

SJR

34

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

No. _____
Bill Version: CS STR 24 (RES)
(S) Publish Date: 3-27-97

Revision Date 3/27/97 Dept. Affected _____
Title Tongass Land Management Plan BRU _____
Sponsor Mackie Component _____
Requester _____ Component Serial No. _____

Expenditures/Revenues

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES []						
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FUND SOURCE

(Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
1091 Designated Program Receipts						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

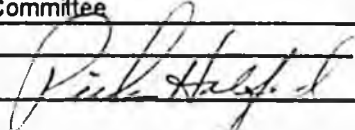
Estimate of any current year (FY97) cost: 0.0

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This resolution will have no fiscal impact on state departments.

Prepared by Senate Resources Committee
Division _____
Approved by Senator Rick Halford 
Agency _____

Phone 465-4907
Date _____
Date 3/27/97

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T/Th 1 - 4 p.m.

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Representatives Ramona Barnes, Fred Dyson, Joe Green, Reggie Joule, Irene Nicholia, William Williams

SJR34

Tongass Land Management Plan

SJR24, REGARDING COMPLETION OF THE TONGASS LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN, IS BEFORE THE HOUSE TODAY FOR CONSIDERATION. THIS RESOLUTION PASSED THE SENATE 19-TO-1. THE COMPANION BILL, HJR32, SPONSORED BY THE HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE, WAS PASSED WITH 5DP - 3NR.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS RESOLUTION IS TWO-FOLD.

FIRST, IT ENCOURAGES THE U.S. FOREST SERVICE TO BRING THE DECADE-LONG DEVELOPMENT OF THE TONGASS LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN (TLMP) TO A CONCLUSION SO THE PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES OF SOUTHEAST ALASKA CAN MOVE FORWARD WITH THEIR ECONOMIC AND PERSONAL LIVES WITH SOME DEGREE OF CERTAINTY.

SECONDLY, THE RESOLUTION ENDORSES CONTINUED OVERSIGHT BY CONGRESS AND THE ALASKA

CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION OF FOREST SERVICE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES RELATING TO THE TONGASS. THIS ENDORSEMENT URGES REVIEW OF THE ANALYSES AND PROCEDURES EMPLOYED BY THE FOREST SERVICE TO ENSURE THAT DECISIONS AFFECTING THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF SOUTHEAST COMMUNITIES ARE APPROPRIATE AND SCIENTIFICALLY CREDIBLE.

AFTER A DECADE OF FALSE STARTS, INTERVENING FEDERAL LEGISLATION, COURT DECISIONS AND SEVERAL PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFTS, THE US FOREST SERVICE APPEARS POISED TO MAKE THEIR DECISION ON HOW THE TONGASS NATIONAL FOREST WILL BE MANAGED FOR THE NEXT TEN TO FIFTEEN YEARS.

THE SOUTHEAST ECONOMY HAS LOST \$60 MILLION IN FOREST PRODUCTS PAYROLL SINCE 1990 AND HALF ITS TIMBER JOBS SINCE THE ORIGINAL TLMP. AVAILABLE TIMBER SUPPLY CONTINUES ITS STEADY AND INEXORABLE DECLINE DESPITE THE FACT THAT ANALYSIS OF THE SCIENTIFIC DATA DOES NOT ESTABLISH ANY DECLINE IN SPECIES AFTER NEARLY HALF A CENTURY OF LOGGING ON THE TONGASS.

ON DECEMBER 20, 1996, GOVERNOR KNOWLES' SOUTHEAST REGIONAL TIMBER TASK FORCE PASSED A RESOLUTION URGING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO FINALIZE THE PLAN FOR TIMBER HARVEST FROM THE TONGASS NATIONAL FOREST. THE TASK FORCE CALLED FOR A MINIMUM ANNUAL HARVEST LEVEL OF 300 MILLION BOARD FEET (MMBF) FROM THE TONGASS IN ORDER TO REESTABLISH A VIABLE, INTEGRATED TIMBER INDUSTRY. 300 MMBF IS THE VOLUME SELECTED BY THE FOREST SUPERVISORS AS THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE IN THE DRAFT TLMP.

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT MUST NOT DELAY FINALIZATION OF THE TONGASS LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN. THIS RESOLUTION SUPPORTS A MINIMUM HARVEST LEVEL OF 300 MMBF AND THE EXPEDITED COMPLETION OF THE TLMP PROCESS.

I URGE YOUR SUPPORT OF THIS RESOLUTION.

SENATE DISTRICT C
KODIAK ISLAND
SOUTHEAST ISLANDS

APR 07 1997

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SENATOR JERRY MACKIE

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

April 7, 1997

MEMORANDUM

To: Rep. Hudson, Co-chair
Rep. Ogan, Co-chair
House Resources Committee

From: Sen. Mackie 

Re: Schedule request for SJR 24, Tongass Land Management Plan

I would appreciate the scheduling of SJR 24 for a hearing before the committee at your earliest convenience. This resolution is similar to HJR 32 which received favorable consideration by the committee earlier. Attached is a sponsor statement. Please call if you need additional information.

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ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

SPONSOR STATEMENT

SJR 24, Tongass Land Use Plan

The purpose of SJR 24 is two-fold. First, it encourages the U.S. Forest Service to bring the decade-long development of the Tongass Land Management Plan (TLMP) to a conclusion so the people and communities of Southeast Alaska can move forward with their economic and personal lives with some degree of certainty. The resolution supports a level of timber harvest from the Tongass National Forest sufficient to sustain a forest product industry and prevent further job loss and economic disruption in Southeast Alaska.

Secondly, the resolution endorses continued oversight by Congress and the Alaska Congressional delegation of Forest Service management activities relating to the Tongass. This endorsement urges review of the analyses and procedures employed by the Forest Service to ensure that decisions affecting the social and economic well-being of Southeast communities are appropriate and scientifically credible.

After a decade of false starts, intervening federal legislation, court decisions and several public review drafts, the Forest Service appears poised to adopt a final version of the land use management plan for the Tongass. During this time period the Southeast economy has lost \$60 million in forest products payroll and half of its timber jobs. The continuing decline in available timber supply has closed

two pulp mills and one sawmill. Without a plan that ensures some level of harvesting, the existence of any forest product industry in Southeast Alaska is improbable.

On December 20, 1996 the Southeast Regional Timber Task Force passed a resolution urging the Federal government to finalize a plan for timber harvest in the Tongass. The Task Force determined that a minimum annual harvest level of 300 million board feet (MMBF) was necessary to reestablish a viable, integrated timber industry. This volume has been selected by several Forest Supervisors of the Tongass as the preferred alternative in previous drafts of TLMP.

Any delay in the finalization of the Tongass Land Management Plan is detrimental to the social and economic stability of Southeast Alaska. A plan that adopts a minimum 300 MMBF timber supply will stem the current decline and the associated economic depression of Southeast communities dependent on the forest product industry. SJR 24 requests the completion of the long delayed plan and that it include a 300 MMBF timber harvest level.

8-5

Governor's Task Force

December 1986

Tongass resolution

10-4

yes
no
yes

- Doug Roberts, Mayor, Wrangell - Chairman
- Jack Booth - Mayor, Metlakatla
- Aleive Stanton - Mayor, City of Ketchikan
- Jack Shay - Mayor, Ketchikan Borough
- Ginny Tierney - City Manager, Thorne Bay
- Bob Loescher, Sealeska
- John Sturgeon, Koncor Forest Products
- Kirk Dahlstrom, Viking Lumber - Craig
- Steve Seleg, Seleg Inc.
- Errol Champion, Silver Bay Logging

No votes

- Jeff Meucci, Mayor, Petersburg
- Pete Halgren, Mayor, Sitka
- 6 Jim Mackovijak, Tongass Community Alliance
- John Sisk, Environmental Group ~~Rep~~/liason

From Thyes Shaub

**COMMENTS RELATING TO SJR 24
WITH RESPECT TO
TIMBER TASK FORCE RESOLUTION**

The Governor's Timber Task Force adopted a resolution saying an annual timber harvest of 300 MMBF is necessary for there to be any hope of re-creating and sustaining a strong, diversified, value-added timber industry in Southeast Alaska.

In the days since, opponents who want a lower level of harvest have made much of the "community count" vote on the Task Force's resolution.

The "actual count" of Task Force members voting was ten for, four against. Voting against were the Mayor of Petersburg, the Mayor of Sitka, John Sisk (described as the SEAAC liaison), and Jim Mackovjak (representing the communities of the Tongass Community Alliance).

Opponents have made much of the fact that, because the Tongass Community Alliance represents six small communities, the "community count" on the Task Force's resolution was five for, eight against. (Ketchikan Borough, Ketchikan City, Wrangell, Thorne Bay, and Metlikaatla voted for - Petersburg, Sitka, and "absent" Tongass Community Alliance members Gustavus, Pelican, Tennakee, Elfin Cove, Port Alexander, and Point Baker voted against).

The Tongass Community Alliance was formed to be a counterbalance to Southeast Conference in the Tongass Land Management Plan debate. The Conference is generally pro-development, the Alliance is anti-development, particularly with respect to the timber industry.

Had Southeast Conference been named to the Governor's Timber Task Force and had it voted in favor of the Task Force's resolution, proponents would have been able to claim that, on the basis of the number of communities represented by the Conference and the Alliance, the vote would have been nineteen for the resolution, eight against.



Bill Hudson

- Read the second page from
SE conference

From Thy 25