

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 1987-1988 8672

5038 HRES SJR 34 - SJR 35

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Table 3. (Cont.) Commercial harvest of Western Alaska chinook salmon (including Canadian catches of upper Yukon chinook) by area and year, 1893 - 1986.

Year	Norton Kotzebue Sound	Yukon River Alaska	Canada	Kuskokwim	Bristol Bay	North Alaska Pens.	Total Western Alaska
1931				8,541	47,175	1,837	57,553
1932		4,739		9,399	68,286	3,255	85,679
1933		2,829			49,308	1,145	59,282
1934		25,365			45,945	1,619	72,929
1935		7,265		6,448	3,573	991	18,277
1936		20,963		624	21,703	983	44,273
1937		6,226		480	36,629	1,633	44,968
1938		13,727		627	43,934	5,902	66,187
1939		9,987		124	33,408	3,918	47,447
1940		18,053		247	15,267	741	34,308
1941		29,905		187	30,661	716	61,469
1942		22,487			19,006		41,493
1943		27,650			41,146	183	68,979
1944		14,232			16,373	70	30,675
1945		19,727			26,609	86	46,422
1946		22,782		2,288	27,401	2,458	54,929
1947		54,026		5,356	41,641	82	101,105
1948		33,842			49,116	2,164	85,122
1949		36,379			50,752	712	87,843
1950		41,808			45,261	1,101	88,170
1951		56,278		4,210	40,183	1,272	101,943
1952		38,637			52,856	661	92,154
1953		58,859			42,556	808	102,223
1954		64,545		57	56,016	3,379	123,997
1955		55,925			75,429	4,119	135,473
1956		62,208			66,377	4,154	132,739
1957		63,623			91,420	1,040	156,083
1958		63,735	3,000		103,207	14,989	184,931
1959		78,370	2,477	3,760	84,289	28,692	197,588
1960		67,597	4,058	5,985	111,703	10,441	199,784
1961		5,300	119,664	3,446	23,462	88,656	246,578
1962	12	7,386	94,736	4,037	20,869	84,047	217,085
1963	7	6,613	117,048	2,283	18,581	62,269	210,402
1964		2,034	93,587	3,208	21,246	139,536	263,203
1965		1,449	118,014	2,265	24,428	112,967	265,254
1966	1	1,553	93,315	1,942	25,823	77,472	209,448
1967	1	1,804	124,430	2,187	29,986	127,193	286,124
1968	2	1,045	106,526	2,212	43,157	103,723	261,148
1969		2,394	90,720	1,640	64,777	124,908	289,285

Table 3. (Cont.) Commercial harvest of Western Alaska chinook salmon (including Canadian catches of upper Yukon chinook) by area and year, 1893 - 1986.

Year	Kotzebue	Norton Sound	Yukon Alaska	River Canada	Kuskokwim	Bristol Bay	North Alaska Pens.	Total Western Alaska
1971	1	2,593	110,507	3,178	44,936	123,015	2,189	286,419
1972	3	2,938	92,840	1,769	56,939	69,546	1,792	225,827
1973	5	1,918	75,353	2,199	51,374	44,044	4,559	179,452
1974		2,951	97,919	1,808	29,752	45,662	5,299	183,391
1975		2,394	63,868	3,000	27,803	23,992	2,093	129,150
1976	3	2,248	88,269	3,500	50,103	95,968	4,953	245,044
1977	10	4,500	96,757	4,720	58,796	130,526	5,489	300,798
1978	146	10,002	99,168	2,975	64,460	191,539	14,259	382,549
1979	227	10,803	127,743	6,175	53,687	212,873	17,107	428,615
1980	223	6,322	153,985	9,500	48,839	95,528	16,805	331,202
1981	79	7,929	158,018	8,593	79,378	237,304	18,875	510,376
1982	67	5,892	123,644	8,640	79,816	259,737	30,113	507,909
1983	100	10,300	147,910	13,027	93,676	198,600	29,500	493,113
1984	100	8,500	119,900	9,885	74,006	102,000	25,000	339,391
1985		19,500	146,200	12,573	74,083	122,000	29,000	403,356
1986	100	6,300	99,719	10,797	44,957	84,000	22,000	267,873

Table 4. Bristol Bay chinook salmon escapement indices, 1967 - 1986.

Year	Bristol Bay	a/
1967	74,000	
1968	86,000	
1969	43,000	
1970	65,000	
1971	---	
1972	39,000	
1973	46,000	
1974	85,000	
1975	81,000	
1976	114,000	
1977	85,000	
1978	170,000	
1979	115,000	
1980	153,000	
1981	177,000	
1982	164,000	
1983	184,000	
1984	111,000	
1985	130,000	
1986	31,000	

a/ Combined aerial survey estimates for Nushagak and Togiak Rivers.

Table 5. Kuskokwim Area chinook salmon escapement indices, 1972 - 1986.

Year	Kuskokwim River Index 1	a/	Kuskokwim River Index 2	b/	Holitna River Weir
1972	---		7046		---
1973	24.0%		10262		---
1974	---		---		---
1975	24.0%		8380		---
1976	66.0%		16953		5507
1977	162.0%		10725		2548
1978	152.0%		29198		13132
1979	59.0%		20792		11063
1980	146.0%		17718		6572
1981	303.0%		31727		16075
1982	78.1%		15505		10990
1983	74.0%		5886		3009
1984	37.0%		8902		4928
1985	26.0%		9231		4307
1986	28.0%		7744		3450

a/ Combined aerial survey count as a percent of combined escapement objectives for only those index streams where a survey occurred. Index streams include Kwethluk River, Canyon Creek, Kisaralik River, Kasigluk River, Tuluksak River, Aniak River, Salmon River at Aniak, Holitna River, and Salmon River at Pitka.

b/ Combined aerial survey count of the following index streams. When a stream could not be surveyed the combined count was expanded. Index streams included the Cheenestnuk, Eek, Holitna, Holokuk, Kisaralik, Kwethluk, Salmon River at Pitka, and Tuluksak Rivers. Note that the Holitna index includes weir counts.

Table 6. Yukon River chinook salmon escapement indices, 1972 -1986.

Year	Lower River	a/	Middle River	b/	Upper River	c/
1972	2578	*	1331	*	1247	
1973	2226	*	412	*	341	*
1974	834	*	2892		493	*
1975	2228		1371		829	*
1976	3262		2172		359	*
1977	5365		1765		670	*
1978	5793		5225		1733	*
1979	5305		5948		2712	*
1980	5111	*	9298		4803	
1981	3975	*	1837	*	6139	
1982	2125	*	4607		2009	
1983	4379	*	4514		2348	
1984	5107	*	1532		3264	
1985	7696		4588		1924	
1986	9204		5399		1989	

* Poor survey conditions and/or incomplete surveys with one or two streams not surveyed.

a/ Combined aerial survey count for East Fork + West Fork Andreadsky River, Anvik River, and Nulato River.

b/ Combined aerial survey count for Chena and Salcha Rivers.

c/ Combined aerial survey count for Big Salmon and Nisutlin Rivers plus the fishway count for the Whitehorse Dam. Note that, the upper Yukon index areas are in Canada.

SJR

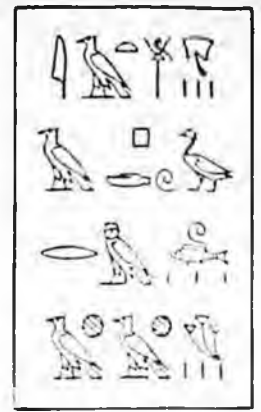
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THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

ALASKA CHAPTER

POSITION STATEMENT
OF
THE ALASKA CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY
OLD-GROWTH FOREST MANAGEMENT IN COASTAL ALASKA

June 1985



Old-growth forests are a rare, and rapidly diminishing resource throughout North America. Characterized by climax stands with old (more than 300 years), large-diameter trees and snags, productive understories, and structurally diverse overstories, old-growth provides important habitat for many species of wildlife and fish. The coastal forests of southeast and southcentral Alaska represent the last major expanse of old-growth remaining in the United States. In coastal Alaska, over 90 percent of the old-growth occurs on public lands administered by the USDA Forest Service. Most of the remaining old-growth lands are managed by the State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources and private Native corporations.

The 16 million acre Tongass National Forest in southeast Alaska is the largest National Forest in the United States. Approximately 4 percent of the Tongass (635,000 acres) consists of high-volume, old-growth stands with over 30,000 board feet of timber per acre (30 mbf/acre). These stands, commonly found at low elevations and along broad valley bottoms, are high quality habitat for certain wildlife species; they are also commercially important timberland. The balance of the forestland consists of either noncommercial (less than 8 mbf/acre) or lower volume timber stands (8-30 mbf/acre). These lands are less subject to conflict between logging and wildlife because of their relative abundance and low commercial value.

To date, about 360,000 acres of the Tongass, and 40,000 acres of State and private land have been harvested by clearcutting. About 2 million acres of the Tongass, and an undetermined amount of State and private lands are planned for harvest over the next 100 years. Cutting as scheduled will concentrate on high-volume old-growth, with over half of the forest's highest volume class (greater than 50 mbf/acre) scheduled for harvest over the next 40 years.

Old-growth forest provides important habitat for many species of fish and wildlife throughout southeast and southcentral Alaska. Research over the last 15 years in the Pacific Northwest, British Columbia, and Alaska presents strong evidence that cutting old growth adversely affects black-tailed deer populations, and may impact other species such as marten, river otter, brown bear, mountain goat, moose, bald eagle, blue grouse, several species of cavity-dwelling birds, and some small mammals. The importance of old-growth forest as fish and wildlife habitat has been documented in symposia held in Juneau in 1978 and 1982 and has been reported in numerous publications.

Clearcutting replaces diverse, uneven-aged stands having high habitat value, with clearcuts and even-aged second-growth stands of low diversity and low value for many wildlife species. Based on present knowledge, it is not possible to significantly enhance second-growth for wildlife; 200 to 300 years are needed for second-growth to acquire old-growth characteristics naturally. Old-growth is essentially a nonrenewable resource.

The old-growth rain forests of coastal Alaska represent a unique ecosystem of national significance, deserving of careful and far-sighted planning. Adequate and representative old-growth habitat must be maintained to meet present and future demands for wildlife, fisheries, and recreation. Towards that goal, the Alaska Chapter of The Wildlife Society makes the following recommendations on old-growth forest management in coastal Alaska:

1. Management of the Tongass National Forest should comply with the National Forest Management Act (NFMA).

Although the NFMA was passed by Congress in 1976 and the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Tongass Land Management Plan (TLMP) states, "A revision (of TLMP) will be completed before 1983 to fully implement the requirements of the National Forest Management Act", the provisions of NFMA have not yet been implemented. The NFMA and its Regulations contain important provisions for wildlife and fish resources to achieve full and effective representation in forest planning. These provisions, if applied on the Tongass National Forest now, provide excellent opportunity to serve wildlife and fish planning needs in the revision of TLMP, and in implementation of the revised plan. The Chapter recommends that the Forest Service make full use of provisions contained in the Regulations, so that full compliance with NFMA is achieved as soon as possible.

2. The Forest Service, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and other cooperating agencies should identify the levels of fish and wildlife desired by the public.

The Departments of Fish and Game and Natural Resources, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Forest Service should develop and implement a process which enables the public to identify desired levels of fish and wildlife populations on specific management areas. Public desires must be reflected in resource allocations.

3. The Forest Service and the Department of Fish and Game should develop an education program to inform the public about the long term consequences for wildlife and fish resulting from harvesting old-growth forests in coastal Alaska.
4. The disproportionate harvest of high-volume, old-growth classes should cease.

To maintain the natural diversity of the coastal forest, the proportional harvest of high volume old-growth stands (greater

than 30 mbf/acre) should not exceed the proportional occurrence of those stands on the forest.

5. A cooperative process should be developed by the appropriate resource agencies to identify specific old-growth stands with exceptional fish and wildlife values and specify management direction, including the option of no harvest, to protect those values.
6. The Forest Service and the Department of Natural Resources should improve the accuracy and availability of timber harvest and resource inventory records for public lands.

The Chapter encourages the Forest Service and Department of Natural Resources to develop applications of existing inventory data, and supplement existing data where needed, to adequately serve planning and management needs of wildlife and fish resources.

7. The planning and decision documents of the Forest Service and Department of Natural Resources should display the cumulative effects of forest management on fish and wildlife resources.

Because the impacts of clearcut logging are cumulative over time, land management plans should explicitly address the resource goals and objectives for a given area over the entire rotation period (100 years). Long-term and cumulative impacts of timber management on fish and wildlife resources should be displayed in 5 year operating plans as well as overall forest planning.

8. The Forest Service should incorporate the special management needs of island wildlife populations in management plans throughout coastal Alaska.

Some species occurring on islands have special biological characteristics, such as restricted gene flow, lower genetic diversity, reduced dispersal and immigration rates, and therefore increased vulnerability to the habitat fragmentation brought on by logging. These problems should receive special consideration in forest planning.

9. The Forest Service and the Department of Natural Resources should assess all effects associated with the development and use of road systems on wildlife and fish.

Building roads in undeveloped areas may reduce the value of those areas for certain wildlife species through habitat degradation and human disturbance. These effects need to be explicitly addressed in the planning process. Management of public access should be an integral part of transportation plans. The input of the general public and resource management agencies should be solicited during the development of region-wide and area-specific transportation plans.

10. The U.S. Forest Service and the Alaska Department of Natural Resources should evaluate the economics of all resource uses.

The economic benefits derived from commercial and sport fishing, guiding, hunting, trapping, viewing, and tourism are not presently included in the economic analyses of timber harvest. A process should be developed to evaluate long-term economic costs and benefits for these resource uses as well as for timber harvest.

The Alaska Chapter of The Wildlife Society wishes to be formally involved in review of management plans for both State and Federal forest lands throughout coastal Alaska to ensure the plans consider wildlife and fish resources equally with other resources and are consistent with the recommendations stated herein.

Jan 20,

Hi Peter,

Here's the next installment in our fight to keep ATTF + a logging camp out of Labouchere Bay. Sorry the copy is so bad.

Bowen Strait Fish and Game Advisory Committee
Box 11
Point Baker, Ak. 99822
January 2, 1977

Mr. Robert Linn
Forest Supervisor, Stikine Area
Tongue National Forest
Box 307
Petersburg, Ak. 99833

Victor M. Monahan
5-1-35

Dear Mr. Linn,

Yesterday Three Forest Supervisors came to Point Baker to talk to us about the plans for No Name Bay. We would like to thank everyone for this, although apparently they should have come here back in 1975 when the decision was made. I was unable to get to Baker due to weather, but I talked at length on the phone with Mr. Aho and Mr. Chiarella. Their answers to my questions lead to further questions about the need for what is planned in No Name Bay.

According to them, the decision to build a new facility less than 15 miles from an existing one is purely economic. They said that it will cost an extra \$5 million more to use the existing Terminal Transfer Facility and logging camp at Bowen Bay.

We would like to see a breakdown of your figures. First, we would like to see a cost breakdown of why it will cost an extra \$5 million to haul the logs and the logs a few extra miles to Bowen Bay on a road that is already planned for construction no matter where the TTF and camp are located. Second, we would like to see the cost estimates which will allow you to install a TTF, an 8-acre log sort and storage yard, a crane loading operation, a logging camp with its water, sewer etc. requirements, an equipment loading and unloading ramp, an airplane float and ramp, an equipment float, and a bridge from Kuiu to "Fantasy" Island, for \$300,000. We know how much it costs to build such projects out here, as we have dealt with funding for community projects. The "temporary" logging camp next door to us in Labouchere Bay has a State-provided school in it. What facilities will the NoName "temporary" camp require? At what cost, and to whom?

Third, we would like to see a dollar value assigned to what will be lost due to the construction of the facilities you plan. How much money will be lost to commercial salmon fishermen? Crab fishermen? What is the value of the herring habitat loss? The destroyed anchorages? These are measurable, real financial considerations and, despite the claims of your EA, these values do exist.

Less easy to place a dollar value on, but still of high economic value, is the death of the salmon and birds in No Name and the surrounding area and the loss of wildlife populations as previously suggested: ducks, geese, swans, and the thousands of other

... these creatures do not use ropes, and if they could not do that, why not for the destruction of their own eggs. A value should be placed on the loss of our which will result from logging camp. If you do not believe this will happen, including ours, which has a logging camp in its area. The loss of South Kuiu as a recreation area for our villages and other should also be computed monetarily. All of these items should value assigned to them.

... you have listed all the costs of building what is planned, estimated the true money value of the resources being sacrificed in No Name Bay, these costs should be added together and subtracted from the estimated \$5 million extra it will cost to use the Rowan Bay Facility. We believe you will come out with a negative amount.

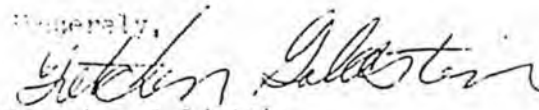
The decision to build in No Name was made back in 1979. We knew nothing about it. We do not accept the statement in the EA that "...topography and the location of the timber harvest units on Kuiu Island require that a TTF be constructed in No Name Bay." It is only a difference of about 15 miles from the cutting units to the existing Rowan Bay Facility, and a road is being planned over the topography anyway.

The Forest Service refuses to acknowledge that the ANILCA sec 204a allowable cut level of 4.5 billion board feet per decade is too large if we are to maintain healthy multiple use of the forest. Yet our subsistence villages, already affected by the intense harvest level on Prince of Wales Island, are faced with more timber cuts on Kuiu, over the protests of our Advisory Committee and our two communities. Our request cannot be honored because logging has been deferred in Liliuski Inlet and the Kaituma drainage at the request of others and, to use the famous Forest Service quote, "The timber has to be taken from somewhere."

You are going to take 300 million board feet out of south Kuiu. If you must harvest the area over our protests, at least give us a break on the TTF etc. in No Name Bay. There really is no reason you cannot use Rowan Bay. If there actually are any extra costs to using Rowan Bay once all the costs of building in No Name are subtracted, use some of the \$40,000,000 plus Anilca provides, to make up the extra cost.

The Bering Strait Advisory Committee requests that this letter be added to our December 10, 1986 response to the EA. We look forward to seeing your final analysis. Please let us know how.

Sincerely,



Gretchen Gollistein
Chair

cc.
"3 Congressman Bob Wrazek
"3 Congressman Morris Udall
"3 Congressman Bruce Vento
Miss DC Delegation
Hon. Rep. Peter Goll
Hon. Rep. Dick Simpson
Michael Carter, NSFE
1970

1986 Report to the Department of Interior by the Sumner Strait Fish
and Game Advisory Committee

Dear Secretary Hodel,

Our 1986 Report is brief, a continuation of our past two reports. Timber harvest and related activities continue to destroy more and more area around our two subsistence villages. We are left a smaller and smaller area of quality habitat with which to survive into the future.

ANILCA section 1021 requires our local agency should recommend a management strategy within our region to accommodate our subsistence uses and needs, and recommendations concerning policies to implement the strategy. Here are our recommendations.

On Prince of Wales Island, there should be no logging of Mt. Calder and the Tipples. They should be given an LWD II designation, to protect the remaining deer habitat in our area. There should be no logging of VCU's 416, 417, 418 and 419 on Kuiu Island. Instead they should be designated LWD II, thus linking the Tebenkof Wilderness Area with Rocky Pass, already an LWD II. Conclusion Island should never be logged. There should be no Terminal Log Transfer Facility and related development in No Name Bay or any other undeveloped bay on East Kuiu. Rowan Bay ITF is easily accessible from East Kuiu, should logging occur there despite our communities' protests.

The State and the US Forest Service, as the major landowners in our area, should designate Port Protection and Point Baker as rural subsistence villages. They should work together to protect the area north of a line from the south side of Shirley Bay to the back of Devilfish Bay and then across to Pt Colpoys on the east side of Prince of Wales Island, as well as the above mentioned units on Kuiu.

Both Point Baker and Port Protection have passed resolutions opposing the 4.5 billion board feet per decade allowable timber harvest level. The Forest Service considers this level of harvest a goal. We recommend that their goal be changed. We recommend that true multiple use of the Tongass become their goal.

If these recommendations are implemented, our subsistence uses and needs will be accommodated now and for future generations.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully submitted,

Gutchen Goldstein
Gutchen Goldstein
Chair

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL FISH & GAME COUNCIL

c/o ADF&G, DIVISION OF BOARDS, P.O. BOX 3-2000, JUNEAU, ALASKA 99802 PHONE: (907) 465-4110

Box 14
Point Baker, Alaska 99827
January 5, 1987

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Klukwan

The Honorable Donald Model
Secretary of Interior
Interior Building
3 Street between 18th and 19th, NW
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Secretary Model,

The Southeast Alaska Regional Fish and Game Council respectfully submits its Third Annual Report to the Secretary of Interior, as called for in ANILCA section 905.

This Report is made up of separate reports from the villages represented by our 21 Advisory Committees. Since many villages had no changes to add, their earlier reports are included as current.

Wildlife destruction resulting from timber harvest continues to be the largest single problem shared by most of the rural Southeast Alaska villages. Fourteen of those villages have passed resolutions on using the \$1.5 billion board feet per decade allowable fish harvest level set by ANILCA section 705a.

Another serious problem facing these villages right now is whether or not they will be designated as "Rural" by the Alaska State Boards of Fish and Game, a decision required by the new State Subsistence Legislation. Many villages are afraid that they will not be designated rural, and that they will lose the subsistence-use protections given to rural areas.

Finally, we continue to be hampered by lack of funding from effectively using the job given to us in ANILCA section 905. ANILCA authorizes us to \$1,000,000 to implement the Regional Council/Advisory Committee system. Last year we received 2,000,000 to be divided among the 6 Regional Councils. This year the President cut even that amount out of the budget. Yet the states continue to receive 500,000,000 plus per year under the same ANILCA authority.

Thank you for your time. We look forward to hearing from the Interior Department on these issues.

Sincerely,

Frederick Holstein
Frederick Holstein
Chair



SOUTHEAST REGIONAL FISH & GAME COUNCIL

c/o ADF&G, DIVISION OF BOARDS, P.O. BOX 3-2000, JUNEAU, ALASKA 99802 PHONE: (907) 465-4110

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Michael Barton, "NSF"
Bob Leedy, "NSF"
Denny Kelso, "ADF&G"
Southeast Alaska Conservation Council
Southeast Regional Council
Norm House, "NSF"
Rob Baswerth, "ADF&G"

P.O. Box 317
Yakutat, AK 99689
April 7, 1987

Mr. Peter Goll
State of Alaska House of Representatives
P.O. Box V
Juneau, AK 00811

Dear Peter:

I am opposed to the recommendation by the Dept. of Interior for full oil and gas leasing for the 1002 area of Arctic National Wildlife refuge. I recommend the 1002 area be given federal wilderness designation.

The 1002 report written by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service fails to address some important issues concerning oil production on the North Slope.

Oil developers like to point to the engineering success of the trans-Alaska pipeline (TAPS) as proof of our ability to extract oil on the Arctic coastal plain without environmental and/or other negative effects. I would, however, like to point out some of the negative effects which may have been overlooked.

Historians tend to characterize Alaska as a place of boom and bust. Certain developments, such as TAPS, have helped to create and proliferate this type of cycle in Alaska. TAPS and ANILCA changed Alaska profoundly. The construction and production phases brought unprecedented amounts of money and human resources to the state. And while, monetarily, many Alaskans have reaped the benefits of that wealth, TAPS has also left behind scars. The once tight-knit Alaska Native family has been severed, as male family members marched off to work on the pipeline, leaving behind their traditional culture and value systems. Most of the highly technical jobs were awarded to out-of-state petroleum workers, so few Natives learned skills that were useful in the long run. Quick money brought drugs, and an increase in alcoholism and prostitution to Alaska, both which remain serious problems today. Disposal of toxic wastes is yet an unsolved problem at Prudhoe Bay. The current suggestion by ARCO to inject toxic wastes into deep wells in the arctic is unacceptable to my way of thinking. Accidental oil spills continue to plague oil development and production on TAPS. In the last 14 years, there have been 23,000 reported spills, the largest at 658,000 gallons. How many more spills have gone unreported? Regardless of the existence of more spills, the reported number shows a poor industry track record for production on fragile arctic tundra.

TAPS has created a false sense of security for Alaskans. Once again, the bust cycle is upon Alaska and Alaskans are left holding the bag. Alaska has been like a spoiled child the last 11 years, on a rampage of construction and spending as if there were no tomorrow. With development on the coastal plain, the state would have yet another schizophrenic cycle to look forward to.

Likewise, the United States appears intent upon viewing energy consumption as if there were no tomorrow. The issue with the coastal plain is not whether or not we should develop it, but rather, is that development going to provide anything for our long-term future as a nation?

I would urge you to reexamine our energy policies. By developing the 1002 area we are looking at a short-term solution to a global problem -- the depletion of a finite energy source. By concentrating our efforts on extracting all our oil reserves, we will ultimately find ourselves in a precarious situation regarding national security and foreign dependence on oil. We should concentrate our efforts on developing environmentally safe alternative sources of energy and on improving the efficiency of our present oil-dependent technology. Finally, our government should set an example by practicing conservation of our natural resources.

Intensive petroleum-related development on the Arctic Coastal Plain is not compatible with the habitat requirements of the Porcupine Caribou herd, nor is it compatible with traditional Native habitat requirements. A pipeline traversing the coastal plain will severely interrupt the migration patterns of the herd and will interrupt critical calving activity. The very nature of caribou migration activity precludes the establishment of exact calving areas. Therefore, it would be difficult to construct manmade facilities which would not adversely affect animal populations. The displacement of caribou by roads and pipelines has already been documented by activities of the Central Caribou herd near TAPS. Breeding bird populations, fish and other wildlife populations will also be severely impacted. A pipeline and road network across the coastal plain will alter a pristine wilderness forever. Certainly, one would not gouge a scratch across a Rembrandt painting, then say it's okay because it didn't spoil the entire painting. The point is, this type of development will spoil the entire wilderness. A fragile ecosystem, once disturbed, takes several lifetimes to recover. There is more to be gained by establishing wilderness than by developing the coastal plain.

The subsistence way of life in rural Alaska is threatened by oil development on the coastal area. The people of Kaktovik, Venetie, Arctic Village and Fort Yukon, as well as Native villages in Canada depend upon the Porcupine Caribou herd for food and a continuing traditional culture. With the influx of many outside, out-of-state, unsympathetic workers, the village of Kaktovik will change irrevocably. Caribou populations may decrease, creating a food shortage for Native populations.

Tourism has become one of the top three sources of revenue for the state of Alaska. Visitors to Alaska cite wilderness values as a major reason for visiting Alaska. Petroleum development will destroy a unique, irreplaceable wilderness and future tourism revenue for Alaska. The Canadian government has had the foresight to set aside several million acres adjoining Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, as Northern Yukon National Park. Furthermore, they vetoed plans for a gas pipeline across Northern Yukon. It behooves us to cooperate with the Canadian government in protecting the Porcupine Caribou herd.

ANWR was established in 1960 to protect its unique wilderness. While many would argue that we need the oil, I would argue that we need wilderness. I have lived in Alaska for the past 14 years and has known the experience of seeing tens of thousands of caribou, bounding across a peneplain free of human intervention. It is important to me that the coastal plain remain free of pipelines, roads and oil wells.

In a world which becomes increasingly complex, technological, noisy and polluted, we need wilderness for our psychological and emotional benefit, as well as for the protection of unique fish and wildlife habitats. I recommend full protection and wilderness designation for the Arctic Coastal Plain and urge you to do the same. Please vote for wilderness designation and urge the rest of the Alaska delegation to do the same. Oil development on the Coastal Plain will not solve Alaska's economic problems.

To switch to another issue, I would also urge you to support any legislation which will reform the horrible mismanagement of Tongass National Forest in Southeast. Surely, you are aware of the massive clearcutting and roadbuilding occurring, as I write, at a tremendous loss of taxpayer money, not to mention the devastating loss of a non-renewable resource -- old-growth rainforest. The U.S. government needs to be held accountable for its actions and the boondoggle in the Tongass must stop.

There is no need for us to cut 450 million board feet of timber per year when the trees are mor valuable left standing, as vital habitat to our fish and wildlife populations, as a tourist attraction, and as a reserve if the time comes when we really need the wood. Right now, it does not make sense to subsidize such huge losses, while the wood goes off to Japan.

Please put your vote to work on slowing the destruction of Southeast's finest resource -- our coastal rainforest.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to share my views with you.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Karen Jettmar', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Karen Jettmar

Alaska State Legislature

Senate Resources Committee



Sen. John D. (Jack) Coqhill, Chairman
Sen. Paul Fischer, Vice-Chairman
Sen. Lloyd Jones
Sen. Arliss Sturgulewski
Sen. Jim Duncan
Sen. Fred Zharoff
Sen. Dick Eason

Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811
(907) 465-4907

February 23, 1987

MEMORANDUM

To: Senate Resource Committee Members

From: Committee Staff

Re: SR 7, Relating to the timber industry in Southeast Alaska

This resolution requests that the U.S. Forest Service honor its commitments to the timber industry in Southeast Alaska, relating to the Tongass National Forest, by implementing certain provisions in the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act.

These commitments include maintenance of timber industry employment at pre-ANILCA levels, full funding for preroad construction in the Tongass National Forest and maintaining a timber harvest level of four billion five hundred million foot board per decade.

It is further requested that if these commitments can not be honored that the wilderness designations made under sec. 703 of ANILCA should be repealed so all interests involved can be treated equitably.

Congress is also requested to hold hearings in Alaska before it begins further consideration of ANILCA.

Included in your packet are:

Zero Fiscal Note

Sec. 705-706 of P.L. 96-487 ANILCA

Statement of Craig J. Lingh, Div. of Governmental Coordination

Statement of Craig J. Lingh to the Subcommittee on Public Lands, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, May 1986

TESTIMONY OF ALASKA LOGGERS ASSOCIATION
CONCERNING SR 7

My name is James F. Clark. I represent the Alaska Loggers Association (ALA). The ALA would like to commend sponsors of this resolution and the Committee for considering this resolution. The Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) was debated from January of '77 until December of 1980. During that time, there were more hearings held on the matter than any bill since the Civil Rights Act of 1965. Through the Citizens for the Management of Alaska Lands (CMAL), we lobbied anyone in Congress who would listen to us on this issue and various groups both in Washington, D.C. and around the country. The Alaska Coalition, of which such key groups as the Wilderness Society and the Sierra Club were constituent members lobbied equally hard for their version of the bill.

The Tongass National Forest was one of the key issues debated. From our side, we made it clear that jobs was a key issue. We wanted to maintain the then existing level of jobs on the Tongass National Forest. At that time the Forest Service estimated that there were approximately 6,000 and indirect jobs associated with timber harvest. The timber harvest was approximately 450 million board feet on the average for the ten years preceding passage of the Act in 1980. We pointed out that were the amount of wilderness enacted proposed by the Alaska Coalition that there would be insufficient timber to maintain jobs. Under the Tongass Land Management Plan (TLMP), the Forest Service agreed with us showing that approximately only 360

million board feet could be produced.

The Forest Service presented a solution called "intensive management." That is that the amount of wilderness desired could be created without a job loss if Congress spent additional monies to make the reduced timber base produce more timber.

Thus, a grand compromise was reached in Southeast Alaska with Senator Stevens representing Alaska's interest and Senator Tsongas of Massachusetts representing the interest of the Alaska Coalition. The amount of wilderness desired by the environmentalists would be created. This was done in Section 703 of the Act. In return, Section 705 would provide for intensive management monies needed to produce more timber from the reduced timber base.

Attached to this letter is a "dear colleague" letter from Senator Bob Mrazek of Long Island, New York, which calls one side of the deal as subsidy and thus would strike down one-half of the compromise, namely Section 705. How it is stated in the "dear colleague" letter is that Congressman Mrazek's bill would also require the Forest Service to buy out the long term sales in Sitka and Ketchikan, establish 120 board foot deferral, i.e., non-harvest areas on the Tongass National Forest and prohibit timber sales less what amounts to a 60% sur-tax based on Forest Service cost of timber production as added to the stumpage rates.

In short, this resolution is needed because the Alaska Legislature needs to tell Congress that a deal is a deal and that because six years have passed, we have not forgotten what the

arrangements were. It may be that the new environmental representatives in Alaska were not here for the D2 debate and therefore have not memory of these agreements and no attachment to them, but we do and we consider agreements with the federal government important enough to keep both sides of the bargain.

The other key reason why this resolution would be helpful is to show the importance of maintaining Alaskan jobs in Alaska. Representative Mrazek's bill is couched in economic terms. He calls Section 705 a "boondoggle" and treats it as if it is some massive subsidy to the timber companies.

In point of fact, we operate in the Tongass National Forest on the primary manufacture principle. This means that we must add value to round logs before we are allowed to export product from the Tongass National Forest. In 1976, the Department of Commerce and Economic Development determined that there were 10.2 jobs associated with primary manufacture and only 2.2 jobs associated with the timber harvest. While I am sure these numbers are no longer the same, they give you an idea of the scale of jobs associated with primary manufacture on the one hand and simple round log export on the other.

There is no question that we could provide a return to the federal government in the form of stumpage fees if the industry were relieved of the primary manufacture requirement. The money, in short, is for Alaskan workers, not for the company and not for the federal government.

Congress has had a 40 year history of maintaining primary manufacture. The policy was initially established by the

Forest Service prior to World War II and made a requirement of the long term sales. When Congress cleared the way for the long term sales for the Tongass Timber Act of 1947, it specifically referred to the long term, year round employment which would be created as a key reason for its action. When Congress passed the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) in 1971, Section 15 specifically set up a mechanism to prevent impact on the long term sales and hence primary manufacture as a result of the settlement. In 1976 when Congress passed the National Forest Management Act, which added many environmental restrictions to timber harvest operations, it ordered the Secretary of Agriculture to compensate the holders of the long term sales. (The holders of the then short term sales were not impacted by the 1976 requirements.) This was the policy reiterated in Section 705 of ANILCA as can be plainly seen from the committee reports that were attached. Congress wanted both the wilderness and the jobs and was prepared to spend the money to retain each. Congress knew that it could immediately increase the sales value of the standing timber on the Tongass by allowing the existing industry to ship the logs as raw logs to Asia without primary manufacture and make a return to the treasury. However, Congress did not want to do away with primary manufacture.

If the former Alaska Coalition members are now deeply concerned about economics, and insist upon a return to the treasury in whatever the prevailing market conditions, then the implication is that primary manufacture should be struck down. Our industry disagrees with that. The Alaska Loggers Association

has continuously supported primary manufacture and have built mills here in reliance upon that approach. Congress was clearly confronted with the policy choice to change the primary manufacture requirement in 1980. Instead, it chose to maintain the jobs and in Alaska not ship them to Asia.

This resolution would be an affirmation by this Committee and the Alaska Senate to maintain these jobs in Alaska rather than ship them to Asia.

Thank you for the continuing support that this Committee has shown our industry.

sd/8.35

TESTIMONY OF CRAIG J. LINDH
DIVISION OF GOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 35
FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE, FIRST SESSION
BEFORE THE HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

April 6, 1987

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee. My name is Craig Lindh. I am employed in the Division of Governmental Coordination, Office of the Governor. I am here today on behalf of the Administration and concerned state agencies including the Departments of Commerce and Economic Development, Natural Resources, Fish and Game, and Environmental Conservation.

Senate Joint Resolution No. 35 (as successor to Senate Resolution No. 7) addresses a matter which has been of long-standing interest to the State of Alaska. In 1985, the state participated with other entities named in Section 706(c) of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) in a review of Tongass Forest management. This review was part of a reporting requirement placed on the Secretary of Agriculture by Congress in Section 706(b) of ANILCA. The timber industry which depends on national forest timber supplies, affected native corporations, the Southeast Alaska Conservation Council and representatives of the commercial fishing industry in southeast Alaska also participated in the review.

In May of last year, contributors to the ANILCA Sec. 706(b) report, as well as people from a number of communities and rural

areas in southeast Alaska, testified at Congressional oversight hearings in Washington, D.C. For the record, I am submitting the state's testimony which was presented at those hearings. As many of you are aware, there is a high degree of interest in the Tongass National Forest, both here in Alaska and in the lower 49 states.

Congress will be asked this year to amend or repeal Section 705 of ANILCA. This is the section which directs the Forest Service to provide a timber supply to the dependent timber industry and guarantees a minimum funding level outside of the normal appropriations process to enable the Forest Service to accomplish it. The Congressional objective of this provision was to maintain employment in the dependent timber industry at pre-ANILCA levels by providing a timber supply while ensuring that other resources of the forest were managed in accordance with the Tongass Land Management Plan (TLMP) and applicable federal law.

The Administration does not support substantive changes in Section 705 at this time. Amendment or repeal is premature because we believe that many of the problems identified with management of the Tongass Forest can be remedied by proper implementation of ANILCA and TLMP. Until the Congressional solution for competing demands placed on the Tongass Forest has been fully tested and found to be deficient, substantive changes are premature.

The state has urged full ANILCA funding and more effective use of the funds that are provided. For example, road construction funds could be better targeted to access timber which is scheduled for harvest in the near future rather than on administrative tie roads which will provide access at some more distant time in the future. We understand that the Forest Service is modifying its approach to scheduling pre-roading funds.

Inadequate implementation of TLMP may also jeopardize the wildlife and fisheries values in the Tongass Forest as well as water quality as it relates to fisheries and human consumption. An adequate monitoring program for water quality impacts associated with logging and road construction will permit the refinement of existing management practices or the identification of new, more effective, practices. Legislation is premature while administrative remedies are available.

Congress has directed the U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO) to investigate Forest Service implementation of Section 705. It is our understanding that this investigation will be completed sometime next winter. Until this investigation is completed, Congress will not have the benefit of GAO's report.

Attempts to amend Section 705 could lead to renewed debate on other provisions of ANILCA. The Administration does not want to

encourage a reopening of the act. If Congress considers amendments to Section 705, the Administration will request that Congressional hearings be conducted in southeast Alaska.

As you can see, the thrust of Senate Resolution No. 35 is largely consistent with current Administration policy. We would like to suggest clarification of several points:

Page 1 Line 21: After the word timber, add "within existing federal timber sale areas".

Line 24: The word "notwithstanding" could be construed as meaning "the environment be damned". We are sure that that is not legislative intent.

Page 2 Line 4: Although we cannot confirm the accuracy of the figure used in this section, the Department of Labor provided the following statistics in conjunction with last year's Congressional oversight hearings: Direct employment in southeast Alaska sawmills declined 45 percent between 1980 and 1985. During the same five year period, pulp-mill employment dropped by 42 percent. Logging employment experienced a somewhat smaller reduction of 20 percent, due in part to increased logging activity on private

land.

Line 21: As suggested during testimony this winter on Senate Resolution No. 7, ANILCA Section 705 provides for a timber "supply", rather than a "harvest level" as used here.

Line 28: In recognition of several other provisions in ANILCA that directly relate to the Tongass National Forest, we suggest substituting the following after "amendments": "affecting the Tongass National Forest".

tg87050601clh

**STATE OF ALASKA 1987 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE**

REQUEST: _____

Bill Version: SR 7
Publish Date: 2-2-8-

Revision Date: _____
Title: Relating to the Timber Industry
in Southeast Alaska
Sponsor: Jones, Fairs, Venning
Requestor: Resources

Agency Affected: Office of the Governor
BRU: Office of Management & Budget
Components: Division of Governmental
Coordination

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING		0	0	0	0	0

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

REVENUE						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL		0	0	0	0	0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: Michael A. Nizich, Director *Michael A. Nizich* Phone: 465-3616
Division: Administrative Services Date: 2-20-87

Approved by Commissioner: Carol P. Kastell *CPK* Date: 2-20-87
Agency: Office of the Governor

Distribution (by preparer):

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

STATEMENT OF CRAIG J. LINDH
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
DIVISION OF GOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
STATE OF ALASKA
BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS
HOUSE INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
OVERSIGHT HEARINGS ON THE TONGASS NATIONAL
FOREST PURSUANT TO SECTION 706(b)
ALASKA NATIONAL INTEREST LANDS CONSERVATION ACT
MAY 8 - 9, 1986

Mr. Chairman, and members of the Committee:

My name is Craig Lindh. I am employed by the State of Alaska in the Office of Management and Budget, Division of Governmental Coordination. With me is Mr. Eric Laschever of the Alaska Governor's office in Washington, D.C.

I am here today to present testimony on behalf of the State of Alaska regarding its concerns with management of the Tongass National Forest in the southeast part of our state, and with Forest Service implementation of Section 705 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA). The State of Alaska and several other entities in Alaska were specifically named in Section 706(c) as participants in the preparation of a status report on the Tongass Forest required by Section 706(b). For this reason, and because the State of Alaska has an enduring interest in federal land management as it affects the lives and varied livelihoods of Alaskans, we have followed closely the Forest Service's preparation of this status report.

One of the most difficult issues which faced Congress during the ANILCA deliberations was to simultaneously satisfy the national desire for the protection of large acreages of wilderness in the Tongass National Forest while continuing to maintain employment in the existing timber industry which depended on federal timber supplies. By adopting Section 705 of ANILCA, Congress reaffirmed the Forest Service's long-standing social objective of creating and maintaining year-round employment and community stability based on the timber resources of the Tongass Forest. The economies of Ketchikan, Sitka, Wrangell and Petersburg have, in varying degrees over the past 30 years or more, been shaped by this federal policy.

These and other communities in Southeast Alaska also rely, to a greater or lesser extent, on other natural resource values of the Tongass for their economic and cultural well-being. The importance of Southeast Alaska's commercial fishing industry can be appreciated when one considers that the 1982 harvest of salmon, for example, was in excess of 29 million fish, or more than 3½ times the combined catch of Washington, Oregon, and California. The recreational value of hunting and fishing in Southeast Alaska has worldwide recognition, as evidenced by the thousands of visitors and residents alike who spend considerable sums to visit the Tongass. Southeast Alaska's fish and wildlife populations are also an important subsistence resource for its citizens, regardless of their occupation. This is a part of the United States where local residents can still count on

supplementing their income by putting wild meat in the freezer at a reasonable cost. Both timber and fisheries production are important in the management of the Tongass Forest and the state wants to ensure their compatibility.

Commercial timber resources, as well as other commodity and noncommodity resources in portions of the forest outside of designated wilderness areas are intended to be managed, utilized and protected in accordance with the Tongass Land Management Plan (TLMP), and applicable law.

It is clear from reviewing Chapter 7 of the 706(b) status report that none of the contributors is wholly satisfied with the current status of the Tongass Forest. Some are dissatisfied with the terms of Section 705, others with its implementation. The State of Alaska does not seek or support the amendment or repeal of Section 705 of ANILCA. While some may advocate repeal or amendment of this section, any such action by Congress at this time would be a serious mistake. The legislative solution to competing demands for the resources and uses of the Tongass Forest was extremely difficult to achieve. We believe that this solution has not been fully tested. Until fully tested and found to be deficient, we cannot support any substantive alteration of Section 705. We are, however, interested in seeing that the provisions of this section are properly implemented by the Secretary of Agriculture and the Forest Service. On a number of occasions, the State has urged the Forest Service and the

Department of Agriculture to provide additional funds for the purposes identified in Section 705 and TLMP and to fully implement TLMP's other provisions.

In its recent efforts to evaluate and amend TLMP (a periodic requirement of the National Forest Management Act, or NFMA), the Forest Service, to its credit, has acknowledged a number of steps which it must take to achieve full implementation of the plan. An amended version of TLMP is expected to be adopted by the Forest Service this month. Time will tell if acknowledgement is followed by accomplishment. To some degree, this will require a reallocation of agency resources and additional funds. At page 83 of the 706(b) report you will find the views of the State of Alaska. In this report, we have reiterated a number of specific recommendations to the Forest Service which, if taken together, would greatly improve the implementation of Section 705 of ANILCA as Congress intended, and TLMP as adopted pursuant to NFMA.

As our contribution to the report indicates, not enough money has been provided pursuant to Sec. 705, to achieve the Congressional employment objective. It may be that no amount of federal money would cause timber industry employment to return to pre-ANILCA levels under the current depressed market conditions. We believe however, that additional funds may be appropriately applied to the construction of roads specified in timber sale contracts, to more fully implement mitigating measures, to expanded monitoring and reporting on the effectiveness of these measures, and to the

loan program of Section 705(b). The surviving members of the timber industry recognize the necessity of adjusting to new markets in a competitive environment, and with assistance from the State of Alaska, are attempting to open new Pacific Rim markets, as well as to capture a larger share of Alaska's relatively small domestic market.

The State of Alaska has on numerous occasions requested that the Forest Service increase the amount of money which it allocates to road construction. We are not urging the construction of roads just for the sake of building them, or the development of an unneeded transportation system. Rather, the State of Alaska has urged the Forest Service to fund roads which will most efficiently provide access to commercial timber with the potential of economic viability. During the past 5 years, the Forest Service has elected to "preroad" with ANILCA funds. Unfortunately some preroading has not provided access to timber scheduled for harvest in the near term. This preroading is accomplished by construction contracting in advance of timber sales. Where the Forest Service does not elect to preroad, it requires, as a condition of its timber sale contracts, that certain "specified roads" be built by the timber purchaser. Under favorable market conditions, the purchaser of this type of timber sale is reimbursed, or compensated, for the roads he has constructed. This compensation is made by the Forest Service in the form of credit against federal timber harvested by the purchaser. Under the current depressed market situation when the value of timber

is low, the purchasers of these timber sales are not reimbursed for the costs of necessary road construction which they incur. At page 59 of the report, the Forest Service acknowledges that one of the possible consequences of this situation is that dependent purchasers, in order to secure their timber supplies, may have to operate at a loss. During the past few years in Southeast Alaska, we believe that this situation has contributed to closures or reduced operations of mills and logging camps in the timber industry, and accounts for the absence of bidders on many recent Forest Service timber sale offerings.

We believe that the Forest Service currently has sufficient authority to compensate timber purchasers monetarily for their construction of specified roads when purchaser credits are not available. Equitable compensation of timber purchasers would bring needed relief to the dependent industry. It may not increase the purchasers' profits, but it will reduce their costs substantially. Such compensation should not be treated as a cost to the government, but rather as a public investment in a federal transportation facility which is expected to serve future users of the Tongass Forest.

The Forest Service is to be commended for lowering some of the other logging costs experienced by purchasers of Tongass timber. We believe that there may be room for some additional cost cutting measures, although we caution against measures which

could pose unacceptable risks to other resource values of the Tongass.

The potential for adverse impacts from timber harvesting and associated activities is greatest on those portions of the Tongass Forest which possess commercially valuable timber outside of designated wilderness areas. It is from these areas, because they are often close to communities, that much of the fish and wildlife harvesting occurs, and water is drawn for human consumption. While some impact is unavoidable in pursuing timber harvest objectives, this impact must be consistent with the protective provisions of TLMP, and applicable laws and regulations, including where appropriate, Alaska's coastal management program. We believe that inadequate implementation of these provisions may jeopardize the wildlife and fisheries values in the Tongass Forest, as well as water quality as it relates to fisheries and human consumption.

In the past decade, we have learned a lot about the impacts of developmental activities on fish and wildlife populations and their habitats in Southeast Alaska's mature (200-300 years old) rain forest. This is recognized by biologists both within the Forest Service and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. It is generally agreed, for example, that harvesting of mature timber stands eliminates important winter habitat for Sitka black-tailed deer and other species.

It does this by removing a forest that the absence of forest fires has allowed to develop over a period of hundreds of years. Such a forest is composed of trees of all ages and sizes. In this environment, deer can move about freely in tough winters beneath the canopy of large trees which intercept deep snowfalls and next to openings where sunlight encourages the seasonal growth of essential food plants.

Research is currently underway to determine the ability of second-growth stands, with special silvicultural treatment, to duplicate many of the habitat characteristics naturally found in old growth stands. The effectiveness of this treatment, however, has not yet been demonstrated. The long-term success of maintaining deer winter habitat in conjunction with the timber harvesting contemplated in TLMP is, therefore, only speculative.

Forest practices associated with commercial timber harvesting and road construction rely on the application of best management practices to accomplish needed resource protection. Best management practices apply the best current knowledge to avoiding or mitigating unacceptable impacts. The TLMP and associated Forest Service Alaska Regional Guide are replete with such practices designed to provide some measure of habitat protection for deer, Alaska brown bear, and other highly valued wildlife species - including the largest concentration of American bald eagles in the United States. Unfortunately, as the Forest Service readily concedes, these practices have not been

implemented sufficiently enough for us to know how well ANILCA provides fish and wildlife protection on the Tongass Forest.

It is essential that these practices be improved through additional research, and that the results of that research also be applied by the Forest Service in reaching its land management decisions.

And finally, it is also essential that mitigating measures and best management practices be monitored for their effectiveness. We believe that the Forest Service must engage in an expanded effort to implement, improve, and monitor the effectiveness of measures which it adopts to protect fish and wildlife, and water quality in the Tongass National Forest. To the extent that the State can assist the Forest Service in these efforts, it will do so. Recent dialogue with the Forest Service, for example, indicates a willingness to discuss development of an initial study of selected Tongass streams. Such a study would yield the baseline data necessary to establish an on-going Forest Service monitoring program for water quality in streams subject to the influence of logging, road construction and other development activities.

In conclusion, the State of Alaska believes that additional time, and the willingness of the Forest Service to adopt our recommendations, are needed to see if the legislative solution for the Tongass Forest will work as Congress envisioned it. We believe

that a much fuller evaluation of ANILCA's success will be possible by 1989 when TLMP is scheduled for revision. In the interim, Congress will have another opportunity in 1987 to review management of the Tongass Forest. It is the state's hope that significant progress can be reported at that time. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF JOSEPH SEBASTIAN, POINT BAKER, ALASKA, ON THE STATUS OF MANAGEMENT OF THE TONGASS NATIONAL FOREST IN SOUTHEAST ALASKA, BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS, COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS, UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, MAY 8, 1986.

Mr. Chairman:

My name is Joseph Sebastian, and I am here some four thousand miles from my home to represent the people of Point Baker, a small fishing village on north Prince Of Wales Island in southeast Alaska. I am a small boat salmon fisherman. My livelihood is dependent on a healthy forest where salmon spawning streams are allowed to remain undisturbed and boat anchorages are left in their natural state. The streams of the Tongass National Forest are important to me as a fisherman because this is where salmon return each year to spawn, and this is where the fish I depend on for my living are born and rear before going out to sea. In many cases fish streams are still being logged, and our important anchorages and commercial fishing grounds are being logged to the water, creating a hardship for many fishermen who seek shelter there from Alaska's severe elements.

In Point Baker I have built my own log house out of spruce, hemlock, and cedar trees from the Tongass National Forest. We have six small local sawmills in our area and utilize local materials to construct our homes, repair and grade our boats, and create a profitable small scale industry in our local neighborhood. As Alaskans we still live close to the land with respect for the long term integrity of fish, waterfowl, and wildlife habitat that we are totally dependent upon.

The citizens of my community have become increasingly alarmed and concerned about U.S. Forest Service overharvest on the Tongass National Forest Lands surrounding our community. We feel that the Forest Service, in its haste to serve Louisiana Pacific Ketchikan and Alaska Pulp Co., has ignored the concerns of our community pertaining to subsistence uses, long term viable

wildlife habitat, areas of commercial fish and shellfish production, and present and future tourism potential.

Our heritage and basic security are being sacrificed, our timber lands laid to waste and destroyed, and the land values which make Alaska a great land to live in are rapidly being stripped away and shipped to Japan as pulp or log cants by the two multi-national corporations who were convicted by the courts in 1981 of U.S. antitrust violations. Yet the American citizens who are innocent of any crime are being treated like a third world country where graft and corruption oppress and punish the local populace by looting and stealing what little resources they possess in their neighborhood.

The argument that calls the Tongass Timber Supply Fund a "wilderness subsidy" is a perversion of language and a distortion of reality and logic. The touted phrase "wilderness subsidy" is pure malarky. I would compare the Tongass Timber Supply Fund to hiring a hoodlum in the street for 50 dollars to rob you, only in this case the American taxpayers are paying 50 million dollars a year to be robbed.

Without the Tongass Timber Supply Fund of 40 million dollars (plus) a year, true multiple use would be allowed to exist again in the Tongass National Forest. To continue to throw U.S. taxpayers' money at a deficit timber debacle that destroys the value of the land, and deprives Alaskans and Americans of a heritage held in common is a tragic and gross injustice that must be corrected by Congress before it is too late.

In having read through the long overdue U.S. Forest Service 706(b) report on the Tongass one is quite taken in by all the sensible, well meaning language and pretty pictures of small clear cut areas growing back peacefully in the neighborhood of old growth forest. Pictures of bears and eagles lull the reader into a dream land that is further heightened by a photo of balloon

logging in some non-existent place in southeast Alaska. Nice talk of wildlife consideration and local subsistence concerns are documented by trick graphs and charts showing how well multiple use is going on the Tongass.

The distorted facts and twisted logic take the unknowing person to a Shangri-la, where the natural and abundant living resources of southeast Alaska are lovingly and painstakingly protected and carefully managed by the U.S. Forest Service.

Gentlemen and gentlewomen of the Congress and their staff persons, I am sorry to say, as an involved witness who has lived in southeast Alaska for the past 8 years, that the U.S. Forest Service 706(b) report is a fabricated piece of fantasy designed to hide the real facts of fraud, waste, and mismanagement on the Tongass. It is unforgivable that the caretakers and managers of our public lands have failed in their task and shamefully sought to hide the truth. I am here to speak the truth and report the anger, outrage, and frustration of Alaskans who have tried to work in good faith with the Forest Service, who have written countless letters, attended hearings and tried to create a meaningful local policy until they were blue in the face. All our community has received from the Forest Service has been polite double talk and false concern that goes nowhere but keeps dozens of Forest Service staff busy.

The bottom line is that we can't get around the 50 year timber contracts no matter how hard we try. Louisiana Pacific Ketchikan and Alaska Pulp Co., after driving many small loggers in southeast Alaska out of business, deserve to have their 50 year timber contracts broken by Congress as an act of faith to show the honest people of America that fraud and monopolistic attempts to dominate public resources will not be tolerated or sanctioned by further subsidies or give aways.

The people of Point Baker are hard working honest American fishermen who are

loyal to the United States. We don't cry for more millions to subsidize our livelihood, yet we are treated worse than peons by the U.S. Forest Service who refuses to allow us the smallest considerations for our long term subsistence well being. Our community is dependent on the land that surrounds us -- the majority of that land is logged off, is being logged off, or is planned for extensive logging in the next 20 years.

The Sumner Straits Fish And Game Advisory Committee has requested or the Forest Service that the last two unlogged watersheds of our area on Prince Of Wales Island be reserved in a roadless condition (Land Use Designation II). These areas are the Calder Mountain and Nipple Peaks areas which have traditional and present subsistence importance to our community. We also requested that the areas on Kuiu Island adjoining the Tebenkof Bay Wilderness be added to the wilderness land base to insure valuable wetlands and shellfish grounds that are growing in commercial and subsistence use every year. It is our contention that these requests are very minimal compared to the thousands of acres being logged off in our vicinity. These areas are essential to our long term subsistence land base and are part of the priceless Alaska heritage that we mean to protect.

The only response we have received from the U.S. Forest Service is to have the 5 year timber cut in our area raised from 46 million board feet, which we protested, to 80 million board feet. None of us were consulted beforehand and when we file our complaint against such single use management we are told the cutting will not have a significant impact on our subsistence dependent lifestyle. The wildlife retention areas set aside by the U.S. Forest Service are absurdly small. To have our concerns ignored and our long term subsistence land base destroyed threatens our whole Alaskan way of life. To independent people who still live traditionally, depending on land and sea for livelihood and sustenance, it is a warped justice indeed that protects the

multi-national long term contract holder who is subsidized to strip the whole of our local resources for their own benefit with no thought or concern for the Alaskan people who live there.

The U. S. Forest Service excuse that Congress mandated the 450 million board foot per year cut and that every last tree must go to meet the 50 year timber contract obligations is not acceptable to the residents of our area. It is intolerable that two huge corporations be given first consideration and priority over our American resources.

In the case of commercial fishing grounds, Noyes Island, Lulu Island, Baker Island, and San Fernando Island are perfect examples of single use planning by the Forest Service. Although timber harvest has been deferred on these islands until 1989, they are still in the 1991 logging plans and maps showing roads, sale areas, and log dumps are already drawn up.

A decisive number of fishing groups oppose any timber development of these well loved and heavily utilized islands. The fishing history of the islands goes back to the 1890s, when the white man first started to commercialize the salmon resource. The Indians of the area began using the area several hundred years before that. Today over \$16 million are generated in fish products and related fish processing every year as a result of salmon caught in the Noyes Island area alone.

Tourist interest in the area is growing. A tourist resort near the "Outside Islands" will be sharing the area with over 1500 out of state visitors in 1986, which will generate another \$2 million in revenue. The tourism and recreation potential of southeast Alaska is skyrocketing, and most of the revenue is largely kept within the state. This year more and more people around the world will discover the safe and fun recreational beauties and

attractions of the Alaska panhandle area. The Tongass is a world class vacation spot that has a supreme potential to attract visitors from all walks of life, if it can be saved from the exploitive and wasteful assault by the two big timber corporations and the single use mismanagement of the Forest Service.

The people of Point Baker implore Congress to bring the Tongass National Forest back into compliance with the National Forest Management Act of 1976, to remove the 450 million board foot per year mandate language and the ironclad Tongass Timber Supply Fund that is destroying the livelihoods of honest hard working Alaskans throughout the panhandle. We beg Congress to correct the Tongass debacle before it is too late.

STATEMENT OF JACK W. LENTFER ON SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 35

HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE, MAY 6, 1987

My name is Jack Lentfer. I live in Juneau and am representing myself.

I have been a wildlife biologist in Alaska for 30 years and from 1977 through 1981 was Alaska Department of Fish and Game Southeast Alaska Game Division supervisor. The most important single issue I dealt with in that job was effects of Tongass Forest logging on wildlife. I have worked as a biologist throughout much of Alaska, and I consider habitat alteration from clearcut logging in southeast Alaska one of the most serious wildlife management problems in the State.

As you consider SJR35, I believe you should be informed of effects of present logging practices on wildlife and other forest values.

The Tongass Forest makes up 93 percent of southeast Alaska. Four percent has commercially valuable old-growth timber (more than 30,000 board feet per acre). This 4 percent also has the highest fish and wildlife values. Logging is concentrated in the high volume classes; one-half of the highest volume class (50,000 board feet per acre) had been cut by 1981, and under present cutting plans, half of the remainder will be gone within the next 40 years. Because high-volume, old-growth forest is so limited, comparisons of total forest acres logged and left unlogged have little meaning.

After an area has been logged, it does not again attain old-growth characteristics for several hundred years. Present harvest schedules call for rotational clearcutting at about 100-year intervals. Thus, once an area is entered into a cutting schedule, old-growth habitat is permanently eliminated.

Sitka black-tailed deer are the most abundant and widely distributed recreational and subsistence hunting species in southeast Alaska. The main factor limiting populations is availability of food in winter. Logging, with its removal of canopy cover of old-growth trees, allows much more snow to accumulate on the ground and makes food unavailable. About 30 years after logging, densely growing second growth shades out deer forage understory plants.

Scientists have intensively studied effects of logging on deer in southeast Alaska. Predictive models indicate that deer numbers in many popular hunting areas will be reduced 60-80 percent by the end of the first 100-year rotation period. On a forest-wide basis, after the first rotation period, deer numbers will be reduced by more than 40 percent.

Other wildlife species affected by logging, road-building, and associated activities include brown bear, black bear, mountain

goat, moose, marten, mink, river otter, bald eagle, Vancouver Canada goose, and other birds.

Fish, a highly valued commercial and recreational resource, can be adversely affected by logging. With proper safeguards, short-term effects can be minimized. Biologists generally agree, however, that long-term effects of logging on stream habitat and fish populations are unknown.

Shellfish (crabs and clams) are affected by log dumping and rafting in the biologically rich waters of protected bays. Bark accumulates on the bottom and smothers organisms and depletes oxygen.

Logging can affect a number of guided recreational activities, including hunting, fishing, photography, marine cruising, kayaking, and river rafting. Clearcuts are generally not esthetically compatible with these activities, many of which are contributing significantly to the economy of southeast Alaska. The guided hunting industry brings between \$75,000 and \$1,000,000 into southeast Alaska annually. The largest component is brown bear guiding. Logging has already disturbed enough brown bear areas that guides themselves now believe it necessary to reduce by more than one-half the number eligible to guide on the major brown bear islands--Admiralty, Baranof, and Chicagof.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game, the agency responsible for fish and wildlife management in Alaska, has consistently been on record for better protection of habitat than is provided by present forest practices. I believe your proceedings would be helped today by testimony from knowledgeable Fish and Game biologists. Unfortunately, it appears that industry is unduly influencing the Fish and Game Department so that information gathered by State personnel on forest management practices and how best to protect wildlife, fisheries, and other resource values is being withheld from the public and decision-makers such as yourselves.

To address SJR35 more specifically, the 4.5 billion board foot allowable cut per decade is simply too large to be compatible with maintenance of wildlife and other resource values. With regard to the \$40 million or more annual appropriation, I believe adding this to existing timber industry subsidies, in addition to exacerbating present resource management conflicts, is unjustified in this time of massive deficits. A question to be addressed is whether a highly subsidized timber industry should be maintained in its present form on public lands in southeast Alaska to support an export trade, considering the adverse impacts to wildlife and other values.

In conclusion, I would urge the Legislature to reject SJR35 and not go on record as favoring current timber management practices, but instead consider alternatives to maintain a timber industry and at the same time not jeopardize other forest values. Thank you.

REPRESENTATIVE
BEN GRUSSENDORF

P O Box 928
SITKA, ALASKA 99835
(907) 747-8458

RULES COMMITTEE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

DISTRICT 3
ELFIN COVE
PELICAN
PORT ALEXANDER
SITKA
TENAKEE

Alaska State Legislature



House of Representatives
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

May 9, 1987

WHILE IN JUNEAU
P.O. Box V
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
(907) 465-3824
(907) 465-3720

Rep. Sam Cotten
Rep. Adelheid Herrmann
Co-Chairs
House Resources Committee
P.O. Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Rep. Cotten and Rep. Herrmann:

Mr. Mark Kirchoff, the mayor of Port Alexander, called me today regarding the House Resources Committee's teleconference to take testimony on SJR 35, relating to the timber industry in Southeast Alaska. He asked me to relay to you the opposition of this community to SJR 35.

Thank you for your consideration of Port Alexander's testimony.

Sincerely,


Rep. Ben Grussendorf

BG/kb



UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

Jack Cadigan
Executive Director
907-586-2820
1-800-478-FISH

UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

RESOLUTION 87-6

WHEREAS the presence of a clean healthy habitat is essential to the welfare of southeast Alaska's fisheries resource; and

WHEREAS the Tongass National Forest encompasses a large portion of southeast Alaska and contains therein the freshwater spawning habitat vital to the salmon resource; and

WHEREAS Section 705 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act in its present form impedes the goals of multiple use management in the Tongass and creates an overwhelming emphasis on timber harvest; and

WHEREAS abuses to the fifty-year contracts have driven many small Southeast timber operators out of business and created a government-driven, rather than a market-driven, timber industry which has stifled healthy competition within the industry and reinforced an unbalanced management approach to the forest;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the United Fishermen of Alaska supports a timber presence in southeast Alaska but strongly opposes a mandated cut of 4.5 billion board feet per decade; and

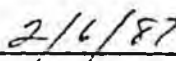
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the intent of the Tongass Timber Supply Fund be re-evaluated and a greater emphasis for use of the funds be placed on protecting fish habitat and facilitating conflict resolution between users of the forest resource; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the impropriety of the fifty-year contracts be considered and the contracts terminated.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable R. Max Peterson, Chief of the U. S. Forest Service; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.



Robert M. Blake
President


Date

STATE OF ALASKA
SENATE

1987

Source

CSSR 7(R1s)

Senate

Resolve No.

6



Relating to the timber industry in Southeast Alaska.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE:

WHEREAS in 1947 the Congress passed the Tongass Timber Act, which authorized timber sales in the Tongass National Forest under the U. S. Forest Service's policy of creating a timber industry in the Tongass National Forest in order to provide year-round employment in Southeast Alaska; and

WHEREAS, when the Congress passed the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (P.L. 92-203) in 1971, the Congress sought to prevent a loss of jobs in the then existing timber industry of Southeast Alaska by providing compensating timber for the timber selected by Native corporations; and

WHEREAS, when the Congress passed the National Forest Management Act (P.L. 94-588) in 1976, the Congress reaffirmed its commitment to maintaining timber industry jobs in the Tongass National Forest, notwithstanding the environmental requirements of the Act; and

WHEREAS, when the Congress established wilderness areas in the Tongass National Forest in sec. 703 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) (P.L. 96-487) the clear intent of the Congress in sec. 705 was to maintain employment in the timber industry that depends on national forest timber at the same level as before the passage of the Act; and

WHEREAS employment in the dependent timber industry is not at the same level as before the passage of ANILCA because more than 1,000 jobs have been lost in the timber industry since that time; and

WHEREAS the Congress has established in sec. 705 of ANILCA a

funding mechanism to ensure that employment in the dependent timber industry is maintained; and

WHEREAS the U.S. Forest Service has failed to spend the funds that it had requested and that were authorized by the Congress for preroding in the Tongass National Forest; and

WHEREAS the Alaska Senate believes that the U.S. Forest Service should honor the commitments made to timber industry-related employment in the Tongass National Forest by Congress;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Senate respectfully requests that the U.S. Forest Service immediately provide the full amount of prerod funding and the full amount of intensive management funding promised under sec. 705 of ANILCA; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the timber base established by ANILCA and the Tongass Land Management Plan for renewable timber harvests be maintained along with the timber harvest level of 4,500,000,000 board feet per decade as mandated by sec. 705 of ANILCA; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that if the Congress decides to amend sec. 705 of ANILCA, it review each of the other components of the Tongass compromise so that the issue may be presented in a comprehensive manner; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska Senate respectfully requests that the Congress hold hearings in the state before it makes any amendments to secs. 703 or 705 of ANILCA.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to Dale Robertson, Chief of the U.S. Forest Service; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

Re: SJR 35
Please call
Bart Koehler
@ 586-6942
if you have any
questions

NEWS from Southeast Alaska Conservation Council

SEACC • P.O. Box 021692 • Juneau, Alaska 99802 • (907-586-6942)

c/o National Audubon Society • 801 Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E.
Washington D.C. 20003 • (202-547-0141)

3/16/87 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Bart Koehler (907-586-6942)

SEACC SUPPORTS TONGASS TIMBER REFORM ACT

A spokesman for the Southeast Alaska Conservation Council (SEACC) today voiced strong support for the newly introduced Tongass Timber Reform Act. However, he stated that "the bill doesn't go far enough", and urged that the measure should be strengthened by ending the 50-year timber sale contracts on the Tongass National Forest. The bill, H.R. 1516, was introduced by Congressman Robert Mrazek (D-NY) and 43 co-sponsors on March 10th. In the Senate, Senator William Proxmire introduced an identical bill, S. 708, on the same day.

Bart Koehler, executive director for the regional conservation coalition said, "this bill goes a long way toward bringing fiscal responsibility to the management of the Tongass". Rather than automatically handing over a minimum of \$40 million annually to the Forest Service, the Tongass Timber Reform Act would require annual appropriations of funds necessary to support timber management and resource conservation in our largest national forest. Koehler added that the Timber Reform Act would also "pull the reins in on the Forest Service's blind pursuit of the 4.5 billion board foot per decade timber supply goal, (known locally as the "450"), and get control over this boondoggle."

According to Koehler, "Money would still be provided for a viable timber program on the Tongass and for a viable timber industry in our region via annual appropriations -- the same process that even the national defense budget undergoes." The spokesman also explained that "this bill will not cause a loss of timber industry jobs, but it will cut some fat out of the Forest Service."

Noting that SEACC wants to encourage a program of small and moderate scale independent timber operations in the region, Koehler maintains that the legislation needs to be beefed up by cancelling the two 50-year contracts and replacing them with a system of competitive bidding. According to Koehler, "On the basis of what the two pulp mills are paying to timber cutting rights, we could buy back the remaining timber rights for about \$16 million. Such an action would save a lot of money and heartache over the long run, and help bring balance to the management of this great national forest."

"The combination of the long term contracts, the currently untouchable porkbarrel Tongass Timber Supply Fund, and the rock bottom prices the pulp mills are paying for timber has resulted in an incredible rip-off of public taxdollars and public forest resources," Koehler said. The Tongass timber program has lost an average of \$50 million per year since 1982. This loss is due to the fact that the pulp mills are paying only \$2 per thousand board feet of timber while it costs the Forest Service \$150 per thousand board feet to "manage" that timber. Koehler noted that only 12% of the agency's budget goes for fish, wildlife and recreation while virtually all the rest goes for

supporting the Tongass Timber Program. For example, the agency spends \$24 million a year on roadbuilding programs but only \$2 million on fisheries. "We're not even close to having balanced multiple use on the Tongass," Koehler said. He added that guides and outfitters are required to pay 3% of their gross income, up front, to the Forest Service for their use of the Tongass at very little cost to the agency. "Yet, under the agency's policy of timber mining, we are now subsidizing the exploitation of this great public forest resource by underwriting the pulp mills to cut away at the Tongass. Because of Section 705 and the contracts, the Forest Service is running an expansive private timber plantation for the pulp mills on the public's land at great public expense," Koehler explained.

"In spite of all this, the pulp mills are always complaining that not enough money is being spent to aid their industry," said Koehler. He noted that if the pulp mills really wanted to be directly involved in how the Forest Service spends money on the Tongass timber program, they should support bringing the Tongass Timber Supply Fund under the appropriations process. "So far, they haven't advocated such fiscal responsibility. The pulp mills simply don't want to face the music," he added.

Koehler added that SEACC expected the Alaska Loggers Association would be shouting "A deal's a deal". "I want to make it clear that SEACC never agreed to the language of Sec. 705. It was a bad law in 1980, and it is bad law now." According to Koehler, the pulp mills got a great deal in ANILCA since they were granted substitute timber volumes to compensate for lands in their contract areas that were designated as Wilderness. These substitute timber lands are of much higher quality and have much easier access than their earlier holdings. "On top of that the pulp mills got to benefit from the Timber Supply Fund. They got a great deal, that's certain," Koehler said.

* [The SEACC spokesman noted that, "Congressman Don Young likes to paint the picture that outside national environmental groups are the only ones trying to reform the management of the Tongass. The fact is that a large and growing number of Alaskans want badly needed reforms." Fourteen small southeast communities, all of the region's commercial fishing groups, the United Fishermen of Alaska, and several Native village corporations are on record in opposition to the current timber program in the Tongass.

-----END-----



Southeast Alaska Conservation Council

Box 1692 • Juneau, Alaska • 99802 (907 • 586 • 6942)

2/4/87

LAST STAND FOR THE TONGASS

AMERICA'S MOST MISHMANAGED NATIONAL FOREST

The Tongass is America's largest National Forest. Nearly 17 million acres, it is the last remaining refuge of old-growth rain forest that once extended from northern California to Alaska's coast. A wild and rugged land, the Tongass supports valuable commercial fishing and tourism industries and provides fish and game for a large subsistence economy.

Unfortunately, the Tongass and its renewable resources are threatened with destruction by a massive U.S. Forest Service timber program. The rapid removal of old growth currently being practiced by the Forest Service is timber mining, not renewable forest management. This program relies on huge federal subsidies that cost the American taxpayers over \$50 million each year.

Forest Service logging plans for the 100 year rotation cycle in southeast Alaska will result in the clearcutting of some 1.7 million acres--an area larger than the Everglades, almost the size of Yellowstone National Park, or two Yosemite National Parks, or three Great Smokey Mountains National Parks. Over the next ten years alone, the agency plans to build at least 2000 miles of new roads.

Three fundamental problems cause Tongass National Forest mismanagement:

1) Section 705 of the Alaska Lands Act (ANILCA) instituted a special ironclad subsidy of "...at least \$40,000,000 annually..." to maintain a timber supply of 450 million board feet per year on the Tongass National Forest.

* The Tongass is the only National Forest for which the timber supply level is addressed in statute. The "Tongass Timber Supply Fund", the only National Forest expenditure shielded from annual Congressional appropriation, now approaches \$50 million per year.

* From 1982-1986 the Forest Service spent \$287 million on Tongass timber. Including stumpage fees and all other money the Forest Service could consider as receipts to the Treasury, the return has been only \$32 million. This amounts to a cost to taxpayers of an average of \$50 million a year since passage of the Alaska Lands Act. Over one-half of these expenses were for road building purposes.

* The Forest Service estimates that its Tongass timber program will lose from two to six billion dollars over the next five decades.

2) The Tongass is the only National Forest burdened with long term (50 year) timber contracts. The two contract holders, Louisiana Pacific-Ketchikan (LPK) and Tokyo-based Alaska Pulp Company (APC), together control one-third of the land base and two-thirds of the commercial forest lands on the Tongass National Forest. By contract, they are entitled to 13.25 billion board feet of timber as far into the future as the year 2011.

* The 50 year timber contracts allow LPK and APC to control cutting schedules, to high grade prime timber, and to pay reduced stumpage fees (a de facto subsidy). In 1982, the price the two companies paid for timber was reduced by 98%. While the mills currently pay \$2.50 per thousand board feet for prime timber, it costs the Forest Service \$150 to "manage" that same thousand board feet of timber cutting.

* In 1981 federal courts found LPK and APC guilty of conspiracy in restraint of trade. LPK and APC ran many independent loggers out of business and artificially suppressed stumpage prices. The Forest Service estimates the loss to the U.S. Treasury of this illegal action at \$60--80 million.

3) The Tongass Land Management Plan (TLMP) favors logging, fails to protect fish and wildlife adequately, and fails to comply with federal laws.

*As a result of TLMP, only 28% of the high value fishery habitats were designated wilderness; only 30% of the high value wildlife areas were designated wilderness.

*TLMP commitments to "retention" of critical fish and wildlife habitat have never been fully implemented.

* TLMP does not comply with National Forest Management Act (NFMA) regulations or the full requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Many southeast Alaskans oppose the current timber program on the Tongass.

To date, 14 southeast Alaska communities have passed resolutions opposing the current Forest Service timber program on the Tongass. The resolutions specifically oppose the 4.5 billion board foot per decade (450 mmbf/yr) timber harvest language in Section 705 of the Alaska Lands Acts (ANILCA).

The Southeast Alaska Conservation Council (SEACC) recommends major reforms to bring balanced multiple use to the Tongass National Forest:

A. Repeal ANILCA Section 705, thus eliminating the Tongass Timber Supply Fund and references to a 4.5 billion board foot per decade timber supply goal.

*This will not eliminate a timber program for the Tongass, but it will force the Forest Service to be cost-effective and accountable. It will allow free market and other important resource needs to set the harvest level. It will stop the subsidy of timber mining and of unnecessary road construction. Responsible timber management will result.

B. Cancel the 50 year timber contracts and replace them with competitive bidding and short-term sales, and repeal section 1315(e) of ANILCA.

*APC and LPK could still buy timber, but would no longer dominate other timber operators, other resources, or the Forest Service. This measure would allow greater flexibility for the protection of key habitat areas and subsistence resources. It would also insure the survival of independent timber operators. Until the contracts are abolished, the Forest Service will be free to manage the Tongass as a private plantation for the two mills at great public expense.

C. Order immediate full revision of TLMP to comply with NEPA and NFMA and re-establish the applicability of Section 6(k) to the Tongass.

* This would bring Tongass planning into the 1980s. It would give the public its rightful say over public lands, and it would force the Forest Service to be accountable. This measure would also require the Forest Service to consider economic feasibility when planning timber sales, thereby reducing Tongass timber program losses.



Grand Camp
Alaska Native Brotherhood

ALASKA NATIVE SISTERHOOD AND BROTHERHOOD
74TH ANNUAL CONVENTION
HAINES, ALASKA
OCTOBER 20-25, 1986

RESOLUTION NO. 25

TITLE: SUBSISTENCE RESOURCE AND HABITAT PROTECTION

WHEREAS, The Federal law known as the "Alaska National Interest Lands and Conservation Act" provides for the protection of subsistence resources and subsistence habitat protection, and

WHEREAS, The extensive logging activities and the devastation caused by large timber sales is not adequately addressing the resource protection, nor is the Forest Service concerned about potential native allotments, scenic beauty or traditionally, culturally and historically important areas such as the entire Hoonah Sound area, NOW

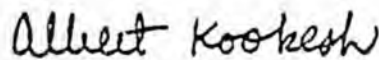
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Grand Camp Convention of the Alaska Native Brotherhood and Sisterhood assembled in Haines, Alaska during the week of October 20-25, 1986 request the United States Forest Service, Tongass National Forest division to show more sensitivity to the needs of the villagers in habitat protection and other recreational values, such as the tourist industry, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be made available to Alaska Legal Services, 419 6th Street, Suite 322, Juneau, Alaska 99801, and to the U.S. Forest Service, Tongass National Forest.

ATTEST:

I certify that this resolution was adopted by the ANB-ANS Grand Camp in Convention at Haines, Alaska during the week of October 20-25, 1986.


Richard Stitt, Grand President


Albert Kookesh, Grand Secretary

Past ANB Grand Presidents
Roy Peratrovich
Alfred Widmark
Cyrus Peck

Frank Peratrovich
Patrick J. Paul
Thomas Jackson
John Hope

Frank See
Walter Soboleff
Richard Stitt
Steven V. Hatch

Nelson O. Frank
Frank O. Williams
Herbert Hope
Robert R. Martin



UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

Jack Cadigan
Executive Director
907-586-2820
1-800-478-FISH

UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

RESOLUTION 87-6

WHEREAS the presence of a clean healthy habitat is essential to the welfare of southeast Alaska's fisheries resource; and

WHEREAS the Tongass National Forest encompasses a large portion of southeast Alaska and contains therein the freshwater spawning habitat vital to the salmon resource; and

WHEREAS Section 705 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act in its present form impedes the goals of multiple use management in the Tongass and creates an overwhelming emphasis on timber harvest; and

WHEREAS abuses to the fifty-year contracts have driven many small Southeast timber operators out of business and created a government-driven, rather than a market-driven, timber industry which has stifled healthy competition within the industry and reinforced an unbalanced management approach to the forest;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the United Fishermen of Alaska supports a timber presence in southeast Alaska but strongly opposes a mandated cut of 4.5 billion board feet per decade; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the intent of the Tongass Timber Supply Fund be re-evaluated and a greater emphasis for use of the funds be placed on protecting fish habitat and facilitating conflict resolution between users of the forest resource; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the impropriety of the fifty-year contracts be considered and the contracts terminated.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable R. Max Peterson, Chief of the U. S. Forest Service; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

Robert M. Blake

Robert M. Blake

2/6/87

Date

STATEMENT OF THE SOUTHEAST ALASKA CONSERVATION COUNCIL

ON SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 7

BEFORE THE ALASKA SENATE

RESOURCES COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 23, 1987

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on proposed Senate Resolution No. 7, a resolution relating to the timber industry in Southeast Alaska. My name is Steven Kallick. I am the Staff Attorney for the Southeast Alaska Conservation Council, commonly known as SEACC. SEACC is a coalition of 12 member groups and over 650 non-affiliated individual members, representing communities all across Southeast Alaska. SEACC is dedicated to ensuring maximum protection for all the natural resources of this unique region and to perpetuating the way of life of the people who make Southeast Alaska their home.

I am sure that it will come as no surprise to you that we oppose adoption of SR 7. Indeed, it would be a surprise if any interest group rose to support SR 7 as currently drafted. The resolution before you contains a succession of errors, of both fact and law, that lead the reader step by step from the path of logic to finally arrive finally at unsupportable conclusions. Even if these errors were corrected, the ultimate intent of this resolution, as near as it can be discerned, would be to support the current management of the Tongass National Forest as enshrined in Section 705 of the Alaska Lands Act (P.L. 96-487). However, if all of the interest groups involved in the controversy over current logging policy could agree on any one principle, it would be that management of the Tongass must change. Therefore, we respectfully request that this committee reject the proposed resolution.

SR 7 Contains Errors of Fact and Law

First, SR 7 should be rejected or completely re-written because it builds its logic on a succession of errors and misstatements of fact and law that can lead it only to unsupportable conclusions. Please permit me to point some of these out.

For example, at lines 8-12 of page one, SR 7 implies that the purpose of the Tongass Timber Act of 1947 was to ratify the Forest Service's plans for creating an export pulp industry in Southeast Alaska. In reality, that law was aimed at protecting the then unresolved claims of Alaska Natives to their aboriginal lands and it required that all receipts from timber sales be held in a special fund pending resolution of the land claims dispute.

Another similar, but more egregious error appears at lines 13-15 of page one. Here SR 7 implies that the purpose of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (P.L. 92-203) was also to support logging in Southeast Alaska. The actual purpose of that law, as we all know full well, was to settle the land claims of Alaska Native people. ~~To characterize this law as supporting logging is misleading, at best.~~

The next section, lines 16-19, builds on the errors of the previous section but again goes one step further off the path of logic. SR 7 is simply wrong where it asserts that the National Forest Management Act (P.L. 94-588), a timber reform measure, exempts the Alaska pulp contracts from the strict

environmental requirements of the rest of the law. Instead, Section 15 of the National Forest Management Act specifically commanded that the Forest Service bring the fifty-year pulp contracts into compliance with environmental requirements. I might add for the record that eleven years later this command has not yet been heeded by the Forest Service.

In lines 20-24, SR 7 misstates the purpose of Section 705 of the Alaska Lands Act. According to the Forest Service, the agency in charge of interpreting its statutory duties, the real purpose of Section 705 is as it says: to insure that sufficient funds are available to supply 4.5 billion board feet of timber to the Tongass-dependent industry per decade. Any other interpretation of Section 705 is an exercise in wishful thinking.

The three paragraphs which appear next, at lines 25-29 of page one and lines 1-4 of page two, continue to misstate and mislead. True, timber employment has fallen precipitously in the region since the late 1970s. In fact, Tongass-dependent industry now employs only about 1350 people, according to the Forest Service. But why?

The culprit is not a failure by the Forest Service to spend money, as SR 7 states. Since 1982, the Tongass timber subsidy has cost the federal government at least 250 million dollars, averaging over 50 million dollars per year. The culprit is also not a failure by the Forest Service to build enough logging roads. The Forest Service expected under the Tongass Forest Plan to build 46.5 miles of logging roads annually at a cost of 18.8 million dollars. Since 1982, they have built 47 miles of road annually at a cost of 16.4 million dollars. Consequently, the goals of the Tongass Plan have been met.

Tongass-dependent

Alaska Pulp continues to decline as other products and sources substitute for its uses.

Why then has the timber industry lost so many jobs? SR 7 does not state the obvious truth: world timber markets collapsed in 1980-81. Furthermore, in Alaska, Native logging operations have displaced half of the previous market for Tongass timber. The Forest Service has supplied plenty of timber from the Tongass, but it cannot supply demand for that timber.

In response to allegations similar to the ones contained in this section of SR 7, the Forest Service has said two very important things. First, it reported to Congress last year that the Alaska Lands Act provided "no guarantee of profit or continuing high timber markets." Second, in response to Congressional questioning during oversight hearings on Tongass problems, the Forest Service stated that "no amount of [Alaska Lands Act subsidies] could have maintained the timber industry employment at historic levels." The pulp mills have created a scapegoat in the Forest Service's expenditures of the Tongass timber subsidy, and are using that scapegoat to push for more money.

The last section of SR 7 before the conclusions goes on to state that the Forest Service has failed to "honor its commitments" to the timber industry. (Lines 5-10, page two). As you can see from the foregoing, however, whatever commitments the Forest Service has made to the timber industry, particularly the pulp mills, have been honored. What this section of SR 7 really asks for is a change from existing law and policy. It says, in essence, that we must guarantee a profit to the pulp mills timber industry or do away with our existing wilderness areas. Of course, this notion is simply absurd.

The conclusions of SR 7 make no sense, either. Lines 11-14 on page two repeat the discredited fantasy that the Forest Service has failed to spend enough on

the costly Tongass timber program. Then, lines 15-21 discuss the timber land base and timber supply on the Tongass. Yet, there is no problem with Tongass timber supplies: the Forest Service has provided ^{more than} the required 450 million board foot goal annually every year. Much of this timber has gone unsold, costing the Forest Service more than 40 million dollars over the last five years. The problem with Tongass timber is demand, not supply. SR 7 says nothing about timber demand. *SR 7 will do nothing about timber demand.*

Finally, SR 7 ought to be phrased in a straightforward manner. It conveys an erroneous message, i.e., that it supports existing law. Instead, SR 7 actually supports radical changes in current law and policy. SEACC agrees that major changes are needed in the Tongass timber program. We respectfully request that this committee consider asking Congress to take another look at the Tongass timber program. *As others here have suggested, let's try to find a sustainable, profitable, non-dependent timber industry to employ Alaskans. We don't have one now.*

Current Tongass Timber Management Must Change

^{using}
No interest group dependent on resources from the Tongass is satisfied with the current management program. SR 7 is merely an extension of the arguments advanced by the two pulp mills and their subsidiaries through the Alaska Loggers Association over the last few years. Essentially, the pulp mills want more money given to them to build roads on their contract areas and they object to other uses to which the Forest Service has applied the Tongass timber subsidies, which I might add includes pre-logging for small business timber sales that go to the very independent timber operators who had to bring a lawsuit to protect themselves before. SEACC, the commercial fishing groups, Sealaska and a number of village-based

These 14 communities include Angoon, Hoonah, Yakutat, Pelican, Tenakee Springs, Craig, Hydaburg, Point Baker, Port Protection, Gustavus, Port Alexander, Edna Bay, Kupreanof and Elfin Cove.

Native corporations, and fourteen rural Southeast Alaska communities have said that the current law and policy governing Forest Service management of the Tongass fails to protect other resources or resource users and should be changed. Many of these groups ^{and communities} have also objected to the manner in which the Forest Service spends the Tongass timber subsidies.

We want to see the money spent responsibly.

SEACC has specifically supported measures to return Tongass timber subsidies to the appropriations oversight process in Congress. A bill doing just that will be introduced in Congress sometime ^{next} ~~this~~ week. If the Alaska Senate is indeed concerned that the Forest Service has failed to spend money properly, then it should offer its support for this measure, which will be known as the Tongass Timber Reform Act of 1987.

In conclusion, we hope you will reject SR 7 as currently drafted. It is ^{plagued} ~~rife~~ with errors of fact and law and appears to support a Tongass timber program that is satisfactory to no interest group. Instead, we hope you will ^{consider and} adopt a resolution supporting our efforts to return Tongass timber expenditures to the much-needed scrutiny of the Congressional appropriations oversight process. Thank you for the opportunity to offer these remarks.

**STATE OF ALASKA 1987 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE**

REQUEST: _____

Bill Version: SR 7
Publish Date: 2-2-8-

Revision Date: _____
Title: Relating to the Timber Industry
in Southeast Alaska
Sponsor: Jones, Falks, Uemling
Requestor: Resources

Agency Affected: Office of the Governor
BRU: Office of Management & Budget

Components: Division of Governmental
Coordination

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING		0	0	0	0	0
CAPITAL						
REVENUE						

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL		0	0	0	0	0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: Michael A. Nizich, Director *Michael A. Nizich* Phone: 465-3616
Division: Administrative Services Date: 2-20-87

Approved by Commissioner: Carol P. Kastelic *CDK* Date: 2-20-87
Agency: Office of the Governor

Distribution (by preparer):
Legislative Finance
Legislative Sponsor
Requestor
Office of Management and Budget
Impacted Agency(ies)
Senate Secretary

NATIONAL FOREST TIMBER UTILIZATION PROGRAM

16 USC 539d.

SEC. 705. (a) The Congress authorizes and directs that the Secretary of the Treasury shall make available to the Secretary of Agriculture the sum of at least \$40,000,000 annually or as much as the Secretary of Agriculture finds is necessary to maintain the timber supply from the Tongass National Forest to dependent industry at a rate of four billion five hundred million foot board measure per decade. Such sums will be drawn from receipts from oil, gas, timber, coal, and other natural resources collected by the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior notwithstanding any other law providing for the distribution of such receipts: *Provided*, That such funds shall not be subject to deferral or rescission under the Budget Impoundment and Control Act of 1974, and such funds shall not be subject to annual appropriation.

31 USC 1401
note.Forest materials
purchasers, loan
program.

(b)(1) The Secretary is authorized and directed to establish a special program of insured or guaranteed loans to purchasers of national forest materials in Alaska to assist such purchasers in the acquisition of equipment and the implementation of new technologies which lead to the utilization of wood products which might otherwise not be utilized. The Secretary is authorized to promulgate such regulations as he deems appropriate to define eligibility requirements for the participation in the loan program and the terms and conditions applicable to loans made under the program. Except as otherwise provided in this section or regulations promulgated specifically for this loan program, such program shall be carried out in a manner which is consistent with other authorities available to the Secretary.

Appropriation
authorization.

(2) To carry out the special loan program established by this section, there are hereby authorized beginning after the fiscal year 1980 to be appropriated \$5,000,000 from National Forest Fund receipts, to be deposited in a special fund in the Treasury of the United States to remain available until expended. Repayments of principal and interest and other recoveries on loans authorized by this section shall be credited to this fund and shall remain available until expended in order to carry out the purposes of this section.

Study, transmit
to Congress.

(c) Within three years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall prepare and transmit to the Senate and House of Representatives a study of opportunities (consistent with the laws and regulations applicable to the management of the National Forest System) to increase timber yields on national forest lands in Alaska.

(d) The provisions of this section shall apply notwithstanding the provisions of section 6(k) of the National Forest Management Act of 1976 (90 Stat. 2949).

16 USC 1604.

REPORTS

Transmittal to
congressional
committees.
16 USC 539e.

SEC. 706. (a) The Secretary is directed to monitor timber supply and demand in southeastern Alaska and report annually thereon to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the House of Representatives. If, at any time after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary finds that the available land base in the Tongass National Forest is inadequate to maintain the timber supply from the Tongass National Forest to dependent industry at the rate of four billion five hundred million foot board measure per decade, he shall include such information in his report.

Review and re-
port to Congress.

(b) Within five years from the date of enactment of this Act and every two years thereafter, the Secretary shall review and report to Congress on the status of the Tongass National Forest in southeast-

ern Alaska. This report shall include, but not be limited to, (1) the timber harvest levels in the forest since the enactment of this Act; (2) the impact of wilderness designation on the timber, fishing, and tourism industry in southeast Alaska; (3) measures instituted by the Forest Service to protect fish and wildlife in the forest; and (4) the status of the small business set aside program in the Tongass Forest.

(c) The study required by this section shall be conducted in cooperation and consultation with the State, affected Native Corporations, the southeast Alaska timber industry, the Southeast Alaska Conservation Council, and the Alaska Land Use Council.

ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 707. Except as otherwise expressly provided for in this Act wilderness designated by this Act shall be administered in accordance with applicable provisions of the Wilderness Act governing areas designated by that Act as wilderness, except that any reference in such provisions to the effective date of the Wilderness Act shall be deemed to be a reference to the effective date of this Act, and any reference to the Secretary of Agriculture for areas designated in sections 701 and 702 shall, as applicable, be deemed to be a reference to the Secretary of the Interior.

RARE II RELEASE

SEC. 708. (a) The Congress finds that—

(1) the Department of Agriculture has completed the second roadless area review and evaluation program (RARE II); and

(2) the Congress has made its own review and examination of national forest system roadless areas in Alaska and of the environmental impacts associated with alternative allocations of such areas.

(b) On the basis of such review, the Congress hereby determines and directs that—

(1) without passing on the question of the legal and factual sufficiency of the RARE II Final Environmental Statement (dated January 1979) with respect to national forest lands in States other than Alaska, such statement shall not be subject to judicial review with respect to National Forest System lands in the State of Alaska;

(2) with respect to the National Forest lands in the State of Alaska which were reviewed by the Department of Agriculture in the second roadless area review and evaluation (RARE II), except those lands remaining in further planning upon enactment of this Act or the area listed in section 704 of this Act, that review and evaluation shall be deemed for the purposes of the initial land management plans required for such lands by the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 as amended by the National Forest Management Act of 1976 to be an adequate consideration of the suitability of such lands for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System and the Department of Agriculture shall not be required to review the wilderness option prior to the revision of the initial plans and in no case prior to the date established by law for completion of the initial planning cycle;

(3) areas reviewed in such Final Environmental Statement and not designated as wilderness or for study by this Act or remaining in further planning upon enactment of this Act need not be

16 USC 1600
note.
16 USC 1600
note.

SJR 35

My name is Helen Drury, 1011 Halibut Point Rd,
Sitka. I am opposed to SJR 35

The "Whereas" in this resolution deal primarily with the perceived congressional concern of maintaining jobs in timber. I wonder why the timber industry should expect this special treatment of job protection. Not even oil, the state no. 1 employer has asked for protection nor have I seen it offered. The reason for the decreased job market in the timber industry has been a lack of demand for timber - not because the Forest Service has not built roads or because The Nations have received their timber allotments.

The situation points out one of the key weaknesses of these 50-year contracts. They are highly undesirable because they do not respond to market fluctuations.

At this time of fiscal crisis why should the allocated funds be spent for roading when the main thing they do is great harm to prime wilderness land. (The reason for the financial crisis in the first place is because we have done too much of this kind of spending in the past!) It is well documented that where timber is prime so are

other resources such as game animals, subsistence, fisheries (which comprise the state's no. 2 source of income and employment). Even tourists do not come to Alaska to see clear cuts or pulp mills.

If we want to protect jobs lets find ways to provide for a responsible timber industry within the state where small operators have an opportunity. Lets eliminate the large corporations who have been convicted of their monopolistic, unfair practices - with whom the Forest Service has been working "hand in glove" ever since these 50 year contracts were started.

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Home Address
3813 Denali Street
Ketchikan, AK 99901
907-225-9082

While in Juneau
P.O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811
907-465-3743

Senator Lloyd Jones

M E M O R A N D O M

TO: Representative Sam Cotten
FROM: Senator Lloyd Jones *LJ*
DATE: May 11, 1987
SUBJECT: Senate Joint Resolution 35

I wanted to touch base with you after I heard the testimony given in House Resources last Saturday. I am very concerned that the full legislature go on record in support of southeast Alaska's timber industry.

U.S. Senator Proxmire of Wisconsin and Congressman Mrazek of New York have introduced identical legislation that would change sections of ANILCA. I do not think it is unrealistic to think that these proposed changes, if passed, could turn southeast Alaska cities into ghost towns. I am hopeful that the House will join the Senate in opposition to this legislation.

As in all hearings, testimony given Saturday covered the full spectrum of concerns. I would like to take exception to one undercurrent of thought that arose during the hearings, though. I do not believe that logging forces a choice between itself and all other industries. Fishing groups are a major force in my district; I do not believe for a minute that logging is affecting habitat to the extent that our fishing industry is in jeopardy. There is a natural tension between fisherman and loggers, and I think that tension is healthy in order to guarantee sound environmental practices. For example, I believe the Pipeline would not have been constructed so successfully if there hadn't been discussions between the developers and the environmentalists. Eventually, the problems were mitigated and the Pipeline was constructed; but it was done in an environmentally sensitive manner.

However, I don't feel a compromise is necessary in this instance. The timber industry is on the ropes and the Proxmire/Mrazek legislation could be the knock out punch. The industry is just coming out of a ten year slump, but it is still in jeopardy. Every politician in the state is clamoring to diversify the economy, but to do this we need to support non-oil industry like timber and forest products. If we do not act in a forceful manner we may lose this industry. Timber is a major industry in southeast Alaska that provides year round employment.

Tourism is seasonal. Without year round employment, my communities will become dependent on boom and bust cycles. There is going to be greater dependence on governmental spending to prop up local economies if we forego harvesting timber in order to assure fishing groups that habitat will not have logging in the vicinity.

I do not believe that timber industry employment forces a choice between itself and all other industries. Much of Saturday's testimony came from people that felt that their livelihood was in some way contingent on logging. Considering today's fish and deer stocks I do not believe a choice has to be made.

From my discussions with people in the industry, I know that the victims of the Proxmire/Mrazek legislation will not be the pulp mills in Sitka and Ketchikan. It will be the small contract logger who gets put out of business. Steve Seley's Wrangell Forest Products recently received the Exporter of the year award from Governor Cowper. His company employs 150 to 250 people at peak capacity in Wrangell, a town of 2500 people. His attorneys have looked over the Proxmire/Mrazek legislation and feel that it could put them out of business if it passes. It is imperative that we, as legislators, stand up for this company and this industry. I find it almost ludicrous that Wrangell Forest Products sits in the middle of the largest National Forest in the United States but, at present, cannot get enough trees to run at capacity. If the climate for Timber on the Tongass gets any worse I predict that the welfare ranks will swell in Southeast.

Sam, I hope you will consider lending your support to this very important issue.

Chris Carroll
P.O. Box 77
Pelican, Ak 99832

Honorable Sam Cotten
P.O. Box V
Juneau, Ak 99811

5/11/87

Dear Rep. Cotten

I am writing you to express my strong opposition to resolution SJR 35, and to urge you to reject it.

SJR 35 supports continued governmental interference in Alaska's timber industry. Domination of the Tongass by the two pulp mills can only hurt the industry further and perpetuate the policy of highgrading America's last old growth forest. SJR 35 would continue throwing good money after bad.

Please know there is a growing and great number of Alaskans who live on Tongass and are vitally concerned with its preservation. Please reject SJR 35 now, and stop the artificial support of these two monopolistic pulp mills.

Sincerely,

Chris Carroll

5-0899B ✓
Bradley
5/16/87

EMBARGOED

Original sponsors: Jones, Sturgulewski,
Coghill, et al.

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

2 HOUSE CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 35 (Resources)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to maintaining timber industry
6 employment, funding of U.S. Forest
7 Service operations, and the allowable
8 timber harvest level in Southeast Alaska
9 and amendment of sections 703 and 705 of
10 the Alaska National Interest Lands
11 Conservation Act.

12 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

13 WHEREAS in 1947 the Congress passed the Tongass Timber Act, which
14 authorized timber sales in the Tongass National Forest under the U. S.
15 Forest Service's policy of creating a timber industry in the Tongass Na-
16 tional Forest in order to provide year-round employment in Southeast
17 Alaska; and

18 WHEREAS, when the Congress passed the Alaska Native Claims Settlement
19 Act (P.L. 92-203) in 1971, the Congress sought to prevent a loss of jobs in
20 the timber industry of Southeast Alaska by providing compensating timber
21 for the timber selected by Native corporations; and

22 WHEREAS, when the Congress passed the National Forest Management Act
23 (P.L. 94-588) in 1976, the Congress reaffirmed its commitment to maintain-
24 ing timber industry jobs in the Tongass National Forest; and

25 WHEREAS, the Congress established wilderness areas in the Tongass
26 National Forest in sec. 703 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conserva-
27 tion Act (ANILTA) (P.L. 96-487); and

28 WHEREAS the timber industry is an important industry and a major
29 contributor to the economy of the state; and

1 WHEREAS tourism, commercial fishing, and recreation industries are
2 also vital to Southeast Alaska and are major contributors to the state's
3 and region's economy; and

4 WHEREAS the passage of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation
5 Act (ANILCA) recognized the importance of these industries to the state;
6 and

7 WHEREAS Section 705 of ANILCA was a compromise between those advocat-
8 ing wilderness additions and those supporting a viable timber industry; and

9 WHEREAS Section 705 provided for a timber supply fund to make timber
10 harvest in marginally economic stands economically feasible; and

11 WHEREAS Section 705 has not been properly implemented, particularly as
12 a result of the Forest Service's failure to allocate Section 705 funds in
13 accordance with representations it made to Congress at the time of ANILCA's
14 passage;

15 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that Section 705 of
16 ANILCA not be amended in a manner that would upset the compromise crafted
17 by Congress balancing values within the Tongass National Forest; and be it

18 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tongass Timber Supply Fund be adequately
19 funded and spent in accordance with the manner and for the items that the
20 Forest Service advised Congress it would spend the funds; and be it

21 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Forest Service manage the Tongass National
22 Forest under sec. 705 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation
23 Act in a manner consistent with other federal laws and with state laws
24 guiding the management of the National Forest and in a manner that will
25 balance timber jobs and development with each other dependent use of the
26 forest, including commercial fishing, tourism, recreation, and subsistence,
27 each of which depends on the protection of the fish and wildlife habitat;
28 and be it

29 FURTHER RESOLVED that if the Congress decides to amend sec. 705 of
HCS SJR 35(Res)

1 ANILCA, it review each of the other components of the Tongass compromise so
2 that the issue may be presented in a comprehensive manner; and be it

3 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully re-
4 quests that committees of the Congress hold hearings in Southeast Alaska
5 before amendments to secs. 703 or 705 of ANILCA are adopted.

6 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Richard E.
7 Lyng, Secretary of Agriculture; the Honorable Donald P. Hodel, Secretary of
8 the Interior; the Honorable Patrick J. Leahy, Chairman of the Senate Com-
9 mittee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; the Honorable J. Bennett
10 Johnston, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources;
11 the Honorable E de la Garza, Chairman of the House Committee on Agricul-
12 ture; the Honorable Morris K. Udall, Chairman of the House Committee on
13 Interior and Insular Affairs; Dale Robertson, Chief of the U.S. Forest
14 Service; William P. Horn, Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and
15 Parks, Department of the Interior; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the
16 Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S.
17 Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

on SB 94 - minority policy

Maynard says that SB 94 will not affect the commission's "thought process" or set a precedent policy. He agrees, though, that it could be a disincentive for decision-makers to select a low-impact rental policy, which like Brady could have plenty of other personal justifications ~~for~~ for also. He also agrees that it would be a good measure of a state's effort on minority policy - encourage minimal duty just through accountability. He says he had a local report on the commission to find out what was in no other way, a source to assist in a healthy minority.

So I'd like to see a bill with language - not looking on the commission - to be a "state" policy, leave the "thought" to the

Minority commission of the state -
of process -

*
* DELIVER TO: LIOCJNU
*
*

* ORIGINAL
* SENT: 05/11/87 TIME: 15:47
* FROM: LIOCSIT
* SUBJECT: PT. BAKER STATS CORRECTED
* PRINT DATE: 05/11/87 TIME: 15:47

MAY 9, 1987
HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE
TIMBER INDUSTRY
PT. BAKER
CORRECTED STATS

PARTICIPANT LIST
FINAL STATS

NAME/REPRESENTING	ADDRESS	PHONE #	T	Q
1. JOE SEBASTIAN, BOX 129,	PT. BAKER, 99927	559-9202	..	TESTIFIED
2. JOAN KAUTCZER,	" " " "	" " "	" "	..TESTIFIED
2 TESTIFIED				
UNABLE				
OBSERVED				
2 TOTAL				

4:00 PM - 5:30 PM / START/END TIME

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

DATE: 10/15/54

TO: SAC, NEW YORK
FROM: SAC, NEW YORK
SUBJECT: [Illegible]

RE: [Illegible]

NY 100-100000
NY 100-100000
NY 100-100000

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	STATUS
[Illegible]	[Illegible]	[Illegible]	[Illegible]
[Illegible]	[Illegible]	[Illegible]	[Illegible]
[Illegible]	[Illegible]	[Illegible]	[Illegible]
[Illegible]	[Illegible]	[Illegible]	[Illegible]

NY 100-100000
NY 100-100000
NY 100-100000

NY 100-100000

5-0899B ✓
Bradley
5/16/87

Original sponsors: Jones, Sturgulewski,
Coghill, et al.



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22 Forest under sec. 705 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation
23 Act in a manner consistent with other federal laws and with state laws
24 guiding the management of the National Forest and in a manner that will
25 balance timber jobs and development with each other dependent use of the
26 forest, including commercial fishing, tourism, recreation, and subsistence,
27 each of which depends on the protection of the fish and wildlife habitat;
28 and be it

29 FURTHER RESOLVED that if the Congress decides to amend sec. 705 of

1 ANILCA, it review each of the other components of the Tongass compromise so
2 that the issue may be presented in a comprehensive manner; and be it

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11 the Honorable E de la Garza, Chairman of the House Committee on Agricul-
12 ture; the Honorable Morris K. Udall, Chairman of the House Committee on
13 Interior and Insular Affairs; Dale Robertson, Chief of the U.S. Forest
14 Service; William P. Horn, Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and
15 Parks, Department of the Interior; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the
16 Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S.
17 Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

5:02
 Greg Fisk - AK ROLLERS ASSN - OPPOSED
 recommended to consider positive steps

1. forest managers in uniform w/ cut
2. amend to limit 4.5
3. remove permits on forest/other areas
4. contract
5. limit f.s. - small scale

5:05 Ken Lechner - AK Discovery - TOURISM -
 16 yr. business - would appreciate
 reso in support of his business.

- 1. wilderness
- 2. Subsiding forest AK Decr. -
 early 70's pure KPTAC - no interest since
 logging
 Bear Bay forest pre-logging
 Logging jobs for locals?

5:12 Skip Gray - 1300 individuals - 26 mi of logging roads

5:17 Jack Lertfer - Science reader - Biologist
 Aotg - 30 yrs. experience - 30,000 bf per
 acre - 50,000 bf per acre.
 1/2 of revenue from Bears should be reserved.

5:22 Dick Forta 450 member SEAC -
 oppose: price of timber like the price
 of oil is responsible for economic growth
 the industry

Mark Kuchoff - AK Chap Wildlife Society

Don Keck

sitka - may or - pro 35 -
+ HR 1516 -)

~~Just~~

Vern Eliasson - trade of made
parties made deal are now re-veig

4:32 / 31 Joe Sebastian -

Nan McKitt - not opposed to logging
but oppose



John Kortzer - sec. 705 of amica
HRC, RPAE are defavour. gov

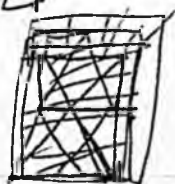
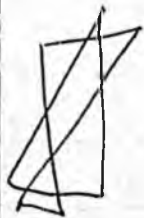
4:41 Ken Humer - support of HR 35

~~Don~~ Kenier - Petersburg

~~Kenier~~

Craig Myers - tenakee strips = oppose 35
TAVASy of ASHAM - 450/assim
should be abolished. refers to a
report - APC, LPAE & 450 allow them
to figure

al Stein - 16 yr. / UFA looked upon as stem
buffers fair ^{ment} ^{good man}
retribution
4:56 ~~credibility~~ nobility



Rubin Yost - Pelican city council
council (periodically adjusted)

Joe Dorn - Petersburg resident - 4.5 wt
sustainable yield.

4:13 Curt Holtby - Sitka - fisherman 450 level
leads us into impossible situation. Only
1/2 of AFAI has been cut - (fisher on roads
where no bidding)

4:15 - Sitka - pro/35 funding hasn't George Woodbury

4:14 Mitch John Petka - Seiner's Assn 450 too much
fish habitat against.

4:15 Joe Panteloff (Petersburg) favor/Logg

4:18 Roger Homer - Sitka Checker - support

4:20 Don Finney - AK loggers -

4:25 Karen McCullough - Gil Netter - oppose

4:26 Kris Frank - support STR 35

4:27 Jim Bacon - Seiners Assn



ALASKA DISCOVERY

369 South Franklin Street • Juneau, Alaska 99801 • (907) 586-1911

February 23, 1987

TESTIMONY OF KEN LEGHORN ON SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION E35

Relating to the timber industry in Southeast Alaska.

My name is Ken Leghorn. I am a co-owner and the current President and General Manager of Alaska Discovery, Inc. and the past vice-President of the Alaska Wilderness Guides Association. For 16 years our company has been leading guided and outfitted trips by canoe, raft, kayak, backpack and charter boat out of Sitka, Juneau, Wrangell, Angoon, Haines, Skagway, Gustavus, and Yakutat. We are the longest-operating outfitter of such trips in the State, as well as the largest recreational permit-holder on the Tongass National Forest. Senate Resolution E/ is in direct opposition to our business, and to the long term viability of the burgeoning outdoor recreation and tourism industry in southeast Alaska.

Times have changed since 1947 when the Tongass Timber Act was first created. Forty years ago there was a plausible need to help the timber industry become established in southeast Alaska. In this decade, however, the fishing and tourism industries contribute more to the economy of southeast Alaska than does the timber industry. No level of subsidy will be able to turn around the market forces that make federal timber sales on the Tongass so grossly uneconomic. Wilderness designations, certainly, have had no effect on these economic forces, since less than 9% of the Tongass forest's prime timber is in Wilderness. The problem is with the demand for timber, not its supply.

*Dedicated to the Enjoyment and Conservation of the Great Alaskan Wilderness
- Since 1972 -*

These Wilderness designations, however, are becoming of immense benefit to the tourism industry in promoting Alaska to potential visitors, and in providing a top quality experience while they are here. Our industry needs more and larger official Wilderness areas, not less. The tourism industry is already beginning to feel the effects of overcrowding on the longass; the demand for new outfitter/guide and lodge permits has soared, and yet the Forest Service is concerned about placing too many commercial operators in the same area.

The timber subsidies themselves are beginning to do real damage to the tourism industry. Here are two examples from our own business:

1) In the early 1970s Alaska Discovery offered guided kayak trips of the Hoonah-Ienakee route, passing over the portage between Frederick Sound and Ienakee Inlet. Logging operations, with large clearcuts and associated road networks along portions of this route have stopped us from running commercially-viable tours for visitors there, and we have discontinued this prime inland waterway route. It was one of the best in Southeast Alaska, but we can no longer offer it as an example of Alaska's great outdoor trips.

2) In 1985, as a direct result of longass timber Supply Fund monies addressed in this Resolution, the Berners Bay area outside of Juneau was also scheduled for road construction ahead of a logging sale, even though the Forest Service admitted the timber was of such low value it would not sell. This unroaded area is important to our company. Many Forest Service officials, loggers, and others in Juneau realized it was a mis-use of funds, but the Forest Service still felt compelled by ANILCA section 705 to build these roads and offer the timber sale.

Alaska Discovery decided to join as a co-plaintiff in a law suit to stop this activity and protect this area for its recreation values. This suit was successful, but took a large amount of our time and energy to participate in. This resolution would continue this type of unnecessary conflict.

Representative Don Young has said that the pulp mills in Ketchikan and Sitka will probably not be operating in 15 years. However, the scenery and wildlife can last forever, and be "used" by residents and tourists for eternity. Ours is a growth, not a sunset, industry. Alaska Discovery has grown 300 percent in the last 6 years, since the passage of ANILCA. We employ a staff of 15 Alaskan residents in the summer, and can hardly keep up with the demand again this year. In Glacier Bay alone, backcountry use increased from 5 known visitor days in 1972 to over 5,000 in 1986. Dozens of new tourism-related companies, large and small, are forming every year. It doesn't matter if people are coming to Southeast Alaska for a Cruise on the Sun Princess, or a week-long canoe adventure with Alaska Discovery: we are selling the exact same product. Ask any of the hundreds of the large and small lodges, charter boats, cruise ship lines, hunting and fishing outfitters, air taxis, etc. in southeast Alaska what product they are selling, and we will all say the same thing: the Wilderness Experience. People take the extra time and money to come to Alaska for only one reason; to capture the grandeur of the scenery, see the bountiful wildlife, and feel the vastness of America's last great virgin forest. Indeed, we can regard the Tongass National Forest as a major exporter of the wilderness experience, sold by tourism companies to those from the rest of the world who come to southeast Alaska for