

HJR

49

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 2/4/98

FURTHER:

DATE TURNED
IN TO OFFICE: 2/19/98

Resources Committee considered CS FOR SS FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 49 (RES)

Relating to opposition to a moratorium on the building of roads in the roadless areas of national forests.

and recommends:

- be replaced with S CS CSSS HJR 49 (RES)
- adopt previous _____ CS _____
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt Letter of Intent by _____ Committee
- further referral to the _____ Committee

- Senate Bill:**
- same title
 - new title
- House Bill:**
- same title
 - technical title
 - new: SCR# _____

SIGNING DO PASS	DP	OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS	NR	DNP	AM
<i>Henry D. Holden</i>	✓	<i>Amigama Lincoln</i>	✓		
<i>Bob Kinn</i>	✓				
<i>John A. Reed</i>	✓				
<i>John C. Taylor</i>	✓				
CHAIR: <i>Rick Hubbard</i>	✓	CHAIR:			

NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department	Date	Zero	Fiscal

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):*

Department	Date	Zero	Fiscal
<i>LAA</i>	<i>1/30</i>	<i>X</i>	

APPROPRIATION -- no fiscal note

*include fiscal notes accompanying Governor's bill

FISCAL NC

No: 1

STATE OF ALASKA
1998 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Bill Version: CSSS IJR 49 (RES) _____
(H) Publish Date: 2/2/98 _____

Revision Date: _____
Title: "Relating to opposition to a moratorium
on the building of roads in the roadless areas of"
Sponsor: Williams
Requestor: House Resources Committee

Department Affected: Legislative Affairs Agency
BRU: All
Component: All

COMPONENT SERIAL NO:

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03	FY 04
PERSONAL SERVICES	0	0	0	0	0	0
TRAVEL	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONTRACTUAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES	0	0	0	0	0	0
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0	0	0	0	0	0

CAPITAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
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REVENUE FUND SOURCE	0	0	0	0	0	0
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER FUND SOURCE						
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0

Estimate of current year impact: _____

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Zero fiscal impact to the Legislative Affairs Agency.

Prepared By: Karla Schofield, Deputy Director
Division: Administrative Services

Karla Schofield

Phone: 465-3852
Date: 1/30/98

Approved By: Pamela A. Varni, Executive Director
Agency: Legislative Affairs Agency

Pamela A. Varni

Date: 1/30/98

COMMITTEE COPY

Distribution (by preparer): Leg. Finance, Legislative Sponsor, Requestor, OMB, Gov., & Impacted Agency(ies).

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Representative William K. Williams

Sponsor Statement

House Joint Resolution 49

The Forest Service recently announced a sweeping two-year moratorium on development of 'roadless' areas of national forests. Although the announced 'land freeze' appears to have exempted the Tongass National Forest from the policy, that is not necessarily the case.

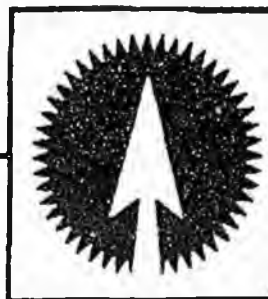
The public has 30 days to comment on the roadless policy, after which the Tongass could be included in the moratorium. Also, the Chief of the Forest Service, Mike Dombeck, has said that the final long-term policy will apply to all forests.

The resolution speaks to the inappropriate manner in which the White House is dictating management of our national forests. The Forest Service has turned the public process upside down by announcing their policy first, then searching for scientific evidence to support their position and reaching out for public participation.

The resolution also speaks to the Tongass Land Management Plan. Alaskans and Outsiders spent over 10 years and \$13 million dollars revising how we manage the Tongass. It would be wrong to come back later with a unilateral amendment which alters the balance struck in the plan.

I urge your swift passage of the resolution, as the 30 day public comment clock is ticking

Alaska Forest Association, Inc.



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Statement of Support House Joint Resolution 49

The forest products industry in Southeast Alaska is heavily dependent upon the purchase of timber from the Tongass National Forest. The Tongass Land Management Plan Revision of 1997 has greatly reduced the land within the Tongass that is available for timber harvest from 1.7 million acres to a mere 676,000 acres, and the maximum average annual allowable sales quantity from 520 million board feet (mmbf) to 267 mmbf. This is considerably below the amount the industry needs to sustain the remaining mills in the region. The promises made by Congress in 1990, at the time the Tongass Timber Reform Act was made law, that sufficient volume would be made available to sustain direct timber employment in Southeast Alaska have now proven to be hollow.

The impact on Southeast Alaska of the reduced harvest of Tongass timber has been drastic. Thousands of jobs have been lost through mill closures, and Federal payments to communities in the form of timber receipts have fallen to a tiny fraction of what they were previously. Recently released data indicate that timber receipts this year will be down by 83 percent compared to last year. This money is used for schools and road maintenance, so the decline hurts all the residents of the region.

Now comes the Clinton Administration with its proposed roadless moratorium. This policy is being superimposed upon the National Forest System in violation of the national Environmental Policy Act and the National Forest Management Act, both of which require a public process, not unilateral government actions unrelated to sound science and public review. The government's new roadless policy is top-down management of the worst sort. It subverts public process and asserts a political strategy in place of sound, scientific, professional forest management. It is bad public policy and is aimed only at promoting the radical environmental agenda of stopping all logging on federal land. The much-touted 'exemption' for the Tongass and other Western forests is not, in fact, an exemption, but an announcement that the policy will be applied through a different mechanism; that is, through forest plan amendments.

The recent TIMP revision took more than 10 years to write and cost the taxpayers more than \$13 million. It includes protection of some 90 percent of the roadless areas remaining on the Tongass. The Chugach Land Management Plan revision is just beginning, and the Chugach National Forest is more than 98 percent roadless. Application of the new roadless policy to the Chugach amounts to predetermining the plan revision in the direction of no development at all. Among other consequences, this will effectively prevent the Forest Service from addressing the growing spruce bark beetle devastation through active forest management. In the case of both Alaska national forests, the roadless policy is unnecessary and very harmful to Alaska's economic future.

forests, the roadless policy is unnecessary and very harmful to Alaska's economic future.

The estimated impact on the Tongass timber program is 202.5 mmbf per year over the life of the plan. Given an Allowable Sale Quantity of 267 mmbf, and expected offerings of around 200 mmbf, it doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out that this would finally spell the end to industrial logging in the Tongass. Furthermore, full implementation of the roadless policy (whether through direct application or through a plan amendment) will immediately result in a further reduction in timber receipts— amounting to as much as \$2.5 million in FY98. Alaska simply cannot afford this government boondoggle into anti-development politics.

In short, the government's proposed roadless policy is bad for national forests, bad for the American public, and particularly bad for Alaska. The Alaska Forest Association urges the legislature to take immediate action to protest this terrible public policy by quickly passing House Joint Resolution 49. We should send a message to the Clinton Administration on behalf of Alaskans and on behalf of our counterparts in other states, that the Alaska people will not tolerate the Administration's attempts to force a radical agenda upon the people of this state and of this country.

FACT SHEET ON MORATORIUM

- Federally-owned forests are primarily used by smaller timber companies that hire local workers. According to the U.S. Forest Service, over a two-year period, a moratorium would eliminate 12,640 jobs and result in \$160 million in lost revenues.
- According to the Forest Service, approximately 40 million acres of our national forests are at high risk of being consumed by catastrophic wildfire, and many of these acres are in roadless areas. Forest roads are an integral part of maintaining forest health. The moratorium would prohibit the type of remedial management needed to protect many of these areas.
- Ninety-seven percent of forest roads are open to skiers, bikers, hikers and other recreational users. Only three percent of the National Forest roads are used by the timber industry alone. The road system plays an important role in providing the public access to our national forests.
- A top-down, Washington-dictated directive undermines the ability of local foresters and communities to properly manage forests based on local conditions. The Forest Service should make this decision based on forest health and not political concerns.
- The industry believes that if creating wilderness is the ultimate goal of the moratorium, it should be done through the appropriate legal land management planning process set up by the Forest Service. This established system has already placed 151 million acres of federal land into the National Wilderness Preservation System.
- The timber industry has a long record of conscientious forest and resource management. We are good environmental stewards and should be considered a part of the solution on forest health issues. Our Sustainable Forestry Initiative, which is a condition of membership in AF&PA, is a comprehensive program of forestry and conservation practices designed to ensure that future generations of Americans will have the same abundant forests we enjoy today. Our industry standards go far beyond federal government mandates and regulations, and hold our industry to the highest standard for forestry practices in the world.
- The moratorium could also have an impact on already scheduled timber sales and roads that may already be under construction. A reduction in timber sales will impact some rural economies because presently, twenty-five percent of the gross receipts from timber sales in national forests goes to fund education and local roads in nearby communities. Under a moratorium, these funds could be greatly reduced leaving communities searching for ways to make up the shortfall.
- AF&PA and the forest products industry will work with concerned members of Congress and the Forest Service to address all of these concerns and others.
- AF&PA and the forest industry support the continued decommissioning of forest roads, which has led to a yearly decrease in the mileage of roads in our national forests.

HJR 49

Testimony of Michael F. G. Williams January 29th 1998

My name is Michael Williams and I am a Vice President of Chugach Alaska Corporation. We are here today to give our support to HJR 49.

Chugach Alaska Corporation is an Alaskan Native Corporation, established under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. As part of this Act, significant areas of land were conveyed to the Corporation, including 73,000 acres situated in the Carbon Mountain area, some 25 miles east of the Copper River. Access to this property requires a road to be built across part of the Chugach National Forest. The original Settlement Agreement between Chugach and the Federal Government recognized this, and guaranteed Chugach a right of way to its property, across federal land.

It is not only the Carbon Mountain tracts that will be affected by the Clinton proposal on No New Roads. CAC owns approximately one million acres of land, rich in natural resources of which approximately 40% requires road access across Forest Service lands.

We are very concerned that the moratorium on no new roads, will delay or kill Chugach's plans to log the Carbon Mountain area, and the exploitation of its natural resources in other areas.

The social consequences of the proposed moratorium are:

- The roadless policy will frustrate the intent of ANCSA by making it impossible for Alaska Natives to achieve a fair and just settlement of aboriginal land claims and prevents the realization of "...maximum participation by Natives in decisions affecting their rights and property...".
- The roadless policy will frustrate the intent of ANILCA by disrupting the balance struck between preservation, traditional use and economic utilization.
- This roadless policy will result in costly and time consuming appeals and litigation thereby harming local economies and disrupting the flow of business.
- The Forest Service is already subverting their own planning regulations under Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations which require the agency to solicit tribal and Alaska Native input into all planning processes that impact management of Native and Indian owned lands.

The economic consequences of this action will be:

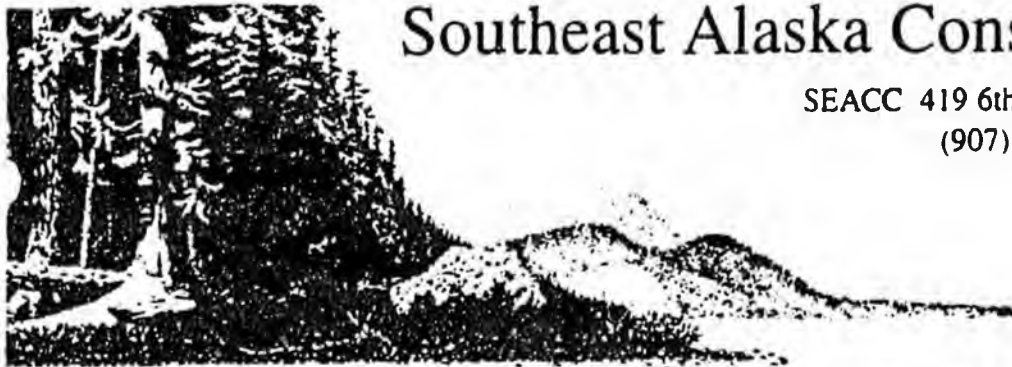
- If Chugach cannot get access to its land across federal lands, the Company will be restricted from developing its resources valued in excess of 1 billion dollars.
- Employment value (i.e. payroll) for such development is estimated to be about 25% of total value which makes jobs lost by this roadless policy worth about \$250 million from Chugach alone.
- The impact of loss of resource revenue is statewide due to the ANCSA 7(i) sharing provisions between Regional and Village Corporations.

This proposal is bad policy because :

- The Forest Service actions have been developed in a vacuum. They forget that their policies impact inholders and adjacent landowners.
- No provision is being made in the roadless policy to acknowledge valid existing rights of adjacent State and private lands and inholdings.
- 98.8 % of the Chugach National Forest is inventoried as roadless, virtually all of this roadless area is either within or adjacent to Conservation System Units which will result in an automatic lock-up of almost the entire National Forest under the proposed roadless area policy.

Conclusion:

With so much of the Chugach National Forest and the State of Alaska already protected and in a "roadless" condition there is no public need for this policy in Alaska.



Southeast Alaska Conservation Council

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**Statement of Buck Lindekugel
Conservation Director for the
Southeast Alaska Conservation Council
on HJR No. 49 before the House Resource Committee
Alaska State Legislature
January 29, 1998**

Mr. Chairman, members of the House Resources Committee, and honored guests, my name is Buck Lindekugel and I am the Conservation Director for the Southeast Alaska Conservation Council (SEACC). Thank you for the opportunity to participate on one of the panels testifying before you today and I respectfully request that my written testimony and accompanying materials be entered into the official record of this Committee hearing.

Founded in 1970, SEACC is a coalition of fifteen local community, volunteer conservation groups in twelve Southeast Alaska communities, from Ketchikan to Yakutat. SEACC's 1200 individual members include commercial fishermen, Native Alaskans, value-added wood manufacturers, tourism and recreation business owners, hunters and guides, and Alaskan conservationists from all walks of life. SEACC is dedicated to preserving the integrity of Southeast Alaska's unsurpassed natural environment while providing for balanced, sustainable use of our region's resources.

We strongly object to this proposed resolution.

The 1997 Tongass Land Management Plan (TLMP) is no reason to exempt the Tongass from a "national" moratorium on road building in roadless areas. The Forest Service's failed to meaningfully consider a range of alternatives that protected roadless areas important to local communities for subsistence, sport and commercial uses of fish and wildlife. Over 71 percent of all the comments received on the revised supplement, and 52 percent of those from within Alaska, supported protecting key roadless areas on the Tongass, which are important to local communities, such as the Cleveland Peninsula, Port Houghton/Cape Fanshaw, East Kuiu Island, Poison Cove/Ushk Bay, Upper Tenakee Inlet, Castle River, and many others.

The roadless area moratorium would not prejudice the ongoing TLMP appeal process, it would just focus logging in roaded portions of the timber base until new procedures are in place to assure that decisions to locate and construct roads are consistent with the best available scientific information and the appeals are decided.

LYNN CASAL CONSERVATION Haines • FRIENDS OF GLACIER BAY Gustavus • FRIENDS OF BERNERS BAY Juneau
WRANGELL RESOURCE COUNCIL • ALASKA SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FOREST DWELLERS Point Baker • PELICAN FORESTRY COUNCIL
ALASKANS FOR JUNEAU • NARROWS CONSERVATION COALITION Petersburg • TONGASS CONSERVATION SOCIETY Ketchikan
CHIHUAHUI CONSERVATION COUNCIL Tenakee • JUNEAU GROUP SIERRA CLUB • SITKA CONSERVATION SOCIETY
TAKU CONSERVATION SOCIETY Juneau • PRINCE OF WALES CONSERVATION LEAGUE Craig • YAKUTAT RESOURCE CONSERVATION COUNCIL



The exaggerated claims of timber demand and the Tongass timber industry are inconsistent with the best available information. According to the most recent timber demand projections by the Forest Service's best economic experts, the "medium" demand scenario for Tongass timber from 1998-2002 is 113 mmbf.¹ Recent timber sale documents show, as of June 30, 1997, there was 504 mmbf of timber "under contract" to the timber industry. About 300 mmbf of this timber is allocated to Ketchikan Pulp Company and 204 mmbf under contract to independent operators.

Based on Tongass timber cutting rates over the past two years, the timber "under contract" to the industry will provide several years of timber currently available to the Tongass timber industry. In 1996, the industry cut nearly 100 mmbf, and in 1997, approximately 109 mmbf. The proposed roadless moratorium would not affect any operations in currently roadless areas already under contract to the industry. Therefore, the assertion in the resolution that "the proposed moratorium would eliminate the timber industry that remains in Southeast Alaska" is simply not supported by the facts.

Recent analysis also shows that the Forest Service has authorized the export of about 113 mmbf of cedar, hemlock and spruce in 1997, "more than double the volume authorized in the average year of the previous three years."² Support for this resolution means that the Alaska legislature endorses exporting timber and jobs from Southeast Alaska in order to build expensive and damaging roads into areas important to local communities, like the Cleveland Peninsula, the Port Houghton/Cape Fanshaw, and East Kuiu.

In conclusion, a strong moratorium is consistent with SEACC's vision for development of a new Tongass timber industry that is compatible with providing for the long-term stability of other forest-dependent sectors of the economy, like commercial and sport fishing, tourism, recreation, and subsistence. It would also allow the Forest Service to shift scarce agency resources towards developing a new Tongass timber sales program that avoids controversy over development in important roadless areas which supply local communities with sustainable levels of fish and wildlife for subsistence, sport and commercial uses.

We urge you to withdraw this resolution today.

¹ Brooks and Haynes, *Timber Products Output and Timber Harvests in Alaska: Projections for 1997-2101* 11 (Sept. 1997)(attached).

² See Memo from Huberth to Loescher, President and CEO of Sealaska (1/13/98)(attached).

Historical Note

References in Text. The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, referred to in subsec. (b), is Pub. L. 94-379, Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2743, as amended, which is classified principally to chapter 33 (section 1701 et seq.) of Title 43, Public Lands. For

complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1701 of Title 43 and Tables volume.

Legislative History. For legislative history and purpose of Pub. L. 96-487, see 1980 U.S. Code Cong. and Adm. News, p. 5070.

Library References

Public Lands ☞ 70
Woods and Forests ☞ 8

C.J.S. Public Lands § 154, 157
C.J.S. Woods and Forests §§ 11, 12

Notes of Decisions

Isolated land 2
Railroad's right of access 3
Territorial application of section 1

1. Territorial application of section

This section, providing for access to nonfederally owned lands surrounded by certain kinds of federal lands is not limited in its application to state of Alaska but, rather, has nationwide application, term "National Forest System" being of general application. *Montana Wilderness Ass'n. Nine Quarter Circle Ranch v. U.S. Forest Service*, C.A. Mont. 1981, 655 F.2d 931, certiorari denied 102 S.Ct. 1612, 455 U.S. 959, 71 L.Ed.2d 948.

2. Isolated land

Proposed mountain subdivision bounded on two sides by national forest and bounded on other side by public highway was "isolated."

since one would have to cross land belonging either to Forest Service or public highway to obtain access to such subdivision; therefore developer had right to access to such subdivision across Service land. *Board of County Commissioners, Albany County v. Federal Development Company*, Wyo. 1984, 642 P.2d 1062.

3. Railroad's right of access

Railroad had right of access across federal land to its holdings of timberland, under this section providing for access to nonfederally owned lands surrounded by certain kinds of federal lands. *Montana Wilderness Ass'n. Nine Quarter Circle Ranch v. U.S. Forest Service*, C.A. Mont. 1981, 655 F.2d 931, certiorari denied 102 S.Ct. 1612, 455 U.S. 959, 71 L.Ed.2d 948.

§ 3211. Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge agricultural use

Nothing in this Act or other existing law shall be construed as necessarily prohibiting or mandating the development of agricultural potential within the Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge pursuant to existing law. The permissibility of such development shall be determined by the Secretary on a case-by-case basis under existing law. Any such development permitted within the Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge shall be designed and conducted in such a manner as to minimize to the maximum extent possible any adverse effects of the natural values of the unit.

(Pub. L. 96-487, Title XIII, § 1324, Dec. 2, 1980, 94 Stat. 2488.)

Historical Note

References in Text. This Act, referred to in text, is Pub. L. 96-487, Dec. 2, 1980, 94 Stat. 2371, as amended, known as the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act. For complete classification of this Act to the

Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1301 of this title and Tables volume.

Legislative History. For legislative history and purpose of Pub. L. 96-487, see 1980 U.S. Code Cong. and Adm. News, p. 5070.

§ 3212. Terror Lake Hydroelectric Project in Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge

Nothing in this Act or the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd) shall be construed as necessarily prohibiting or mandating the construction of the Terror Lake Hydroelectric Project within the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. The permissibility of such development shall be determined by the Secretary on a case-by-case basis under existing law.

(Pub. L. 96-487, Title XIII, § 1325, Dec. 2, 1980, 94 Stat. 2488.)

Historical Note

References in Text. This Act, referred to in text, is Pub. L. 96-487, Dec. 2, 1980, 94 Stat. 2371, as amended, known as the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1301 of this title and Tables volume.

The National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, referred to in text,

consists of sections 4 and 5 of Pub. L. 89-679, Dec. 15, 1966, 80 Stat. 927, as amended, and is classified to sections 668dd, 668e of this title. For further details, see Short Title note set out under section 668dd of this title.

Legislative History. For legislative history and purpose of Pub. L. 96-487, see 1980 U.S. Code Cong. and Adm. News, p. 5070.

§ 3213. Future executive branch actions

(a) No future executive branch action which withdraws more than five thousand acres, in the aggregate, of public lands within the State of Alaska shall be effective except by compliance with this subsection. To the extent authorized by existing law, the President or the Secretary may withdraw public lands in the State of Alaska exceeding five thousand acres in the aggregate, which withdrawal shall not become effective until notice is provided in the Federal Register and to both Houses of Congress. Such withdrawal shall terminate unless Congress passes a joint resolution of approval within one year after the notice of such withdrawal has been submitted to Congress.

(b) No further studies of Federal lands in the State of Alaska for the single purpose of considering the establishment of a conservation system unit, national recreation area, national conservation area, or for related or similar purposes shall be conducted unless authorized by this Act or further Act of Congress.

(Pub. L. 96-487, Title XIII, § 1326, Dec. 2, 1980, 94 Stat. 2488.)

Unconstitutionality of Legislative Veto Provisions

The provisions of section 1253(c)(2) of Title 8, Alien and Nationality, which authorize a House of Congress, by resolution, to invalidate an action of the Executive Branch, were declared unconstitutional in Immigration and Naturalization Service v. Chadha, 1982, 103 S.Ct. 2764, 462 U.S. 919, 77 L.Ed.2d 317. See similar provisions in this section.

1/16/98

K.D.N.

Smith: Logging policy based mostly on politics

By SCOTT SONNER
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — It is "very possible" Congress will act to blunt President Clinton's new logging policy if he goes forward with an anticipated moratorium on harvests in roadless areas of national forests, a senator said Thursday.

"They are dictating to Congress a policy that is more based on politics than good forest policy," Sen. Gordon Smith, R-Ore., said in an interview. "These are extremists who are simply trying to subvert all responsible policy on good forest health management."

The extremists include Vice President Al Gore and environmentalists who are "pushing a policy that has little to do with science," he said.

'President Clinton is no longer executing the nation's laws, he's dictating this nation's laws.'

— Rep. Helen Chenoweth, R-Idaho

Rep. Helen Chenoweth, R-Idaho and chairwoman of a House subcommittee with jurisdiction over national forests, expressed similar concerns.

"President Clinton is no longer executing the nation's laws, he's dictating this nation's laws," she said in a statement.

The Forest Service is expected in the next two to three weeks to unveil a policy that could ban logging on millions of acres where there are no roads.

Forest Service officials briefed congressional aides on the progress on the policy Thursday, but several aides said few details were provided. Forest Service spokesman Chris Wood said no final decisions have been made.

Smith and Chenoweth are among several Western Republicans who have been pressing the administration to exempt from the policy forests in Alaska, the Pacific Northwest and Columbia River Basin, on grounds that new man-

agement plans are being developed or are already in place there.

Critics fear that if a new roadless policy is implemented, the Forest Service will be unable to make good on Clinton's promise to log 1 billion board feet of timber from national forests in Oregon and Washington under a plan in effect there since 1993.

"All I'm saying is we have a Northwest forest plan. We have a Columbia Basin plan in the works. A lot of time and effort have gone into the development of these policies," Smith said.

"Don't do an end run on the people of the Northwest who want to believe still in the word of this administration."

The Republican-led Congress likely will respond in a "hostile" manner if it

See 'Logging policy,' page 3

Logging policy ————— Continued from page 1

feels its input is being ignored, Smith said.

"I think it is very possible that we simply will act in the Congress to hold the Clinton administration to its word and its plan, not to end run us with a new political proposal," he said.

Mike McCurry, White House press secretary, said Wednesday he didn't think the Forest Service would act without input from key members of Congress.

"They've been talking to all those who have got some stake in the economic livelihood of the forests and uses of the forests," McCurry said.

"They're not going to adopt any new roadless policies without first taking input from all interested parties, and I would presume that they would want to consult very closely with members of the Senate as well."