second contract will be the more stable uplands, and they will be harvested by conventional means. Logs will be decked at various accessible locations. Slash to be burned at landings.  
Cost: \$49.7 (\$160/MBF @ 6 MBF/ac - Total 46 acres) (plus \$5.0 for slash disposal) (plus containment line construction)
2. Mechanical scarification by dozer with a brush blade of 50% of the upland area. To be completed by vendor service contract.  
Cost: \$2.4 (\$70/ac and mobilization, etc.)
3. Regeneration of the fuelbreak will be completed by one vendor contract with distinctive provisions differing the sidehill area from the balance of the project. The sidehill will involve hand preparation of sites to plant spruce seedlings and to direct seed with birch and alder to stabilize slopes. The upper area will be direct seeded with birch and hand planted with spruce.  
Cost: \$7.8 (\$150/ac and seed collection and seedling cost)

Project Totals:

|               |         |
|---------------|---------|
| Removal       | \$ 49.7 |
| Scarification | 2.4     |
| Regeneration  | 7.8     |
| Total         | \$ 59.9 |

Bean Creek Fuel Reduction Area

Project Size: 200 acres

Current Condition: 95% dead spruce in a homogenous stand.

Special Concerns:

1. The Bean Creek recreation trail transect area.
2. Removal of spruce product on Bean Creek road will negatively impact residents. This road is not satisfactorily built for heavy truck traffic.

Project Proposal

1. Develop a new access forest road along the DOT&PF "preferred alternative" for realignment of the Sterling Highway.  
Cost: \$40.0
2. Log all dead spruce 7" DBH and larger by vendor service contract. Deck product along access route. Slash dead under 7" DBH size.  
Cost: \$128.0 (\$160/MBF) (4 MBF/ac)
3. Mechanically scarify 50% of the fuel reduction area with dozer and brush blade by vendor service contract. This will effectively break ground fuel continuity while at the same time establishing regeneration planting sites.  
Cost: \$14.0 (\$70/ac)
4. Regular State crew to develop prescribed burn plan to fire berm piles resulting from the scarification phase. Vendor service contract burning of the piles.  
Cost: \$5.0
5. Relocate 1 1/2 miles of the Bean Creek recreation trail and develop trail head parking area. This will put the trail completely on State land compared to its current trespass through private property and the trail head parking on subdivision roads.  
Costs: \$28.0
6. Regeneration of the fuel reduction area is planned to be in hardwoods-paperbirch. Vendor service contract to collect seed and distribute on site by a direct seeding method. Seed drying and cleaning to be completed by State nursery.  
Cost: \$12.0

Project Totals:

|                    |          |
|--------------------|----------|
| Access Development | \$ 40.0  |
| Dozer Work         | 14.0     |
| Trail Relocation   | 28.0     |
| Burning            | 5.0      |
| Site Regeneration  | 12.0     |
| Total              | \$ 227.0 |

WEST SHACKLEFORD FUEL REDUCTION AREA

Project size: 139 Acres (Snug Harbor)  
 + 204 Acres (Cooper Creek)  
 + 42 Acres (Shackleford Creek II)  
 + 14 Acres (Bridgeview)  
 + 17 Acres (Firebreak)  
 + 50 Acres (Old Buffers)  
 Total 466 Acres

Current Conditions: 90% of the spruce stand is dead.

Special Concerns:

- Existing timber salvage contracts on 385 acres. Snug Harbor sale totaling 139 acres will need special attention to work out a program with existing contractor.

Project Proposal:

- Remove all dead spruce 7" DBH and larger on 81 acres by vendor service contract. Slash dead under 7" DBH in size. Deck logs at designated access points. Burn slash at landings as part of ongoing process.  
 Cost: \$64.8 (\$160/MBF @ 5MBF/ac)
- A total of 385 acres will be harvested under salvage contracts. Approximately 343 acres will need to have all dead trees under 10" DBH removed or slashed. To be completed by vendor service contract.  
 Cost: \$60.0 (\$175/ac)
- Mechanically scarify 50% of 281 acres with a dozer and brush blade by vendor service contract.  
 Cost: \$19.7 (\$70/ac)
- Burn slash piles and berm piles from scarification by vendor service contract.  
 Cost: \$5.0
- Regeneration of the fuel reduction area is planned to be primarily in hardwoods (birch and alder - alder on unstable soils). some interplanting of spruce seedlings is planned. Scarified sites will be direct seeded with hardwood seed. Vendor service contract to collect seed and distribute on site. Seed drying and cleaning will be completed by the State Nursery.  
 Costs: \$100.9 (collect and seed \$12.0-145 acres) (Interplant of spruce-200 acres @ \$220/ac=\$44.0) (Hand seed and hand seed bed prep-185 acres @ \$125/ac=\$23.1) (Cost of seedlings 436/ac @ \$.25/ea=\$21.8)

Project Totals:

|              |    |       |
|--------------|----|-------|
| Removal      | \$ | 64.8  |
| Slash        |    | 60.0  |
| Scarify      |    | 19.7  |
| Burning      |    | 5.0   |
| Regeneration |    | 100.9 |
| Total        | \$ | 250.4 |

HAZARD TREES REMOVAL-COOPER LANDING

The Division of Forestry has marked approximately 600 hazard trees located along the Sterling Highway in the Cooper Landing area. The trees marked have the potential to fall onto the road surface of the highway. The trees are located between milepost 46.0 -46.8 and milepost 49.5 - 50.2. Removal of the trees will be necessary to reduce the hazard to the passing motorist and disposal of the slash from the tree removal will be necessary to reduce the fire potential. Intermittent closure of the Sterling Highway will be necessary for public safety reasons. The estimated cost to remove these trees from state land is \$25.0.

State Administrative Costs

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| Forest Technician IV (new)   | \$ 37.2        |
| This position will assist in propagation, supervise, and administer contracts, evaluate field results, and complete project reports.   |                |
| Travel   | 2.0            |
| Contractual  | 25.0           |
| (Vehicle lease, advertisements, printing, professional contract preparation assistant, photoprocessing, phone charges, postage, vehicle maintenance, seedling shipping cost, etc.) |                |
| Commodities  | \$ <u>16.3</u> |
| (Gas, film, paper, communications, office supplies, paint, ribbon, tags, minor tools and equipment.)   |                |
| Total  | \$ 80.5        |

|  |                    |  |   |                      |                   |
|--|--------------------|--|---|----------------------|-------------------|
| Position Title<br>Forest Technician IV                       |                    |  | No. of Positions<br>1   | Range/Step<br>13/A   | Barg. Unit<br>GG  |
| Time Status<br>T   | Staff Months<br>12 |  | Location<br>S240021a  |                      | Eligible District |
| Type of Expenditure  |                    |  | Amount  |                      |                   |
| 1  |                    |  | 2   |                      |                   |
| 3  |                    |  |   |                      |                   |
| Salary*  | 2205 x 12          |  | 26,400  | //////////////////// |                   |
| Benefits*  | 891 x 12           |  | 10,692  | //////////////////// |                   |
| Premium Pay (Included in Above)                              |                    |  |   | //////////////////// |                   |
| Other  |                    |  |   | //////////////////// |                   |
| Total Personal Services                                      |                    |  |   | 37.2                 |                   |
| Travel   |                    |  |   | 2.0                  |                   |
| Contractual  |                    |  |   | 25.0                 |                   |
| Commodities  |                    |  |   | 20.0                 |                   |
| Equipment  |                    |  |   |                      |                   |
| Other  |                    |  |   |                      |                   |
| Total Cost   |                    |  |   | 84.2                 |                   |
| Funding Source for Total Cost                                |                    |  |   |                      |                   |
| Federal Receipts   | 1002               |  |   |                      |                   |
| G.F. Hatch   | 1003               |  |   |                      |                   |
| General Fund   | 1004               |  | 84.2  |                      |                   |
| Program Receipts/GF  | 1005               |  |   |                      |                   |
| I-A Receipts   | 1007               |  |   |                      |                   |
| CIP Receipts   | 1061               |  |   |                      |                   |
| Other  |                    |  |   |                      |                   |
| * Personal Services Salary and Benefits Costs are from PACS. |                    |  |   |                      |                   |
|  |                    |  | <b>Justification</b><br>This position will administer the various contracts that will be developed to handle the hazard reduction of the Cooper Landing Spruce Beetle Project.<br><br>Contracts will be developed and issued to do the following:<br><br>1. Remove hazard trees on state land along Sterling Highway.<br><br>2. Construct the Cooper Creek fuelbreak.<br><br>3. Construct the Shackelford Creek fuelbreak.<br><br>4. Fuel reduction in the Bran Creek area.<br><br>5. Fuel reduction in the west Shackelford area.<br><br>This position will be the contract administrator and the responsible person to see the fuel hazard reduction is accomplished. |                      |                   |

REQUEST FOR  
NEW POSITION

AGENCY Natural Resources  
BRU Forest Management  
COMPONENT Forest Management

Page 1 of 1  
Revised Date

FY 91

EVALUATION OF SPRUCE BEETLE ALTERNATIVES ON THE KENAI PENINSULA  
ALASKA DIVISION OF FORESTRY  
March 9, 1990

Outline of Project Proposal

The Division of Forestry has submitted an appropriation request to the legislature to fund an evaluation of alternatives to deal with spruce beetle (*Dendroctonus rufipennis*, kby.) infestations on the Kenai Peninsula. The three areas of highest priority for evaluation of beetle infestations on State lands on the Peninsula are Moose Pass, Kalgin Island, and Bear Cove. These areas will be prioritized for evaluation and field review will be undertaken to assess forest conditions and beetle population levels. The evaluation process will include interagency activities, landowner interface and public involvement. A summary document will be prepared listing areas of concern by priority, alternatives for action, a preferred alternative, a funding estimate to implement the preferred alternative and a decision document.

Minimum staffing to manage and complete the actions outlined in this project proposal are outlined below. The new positions are temporary and will only last until June 30, 1991, which is the projected completion date of this project.

Natural Resource Manager I (new)

This position will be the project leader. The employee will lead field crews in the collection of field data; will coordinate agency, landowner and public involvement; will develop and evaluate alternatives; will prepare cost estimates of alternatives; and will prepare decision documents for line officer approval.

52.6  
~~\$51.0~~

Clerk-Typist III (new)

This position will provide clerical support to the project including formulating newsletters, maintaining mailing lists, typing documents and correspondence, recording minutes of meetings, serving as receptionist for the group, etc.

29.4  
~~\$30.0~~

Information Officer I (new)

Design public participation program and implement that program. Ensure compliance with public meeting regulations. Identify opportunities for better keeping the general public informed of the merging issues as well as steps being undertaken to effect control. Set results of annual aerial surveys out to everyone. Design other publications and brochures as needed.

39.9  
~~\$45.0~~

Forest Tech III (extension - 8mm)

\$25.6

Forest Tech II (extension - 8mm)

\$20.9

Extend present seasonal technicians to gather data and preliminary map preparation; verification of ownerships, classifications and infestation levels. These positions would also gather stand data to allow determination of treatment alternatives.

|   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| Required start-up cost increment for this initiative:                     |                   |
| Personal Services (new positions)   | 119.2             |
| (extensions of seasonals)   | <del>5126.0</del> |
|   | \$ 46.6           |
| Travel  | 6.0               |
| Contractual (phones, utilities, copies, brochures, professional services) | 103.3             |
| (Advertisements, printing, helicopter/aircraft flights)                   |                   |
| Vehicle lease and operating costs)  | 12.8              |
| Commodities   | <del>6.0</del>    |
| Equipment (computer, printer, peripherals)                                | 7.0               |
| (Desks, chairs, bookcases, etc.)  | 5.0               |
| <b>TOTAL START-UP INVESTMENT</b>  | <b>\$300.0</b>    |

For additional information, contact Jim Paterson, the Kenai-Kodiak Area Forester and Project Manager at:

Alaska Division of Forestry  
 Kenai-Kodiak Area  
 HC 1, Box 107  
 Soldotna, AK 99669  
 (907) 262-4124

|  |                    |   |   |                        |
|--|--------------------|---|---|------------------------|
| Position Title<br>Natural Resource Manager I                 |                    | No. of Positions<br>1   | Range/Step<br>18/A  | Org. Unit<br>GG        |
| Time Status<br>I   | Staff Months<br>12 | Location<br>Anchorage   |   | Election District<br>7 |
| Type of Expenditure  |                    | Justification   |   |                        |
|  |                    | This position will be the project leader in development and evaluation of alternatives to deal with spruce beetle infestations on the Kenai Peninsula. Duties of the position will include: |   |                        |
| 1  | 2                  | 3   |   |                        |
| Salary* 3113 x 12  | 31,356             | ////  | 1. Leading of field crews in collection of field data.  |                        |
| Benefits* 1099 x 12  | 13,188             | ////  | 2. Coordinate agency, landowner and public involvement.   |                        |
| Premium Pay (Included in Above)                              | ////               | ////  | 3. Develop and evaluate alternatives.   |                        |
| Other  | ////               | ////  | 4. Prepare cost estimates of alternatives.  |                        |
| Total Personal Services                                      | ////               | 50.5  | This position will provide overall project management and direction. Getting the job done on time and within budget are direct responsibilities of this position. |                        |
| Travel   |                    | 3.0   |   |                        |
| Contractual  |                    | 53.5  |   |                        |
| Commodities  |                    | 3.0   |   |                        |
| Equipment  |                    | 5.0   |   |                        |
| Other  |                    |   |   |                        |
| Total Cost   |                    | 115.0   |   |                        |
| Funding Source for Total Cost                                |                    |   |   |                        |
| Federal Receipts   | 1002               |   |   |                        |
| G.F. Hatch   | 1003               |   |   |                        |
| General Fund   | 1004               | 115.0   |   |                        |
| Program Receipts/GF  | 1085               |   |   |                        |
| I-A Receipts   | 1007               |   |   |                        |
| CIP Receipts   | 1061               |   |   |                        |
| Other  |                    |   |   |                        |
| * Personal Services Salary and Benefits Costs are from PACS. |                    |   |   |                        |

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|  |                    |  |                       |                   |                        |
|--|--------------------|--|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| Position Title<br>Clerk Typist III                           |                    |  | No. of Positions<br>1 | Range/Step<br>B/A | Barg. Unit<br>GG       |
| Time Status<br>T   | Staff Months<br>12 |  | Location<br>Anchorage |                   | Election District<br>7 |
| Type of Expenditure  |                    |  | Amount                |                   |                        |
| 1  |                    |  | 2                     |                   | 3                      |
| Salary* 1678 x 12  |                    |  | 20,136                |                   | ////                   |
| Benefits* 771 x 12   |                    |  | 9,252                 |                   | ////                   |
| Premium Pay (Included in Above)                              |                    |  | ////                  |                   | ////                   |
| Other  |                    |  | ////                  |                   | ////                   |
| Total Personal Services                                      |                    |  | ////                  |                   | 29.4                   |
| Travel   |                    |  |                       |                   |                        |
| Contractual  |                    |  |                       |                   |                        |
| Commodities  |                    |  |                       |                   | 6.8                    |
| Equipment  |                    |  |                       |                   |                        |
| Other  |                    |  |                       |                   |                        |
| Total Cost   |                    |  |                       |                   | 36.2                   |
| Funding Source for Total Cost                                |                    |  |                       |                   |                        |
| Federal Receipts 1002  |                    |  |                       |                   |                        |
| G.F. Hatch 1083  |                    |  |                       |                   |                        |
| General Fund 1004  |                    |  |                       |                   | 36.2                   |
| Program Receipts/GF 1085                                     |                    |  |                       |                   |                        |
| I-A Receipts 1007  |                    |  |                       |                   |                        |
| CIP Receipts 1061  |                    |  |                       |                   |                        |
| Other  |                    |  |                       |                   |                        |
| * Personal Services Salary and Benefits Costs are from PACS. |                    |  |                       |                   |                        |

**Justification**

This position will provide clerical support for the Kenai Peninsula Spruce Bark Beetle project. Duties will include receptionist, recording minutes at public meetings, typing documents and correspondence, developing newsletters, maintaining mailing list and mailing of newsletters and notices to the public.

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0 4 0 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50

|  |                           |        |   |                           |                               |                      |
|--|---------------------------|--------|---|---------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| Position Title<br><b>Information Officer I</b>               |                           |        | No. of Positions<br><b>1</b>  | Range/Step<br><b>14/A</b> | Barg. Unit<br><b>60</b>       |                      |
| Time Status<br><b>T</b>                                      | Staff Months<br><b>12</b> |        | Location<br><b>Anchorage</b>  |                           | Election District<br><b>5</b> |                      |
| Type of Expenditure  |                           |        | Justification   |                           |                               |                      |
|  |                           |        | <p>This position will design the public participation program dealing with spruce beetle alternatives on the Kenai Peninsula. The public is a major player in which alternative is accepted and must be involved in its development.</p> <p>Duties of this position will include the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. implement the public participation program.</li> <li>2. Ensure compliance with public meeting regulations.</li> <li>3. Ensure the public is informed of issues and what steps are underway for beetle control.</li> <li>4. Conduct any necessary surveys and get the results out to the public.</li> <li>5. Develop and have printed brochures and any other publications.</li> </ol> |                           |                               |                      |
| 1  |                           | 2      |   |                           |                               | 3                    |
| Salary*  | 2353 x 12                 | 28,836 |   |                           |                               | //////////////////// |
| Benefits*  | 925 x 12                  | 11,100 |   |                           |                               | //////////////////// |
| Premium Pay (Included in Above)                              |                           |        |   |                           |                               | //////////////////// |
| Other  |                           |        |   |                           |                               | //////////////////// |
| Total Personal Services                                      |                           |        |   |                           |                               | 39.3                 |
| Travel   |                           |        |   |                           |                               | 3.0                  |
| Contractual  |                           |        |   |                           |                               | 50.0                 |
| Commodities  |                           |        |   |                           |                               | 3.0                  |
| Equipment  |                           |        |   |                           |                               | 7.0                  |
| Other  |                           |        |   |                           |                               |                      |
| Total Cost   |                           |        |   |                           |                               | 102.3                |
| Funding Source for Total Cost                                |                           |        |   |                           |                               |                      |
| Federal Receipts   | 1002                      |        |   |                           |                               |                      |
| G.F. Match   | 1003                      |        |   |                           |                               |                      |
| General Fund   | 1004                      |        |   |                           |                               |                      |
| Program Receipts/GF  | 1005                      |        | 102.3   |                           |                               |                      |
| I-A Receipts   | 1007                      |        |   |                           |                               |                      |
| CIP Receipts   | 1061                      |        |   |                           |                               |                      |
| Other  |                           |        |   |                           |                               |                      |
| * Personal Services Salary and Benefits Costs are from PACS. |                           |        |   |                           |                               |                      |

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ALASKA DIVISION OF FORESTRY  
 COOPER LANDING AREA-PROGRAM RECEIPTS  
 MARCH 13, 1990

The following is an estimate of the program receipts or salvage operations in the spruce beetle killed stands in the Cooper Landing Vicinity.

1. Proposed Operations Under Service Contract Within the Proposed Fuelbreaks and Fuel Reduction Areas

| <u>Activity</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Est. Volume</u> | <u>Est. Value</u> | <u>Total Value</u> |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Fuelbreaks      | 92           | 920 Cords          | \$25/Cord         | \$23,000.00        |
| Buan Creek      | 200          | 300 Cords          | \$25/Cord         | 7,500.00           |
| Bridgeview      | 10           | 93 Cords           | \$25/Cord         | 2,325.00           |
| Fuelbreak       | 22           | 240 Cords          | \$25/Cord         | 6,000.00           |
| Old Buffers     | 50           | 500 Cords          | \$25/Cord         | 12,500.00          |
|                 |              |                    | Total             | \$51,325.00        |

2. Operations Proposed or Existing Under Timber Sale Contract Within Fuel Reduction Areas

| <u>Activity</u>   | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Est. Volume</u> | <u>Est. Value</u>        | <u>Total Value</u> |
|---|--------------|--------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
|   |              | 70 MBF             | \$22.75/MBF              |                    |
| *Snug Harbor  | 139          | 563 Cords          | \$ 1.00/Cord             | \$ 2,155.50        |
| *Shackleford<br>Creek   | 42           | 42 Cords           | \$ 1.00/Cord             | 450.00             |
| Cooper Creek  | 204          | 2,618 Cords        | \$ 1.00/Cord             | 2,618.00           |
| Total (Less \$1,522.50 for Scarification on<br>Portions of Snug Harbor) |              |                    |                          | \$ 3,701.00        |
|   |              |                    | Grand Total of #1 and #2 | \$55,026.00        |

\*Active Sales previously sold.