

H B

8 3

May 11, 1991

Drue -

RE: Kachemak Bay

The Governor asked Mead to come up with alternative methods of financing the buyback so that it was not all immediate cash.

These are a list of options he developed. The general concept is to allow the Commissioner of DNR negotiation latitude based on uncertain value of the timber and/or subsurface rights.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rod", is located in the lower right quadrant of the page.

May 13, 1991

Red

Drue -

RE: HB 183 *HC-25*

Mead called and he and Harold Heinze spoke about Kachemak Land Swap.

Latest idea instead of shopping list:

Waive requirement for \$5mm legislative approval for land trade.

Commission of DNR has authorization to negotiate cash and/or land swap to make best deal for state.

25% match from private sector. Timber could be included as a portion of this match.

T Red

Alaska State Legislature

Senator Paul Fischer
Senate District D
Box 784
Soldotna, Alaska 99669
(907) 262-9420 W
262-9269



State Senate

While in Juneau
P.O. Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811
(907) 465-3791

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator Drue Pearce, Chairman
Senate Labor & Commerce Committee

FROM: Senator Paul Fischer *PF.*

SUBJECT: CS House Bill 83 (Finance) am
(relating to Kachemak Bay State Park
timber rights)

DATE: May 15, 1991

Now that the House version of my Senate Bill 148 has passed the House and is in the possession of the Senate, I would appreciate your scheduling the above referenced bill for a hearing before the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee at your earliest possible convenience.

Your consideration would be greatly appreciated.

PAF/sgn

cc: Representative Mike Navarre
Representative Gail Phillips

SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 83 (L&C)
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE SENATE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE

Offered:
Referred:

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES NAVARRE, Brown, Davidson, Finkelstein, Parnell, G.Phillips, Ellis, Choquette,
Ulmer

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act making special appropriations to the Department of Natural Resources for the
2 purchase of the inholdings of the Seldovia Native Association and the Cook Inlet Region,
3 Inc., and the timber rights of the Timber Trading Company, within the Kachemak Bay
4 State Park; and providing for an effective date."

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

6 * Section 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS. (a) The legislature finds that the Kachemak Bay State
7 Park is an important scenic and recreational area and that the inholdings within the park, if developed,
8 would seriously compromise the integrity of the existing park land. The legislature finds, therefore, that
9 it is in the interest of the state to acquire the inholdings of the Seldovia Native Association and the Cook
10 Inlet Region, Inc., and the timber rights of the Timber Trading Company, within the Kachemak Bay
11 State Park.

12 (b) The legislature further finds that the value, to the state, of the inholdings of the Seldovia
13 Native Association and the Cook Inlet Region, Inc., and the timber rights of the Timber Trading
14 Company, within the Kachemak Bay State Park does not exceed \$22,000,000.

1 * Sec. 2. The sum of \$7,000,000 is appropriated from the general fund to the Department of Natural
2 Resources for the purchase of the inholdings of the Seldovia Native Association and the timber rights
3 of the Timber Trading Company, within the Kachemak Bay State Park as identified in the Preliminary
4 Exchange Agreement dated June 30, 1989, between the state, the Seldovia Native Association, and the
5 Timber Trading Company; and for the purchase of the inholdings of the Cook Inlet Region Inc. within
6 the Kachemak Bay State Park.

7 * Sec. 3. (a) If the conditions set out in (b) - (d) of this section are met, the amount necessary to
8 pay the balance, after payment of the appropriation made in sec. 2 of this Act, of the purchase price for
9 the inholdings of the Seldovia Native Association, the timber rights of the Timber Trading Company,
10 and the inholdings of the Cook Inlet Region, Inc., not to exceed \$15,000,000, is appropriated from the
11 general fund to the Department of Natural Resources for purchase of the inholdings and timber rights
12 within Kachemak Bay State Park.

13 (b) If the agreement negotiated by the commissioner of natural resources for the purchase of
14 inholdings and timber rights within Kachemak Bay State Park requires that a portion of the purchase
15 price be paid from sources other than the state, the appropriation made by (a) of this section is
16 conditioned on the portion required as a match not exceeding 20 percent and on the agreement permitting
17 that the required match be satisfied by cash donations, the transfer of timber rights, and other means.
18

19 (c) The amount appropriated from the general fund by (a) of this section may not exceed the
20 amount deposited in the general fund or received in value by the state during the fiscal years ending
21 June 30, 1991, and 1992 as a result of the lease of recreational land, timber sales, timber rights, land
22 exchanges, and resource development leases. *EXCLUDING OIL + GAS LEASES*

23 (d) The appropriation made by (a) of this section may not be used for administrative or other
24 departmental expenses.

25 * Sec. 4. If the amount appropriated by secs. 2 and 3 of this Act is insufficient to satisfy the purchase
26 price for the inholdings and timber rights in Kachemak Bay State Park, the unexpended and unobligated
27 balances, not to exceed \$15,000,000, of the following appropriations are repealed and reappropriated to
28 the Department of Natural Resources for the purchase of the inholdings of the Seldovia Native
29 Association and the timber rights of the Timber Trading Company, within the Kachemak Bay State Park
30 as identified in the Preliminary Exchange Agreement dated June 30, 1989, between the state, the
31 Seldovia Native Association, and the Timber Trading Company; and for the purchase of the inholdings

1 of the Cook Inlet Region, Inc. within the Kachemak Bay State Park:

2 (1) that portion of the appropriation made by sec. 25, ch. 80, SLA 1979, page 66, line
3 38, as amended by sec. 448(a), ch. 105, SLA 1985, and sec. 275(a), ch. 130, SLA 1986, that is allocated
4 by sec. 25, ch. 80, SLA 1979, page 67, line 5 (Bradley Lake hydro project - \$80,000);

5 (2) that portion of the appropriation made by sec. 1(a), ch. 90, SLA 1981, as amended
6 by sec. 69, ch. 92, SLA 1981, and sec. 236, ch. 141, SLA 1982, that is allocated by sec. 1(a)(1), ch. 90,
7 SLA 1981, as amended by sec. 69, ch. 92, SLA 1981 (Bradley Lake - \$5,000,000);

8 (3) that portion of the appropriation made by sec. 1(b), ch. 90, SLA 1981, as amended
9 by sec. 69, ch. 92, SLA 1981, and sec. 236, ch. 141, SLA 1982, that is allocated by sec. 1(b)(1), ch. 90,
10 SLA 1981, as amended by sec. 69, ch. 92, SLA 1981 (Bradley Lake - \$10,000,000);

11 (4) sec. 241, ch. 141, SLA 1982 (Bradley Lake hydroelectric project - \$3,000,000);

12 (5) AS 44.83.420, repealed by sec. 318, ch. 171, SLA 1984 (Bradley Lake hydroelectric
13 project);

14 (6) sec. 5, ch. 41, SLA 1986 (Bradley Lake hydroelectric project - \$50,000,000);

15 (7) sec. 3, ch. 128, SLA 1986, page 8, line 7, as amended by sec. 1, ch. 96, SLA 1987
16 (Alaska Power Authority, Bradley Lake hydroelectric project - \$50,000,000);

17 (8) sec. 6, ch. 172, SLA 1988 (Bradley Lake power project - \$7,000,000).

18 * Sec. 5. The appropriations made by secs. 3 and 4 of this Act are for a capital project and are
19 subject to lapse under AS 37.25.020.

20 * Sec. 6. The unexpended and unobligated balance of the appropriation made by sec. 2 of this Act
21 lapses into the general fund December 31, 1991.

22 * Sec. 7. Except for secs. 3 - 5 of this Act, this Act takes effect on the later of

23 (1) the date that the Department of Natural Resources files a declaration with the
24 lieutenant governor and the revisor of statutes that the department has entered into agreements with
25 Seldovia Native Association for the sale of the inholdings of the association, the Timber Trading
26 Company for the sale of timber rights of the company, and the Cook Inlet Region, Inc., for the sale of
27 inholdings of the corporation, for a total that is equal to or less than \$22,000,000; or

28 (2) July 1, 1991.

29 * Sec. 8. Sections 3 - 5 of this Act take effect on the later of

30 (1) the date that the Department of Natural Resources files a declaration with the
31 lieutenant governor and the revisor of statutes that the department has entered into agreements with

- 1 Seldovia Native Association for the sale of the inholdings of the association, the Timber Trading
- 2 Company for the sale of timber rights of the company, and the Cook Inlet Region, Inc., for the sale of
- 3 inholdings of the corporation, for a total that is equal to or less than \$22,000,000; or
- 4 (2) the date that the Alaska Energy Authority files a declaration with the lieutenant
- 5 governor and the revisor of statutes that the Bradley Lake hydroelectric project has been completed.

SENATE COMM  REPORT

DATE: 5/15/91

FURTHER: Resources
Finance

DATE TURNED INTO OFFICE: 5-19-91

L&C Committee considered CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 83 (FINANCE) am

Special appropriations to the Department of Natural Resources for the purchase of the inholdings of the Seldovia Native Association and the Cook Inlet Region, Inc., and the timber rights of the Timber Trading Company, within the Kachemak Bay State Park; efd.

and recommended:

- replace with SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HB 83(L+C) same title
- or a lopt _____ CS _____ new title
- attached amendment(s) technical title change (HB only)
- _____ letter of intent adopted

do pass

do not pass

no recommendation

individual recommendations

further referral to _____

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):
Dept/Date:

fiscal note(s) _____

zero fiscal note(s) _____

appropriation-no fiscal note

APPROVES PREVIOUS:
Dept/Date:

fiscal note(s) _____

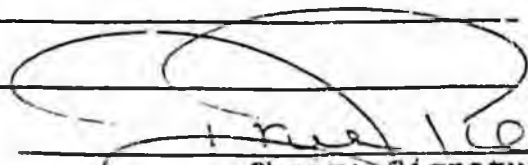
zero fiscal note(s) _____

Governor's bill w/fiscal note

SIGNING DO PASS:

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

William Do not pass
Chris Colles no rec
Rick Halford - Exxon \$


Chair: Signature and Recommendation

Alaska State Legislature

Senator Drue Pearce, Chair
Senator Virginia Collins, Vice Chair
Senator Dick Eliason
Senator Rick Halford
Senator Jay Kertula



WHILE IN JUNEAU
P.O. BOX V
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99611
(907) 465-3844

3111 C STREET, SUITE 150
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99504
(907) 561-2318

SENATE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE

TO: George Utermohle, Legal Counsel
Legal Services Division

FROM: Rod Mourant, Legislative Aide
Senate Labor & Commerce Committee

DATE: May 15, 1991

RE: CSHB 83 (FIN) am

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rod", positioned to the right of the "FROM:" line.

George, please draft a L&C CS for the subject using workdraft
7-LS0541\D.

Feel free to reword as necessary to allow the intended provisions
to fall with the allowable language of an appropriation bill.
Also, the intent of the appropriations is to prioritize in a
manner that calls for the price to be satisfied first by the
\$7,000,00 GF, then by the new negotiated language and finally by
the Bradley Lake reappropriation section.

George, we need this CS ASAP.

Thank you.

FISCHER
JONES
ELIASON
LANIER
TREADWELL
C. NELSON

-OK-

CSHB 83(FIN)am AMENDMENT

Amend Pg 1 Ln 14 as follows:

"Company, within the Kachemak Bay State Park does not exceed [is] \$22,000,000."

Insert a new section as follows:

The commissioner is authorized to negotiate cash and/or land trades not to exceed \$15,000,000 that are in the best interest of the state. The options may include but are not limited to future state income from recreational leases, timber sales and future resource development leases as well as requiring upto a 20% match from interested private sector parties. The match may include but is not limited to cash donations, and timber rights transfers.

Insert a new section as follows:

None of the funds appropriated in this legislation are to be used by the department for departmental expenses.

Insert on Pg 2 Ln 7 following "Sec. 3." as follows:

"If the amounts authorized in sections 2 and 3 are insufficient to satisfy the agreed upon purchase price, the [The] unexpended.."

Adjust section number referencing accordingly.

May 16, 1991

Drue -

RE: HB 83 - Kachemak Bay

Sec 1. Changes value upto \$22,000,000

Sec 2. \$7,000,000 GF payment subject to signed agreement by 12/31/91.

Sec 3. a) Allows upto \$15,000,000 GF from sources specified in b) and c) to be used for balance payment.

b) Allows commissioner to negotiate upto a 20% private sector match would could be cash, timber rights, land exchange.

c) Allows commissioner to use FY 91 & FY 92 proceeds from recreational land leases, timber sales, resource development leases and values of timber rights and land exchanges to satisfy the remaining balance due.

d) Prohibits DNR from using any of the GF for administrative expenses.

Sec 4. Allows use of various Bradley Lake reappropriations to pay off balance if sections 2 & 3 don't satisfy balance.

Sec 5. Sec 3 & 4 are capital appropriations.

Sec 6. Lapses GF appropriation on 12/31/91.

Sec 7. Requires signed agreement before any GF can be paid out.

Sec 8. Makes the signed agreement necessary for all other payments and APA notifies the Lt Gov that the Bradley Lake funds are available.

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

WALTER J. HICKEL, GOVERNOR

400 WILLOUGHBY AVENUE
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801-1796
PHONE: (907) 465-2400
FACSIMILE: (907) 586-2754

May 16, 1991

The Honorable Drue Pearce, Chair
Senate Labor and Commerce Committee
P.O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

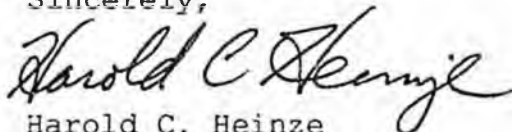
Dear Senator Pearce:

Subject: The draft Senate Labor and Commerce Committee substitute for HB 83, an appropriation bill for acquisition of Kachemak Bay State Park inholdings.

Position: The Department of Natural Resources supports the concept of a substitute bill that allows us to use land and resource revenues, land exchanges, and donations from industry and the public, as well as a monetary appropriation, for the acquisition of park inholdings.

Under this bill, we would make every effort to negotiate an agreement that is fair and equitable to all.

Sincerely,



Harold C. Heinze
Commissioner

cc: Representative Navarre
Bruce Kendall, Legislative Liaison, Office of the Governor

A M E N D M E N T

OFFERED IN THE SENATE

BY SENATOR JONES

TO: SCS CSHB 83 (L&C)

Page 2, line 7:

Delete "(b) - (d)"

Insert "(b) - (e)"

Page 2, following line 12:

Insert a new subsection to read:

"(b) The appropriation made by (a) of this section is contingent upon certification by the commissioner of natural resources to the Department of Administration that the commissioner has made a good faith effort to negotiate an agreement to exchange timber rights to state land for the timber rights of the Timber Trading Company in the Kachemak Bay State Park, unless the commissioner finds that timber rights of a value comparable to those held by the Timber Trading Company are not available on state land."

Reletter the following subsections accordingly.

Page 4, line 10:

Delete "; or"

Insert ";

Page 4, line 12, following 'completed':

Insert "; or

(3) the date that the commissioner of natural resources certifies to the lieutenant governor and the revisor of statutes that the commissioner was not able to negotiate an agreement to exchange timber rights to state land for the timber rights of the Timber Trading Company in the Kachemak Bay State Park because timber rights of comparable value to those held by the

Timber Trading Company are not available on state land"

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 83 (FINANCE) am
 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
 SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Amended: 5/13/91

Offered: 4/24/91

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES NAVARRE, Brown, Davidson, Finkelstein, Parnell, G.Phillips, Ellis, Choquette, Ulmer

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act making special appropriations to the Department of Natural Resources for the
 2 purchase of the inholdings of the Seldovia Native Association and the Cook Inlet Region,
 3 Inc., and the timber rights of the Timber Trading Company, within the Kachemak Bay
 4 State Park; and providing for an effective date."

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

6 * Section 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS. (a) The legislature finds that the Kachemak Bay State
 7 Park is an important scenic and recreational area and that the inholdings within the park, if developed,
 8 would seriously compromise the integrity of the existing park land. The legislature finds, therefore, that
 9 it is in the interest of the state to acquire the inholdings of the Seldovia Native Association and the Cook
 10 Inlet Region, Inc., and the timber rights of the Timber Trading Company, within the Kachemak Bay
 11 State Park.

12 (b) The legislature further finds that the value, to the state, of the inholdings of the Seldovia
 13 Native Association and the Cook Inlet Region, Inc., and the timber rights of the Timber Trading
 14 Company, within the Kachemak Bay State Park is \$22,000,000.

HB0083c

*2000 FROM AS HIGH AS
P. 1*

CSHB 83(FIN) am

1 * Sec. 2. The sum of \$7,000,000 is appropriated from the general fund to the Department of Natural
2 Resources for the purchase of the inholdings of the Seldovia Native Association and the timber rights
3 of the Timber Trading Company, within the Kachemak Bay State Park as identified in the Preliminary
4 Exchange Agreement dated June 30, 1989, between the state, the Seldovia Native Association, and the
5 Timber Trading Company; and for the purchase of the inholdings of the Cook Inlet Region Inc. within
6 the Kachemak Bay State Park.

7 * Sec. 3. ^{DELETED} The unexpended and unobligated balances, not to exceed \$15,000,000, of the following
8 appropriations are repealed and reappropriated to the Department of Natural Resources for the purchase
9 of the inholdings of the Seldovia Native Association and the timber rights of the Timber Trading
10 Company, within the Kachemak Bay State Park as identified in the Preliminary Exchange Agreement
11 dated June 30, 1989, between the state, the Seldovia Native Association, and the Timber Trading
12 Company; and for the purchase of the inholdings of the Cook Inlet Region, Inc. within the Kachemak
13 Bay State Park:

14 (1) that portion of the appropriation made by sec. 25, ch. 80, SLA 1979, page 66, line
15 38, as amended by sec. 448(a), ch. 105, SLA 1985, and sec. 275(a), ch. 130, SLA 1986, that is allocated
16 by sec. 25, ch. 80, SLA 1979, page 67, line 5 (Bradley Lake hydro project - \$80,000);

17 (2) that portion of the appropriation made by sec. 1(a), ch. 90, SLA 1981, as amended
18 by sec. 69, ch. 92, SLA 1981, and sec. 236, ch. 141, SLA 1982, that is allocated by sec. 1(a)(1), ch. 90,
19 SLA 1981, as amended by sec. 69, ch. 92, SLA 1981 (Bradley Lake - \$5,000,000);

20 (3) that portion of the appropriation made by sec. 1(b), ch. 90, SLA 1981, as amended
21 by sec. 69, ch. 92, SLA 1981, and sec. 236, ch. 141, SLA 1982, that is allocated by sec. 1(b)(1), ch. 90,
22 SLA 1981, as amended by sec. 69, ch. 92, SLA 1981 (Bradley Lake - \$10,000,000);

23 (4) sec. 241, ch. 141, SLA 1982 (Bradley Lake hydroelectric project - \$3,000,000);

24 (5) AS 44.83.420, repealed by sec. 318, ch. 171, SLA 1984 (Bradley Lake hydroelectric
25 project);

26 (6) sec. 5, ch. 41, SLA 1986 (Bradley Lake hydroelectric project - \$50,000,000);

27 (7) sec. 3, ch. 128, SLA 1986, page 8, line 7, as amended by sec. 1, ch. 96, SLA 1987
28 (Alaska Power Authority, Bradley Lake hydroelectric project - \$50,000,000);

29 (8) sec. 6, ch. 172, SLA 1988 (Bradley Lake power project - \$7,000,000).

30 * Sec. 4. ^{FR. E. T. E.} ~~The appropriation made by sec. 3 of this Act is for a capital project and is subject to lapse~~
31 under AS 37.25.020.

1 * Sec. 5. The unexpended and unobligated balance of the appropriation made by sec. 2 of this Act
2 lapses into the general fund December 31, 1991.

*NONE OF THE FUNDS IN SEC 2. MAY
BE USED FOR ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE
BY THE DEPT.*

3 * Sec. 6. Except for secs. 3 and 4 of this Act, this Act takes effect on the later of

4 (1) the date that the Department of Natural Resources files a declaration with the
5 lieutenant governor and the revisor of statutes that the department has entered into agreements
6 with Seldovia Native Association for the sale of the inholdings of the association, the Timber
7 Trading Company for the sale of timber rights of the company, and the Cook Inlet Region, Inc.,
8 for the sale of inholdings of the corporation, for a total that is equal to or less than \$22,000,000;
9 and

10 (2) July 1, 1991.

11 * Sec. 7. Sections 3 and 4 of this Act take effect on the later of

12 (1) the date that the Department of Natural Resources files a declaration with the
13 lieutenant governor and the revisor of statutes that the department has entered into agreements
14 with Seldovia Native Association for the sale of the inholdings of the association, the Timber
15 Trading Company for the sale of timber rights of the company, and the Cook Inlet Region, Inc.,
16 for the sale of inholdings of the corporation, for a total that is equal to or less than \$22,000,000;
17 and

18 (2) the date that the Alaska Energy Authority files a declaration with the
19 lieutenant governor and the revisor of statutes that the Bradley Lake hydroelectric project has
20 been completed.

KACHEMAK IN-HOLDING ACQUISITION OPTIONS
(OTHER THAN DIRECT APPROPRIATION)

1. Give the Seldovia Native Association (SNA) the right to future income from development of a commercial recreational lodge on state land at Esther Island in Prince William Sound. The Prince William Sound Area Plan allows for one commercial lodge at this location. (estimate: \$100,000/yr.)
2. Give SNA the right to future income from a recreational lease planned at South Denali State Park. (estimate \$150,000/yr.)
3. Give TTC or SNA the income from future state timber sales (\$750,000/yr.) for specific time period.
4. Transfer SNA 2,500 acres of state land at Granite Point, subject to the pending coal export lease for Diamond/Chulitna (est. \$2,500,000). Note: This would be opposed by the coal companies! However, SNA must abide by the terms of the state lease.
5. Give SNA credits to obtain X dollar amount of surplus property as offered by the Department of Administration (value adjustable).

CSHB 83(FIN)am AMENDMENT

Insert a new section as follows:

The commissioner is authorized to ^{IF HAVE} negotiate cash and/or land trades not to exceed \$15,000,000 that are in the best interest of the state. The options may include but are not limited to future state income from recreational leases, timber sales and future resource development leases as well as requiring upto a 20% match from interested private sector parties. The match may include but is not limited to a check off donation of Permanent Fund Dividends, cash donations, and timber rights transfers.

Insert a new section as follows:

None of the funds appropriated in this legislation are to be used by the department for departmental expenses.

PRIORITIZED WITH BRADLEY LAST.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Labor & Commerce committee name

committee on HB83, dated May 17, 1991

bill/subject

I believe the opposition to this Logging action is because of Environmental, Tourist, and State Park Considerations.

It is a Fact that if the natives agreed to trade the land in question with the state for some of Pat Redev's Susitna Valley remote area land, and the natives wanted to log that, you would have just as much opposition - if not more.

Also - is the state prepared to buy back all native owned lands that is being logged, such as Afognak Island. Logging has been evident there for a number of years. If some group became opposed to that operation would the state spend more millions on that land.

Who benefits from the Tourism the most (in the Homer area) the locals - or non-residents? Why doesn't the City of Homer, Tourist Business, and various environmentalist groups buy this land and donate it back to the State.

The City of Homer had no recent depression periods - the Anchorage area and Mat-Su Valley did. This money proposed to be spent could help the Santa Central areas.

During the 1989-1990 winter the Mat-Valley lost 100's of Moose to starvation/winter kill. No environmentalists came to help the citizens feed the starving animals. The locals used their own hard earned money AND kept the animals alive.

We hear targets to cut Day Care Assistance and Longevity. How can we consider \$22,000,000 that Homer businesses are benefited) and consider cutting health & welfare programs?

Signed: _____ Testifier Bob & Barbara

_____ (over)

Representing (Optional) General Public

Address P.O. Box 204 Willow, AK 99688

Phone No. (907) 495-6337

(1)



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Labor & Commerce
 committee name
 committee on HB83 (continued) , dated MAY 17, 1991
 bill/subject

The present Administration is advocating that
 ALL Capital Projects - that Local Governments, come
 up with matching funds. Why can't Homer
 come up with \$11,000,000 to show their
 good faith.

Signed: _____

Testifier

Representing (Optional)

Address

Phone No.

(2)



Alaska State Legislature

BLT

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Labor & Commerce
committee name

committee on HB 83 , dated MAY 17, 1991
bill/subject

I am a 30-year + resident of Alaska. For months I have heard about you having to possibly limit (or withdraw) the Alaska Longevity Program and young parents are facing reductions (or elimination) of Day Care Assistance. It is absolutely irresponsible for the State to consider spending \$22,000,000 to buy this land when we can't support major health & welfare issues.

It appears that this consideration supports Nance businesses and Environmental Issues. If they are so concerned about this forest - let them buy the land to protect their interests. If this wasn't a major tourist spot they wouldn't be such an issue being raised. Let the people who are "so concerned" about this buying their tourist business put their money where their mouth is! I truly don't believe this is an environmental issue, it is a "big money/business" issue. What if we bought the land and a forest fire burned it off next week - would the world come to an end?

Signed: Elinor J. Beekley (over)

Testifier
General Public
Representing (Optional)
P.O. Box 204, Willow, AK 99688
Address
(907) 495-6337
Phone No.

6

(continued)

272

#B83 - Kachamak Bay
State Tenure Rights

The legislature should spend more time doing the things that need to be done to create new jobs.

Individuals lose their self-esteem and self-respect and turn suicide, drugs and etc when they have no hope of finding a job that will support themselves and their families.

Clarence E. Burdick



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Labor and Commerce committee name
 committee on HB 83 / State Timber dated 5/17/91
 bill/subject Rights

I very strongly oppose the state of Alaska buying out private land holdings. There isn't enough land and other resources in private hands to support ~~the~~ private enterprise in Alaska. Any available money, such as the \$22,000,000 proposed in this bill, should go to create new jobs. Timber is a part of a potential diversified economy. Enough trees have been set-aside (locked-up) for viewing. When does this type of thing stop. Once the trees are cut off the native land, the area will still be green and the trees will grow back.

Signed: Lawrence E. Turbush
 Testifier
The General Public (The Workers of Alaska)
 Representing (Optional)
HC01 BOX 6001 PALMER AK 99645
 Address
(907) 745-3357
 Phone No.

continued



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Labor & Commerce
committee name

committee on HB83 (Continued), dated May 17, 1991
bill/subject

Is the State setting a precedent if they
buy this land? What will happen every time
some group wants to stop another logging
operation - on a gravel pit - or a highway
etc. etc.? Is the State going to buy up
all the land to protect local group
interest? What about Afognak and South
Eastern? Logging has gone on there for
years. No one seems to be raising
an issue there - probably (again)
because there is no big money interest
in the land!

Why doesn't Homer take out a bond,
charge each Tourist that looks at this
land \$22.00 - then when a million Tourist
has looked at the land - it will be paid for.
Let's use our money when it's needed
for health, education, taking care of our seniors,

create parks,
jobs, build
some roads,
etc., etc.,
etc.!

Signed: _____
Testifier

Representing (Optional)

Address

Phone No.

6

April 30, 1991

Dear Legislators,

The effort to return Seldovia native lands in Kachemak Bay to their highest and best use as parklands will confront Alaskans until it is accomplished. Whether lost to a clearcut or not, the issues of tourism and the scenic values of these lands will always be with us.

Let us put this to rest now. Citizens across Alaska and in Homer have struggled to return these lands to the public estate for 15 years, we are tired, no less committed, but tired. Please consider it a moral if not legal obligation of the state to return these lands to the people as promised when they were initially set aside as parklands in 1971.

Our National government has just finished fighting a very expensive war in which our military went to great lengths to avoid damaging sites of spiritual and cultural value because it was the right thing to do. I contend that protecting the lands of Kachemak Bay is also the right thing to do for the same reasons. We are fighting for our country here now. For everything that the beauty of this place means. It is not a joke, it is patriotism pure and simple.

One of the problems in today's world is that people are transient, moving from place to place often looking for a place not ruined by lack of foresight. Alaska in particular is attractive to these hopefuls, let us not disappoint them. In Homer especially we want to avoid that. We want stability, tradition, and a godly value system respectful of the beauty of creation. We do not want a quick pillage of what value exists here so that we can take it elsewhere. We are here for good and wish to share the goodness of the area with others. Indeed, shipping these logs to market would be akin to stealing from ourselves. Certainly these logs are not critically necessary to the greater global community.

We are not afraid of industry. On our limited land base at the tip of the Kenai Peninsula we support clearcut logging of everything south of Seldovia and of large areas to the north by Ninnilchick. We support the Bradley Lake hydro project because of its importance to the state. The first port of call on the hiway sytem for boats coming in from the southwest, we also support a large fishing and seafood processing industry. We are anticipating the mining of chrome in the mountains across from Homer. All of this we will continue to do in the states interest. All that we ask is to sustain the multiple use, no net loss balance of our extensive heavy industries with our stable and very succesful, growth oriented tourist industry. Even if extensive economic arguments in favor of protecting the park values did not exist, it would still be true that life is not simply a matter of quantity, it is also a matter of quality.

As an example of the value of the Homer tourist industry consider that the Federal government, through the National Maritime Wildlife Service, is currently proceeding to invest \$20 million into the infrastructure of the Kenai Peninsula with the construction of a single tourist/visitors center in downtown Homer. Does it then make sense for the state to not match that investment? ...to fail to protect what is recognized as a world class scenic value and one of Alaska's most significant scenic values as seen from the hiway system? ...at a time when such values are recognised as becoming more and more valuable every year on local, state, national, and international levels?

We know from experience, prior and current, that global market conditions for timber are in constant and unpredictable flux and that this can have bankrupting effects on logging operations. Homer residents look upon the area threatened by clearcut every day. Almost everyone in Homer has the same panoramic view of this area. How saddened and disheartened we would be if after years of trying to demonstrate the rationale for preventing logging of this area, the logging company went bankrupt, due to unforeseen market conditions, in the midst of trying to clearcut it. It has happened before, and is as possible a scenario as any other.

Anyone knows that beauty is of value, spiritually and materially. No one does anything with the Taj Majall but admire its beauty. Single art pieces sell for millions of dollars. In any city on earth view property is the most expensive. Local realators in Homer agree that clearcutting the view from Homer will negatively effect local land values, in turn leading to increased taxes. The other possible scenario is that with the protection of this scenic value even more people will be interested in buying land in Homer and land values will increase. Certainly this last scenario is desirable, this is "front yard" issue, not a "NIMBY" issue.

Please consider that although all lands of uniquely spectacular quality should be at least considered for protection, those immediately surrounding population centers should receive priority protection. As mentioned above, the need to protect beautiful natural areas is a local, state, national, and international concern. We may have lots of wildlands left in Alaska but they are all we will ever have again, and we should make a concious effort to save the best. We are talking about ethics here, land ethics. If Alaska, as one of the wealthiest states in the Union, is too poor to save its most scenic lands, how hopeless the situation must be elsewhere in the world. We will be poorer still if we allow this to be logged when we could have set an example for the world.

"Wilderness is an anchor to windward. Knowing it is there we can also know that we are a rich nation, tending our resources as we should - not a people in despair searching every last nook and cranny of our land for a board of lumber, a barrel of oil, a blade of grass, or a tank of clean water." U.S.Sen. C.P. Anderson '63

"We must and will put the Exxon/Valdez oil spill behind us. In the place of that tragedy let us establish a world class Alaska recreation area. Alaska has much to offer the world including tourism and the spiritual uplift that comes from just experiencing the country. It is our right to care for and wisely use these resources we have in common. We will project an image to the world of a society that understands its ownership obligations and is a true steward of its natural inheritance. Of a place where the human spirit can grow."

Ak. Gov. Walter Hickel Jan 22, 1991
State of the State Address

"In a state of superlatives some places still manage to rise to the top. When the yardstick is scenic beauty, diversity of landscapes, richness in wildlife species and abundance, Kachemak Bay State Park is at the top." Ak. Dir. of Parks Neil Johansen

"Every tree is a compact between generations."

President George Bush 1989

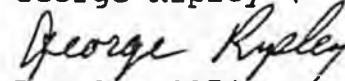
The heart and spirit will go out of many people if the Kachemak parklands are clearcut, residents and visitors alike. Countries across the world don't need that timber, we do. Foreigners who wish to visit Alaska would scorn us if we allow such a travesty.

Let us not forget the benefits we have all reaped from the Alaska purchase of 1867. There were critics then too. How fortunate we are that they were overruled by the visionary leaders of their day.

This is an opportunity to make a wise environmental decision and, most parties agree, a good business decision. We are seeking unanimity on this. Please support the Kachemak parklands buyback. Inspire us, and remember, a worthwhile destination at the end of the road benefits everyone along the road.

Sincerely,

George Ripley



P.O. Box 2074

Homer, Ak. 99603

907-235-5635

April 30,1991

Members of the legislature;

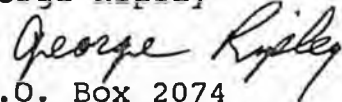
I would ask you all to recognize that tourism is an especially valuable industry because it provides opportunities for entrepreneurship at every level of our society. It is not just the big tourist industries that are important to our state's economic health and well being. It is the hundreds and thousands of smaller independent businesses across the state that round out our economy and fill the special needs of tourists. Independent business people often earn only enough to support themselves, but, equally important to the state, they also earn satisfaction, fulfillment and pride in serving the public.

Kachemak Bay is recognized internationally as a world class scenic destination. If our legislature will recognize what so many others already value, the Kenai Peninsula's strength as a pillar of Alaska's tourist industry will be established well into the 21st century.

I urge you to support the many tourist related business people, big and small, both in Homer and along the hiway to and from Anchorage, that will benefit well into the future from the passage of measures to protect Kachemak parklands.

Thank you,

George Ripley



P.O. Box 2074
Homer, Ak. 99603
907-235-5635

May 6, 1991

Dear Legislator,

There seem to be some lingering questions with regard to the Kachemak Bay parkland and timber buyback.

With regards to bark beetles; State foresters & insect/disease managers deem it unlikely that an infestation will occur in the park area unless there is a disturbance to the area. Infestations in the upper Kachemak Bay at Bear Cove and Mallard Bay are the result of major blowdowns in those areas caused by high winds off the glaciers above. Such a geographic high wind area does not exist in the buy back area. A disturbance in the buyback area would most likely be by the logging activity itself. I work in the logging industry and can state unequivocally that the economics of logging preclude the removal of slash. Indeed, I have just returned from the site of a supposedly "clean" helicopter logging operation where I witnessed 20-30% of the logs cut last year laying abandoned to rot in the woods. These trees are the perfect incubators for a devastating infestation. If our parklands are not protected, a timber harvest of any kind will inevitably leave slash pile incubators that will without question create an opportunity for the rapid spread of bark beetles throughout surrounding parklands and private lands in Halibut and Sadie Cove. The claim that harvesting the timber will protect us from beetles is not only false, it is the opposite that is true.

If on the other hand the buyback were to be consummated and a natural infestation were to occur, (contrary to biologist's expectations) it would be a very slow process. Even after 18 years, the beetle infestation at Mallard Bay can hardly be noticed through binoculars in the evening sun from a vantage point 7 miles away high on the north shore of Kachemak Bay, and then only if one knows what to look for and where. Contrary to a clearcut, a slow and naturally occurring beetle infestation in the parklands would have very little impact on tourist impressions or on park use.

Critics posit that if serious infestation were to occur there exists a threat of subsequent forest fires. Here it must be said that 1. Fires are unusual to extremely rare on the southern Kenai Peninsula. 2. Local geography would limit the range of any possible fire (note; it is just this geography that makes this such an interesting and worthwhile parkland.) 3. Many, if not most, would rather see a burned forest over there than the stumps of a clearcut. We know that both will regenerate but the issue here is parklands and has to do with spiritual concepts such as reverence, humility, and gratitude. The essential reason that parks have been legislated into existence at all is because of their spiritual benefit to mankind. Allowing that area to be logged would be an act of martyrdom. People would visit Homer and be very saddened that society and our leaders had shown such poor vision as to kill the goose for its golden egg. They would leave Homer's here-to-fore world class scenic area sadly chastened, recognizing that as a species man has proved to be as destructive as the bark beetle.

The wisdom of clear cutting a valuable parkland due to a potential for threat years down the road to timber values is a non sequitor concept to me. The highest and best use of these lands is as scenic parklands in support of a thriving tourist industry the benefits of which are enjoyed across the spectrum of our society. Please demonstrate the wisdom and vision to protect this area. Don't hesitate to be bold. Your children's children will be grateful.

Sincerely,

George Ripley

The Impact of Tourism on the Kenai Peninsula

Even a cursory assessment of the Kenai Peninsula reveals the obvious fact that it is a potential destination area for all of the forms of tourism common to Alaska.

In a survey of forty-five randomly selected Anchorage households conducted for this study, 73% visit the Kenai Peninsula, most of them several times per year. By comparison, only 50% of these households went to the Matanuska Valley more than once per year and less than 25% of them ever went to Prince William Sound.

Contrary to resident awareness, the Kenai Peninsula has low market recognition among the nonresident pleasure travelers. Tour executives explained that one of the main difficulties in marketing tours to the Kenai is that most of their customers are not familiar with the Kenai and its attractions. Instead, tour customers and independent travelers go to those places and attractions which they have heard of and which offer the obvious Alaskan experiences they expect. Conversely, tour executives report very high satisfaction levels among the tour customers who do go to the Kenai. Tour executives are generally encouraged by this satisfaction level but simply cannot generate high volume without higher market recognition of the Kenai Peninsula. The Kenai is known for fishing and this is certainly an attraction for the specialized market that comes to Alaska to fish, but for the bulk of the tourist market other motives predominate.

(Low market recognition has hampered the development of the Kenai's full tourism potential until the recent parallel boom of the king salmon sport fishery in Soldotna/Kenai and the halibut sport fishery of Homer. Limited fish resources have led to the leveling off of these attractions and the tourism industry on the Kenai Peninsula is now in need of diversification.)

Homer — In the eyes of tour company executives interviewed, Homer is the most marketable Peninsula community and receives the highest ratings of their customers. Existing excursion and charter opportunities, unique Cape Cod-like atmosphere, attractive architecture, art and gift stores, exceptional scenery, easily accessible fishing, unusual waterfront, large public areas and nearby evidence of Native and Russian history are some of Homer's strong points.

The key point found in this study is that the Kenai Peninsula has more tourist-related businesses — many of them small and innovative — than any other comparable area of Alaska. It receives more combined resident and nonresident tourists than any location except Anchorage and the Peninsula business community has responded with a vast array of tourist-oriented businesses to service the influx. Compared to other areas of Alaska, the Kenai Peninsula is very well developed to service the types of tourism which occur there. Businesses which service the Anchorage and nonresident personal vehicle markets have generally done well and their numbers have expanded significantly. Fishing-related businesses have also done well and increased in numbers. The point is that the Peninsula is already ahead of much of Alaska in its ability to serve the visitor and provide a satisfactory experience.

The Peninsula's ability to serve more tourists is not so much limited by the public and private infrastructure as by the lack of market recognition.

Generic marketing of the Kenai Peninsula would make hundreds of existing small tourist-oriented businesses healthier plus create many more opportunities for new businesses than can be listed at this time.

The McDowell Group
Eric McDowell, Principal Tourism Analyst
Robert Dindinger, Travel Industry Advisor
Prepared for the Kenai Peninsula Borough
September 1985

*Italics indicate portions added
for clarification of current situation
by George Ripley 1991*

"In a state of superlatives, some places still manage to rise to the top. When the yardstick is scenic beauty, diversity of landscapes, richness in wildlife species and abundance, Kachemak Bay State Park and the adjacent Kachemak Bay State Wilderness Park area are at the top."

Neil Johansen
Alaska Director, Department of Parks
November 1989

The effort to prevent logging of Kachemak Bay State Park land is a patriotic issue in Homer. People who live there and visit there love that country. Area people have been fighting to protect this land for 10 to 15 years and have borne great anguish at the thought of its loss to a clear cut.

There is heart-searching going on in the capitalist world. The people are looking, asking, and saying that we must redefine the bottom line. Dollars in our pockets are not worth smog in our lungs, trash in our cities, pollution in our rivers and streams.

We can contribute to our nation's energy security while contributing to the re-creation of our nation's spirit . . . and I think that last thing is most important.

Be it tourism, timber, fishing, energy, recreation, mining, or attracting business to Alaska, Government is a major player.

We have to have a governor who thinks like an owner. An owner's responsibility is to care for the total.

Walter J. Hickel
Wise Use Council
December 1, 1989

Former Governor Jay Hammond upon signing the repurchase bill finalizing the buyback of oil leases in Kachemak Bay;

"This represents a victory of the people over a government which did not listen to their wishes. Kachemak Bay is one of the richest marine areas in the world and one of the state's major recreation areas. We are going to preserve those qualities for our children.

But Kachemak Bay has even a larger meaning. It was a time when Alaskans rose up to say that in this state there are some places that we consider so valuable that we will not risk their destruction — even if we produce a little less oil and make a little less money in the process. We don't say that very often but sometimes it needs saying. It was an important victory for the people and for the conscience of Alaska."

Former Governor Jay Hammond
Homer News, April 1978

Excerpts from
PERCEPTION vs. REALITY
Facing the Environmental Challenge

Julian R. Darley, President BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc.
to the Alaska Support Industry Alliance May 17, 1990

According to one recent survey, more than three-quarters of all Americans now consider themselves "environmentalists."

I'd like to share some of the results of extensive public opinion polling our company conducted earlier this year.

We asked what are the most important issues or problems facing Alaska over the next few years. The #1 response was protecting the environment — higher than the economy, state spending and education.

We also asked people what they believe is the most important responsibility of the oil industry in Alaska. Again, the #1 response was protecting the environment.

It is time for Alaska to recapture its glory.

Our opportunity in Alaska is to be a pattern for the world at large.

As we make our decisions, the rule of thumb should be simple. Is it good for Alaska?

We cannot build a future without addressing the investments that will create a future for our children.

Once we have found a resource we must break out of our Third World mentality. We must stop shipping it somewhere else without value-added processing.

Why should Tokyo or Seattle bank our bounty?

We must and will put the Exxon-Valdez oil spill behind us.

In the place of that tragedy, let's establish a world class Alaska recreation area.

Alaska has much to offer the nation and the world — tourism and the spiritual uplift that comes from just experiencing the country.

It is our right to care for and wisely use these resources we own in common.

And we will project an image to the world of a society that understands its ownership obligations — is a true steward of its natural inheritance — a place where the human spirit can grow.

State of the State Address by
The Honorable Walter J. Hickel,
Governor of the State of Alaska
Senate-House Joint Journal Supplement
January 22, 1991

Allow Alaska to come of age. It's a very young country. We stand ready to help this nation any way we can. Caring for that country up there that's practically a spiritual experience that comes from just being there. Come up and visit. It's a glorious country.

We've been bestowed with a natural rich inheritance.

We have great beauty in Alaska that can help revitalize anyone who wants to have their spirit revitalized.

Governor Walter J. Hickel
National Press Club Address
Washington D.C.
February 1991

Wilderness is an anchor to windward. Knowing it is there, we can also know that we are still a rich nation, tending our resources as we should — not a people in despair searching every last nook and cranny of our land for a board of lumber, a barrel of oil, a blade of grass, or a tank of water.

U.S. Senator Clinton P. Anderson
American Forests
July 1963

 * DELIVER TO: LIOCBLS *
 * ORIGINAL *
 * SENT: 05/17/91 TIME: 15:42 *
 * FROM: LIOCHIL *
 * SUBJECT: 91-05-092; PL; KACHEMAK; 5-17 *
 * PRINT DATE: 05/17/91 TIME: 15:42 *

SUBJECT LINE TO READ TO NO., PL TS; SHORT SUBJECT; DATE

T/C NO. 91-05-092
 DATE 05-17-91
 SPONSOR S LABOR & COMMERCE
 SUBJECT HB 83, KACHEMAK
 MODERATOR JUDY
 SITE ANCHORAGE

Bridget
562-2882

PARTICIPANT LIST

 TO TESTIFY
 NAMES/REPRESENTING ADDRESS PHONE BILL NO.

 TO OBSERVE
 NAME/ REPRESENTING ADDRESS PHONE BILL NO.
 1. JOE WENNER
 2.
 3.
 4.

BACK OF NUMBER 562-2882
 MAIL ADDRESS LIOCHIL

 *
 * DELIVER TO: LIOCBLS
 *
 * ORIGINAL
 * SENT: 05/17/91 TIME: 15:37
 * FROM: LTCCNAT
 * SUBJECT: 092PL SLAB HB 83 5/17/91
 * PRINT DATE: 05/17/91 TIME: 15:37
 *

SUBJECT LINE TO READ: TC NO.; PL/FS; SHORT SUBJECT; DATE

T/C NO: 91-05-092
 DATE: 5/17/91
 SPONSOR: S LAB
 SUBJECT: HB 83
 MODERATOR: MARY
 SITE: MATSU

PARTICIPANT LIST NUM 1

*see
 would like to
 be tips*

 TESTIFIER

NAME/REPRESENTING	ADDRESS	PHONE	BILL NO.
1. CLARENCE FURBUSH			
2. ROY BURKHART			
3. ELIZABETH BURKHART			
4.			
5.			

 ORDERVEL

NAME/REPRESENTING	ADDRESS	PHONE	BILL NO.
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			

UNABLE
 DELIVER
 TO/PL

START TIME: 3:30AM END TIME

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* DELIVER TO LOCKER                                     *
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* ORIGINAL                                             *
* DATE: 05/17/91 TIME: 15:40                          *
* FROM: LUCAS                                          *
* SUBJECT: 91-05-092, PL, S.L&C, S-17-91             *
* PRINT DATE: 05/17/91 TIME: 15:40                  *
*****

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SUBJECT NAME TO READ: TC NO., PL/FS, SHORT SUBJECT, DATE

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TC NO      91-05-092
DATE       MAY 17, 1991
SPONSOR    SENATE LABOR AND COMMERCE
SUBJECT    91-05
MODERATOR  CHARLES
TITLE      HOMER

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PARTICIPANT LIST

NAME/REPRESENTING	ADDRESS/ZIP	PHONE	BILL NO.
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
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10.			
11.			
12.			

OBSERVER

NAME/REPRESENTING	ADDRESS/ZIP	PHONE	BILL NO.
1. JACK KOLSTER			HB83
2. CAROL SMITH			HB83
3. THERESA M. PETER			HB83
4. JENNIFER BRADY			HB83
5.			
6.			
7.			
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10.			

UNIFIED
 UNABLE
 DISAPPEAR
 TOTAL

My name is Jack Polster. I am a resident of Homer. My presentation will last 6 minutes.

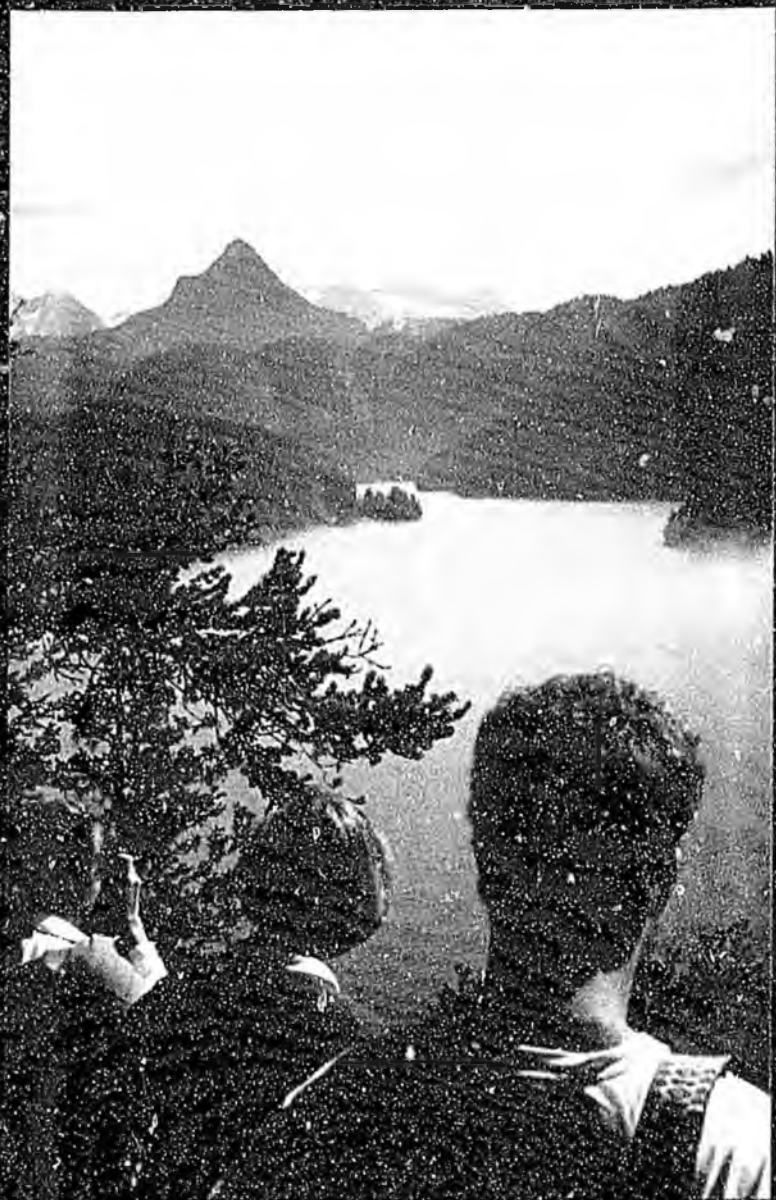
The previous speakers have expressed an appreciation of the wooded lands south of Kachemak Bay. I too love the forest. I spent four years and substantial funds to earn a bachelors degree in forest management. Let us assume that one agrees to the goal of a lush healthy forest across from the Homer spit. Does the proposed purchase of Seldovia Native Association land by the State of Alaska promote that goal?

One must first look at a brief history of the Cooper Landing area, where, approximately 15 years ago, foresters identified a problem; the spruce bark beetle. Had the land around Cooper Landing been privately owned, or in a governmentally owned land-status which allowed timely response to a beetle problem (and I know of no such status) the problem would probably been solved through quick development and implementation of a forest-management prescription.

However, all parties interested in the problem had...so to speak...their day in court. For years the efforts of forest managers and concerned residents to check the beetle were thwarted by so-called environmentalists who used the slow and inefficient process of government to gain time. But the beetles did not wait. Mature trees which once had positive stumpage value (and which would have paid for a quickly implemented management plan) now sit dead.....as do 95 per cent of all spruce in the Cooper Landing area. Those same trees which formerly had potential, now sit with negative stumpage value awaiting an opportunity to carry wildfire through the community of Cooper Landing.

Where, one might ask, are the so-called environmentalists-of-Cooper Landing? They, like the beetles, have moved south to Kachemak Bay State Park. One can find beetle infested Sitka Spruce and environmentalists from Seldovia Bay on the west, to Bear Cove on the east. One now hears an unwitting request for a possible replay of The Cooper Landing disaster,





Each individual who has made a purposeful decision did so only after examining his or her own values, and acting accordingly. Listen closely to what the pro-buyback petitioner has told you today. He has revealed innermost personal values; he believes, but has not directly said, that he prefers your purchase of old mature trees in his back yard to your use of state funds to assist-among others-needy children across the entire state of Alaska. One must wonder if the petitioner has become so involved in the emotional issue of promoting wilderness that he or she has lost touch with the feelings and needs of fellow human beings, choosing not to embrace the sick child in need, but rather the tree. One would hope that the petitioners have not become so enamored with the silence of the woods that they can no longer hear the child in pain. But the children of Alaska, unlike the vocal petitioners, speak very poorly to their needs.

The main issue before the committee is not a possible decision to purchase SNA lands, but, ultimately, whether to allocate a fixed sum of state funds for either an expansion of the land holdings of a state bloated in public land, or the needy child...or other state resident... who has yet to receive all financial aid available to alleviate his condition. I do not speak as an advocate of the young, but as one who sincerely questions the values of the petitioners.

Advocates of State purchase of Seldovia Native Association Land in Kachemak Bay, already blessed with a State Park want more. While each of the petitioners asks that more old mature trees be preserved, they live in wooden houses, and thus, through their testimony, imply a desire that their demand for wood products be satisfied at someone else's expense.

The petitioners ask that the state pick up a \$23 million buck check for purchase of land they sincerely cherish...and they ask that others-elsewhere-supply them with wood products out of their back yards. The petitioners ask, in short, that they obtain the gain, while others bear the pain. Those petitioning for State purchase of SNA lands are a fulfillment of Fredrick Bastiat's description of government..."that great fiction, by which everyone wishes to live at the expense of everybody else."

A plank of an infamous manifesto indicates that individual freedom can be jeopardized by simply increasing public ownership of property, while reducing private ownership. The present proportion of governmental held to privately owned land in the State of Alaska would have made Mr. Marx smile. The proposal before you is to further increase the rift between the two. Yet, the sensitivity of we Alaskans who now object to the proposed State purchase of the SNA holdings -because of its violation of the sanctity of private property-could easily have been addressed. During earlier land trade proposals between the State of Alaska and the Seldovia Native Association, state held lands which could have been traded and transferred to private ownership...i.e. to SNA...in trade for its Kachemak Bay State Park lands, were identified and offered. That land trade offering was rejected by the natives. However, the State did indicate by its actions that the transfer of those offered lands would not have jeopardized its operations. To maintain the quantity of private ownership of land within Alaska the proposed land purchase before you could have been keyed to transfer to private individuals, by sale, of those excess State lands previously identified by the state. Those lands, by the state's own estimates, are of nearly equal value to the present proposal purchase price of the SNA lands

The present owners of the land in question, the SNA, have never said they would not sell their land to private interests. Because a transfer sale between private parties is not the issue being considered, one might conclude that sufficient financial support amongst potentially incorporated individuals could not be located to allow private transfer. For at least 16 years interested individuals have had opportunity to search worldwide for investors who would desire to become private owners of the SNA lands at issue.

Purchase of private SNA lands grates against the principle of private property ownership. But then the arguments presented by the petitioners rest not on principle, but on the statist argument that modern government must not run in classical fashion; i.e. to identify, codify, and protect individual rights; but as the spawn of a pervasive give-me mentality which-symptomatically-causes Alaskan fat-cat lobbyists to succeed only if they become the best professional beggars.

Is the proposed land purchase necessarily conducive to the stated goal? A green velvet Sitka spruce forest, in light of the beetle, is perhaps best achieved by allowing the proposed sale land to rest in anything other than state lock-up status.

In closing, please ask the petitioners who come before you what principle of political philosophy allows justification of State purchase of private

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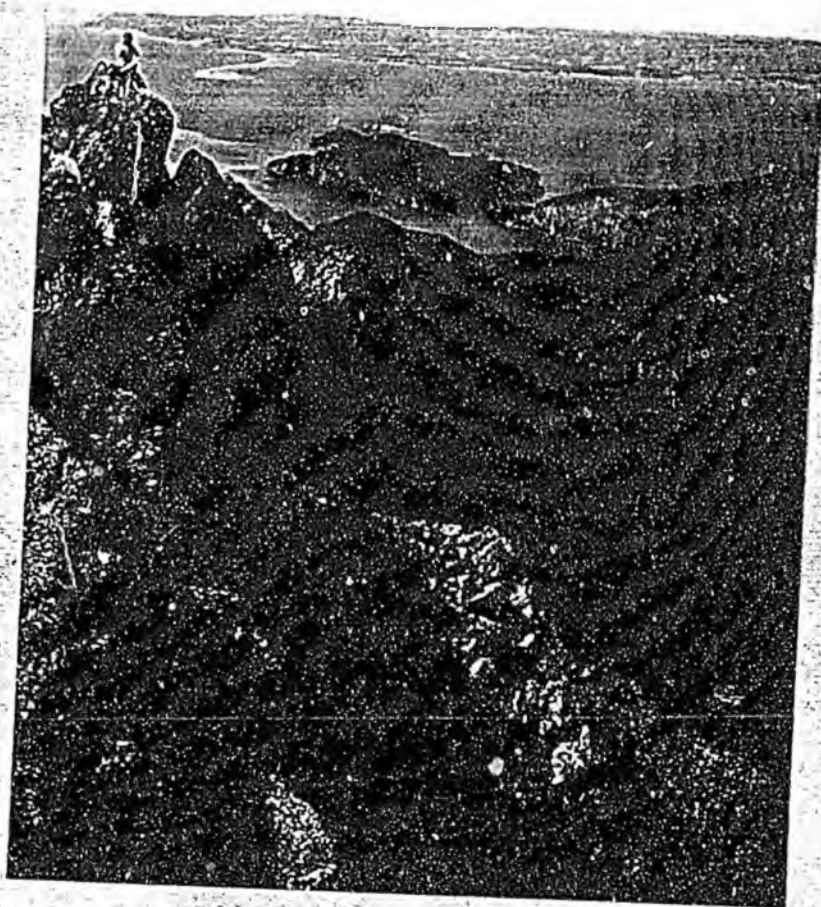
In closing, please ask the petitioners who come before you what principle of political philosophy allows justification of State purchase of private property in this case. Ask, When looking at the long term goal of a healthy forest, how would rigid non-intervention State Park status promote that goal?

I am not presently employed by any government agency or private forestry employer...nor do I intend to become such an employee in the future. Thank you.



Jack Polster

235-2298
8777



Everything in these
two photos is slated
for clearcut.

Note all of Homer
in the background.

The two notes
are the same