

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 2001-2002 8672

10399 HOUSE RESOURCES

We strongly disagree that the Tongass Timber Reform Act of 1990 (TTRA) provides any basis for treating the Tongass differently from other national forests. This excuse is contrary to judicial interpretation of this landmark conservation bill. By deleting in its entirety the mandate for unsustainable logging levels and excessive and permanent taxpayer subsidies, Congress clearly intended to halt the practice of treating the Tongass differently from other national forests. Thus, the Forest Service's first obligation on the Tongass is to manage "all of the various renewable surface resources of the national forests so that they are utilized in the combination that will best meet the needs of the American people." 16 U.S.C. § 531(a) (Multiple Use-Sustained Yield Act). If the combination of renewable resources that best meets the needs of the American people protects the roadless areas on the Tongass from commercial logging and roadbuilding, as a majority of Alaskans agree, then the Forest Service is complying with the TTRA.

The resolution's reliance on ANILCA's "no-more" clause is similarly misplaced because this is not a "withdrawal" of public lands but the exercise of the Forest Service's management discretion to define appropriate uses for land under its jurisdiction. The policy does not bar location, entry, or leasing of minerals under federal mining laws. Nor, as alleged in the resolution, does the national roadless policy violate the "study" provision contained in Section 1326(b) of ANILCA. This section does not prohibit the Forest Service's review of roadless area management because the review was not conducted for the single purpose of establishing new conservation system units. The Forest Service review was only a process for the agency to decide how to manage the lands under its jurisdiction pursuant to its existing management authorities and responsibilities.

As a last note, it appears that HJR 6 was hastily written. There are several errors in the "whereas" sections. For example, the resolution claims, "the forest products industry ... contributes significant revenue to local communities through the 25 percent revenue sharing provisions of federal law." However, a new federal law (P.L. 106-393) was passed last year and guarantees stable payments for roads and schools to local forest communities. According to the formula provided under that statute, local governments would get an annual payment equivalent to the average payment of their 3 highest years of timber receipts over the past 15 years. A reduction, if any, in timber receipts on the Tongass resulting from its immediate inclusion in the roadless policy will not reduce the amount of money Southeast Alaska communities receive for roads and schools.

Please look forward and not backward. Please do not support this resolution. Instead, support fixing the culverts which are impeding safe fish passage now, providing jobs for Alaskans who fix them, and the commercial and sport fishing, and recreation and tourism industries which will thrive along with wild salmon, wildlife and wild roadless forests.

Thank you.

Baseline:

Roadless

NOI, mid Oct. 1999

Scoping Info Meeting & "Hearing", Dec. 1999

DEIS Info Meeting, May-June 2000

DEIS "Hearing", May-June 2000

FEIS, November 2000

ROD, mid January 2001

15 months TOTAL

**58.5 million acres in 38 states (with vastly differing ecosystems)**

Comparison:

Luck Lake

NOI, July 1997

FEIS, June 2000

3 years total

**840 acres (12.9 mmbf timber sale offering)**

Woodpecker

Scoping, Fall of 1998

DEIS, June 1999

FEIS, July 2000

no ROD yet

2 years so far (not including pre-project analysis)

**1,140 acres (12 mmbf timber sale offering)**

3 Mile

NOI, March 1999

DEIS, January 2001

no FEIS yet

no ROD yet

2 years so far

**515 acres (14 mmbf timber sale offering)**

## North America at night; captured by satellite camera

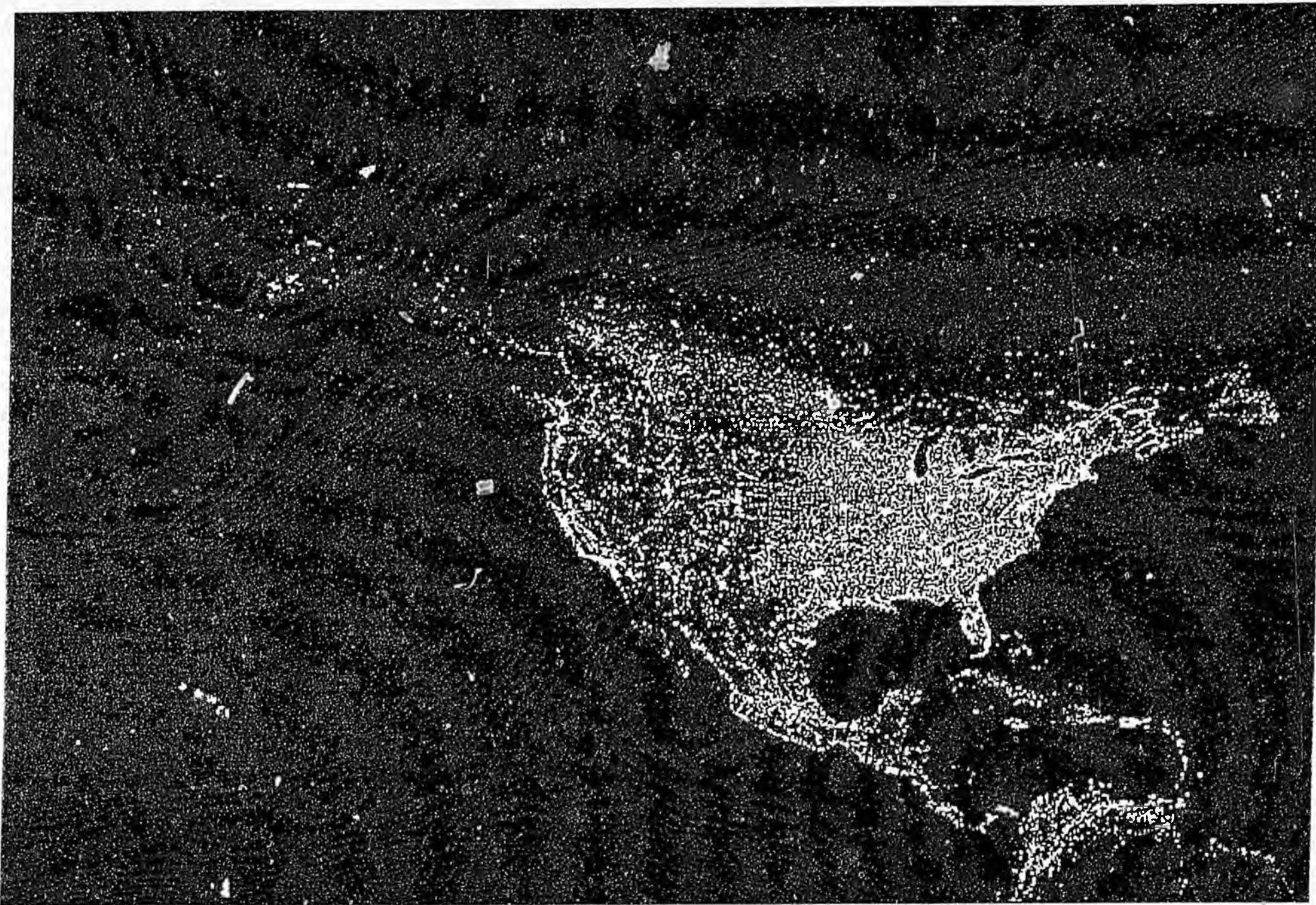


PHOTO CREDIT: NASA

*The lights from towns and cities across the United States, Canada and Mexico reveal the scope and density of these nation's populations. In contrast, the view of Alaska presents a clear reminder of our state's minimal development and its extensive wildlife habitat. Alaska's largest concentration of light is located in its major population centers, the Kenai peninsula, Anchorage and Fairbanks. Prudhoe Bay's industrial complex, including gas flares, is also visible. Foresters, geographers, biologists and others are making increasing use of satellite photography to inventory existing values when development is planned.*



# **GATEWAY FOREST PRODUCTS**

January 24, 2001

**TO: House Resources Committee**

**RE: GFP Testimony supporting House Joint Resolution No. 6**

Madam Chairman and distinguished Committee members:

My name is Cliff Skillings and I am testifying today on behalf of Gateway Forest Products and its 149 full time employees, urging you to support HJR 6 and seek expedited passage of this important Resolution.

Gateway Forest Products is a company of full time, year round employees operating a production Sawmill, a veneer mill, an operational sort yard and an industrial complex. Our mission is to provide a manufacturing process that best utilizes the lower quality sawlog from the Tongass and adds to the new integrated independent wood processing industry in Southeast. We are active participants in the Forest Service's independent/SBA timber sale program and rely on its continued existence at a level that supports not only our mill, but also the other independent wood products facilities located in Southeast.

The Clinton Roadless Initiative fails to recognize the fact that significant management initiatives have been applied to the Tongass. These include the Alaska National Interest Lands Act (ANILCA), the Tongass Timber Reform Act (TTRA) and continuously updated versions of the Tongass Land Management Plan (TLMP). Every one of these received a high level of commitment from regional Department of Agriculture employees, local citizens and time commitments from the United States Congress relative to ratification. In the 8 years of the Clinton Administration, Southeast Alaska has seen an ASQ that dropped from 550 million board feet (mmbf) to 267 mmbf (1997 TLMP ROD) to 187 mmbf (1999 TLMP Lyons ROD) and the loss of two production pulp mills and various independent sawmills.

This latest initiative offers no science but rather an emotional plea from national special interest groups and legacy opportunity for an outgoing Administration. You have heard the best probable numbers should this Initiative be applied to the Tongass: 50 mmbf board foot maximum harvest, further decrease in the manufacturing base in the region, etc. All of this is correct. Our present industry of 7 small independent sawmills will surely be decreased to two with implementation. Our veneer mill, although being able to

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**GFP Testimony on HJR 6  
House Resources 01/24/01**

run on one shift in this scenario, will do so at the cost of our sawmill that may at best operate on a part time basis if the supply is available.

The Tongass is fully capable of supporting a viable timber manufacturing industry to the ASQ stated in the 1997 TLMP decision and then condoned by the Governor that same year. This ASQ decision of 267 mmbf provides a level of harvest that maintains year round, family supporting jobs, healthy local economies and an industry that has the ability to plan ahead for operations and make investments in manufacturing processes.

Under present land management plans and historical legislative actions, areas identified as environmentally sensitive are protected. In actuality, the industry is already limited as to areas it can access and the quality of timber that can be extracted. Numerous areas that are available for harvest and have high volume/quality timber are inaccessible due to Habitat Conservation Areas (HCA) set around the profitable timber, giving industry access to the lower quality timber and allowing the higher volume HCA classified stands to blow down in these small, exclusive set asides.

The Roadless Initiative also ties the hands of land managers in the future relative to forest practices to improve forest health and denies access of our resource rich region to those visitors who may be bound by physical limitations and wish to see it first hand.

In closing, I do not believe that a "majority of Alaskan's" support this action as you may hear in opposing testimony. Local representation is hardly met by visitors who may sign a prewritten post card after being coerced into signing. Significant locals submitted letters and memos of opposition to the Clinton Administration relative to this Initiative and I do not believe that one can base the opinion of the region by those who chose to stand at microphone.

Gateway Forest Products and the timber industry of Southeast Alaska can ill afford to be subject to additional inaccessibility to the resource due to management decisions based on emotional appeals over sound science. We adamantly support your actions to ratify HJR6, opposing the Roadless Initiative and supporting the Governors litigative efforts, and hope that you do so in an expeditious manner.

**Testimony of Loren Gerhard, Executive Director, Southeast Conference  
House Resources Committee 1/24/01**

I will speak mainly to the issues in the Tongass National Forest, as those are the ones I am most familiar with, as our organization focuses on issues in Southeast Alaska, although some of this applies to the Chugach National Forest as well. Southeast Conference and the Southeast Conference of Mayors are very concerned with the negative impacts the ex president's action will have on our regional economy. We are still trying to deal with the impacts from the dramatic 75% decline in the timber industry occasioned by the Tongass Land Management Process. The future impacts of the Roadless designation, if it remains intact, will deal a death blow to that once significant portion of our regional economic base.

Over 96% of the total area of the Tongass National Forest was protected from further development before the Roadless proposal. The Roadless designation reduces available timber harvest on The Tongass National Forest by 2/3rds, to an amount which cannot even support the single veneer plant in Ketchikan, a valiant effort by business and the community of Ketchikan to salvage some kind of timber industry there. There are twelve sawmills operating in Southeast Alaska, all under a cloud of unknown future harvest levels. If this administrative action stands, 2/3rds of them will be gone in 5 years. This action will cost the region another 1000 jobs, direct and indirect. The large multinational timber companies are gone, what we are talking about now are Alaskans doing business in Alaska, and they will be put out of work by this action. The environmental advocates asked for a smaller scale, sustainable level of harvest, supporting a scaled back, value added processing industry, and that's what they got. The Roads ban goes way beyond that to an almost non existent industry, way below the known thresholds of sustainability.

The directive is an affront to the legal process mandated in federal law to manage the national forests. It ignores the National Forest Management Act, the law that mandated the Tongass Land Management Plan, which has been in process for over 10 years with 13 million dollars spent on it. The roads ban is the crowning achievement of an administration determined to lock up lands without the consent or involvement of the U.S. Congress.

Advocates for the roads ban reference heavy support in Alaska for this proposal, citing percentages of attendees at public meetings held in the state

last summer. The Forest Service never measured those percentages, they are self serving estimates by the people in environmental advocacy organizations that packed these meetings with their supporters. There was an all out campaign last summer across the country, with millions of dollars spent on full page ads in big city newspapers, and millions of prepared post cards, handed out on street corners and in shopping malls to people to send to the white house. It was a well executed effort to create the illusion of broad support across the country, which has never really been proven. In fact, when the directive was signed, an msnbc live poll indicated 53% of respondents were opposed to the president's plan. None of these measures are scientifically valid, and the point is that forest management is mandated by law to be undertaken by a more scientific process, less influenced by mass media public opinion manipulation.

The Roadless EIS clearly shows that the majority of Alaskans do not favor this designation. There are multiple resolutions in Volume 4 from communities all around the state opposing it. You may have some of them in your packet, and I can provide at least 10 resolutions from Southeast communities. It is totally appropriate for the Legislature to go on record opposing this regulatory end run by a lame duck president, seeking to build his legacy. It is yet another example of federal officials taking liberties with people's lives thousands of miles from the beltway, with no regard to the economic consequences or for the process of law. Undersecretary of Agriculture Jim Lyons told us in the Southeast Conference annual meeting in Sitka in fall of 1999, that the resolution of appeals to the 1999 Record of Decision was the final action this administration would take "to provide some certainty with regard to future uses of the Tongass". A month later, Clinton launched the roadless process. 4 times over in the last 20 years starting with ANILCA, the Federal government has promised us "no more" and every promise has been broken. We need to get the message back to Washington that enough is enough.

We applaud the Governor's action in pursuing legal remedies to this injustice, and urge the Legislature to support him in that effort. The former president has no right to ignore laws on the books dealing with forest management, and this directive should be scrapped. Your unequivocal support will help in that effort.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to this, and I welcome any questions.

Excerpt from US Forest Service New Release  
+ Fact sheet on Roadless Rule 1/4/01

Alaska Roadless Conservation Rule Fact Sheet

page 2



We believe that the Southeast Alaska Electrical Intertie may be built as long as a road is not needed. Recreation and tourism developments that do not require roads could be developed.

“Timber may be cut, sold or removed when appropriate for personal or administrative use (such as firewood cutting) or to implement a management activity not prohibited by the rule (such as building a power line).”

**Job Effects:** In the long-term (after 5 years), the FEIS estimates that for the private sector, 370 direct timber jobs and 370 indirect jobs on the Tongass National Forest could be affected. It also estimates that 52 road construction jobs could be affected after 5 years and 104 indirectly related to road construction.

We do not know how the new President might influence the decision on the Final Rule. Congress does have oversight authority on new regulations, and within a given time period could vote to over turn a rule, subject to Presidential approval.

We do not know the amount of timber available from land outside the Tongass National Forest that could support the local mills. Both the State Forester and the local Native Corporations could supply estimates.

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**House Joint Resolution 6  
Opposing the Roadless Rule**

Testimony before the Alaska House Resources Committee, January 24, 2001

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify today. For the record, my name is Rachael Moreland, and I am the Associate Director of the Alaska Forest Association. The Alaska Forest Association (AFA) is the forest products industry trade association for Alaska and we represent about 90 small businesses in the forest products sector.

The Alaska Forest Association strongly supports HJR 6 and we urge the committee to move it to the floor as soon as possible. As you already know, the timber industry, and in turn the communities of Southeast Alaska, have already been badly damaged by imposed federal actions. Further withdrawal of roadless areas and prohibition of entry into those areas will have a detrimental, perhaps even a fatal effect on the small remaining sawmill industry.

The net effect of the roadless area withdrawal on the Tongass National Forest is particularly drastic. While the Forest Service touts the net impact of the Roadless rule to be a mere 2 percent of the nation's land base; the rule effects 31 percent of all national forest lands. In Alaska, the Roadless rule withdraws an additional 67 percent, or 15 million acres, from the Tongass and Chugach National Forests.

In addition to severely restricting roaded access to Alaska's National Forests, the Roadless rule reduces the land available for scheduled timber sales on the Tongass from 576,000 acres to approximately 311,000 acres. This is an extremely small parcel of land which is certainly not large enough to support the existing industry, much less the re-development of a "sustainable, value-added" forest products industry.

With respect to the Chugach National Forest, 99 percent of that forest is roadless. The Roadless rule prohibits all new transportation infrastructure in the Chugach without the benefit of a public planning process specific to that forest. The Chugach Land and Resource Management Plan is presently undergoing revision under terms set forth in the National Forest Management Act of 1976. AFA and several other user groups have been actively involved in the Chugach planning process. We believe that process, and similar processes provided for by law (namely the NFMA), are the proper venues for land use allocations in our national forests.

Furthermore, inclusion of Alaska's national forests – the Tongass & the Chugach – in the roadless rule violates the "no more" clause of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act. The rule is inconsistent with existing forest plans, especially in light of the latest revisions of the Tongass Land Management Plan. HJR 6 correctly states that the roadless rule creates de facto wilderness without Congressional action or approval. The state is correct to demand that the "no more" clause of ANILCA be honored.

Concurrently (actually the day before, January 4), the Forest Service issued new regulations on their Transportation Policy which, when combined with the Roadless rule, creates a one-two punch for management and stewardship for the entire national forest system, not just the roadless areas. They are building a wall around 58.5 million acres with the Roadless rule, and then, with the Transportation policy, making it all but impossible for local land managers to do their jobs. They have made the road building and maintenance procedures intentionally onerous so as to effectively make the remaining national forest lands subject to similar extreme restrictions. These two policies when combined cover every inch of our national forests. The implications of this policy are devastating for the 38 million acres of our national forests at risk to wildfire and the 28 million at risk of insect and disease.

The government's withdrawal of roadless areas is bad for ALL national forests, it is bad for the American public, and is particularly bad for Alaska. There is widespread opposition within Alaska to this Roadless rule and the Alaska Forest Association urges the legislature to join that chorus with a loud voice.

Again, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify today. I would be happy to answer any questions regarding AFA's support of HJR 6.



# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Resources  
 committee name  
 committee on HJR 6, dated 1/24/01  
 bill/subject

My name is Florian Sever and I am a long-time resident of Sitka, Alaska, I have lived in Sitka for 25 years, and I have worked in the timber industry in the past.

I am definitely in favor of President Clinton's Roadless Policy, so I am against passage of HJR 6. There are way too many logging roads in Southeast Alaska already. The USFS does not maintain existing roads, and this has caused a heavy, negative impact on fish-rearing streams & receiving water from sediment-laden runoff. Silt generated by clearcuts is smothering spawning beds wherever these clearcuts exist, or occur.

Lastly, I feel it is incumbent upon this committee to hold public hearings on this issue in the towns of Southeast Alaska. Most working people cannot take time off of work to sit around at the legislative information office waiting for an opportunity to speak. Specifically I request that Representative Wilson come to Sitka to hold evening public meetings to gauge the public feeling on this issue before she votes on this issue.

Signed: Florian Sever - Florian Sever  
 Testifier  
SELF  
 Representing (Optional)  
1706 Edgcombe Drive, Sitka AK 99835  
 Address  
907-747-8466  
 Phone No.

REQUEST THAT REPRESENTATIVE WILSON COME TO SITKA TO HOLD EVENING PUBLIC MEETINGS TO GAUGE THE PUBLIC FEELING ON THIS ISSUE BEFORE SHE VOTES ON THIS ISSUE.

— END —



# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Resources  
 committee name  
 committee on HJR 6, dated 1/24/01  
 bill/subject

Why did Sitka not receive an equal opportunity to testify?  
 Every other community has multiple opportunities to testify before we were called.  
 The wording of the <sup>resolution</sup> ~~resolution~~ <sub>sponsors support</sub> is not correct. The Action is not  
 an affront to all Alaskans. Many Alaskans testified in favor of  
 the policy.

The impetus for the roadless policy is fiscal. The Forest Service cannot obtain enough funds to adequately maintain existing roads. Poorly maintained roads cause damage to fisheries habitat and water quality. In the steep terrain of S.E. Alaska, roads cost over \$100,000 per mile to build. A recent report, done by the Forest Service and APF&G, documented that over 70% of our 4500 miles of roads on the Tongass are currently damaging fish resources. Fishery resources renew on a 7 yr. time cycle, trees 200 or more years. By supporting this resolution, the legislature would be urging the roads be built without any guarantee that there would be maintenance funds available, thereby damaging a resource that is much more important in the state's economy and renewable on a much swifter time scale.

Signed: Page D. Elze  
 Testifier  
Myself  
 Representing (Optional)  
2219 SMC  
 Address  
747-7509  
 Phone No.

1 of 2

OVER

The TLMP process took 11 years because the viability population committee, composed of Alaska state agency representatives and other federal agencies sought for protection for fish & wildlife resources

- it us were, unable to sp

... of the viable population committee  
were not implemented in TLMP. Therefore  
Secretary Lyons was forced to make additional  
habitat protections. The cost of road  
maintenance was not adequately addressed  
under TLMP, nor was the research completed  
on the roads & fish crossing problem.

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# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Resource  
committee name  
 committee on HOR 6, dated 1/24/01  
bill/subject

I support HOR 6, I've spent the last 3 years going to every meeting there was working on the Chignik National Forest Revision near Cordova. I developed my own Alternative for the revision to the Forest Service. What Bill Clinton did with the Roadless initiative is completely disregard the Public Process. I hope the State of Alaska isn't the only State going after this Roadless initiative. Do whatever it takes to try and get President Bush to overturn this ruling.  
 Thank You for listening to my comments.

Signed: A. Jean Connor  
Testifier

Self  
Representing (Optional)

P.O. Box 42 CORDOVA, ALASKA, 99574  
Address

907-424-7642  
Phone No.

Introduced by:	Mayor
Date:	01/23/01
Action:	Adopted as Amended
Vote:	7 Yes, 2 No, 0 Absent

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH  
RESOLUTION 2001-012**

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE ALASKA LEGISLATURE'S HOUSE JOINT  
RESOLUTION NO. 6 OVERTURNING THE ROADLESS AREA CONSERVATION  
RULE IN THE TONGASS AND CHUGACH NATIONAL FORESTS**

**WHEREAS,** the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly passed three resolutions in the past three months dealing with the Chugach National Forest Revised Land and Resource Management Plan; and President Clinton recently adopted the Roadless Area Conservation rule in the Tongass and Chugach National Forests and the Alaska State Legislature is considering House Joint Resolution 6 opposing this rule; and

**WHEREAS,** in Resolution 2000-108, adopted November 21, 2000 the Kenai Peninsula Borough supports continued public access to the Chugach National Forest for all recreational users and encourages the Federal Government to upgrade and improve trails and parking lots to increase public access; and a roadless policy will discourage the development of improved public access to public lands which will cause increased congestion amongst various user groups creating unnecessary and avoidable conflicts; and

**WHEREAS,** the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly passed Resolution 2000-112 on December 12, 2000 which supports timber harvest on the hundreds of thousand of acres of the Chugach National Forest within the Seward Ranger District which has been infested by the spruce bark beetle; and the Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest contains only minimal provisions for the mitigation, harvesting, and reforestation of the hundreds of thousands of acres of trees impacted by the spruce bark beetle infestation within the 5.45 million acre Chugach National Forest; and a roadless policy will further affect the economic loss of millions of board feet of potentially valuable and already dead spruce trees which could otherwise have provided a vital part of the economic foundation for residents and businesses of the borough; and

**WHEREAS,** a roadless policy will effectively eliminate the feasibility of exploration for and development of new and existing mineral deposits that lie within the Chugach National Forest; and KPB Resolution 2000-112 also supports the adoption of provisions within the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan that will provide for new road access to newly discovered and existing mineral deposits that will allow for viable commercial and recreational mineral extraction; and

WHEREAS, the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly in passing Resolution 2001-005 on January 9, 2001 expressed its support of a complete and thorough legal review by the Office of General Counsel for the United States Forest Service or other appropriate agency to provide a legal determination that the Proposed Revised Plan is consistent with the provisions of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act and other appropriate federal laws;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:

SECTION 1. That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly strongly supports the passage of HJR 6 by the Alaska State Legislature for all the reasons stated, but in particular for the portions of the resolution that pertain to the Chugach National Forest.

SECTION 2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Kenai Peninsula Borough State Legislative Delegation, the Governor of the State of Alaska, the Alaska Congressional Delegation, and the United States Forest Service.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 23RD DAY OF JANUARY, 2001.

*Timothy Navarre*

Timothy Navarre, Assembly President

ATTEST:

*Linda S. Murphy*

Linda S. Murphy, Borough Clerk



# Alaska State Legislature

## House of Representatives



Official Business

State Capitol  
Juneau, AK. 99801-1182

### Representative Peggy Wilson

#### SPONSOR STATEMENT – HJR 6.

**This resolution opposes the Clinton Administrations' decision on the Roadless Policy.**

On January 5, 2001 then President Clinton announced the final Record of Decision for the roadless policy including the Tongass and Chugach National Forests.

Alaskans from across this state must join forces to overturn the inclusion of Alaska forests within former President Clinton's Roadless Policy.

This presidential action is an affront to all Alaskans and continues their history of breaking promises to Alaskans regarding land management.

This Roadless Policy is in blatant disregard of the processes that have been agreed to. Countless hours, over eleven years and 13 million dollars were spent making revisions to the Tongass Land Management Plan. The Chugach Forest Plan revision process has been underway for over three years requiring considerable investment of time money and resources. Now these processes have been completely disregarded

This Roadless Policy violates the "no-more" clauses of ANILCA and creates approximately 15 million acres of new defacto wilderness within Alaska.

I, like many Alaskans, am vehemently opposed to the inclusion of the Tongass and Chugach National Forests in this Roadless Policy and ask that we work together and support the overturning of this inclusion by litigation, by congressional action or by action of President Bush.

State of Alaska  
Office of the Governor

**Tony Knowles**  
Governor  
P.O. Box 110001  
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0001  
**NEWS RELEASE**



**Bob King**  
Press Secretary  
**Claire Richardson**  
Deputy Press Secretary  
907-465-3500  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 5, 2001

01-004

**TONGASS ROADLESS ACTION VIOLATES PUBLIC PROCESS, TRUST**

*Knowles Seeks Legal, Congressional Action to Uphold "Doing It Right" Principles*

Callin. " another federal fiat that constitutes a double-cross of the public process and the public's trust, Gov. Tony Knowles today directed his Attorney General to file suit against the Clinton Administration's midnight-hour executive action on roadless policy in the Tongass and Chugach National Forests. Knowles also called on Congress and the incoming Administration to take actions to confirm his "doing it right" principles of resource management in federal law.

"Our forests must be managed by the principles of sound science, conservation-based management, and an open, public process," Knowles said. "The executive action announced in Washington today is based on little or no science, and makes a mockery of the public process that was involved in the creation of the Tongass Land Management Plan and shortcuts the process now underway for the Chugach.

"Alaskans are tired of being double-crossed by the federal government with false promises of public involvement that is subsequently overturned by executive policy actions from Washington," Knowles added. "I am directing my Attorney General to file suit against this illegal and ill-advised executive fiat to preserve the integrity of the planning process."

Knowles called on Sen. Frank Murkowski, chairman of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, and Congressman Don Young, chairman of the Alaska Task Force of the House Resources Committee, to take the necessary congressional actions that confirm the 'doing it right' principles of science, management, and public process that exist in federal law." Knowles will also seek review of the roadless policy by the incoming Bush Administration.

Outgoing President Bill Clinton announced the roadless initiative in Washington, D.C. today, ignoring a 10-year, \$12 million, science based, public planning process that took place for the Tongass. Knowles has steadfastly supported the public process over federal fiats in resource decision making and said that bypassing the process was not a victory for either side. Conservation measures that were gained in the Tongass Plan could as easily be overturned by future executive action if today's roadless policy were left unchallenged, Knowles noted.

"There are no winners in the forest if the management of our resources is based on executive fiats rather than sound science and a public process," Knowles said. "Those who claim victory today may find themselves the victims of an executive action tomorrow. When federal policy establishes an open, public process in decision making, they must abide by the public's decision. That's why this action is wrong and must be challenged."

**CITY OF PETERSBURG**

P.O. BOX 329 • PETERSBURG, ALASKA 99833

TELEPHONE (907) 772-4511

TELECOPIER (907) 772-3759

January 19, 2001

Representative Peggy Wilson  
Room 409  
State Capital  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Wilson,

The City of Petersburg has been and remains strongly opposed to the Roadless Initiative, especially the inclusion of the Tongass National Forest in this initiative. Petersburg has gone so far as to send Representatives to Washington D.C., to voice our opposition to the Tongass inclusion. The City of Petersburg has also passed and distributed a resolution opposing this initiative, which we have attached to this letter for your utilization. Petersburg has additionally voiced its agreement with our Federal Congressional Delegation and the Governors intention to sue the Federal Government in opposition to this intrusion.

Petersburg thanks you for your co-sponsorship of HJR6 and whole heartedly supports your efforts in this matter. If we can be of any further service, besides our support, please feel free to contact our city offices.

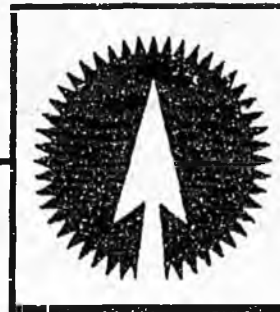
Sincerely,

Theodore (Ted) Smith  
Mayor of Petersburg

Enclosure (1)

sk

## Alaska Forest Association, Inc.



111 STEDMAN STREET, SUITE 200  
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA 99901-6599  
Phone 907-225-6114  
FAX 907-225-5920  
Web Site [www.akforest.org](http://www.akforest.org)

January 12, 2001

Representative Peggy Wilson  
State Capitol, Room 409  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

JAN 12 2001

Via Fax (907) 465-3175, Original Via Mail

### Re: House Joint Resolution 6, Opposing the Roadless Rule

Dear Representative Wilson:

Thank you for introducing HJR 6, a resolution opposing the inclusion of the Tongass and Chugach National Forests in the President's Roadless Rule. The Alaska Forest Association fully supports HJR 6 because Alaska is disproportionately harmed by the rule.

As HJR 6 clearly spells out, Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) contains provisions which were intended to prohibit the very kinds of actions that are at issue here. Aside from the immediate harm that will accrue to the industry and communities of Alaska's coastal region, the Roadless Rule should be opposed by the State of Alaska because of the promises embodied in ANILCA. Whether the Clinton Administration chose to call these roadless withdrawals "wilderness" or not, it amounts to the same thing. As HJR 6 states, these new areas will be *de facto* wilderness, the designation of which, or *even the study* of which, is prohibited by ANILCA. Additionally, the Roadless Rule violates the National Forest Management Act of 1976 (NFMA) which established a planning process for land management plans in individual forests.

The Tongass Land Management Plan (TLMP) was revised in 1997 after the Forest Service spent 11 years and \$13 million on the revision. In 1999, Under Secretary of Agriculture, Jim Lyons unilaterally amended the plan under the guise of granting appeal points to some radical environmental groups. Whether his action was legal under federal laws and regulations is presently the subject of a complaint filed in federal district court by the AFA, the Metlakatla Indian Community, Coffman Cove, Wrangell, Ketchikan Gateway Borough, the City of Craig, Southeast Conference, Concerned Alaskans for Resources and Environment (C.A.R.E.) and some individuals. The result of Mr. Lyons' decision was a plan that is able to produce a maximum annual offering level of only 153 million board feet of timber, and is likely to produce much less, based on historic Forest Service performance. As a point of reference, existing sawmills in Southeast Alaska (including some that are currently closed) have a normal annual operating capacity of 355.5 million board feet.

Estimates given by the Forest Service, Alaska Region, state that application of the Roadless Rule to the Tongass and the Chugach will further reduce the land available for timber harvest from 576,000 to 311,000 acres in the Tongass, and to 53,000 in the Chugach. The Forest Service estimates it can offer approximately 50-55 million board feet of timber per year under the Roadless Rule and TLMP. If implementation of the Roadless Rule occurs there will certainly be more mill closures and loss of employment in the region. Given the dramatic decline in timber-related economic activity in Southeast Alaska over the past decade, it is time Alaska said "enough is enough" to these unnecessary and unacceptable federal preservation actions.

With respect to the Chugach National Forest, 98 percent of that forest is presently inventoried roadless. Application of the Roadless Rule would prohibit all new transportation infrastructure in that forest without the benefit of a public planning process specific to the Chugach. The Chugach Land and Resource Management Plan is presently undergoing revision under terms set forth in the National Forest Management Act of 1976. AFA and several other user groups have been very actively involved in the Chugach planning process. That is the proper venue for land use allocation decisions to be made in the Chugach, as it is with all the other national forests in this country. Such decisions should not be made through a national super-EIS initiated for the purposes of establishing an "environmental legacy" for the President and furthering his political aims.

Again, thank you for introducing this important resolution. It is our hope that the Alaska State Legislature will act swiftly in strong support of HJR 6. If you have any questions regarding the Roadless Rule, please call me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jack Phelps" with "by Ram" written below it.

Jack E. Phelps  
Executive Director

cc: The Honorable Tony Knowles, Governor of Alaska  
Senator John Torgerson



January 12, 2001

Representative Peggy Wilson  
State Capitol, Room 409  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

JAN 13 2001

Via Fax (907) 465-3175, Original Via Mail

**Re: HJR 6, Federal Roadless Rule**

Dear Representative Wilson:

I am writing on behalf of Chugach Alaska Corporation (Chugach) to express our full support of HJR 6. As the largest non-federal landowner within the Chugach National Forest (Chugach owns or has selection rights to 625,000 acres of full fee, subsurface and oil and gas estate within the boundaries of the Chugach National Forest) Chugach has participated fully in the Chugach Forest Plan revision process, investing considerable resources over the past several years. The roadless rule makes a mockery of that process.

We also have a future need to perfect road access across National Forest lands, access that was promised to Chugach as an integral part of its land settlement. It is disingenuous for the Forest Service to characterize those lands within the Chugach Forest that are burdened by Chugach's statutory access rights as forever roadless. The Roadless rule will only make perfecting such promised access more difficult.

We applaud Governor Knowle's resolve to defend our Corporation and all Alaskans who will suffer from this executive fiat. HJR 6 articulates these issues well and will further support the Governor's effort, while providing the needed backing for our President-elect and Congressional delegation in Washington to overturn this rule.

Enclosed is additional correspondence regarding this matter, should you wish to explore Chugach's position on this issue in greater detail. Feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss this issue further. Thank-you for your support

Sincerely,

Rick Rogers, Vice President  
Lands, Resources and Tourism

Enclosures: Letter to Governor Knowles

Letter to Secretary of Agriculture Glickman

560 East 34th Avenue Suite 200 Anchorage, Alaska 99503-4196 Phone 907-563-8866 Fax 907-563-8402

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January 19, 2001

Representative Peggy Wilson  
Alaska State Capital  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Wilson,

My family and I applaud yours and Representative Williams' sponsorship of HJR6 opposing President Clinton's Roadless Proposal. We also strongly support Governor Knowles' decision to file suit against the proposal. This Proposal must be overturned by whatever methods it can, be it litigation, congressional action, or Presidential order.

I have lived in Alaska all my life. My parents settled in Alaska and fought for statehood over 50 years ago. My small family and myself currently reside in Ketchikan, where we own our home and operate a business. Please do not be deceived by those who have no stake in this area that the majority of testimonies at hearings were in favor of the Roadless Policy. I testified at the hearings in Ketchikan, and only in Ketchikan. I am certain if one compares names of those who testified at the hearings one will find a pattern of duplications. I have seen many of the same people soliciting ill guided comments from unsuspecting visitors unfamiliar with the issues and the areas. In fact, they launched a well-staffed and funded campaign in Ketchikan's summer 2000 visitor season to solicit 20,000 comments in favor of the Presidential initiative. To claim that the majority of hearing testimonies were in favor of the Roadless Policy truly emphasizes these people's methods of public deception.

This Roadless Policy action further handcuffs our state from ever being able to comply with our Statehood Compact of utilizing our natural resources to fund State Government. I believe the legislature should also re-consider former Governor Hickel's lawsuit against the federal government in breach of Alaska's statehood contract.

Thank you again for your sponsorship of HJR6.

Sincerely yours,

K.A. Swiger  
Owner

**Gerald and Deloris Herbrandson**

**Solar Wind  
P.O. Box 1374  
720 Sandy Beach Road  
Petersburg, Alaska 99833  
(907) 772-4898**

Jan. 21, 2001

**Regarding HJR-6**

**Peggy Wilson -**

**My wife and I are very concerned that the Roadless legislation as being imposed upon our country, through executive order, is not in accordance with the will of the people and in many cases violates many of the public comment/check-and-balances which have been built into proposed actions of our government.**

**It is my observation that the communities of SE Alaska have been significantly effected by the management polices of the Forest Service. Through the 1970's, 80's, and early 90's the communities staggered under a tremendous housing shortage caused by the growth of the timber program and Forest Service employment. Hospitals, schools, support services, and community housing were all expanded to meet the demands of a growing economy. The cost of housing rose significantly as the communities tried to react to housing shortages.**

**Beginning in the mid 90' Forest Service policy changed. Timber programs were cut, timber related industries closed, and Forest Service employment reduced. These government actions (many of which bordered being fraudulent and deceitful) significantly effected the economy of SE Alaska. The communities found themselves contenting with high unemployment, excess housing, declining property values, and unmet budgets.**

**It is my feeling that the Federal Government, as the largest land owner of SE Alaska, has a moral obligation to the economy of each community. This obligation is further burdened when one understands that the communities were built-up to their current condition in response to actions of the Federal Government.**

**For the Federal Government to arbitrarily close access to the natural resources that these communities rely upon with out taken full responsibility for the loss of property value, loss of employment, loss of economic incomes is not acceptable.**

**It is promoted by some that tourism and recreation are the new economies of SE Alaska. This sounds good but has no basis. Tourism provides employment to a very limited few for less than 12 months out of the year. No viable community can build it's economy upon tourism alone which can evaporate on the whims of public sentiment. The economy of SE Alaska, as with our total Nation, must be diverse with segments rooted in the development and wise management of natural resources.**

**Thank you for your support  
Gerald and Deloris Herbrandson**

January 19, 2001

Representative Peggy Wilson  
House of Representatives  
Room 409  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Re: Tongass Roadless Policy

Dear Representative Wilson;

I am delighted that you have taken the time and effort to pursue passage of a Resolution condemning the "Roadless" policy recently imposed upon us by the Clinton administration. I support this resolution and am adamantly opposed to this 'dictate', which is the death knell to our remaining chance of maintaining any type of a stable economy.

Any type of logging in the Tongass has been under attack by the extreme environmental organizations for years. However, the past 8 years have been particularly devastating to our economy in Southeast Alaska. We have witnessed the closure of our only two pulp mills in Sitka and in Ketchikan. We went through a 10 year Tongass Land Use Management Plan (TLMP) with literally hundreds of public hearings and studies that cost millions of dollars. The alternative that was finally agreed to (which further reduced timber harvest levels) and was 'signed-off' by the Forest Service was unilaterally altered by Under Secretary of Agriculture Jim Lyons. Without any public input or public hearings, he further reduced the harvest levels, set aside more lands as protected from any resource based activity, and increased the timber harvest rotation from 100 to 200 years.

This, now, has been followed by two staggering and unprecedented assaults on the Tongass. First is the "Roadless" issue which prohibits any road building in the Tongass except under unusual circumstances. This effectively limits timber harvest to under 50 million board feet per year - hardly enough to keep one small sawmill operating. The second, and most blatant edict issued recently WITHOUT any public input or comment, is the recent ruling by Dan Glickman that no "old growth" trees can be harvested at all!!

I've lived in Petersburg for over 20 years. Our school enrollment has been declining each year for the past 5 years. There are more homes for sale than ever before in Petersburg's history. Our sales tax revenues are declining. Property values are declining as well. Because of this, funding for schools, streets and roads, parks and recreation, and other services have been cut. People are leaving town; not because they want to but because there is no longer employment.

I will close here for the sake of brevity. But, what is presently happening in California with the energy crisis is the direct result of the environmental community fighting to keep any new power plants from being constructed within the State. These same extremists are now attempting to close the Tongass to any resource based activity including timber, fishing, and tourism (except the backpacker, of course). It is indeed sad when I, as a parent of two kids, have to admit that there is no chance of them coming back to live here because there are no jobs here. This is a sad day for Petersburg and a sad day for Alaska if this is allowed to happen.

I urge unanimous passage of your resolution.

Sincerely,



Dave Carlson  
PO Box 689  
Petersburg, AK 99833

I'm sick of the people in  
Washington D.C. Making these decisions  
for us who live in the Tongass N.F.  
This Roadless issue is a big waste of  
time and money that no one can  
afford. I worked for the Forest Service  
During the time T.L.M.P. was put together.  
Where are our Leaders minds.

Thank you

Sid Baom  
Sid Baom  
P.O. Box 683  
Petersburg, AK 99833

**Subject: Roadless Letter**

**Date:** Sat, 20 Jan 2001 16:18:12 -0900

**From:** "Wilma E Leslie" <wilma@alaskawaters.com>

**To:** <Jean\_Ellis@legis.state.ak.us>

Dear Representative Wilson:

I am opposed to President Clinton's Roadless Area Conservation rule. I support the overturning of this inclusion by litigation, by congressional action or by action of President Bush. The Roadless Area Conservation rule, if enforced will have a devastating effect on more than just the Timber industry. This Roadless Area Conservation rule is "THE DESTROYER OF FAMILIES" living in Southeast Alaska. This issue is a people issue not a wilderness issue. If initiated, the Roadless Rule will be the last nail in Southeast Alaska's economic coffin!

The goal of all environmental groups has been and always will be to shut down all Natural Resource based industries in Alaska. The timber industry just happen to be the first casualty. Legislation limiting access to the Tongass has already caused unnecessary hardship and grief for many families who were previously employed in the timber industry. If we don't stop this Roadless Rule there will be more families that will be devastated.

I know that national preservationist groups as well as the Southeast Alaska Conservation Council (SEACC) do not think that they have personally caused anyone harm. They are wrong, they have. These preservationist groups continue to cause the annihilation of small (rural) Alaskan communities by supporting radical environmental legislation. They need to look into the faces of the people who's lives they are destroying. They need to be held publicly accountable for their actions!

The only way to save Alaska from the whims of legislators in Washington D.C. is to educate the rest of the Nation about Alaska. The real issues and truths about Alaska are unknown to most Americans. Alaska is too far away and the Alaskan's lifestyle too "foreign" for most people to grasp. Radical environmental groups have used fear and misinformation to motivate these same people to send in money and sway the vote for extreme and sometimes absurd environmental legislation.

Alaska needs to initiate a scientifically based "Alaska Natural Resource Education Program". This program needs to be in all Alaska elementary, middle and high schools. Hopefully, through educating our own citizens about Alaska's natural resource based industries.

Alaska Women In Timber in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service tried to initiate a program called "Alaska's Great Green Forest". Unfortunately, their program did not address all Natural Resource Industries.

The Timber Industry was assured in 1990 by Congress and environmental groups that no jobs would be lost if the Tongass Timber Reform Act was put in place and 1.1 million additional acres set aside. This has turned out not to be the case. Promises now about maintaining the existing industry ring hollow when we are unable to redeem previous promises and more of the Tongass is being withdrawn through the proposed Roadless Area Conservation rule.

Wrangell's economy and families depend on multiple use access to the Tongass National Forest for their survival! Alaska's state legislators, Alaska's governor and the Alaska congressional delegation need to make sure that President Clinton's Roadless Area Conservation rule is overturned!

Sincerely,

12 Wilma E. Leslie - Wrangell

**Subject: KPPLUG SUPPORTS HJR 6**

**Date: Sat, 20 Jan 2001 17:11:52 -0900**

**From: "DeVito's" <gooches4@alaska.net>**

**To: Representative\_Peggy\_Wilson@legis.state.ak.us**

January 17, 2001

Kenai Peninsula Public Land Users Group

P.O. Box 1424

Soldotna, Alaska 99669

Alaska State Senate  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator,

On behalf of the Kenai Peninsula-Public Land Users Group (KPPLUG), it is with great concern that we support and urge the adoption of HJR 6 and SJR 2, which opposes the inclusion of National Forests in Alaska within President Clinton's Roadless Area Conservation rule. We strongly support overturning this inclusion by litigation, congressional action, or by the action of President Bush.

KPPLUG represents many members and incorporates all varieties of user groups. We are a grass roots organization interested in the responsible utilization of our public lands on the Kenai Peninsula in particular, and the other public lands of Alaska in general.

Clinton's rule disregards the land management process, which Congress intended under the National Forest Management Act of 1976. It further conflicts with several specific sections of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA). As a result, the economic, social, traditional, recreational and educational rights and opportunities of Alaskans have been ignored.

The National Forests in Alaska are unique and mostly absent of roads, access, and abusive resource development. There is no cause, evidence, or legitimate explanation for such a drastic roadless conservation rule.

Again, KPPLUG strongly supports the Alaska State Legislature in opposing Clinton's Roadless Area Conservation rule, and particularly opposes the illegal inclusion of the Tongass and Chugach National Forests in this rule. We urge you to adopt HJR 6 and SJR 2.

Thank you,

Dennis Merkes - President KPPLUG

Cc: Alaska House of Representatives  
Alaska House Resource Committee  
Alaska State Senate  
Alaska State Senate Resource Committee

## MY TURN

by Robert W. Loescher

President & CEO, Sealaska Corporation

Alaskans from across this great state need to join forces with Governor Tony Knowles and the Alaska Congressional Delegation and keep the Clinton Administration's "roadless policy" out of our Tongass and Chugach National Forests. Here are four reasons why: (1) The roadless policy totally ignores the established forest land planning process. (2) By fiat, the roadless policy locks up so much suitable forest land that we can not sustain jobs and a viable timber industry. (3) The roadless policy violates the clause in Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) that unequivocally said no more public land would be locked up in Alaska. (4) It precludes rural communities from improving their core infrastructure needs including drinking water and utility and transportation corridors.

Governor Tony Knowles staunchly supports the right of the Alaskan public to participate in administrative and legislative actions that affect their lives. He said that the roadless initiative is not a public process. He understands that the roadless policy ensures that Alaska's forests will not sustain a viable and economically important timber industry. This policy will hurt Alaska's urban and rural communities. Alaska and our forest-dependent communities cannot absorb more loss of jobs and restricted access to land for core community needs that this policy will cause.

Alaska has a long history of responsible, public processes to guide the management of our forests and forest ecosystems. They were designed to protect wilderness, jobs and community well-being. ANILCA struck the right balance between the reservation of national conservation system units and those public lands necessary and appropriate for more intensive use and disposition. ANILCA's "no more" clause prohibited any further land withdrawals without the

approval of the US Congress. The "no more" clause made sure that voices of the small, forest-dependent communities were not drowned out by the "postcard diplomacy" of well-financed corporate environmental organizations and foundations.

Congress passed the Tongass Timber Reform Act (TTRA) in 1990 and set aside another 1.2 million acres of national forest land. TTRA was a very public process that fixed obvious oversights in ANILCA by adding small but important ecosystems to conservation units. In this process, the voice of Alaska residents was heard.

Unfortunately, the Clinton administration ignored the open and public processes in ANILCA and TTRA that produced the revisions to the Tongass Land Management Plan (TLMP). The revised TLMP Plan, initiated in 1986, and finally ratified in May 1997 allowed national public participation. Two years later, US Dept. of Interior Undersecretary Lyons disregarded this public process and significantly amended the 1997-revised TLMP. He cut the annual allowable harvest from the Tongass National Forest by over 30% and injured Alaskans' ability to sustain a viable timber industry.

This blatant disregard for the public process and the health of Alaska's forest-dependent communities occurred after Undersecretary Lyons declared his support for the public forest land management planning process. Lyons said to the Southeast Conference that there would be no further significant timber or other land withdrawals on the Tongass National Forest. Undersecretary Lyon's unilateral actions demonstrate clearly why there was a "no more" provision in the ANILCA: to stop Washington D.C. bureaucrats from imposing their own misguided ideology behind closed doors.

The Clinton administration continues to steamroll the Alaskan public. Undersecretary Lyons told us that the new national roadless policy would not apply to the Tongass National Forest because the Tongass land planning

process had just been completed. In an about-face, the US Forest Service EIS now recommends inclusion of the Tongass. This action reduces the annual harvest from Tongass by 82% and destroys our forest industry. All this without any meaningful site-specific considerations that the local planning processes require. The key public official obligated to ensure public participation in forest management decisions ignored the public's rights and became an agent for the corporate national environmental organizations who place ideology and perception above good science and the people's right to live and work in this great land.

The roadless agenda is clear. The Clinton administration's threat to implement its roadless policies is real. It will harm our communities, who depend on access to the adjacent forests for drinking water, for cheaper electrical power, and for basic safe and reliable transportation corridors.

We, as a State, must pull together and stop the economic strangulation of our communities. I applaud the way Governor Knowles stood up for Alaska and protested the preemption of the TLMP process. Governor Knowles said in a letter to Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman, "I remain firm in my opposition to any action that undermines the Tongass plan through federal fiat."

The Congressional Delegation has been using its authority and prestige in Washington, D.C. to urge Secretary Glickman to adhere to the National Forest Management Land Planning process and not to apply the roadless policy to the Alaska National Forests. The Governor and the Congressional Delegation working together with Alaskans can influence the outcome. However, lukewarm and measured responses to this threat will not prevail. We must adopt an aggressive strategy that may include litigation, congressional action and administrative challenges to prevent application of the roadless policy to either the Tongass or Chugach National Forest.

This is now a matter of survival. Alaskans treasure independence, and take pride in self-reliance. If we fail to act, our communities and the economies of the Tongass and Chugach National Forests will become financially-dependent wards of the State and Federal government.

*Robert M. Loefer*

managed for the purpose of protecting their suitability for wilderness designation pending revision of the initial plans; and  
 (4) unless expressly authorized by Congress the Department of Agriculture shall not conduct any further statewide roadless area review and evaluation of National Forest System lands in the State of Alaska for the purpose of determining their suitability for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

708(b)(4)

**TITLE VIII—SUBSISTENCE MANAGEMENT AND USE**

**FINDINGS**

16 USC 3111.

**SEC. 801.** The Congress finds and declares that—

(1) the continuation of the opportunity for subsistence uses by rural residents of Alaska, including both Natives and non-Natives, on the public lands and by Alaska Natives on Native lands is essential to Native physical, economic, traditional, and cultural existence and to non-Native physical, economic, traditional, and social existence;

(2) the situation in Alaska is unique in that, in most cases, no practical alternative means are available to replace the food supplies and other items gathered from fish and wildlife which supply rural residents dependent on subsistence uses;

(3) continuation of the opportunity for subsistence uses of resources on public and other lands in Alaska is threatened by the increasing population of Alaska, with resultant pressure on subsistence resources, by sudden decline in the populations of some wildlife species which are crucial subsistence resources, by increased accessibility of remote areas containing subsistence resources, and by taking of fish and wildlife in a manner inconsistent with recognized principles of fish and wildlife management;

(4) in order to fulfill the policies and purposes of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act and as a matter of equity, it is necessary for the Congress to invoke its constitutional authority over Native affairs and its constitutional authority under the property clause and the commerce clause to protect and provide the opportunity for continued subsistence uses on the public lands by Native and non-Native rural residents; and

(5) the national interest in the proper regulation, protection, and conservation of fish and wildlife on the public lands in Alaska and the continuation of the opportunity for a subsistence way of life by residents of rural Alaska require that an administrative structure be established for the purpose of enabling rural residents who have personal knowledge of local conditions and requirements to have a meaningful role in the management of fish and wildlife and of subsistence uses on the public lands in Alaska.

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43 USC 1601  
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**POLICY**

16 USC 3112.

**SEC. 802.** It is hereby declared to be the policy of Congress that—

(1) consistent with sound management principles, and the conservation of healthy populations of fish and wildlife, the utilization of the public lands in Alaska is to cause the least adverse impact possible on rural residents who depend upon subsistence uses of the resources of such lands; consistent with management of fish and wildlife in accordance with recognized

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ACCESS

Nonfederally owned lands. 16 USC 3210.

SEC. 1323. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary of Agriculture may prescribe, the Secretary shall provide such access to nonfederally owned land within the boundaries of the National Forest System as the Secretary deems adequate to secure to the owner the reasonable use and enjoyment thereof: *Provided*, That such owner comply with rules and regulations applicable to ingress and egress to or from the National Forest System.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe, the Secretary shall provide such access to nonfederally owned land surrounded by public lands managed by the Secretary under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701-82) as the Secretary deems adequate to secure to the owner the reasonable use and enjoyment thereof: *Provided*, That such owner comply with rules and regulations applicable to access across public lands.

YUKON FLATS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE AGRICULTURAL USE

16 USC 3211.

SEC. 1324. Nothing in this Act or other existing law shall be construed as necessarily prohibiting or mandating the development of agricultural potential within the Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge pursuant to existing law. The permissibility of such development shall be determined by the Secretary on a case-by-case basis under existing law. Any such development permitted within the Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge shall be designed and conducted in such a manner as to minimize to the maximum extent possible any adverse effects of the natural values of the unit.

TERROR LAKE HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT IN KODIAK NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

16 USC 3212.

SEC. 1325. Nothing in this Act or the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd) shall be construed as necessarily prohibiting or mandating the construction of the Terror Lake Hydroelectric Project within the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. The permissibility of such development shall be determined by the Secretary on a case-by-case basis under existing law.

FUTURE EXECUTIVE ACTIONS

16 USC 3213.

Publication in Federal Register; notification of Congress.

SEC. 1326. (a) No future executive branch action which withdraws more than five thousand acres, in the aggregate, of public lands within the State of Alaska shall be effective except by compliance with this subsection. To the extent authorized by existing law, the President or the Secretary may withdraw public lands in the State of Alaska exceeding five thousand acres in the aggregate, which withdrawal shall not become effective until notice is provided in the Federal Register and to both Houses of Congress. Such withdrawal shall terminate unless Congress passes a joint resolution of approval within one year after the notice of such withdrawal has been submitted to Congress.

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



SEC. 1327. No additional requirements for the operation of the National Transportation System and approved by the Secretary imposing any restrictions concerning such system.

SEC. 1328. (a) made pursuant to (44 Stat. 1364), Stat. 1097), within the time in Alaska that statutes when in effect hundred and except where subsection, or adjusted pursuant approval pursuant the time the adj

(2) Where an unit of the National Wildlife Refuge System in the State of Alaska before the effective date of the land was not within Native Claims land which has been tentatively approved pursuant to section 11(a) from those lands the Act by any 11(b) of such Act of this section cated pursuant 1328(a)(1) hereof other applicable

(3) Paragraph apply and the requirements on or before the effective date of

(A) a National Wildlife Refuge in the State of Alaska entitled to be withdrawn from the National Wildlife Refuge System Alaska National Wildlife Refuge

(B) the Secretary of the Interior stating that access to land is a political question thereon, or

7050

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**RESOLUTION NO. 1598-R**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
PETERSBURG, ALASKA OPPOSING THE INCLUSION OF THE  
TONGASS NATIONAL FOREST IN THE USDA FOREST SERVICE'S  
NATIONAL ROADLESS AREA REVIEW**

Whereas, Section 708 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980 (ANILCA) resolved roadless issues in a compromise bill as well as established over five million acres in 14 areas as Wilderness on the Tongass National Forest; and

Whereas, the Tongass Timber Reform Act of 1990 added 350,000 acres on the Tongass National Forest in five new Wilderness areas and one addition to an existing wilderness; and

Whereas, the Tongass Timber Reform Act also designates almost 690,000 acres in 12 Congress mandated roadless areas to maintain their wildland characteristics; and

Whereas, the Record of Decision (ROD) signed by Undersecretary Lyons noted the Tongass National Forest would be exempt from roadless moratorium as the newly revised plan had the benefit of considerable science and public involvement in the 12 year revision process for the Forest Plan; and

Whereas, Mr. Lyons also noted that he considered the roadless issue in his decision and addressed it through changing land allocations to mostly natural Land Use Designations in 18 un-roaded areas totaling 500,000 acres; and

Whereas, Mr. Lyons stated in the ROD that 90 percent or more of all currently un-roaded lands on the Tongass will still be roadless at the time of the next forest plan revision; and

Whereas, only 3 percent of 17 million acres on the Tongass National Forest will be used to sustain the timber industry over the next 10 years; and

Whereas, approximately ½ of the current Tongass National Forest timber base is included in areas which would remain un-roaded under the initiative; and

Whereas, Mr. Lyons, on September 28, 1999 in Sitka, Alaska, stated at the Southeast Conference of Mayors, that his decision on the Tongass Plan was made to "finally provide some certainty with regard to future uses and management direction on the Tongass", and also assured the Mayors that "we have to move on"; and

Whereas, we agree with the Governor of the State of Alaska that the inclusion of the Tongass in the roadless review would be an outrage as assurances were provided that the resolution of the Tongass planning process would put an end to this issue; and

Whereas, the Tongass National Forest is essential in bringing stability and certainty to the economy of Southeast Alaska, providing jobs for many families dependent on such stability; and

Whereas, the implementation of the roadless initiative to the Tongass National Forest would greatly diminish access to timber and other natural resources and may eliminate opportunities for construction of future transportation or utility corridors throughout the Southeast Alaska region; and

Whereas, any further diminishment of the timber base in the Tongass National Forest would exacerbate economic harm to Petersburg and other Southeast Alaska communities caused by previous changes in federal policy.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Petersburg as follows:

1. The City Council strongly opposes the inclusion of the Tongass National Forest in the "roadless area" policy review; and
2. The Petersburg City Council opposes any unilateral action to modify the Record of Decision as such action is contrary to proper resource planning and circumvents the public planning process.

Passed and Approved by the City Council of the City of Petersburg, Alaska this 10<sup>th</sup> day of

December, 1999.



*[Signature]*  
Mayor



## Greater Ketchikan Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 5957, Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

(907) 225-3184 • FAX: (907) 225-3187

### A RESOLUTION OPPOSING INCLUSION OF THE TONGASS AND CHUGACH NATIONAL FORESTS IN THE US FOREST SERVICE'S NATIONAL ROADLESS AREA CONSERVATION RULE AND REQUESTING APPROPRIATE LEGAL ACTION TO STOP INCLUSION

**WHEREAS**, managed access to the natural resources in the Tongass and Chugach National Forests, including timber, minerals, fisheries, water, and recreation opportunities is essential for the well-being of numerous communities within and adjacent to these forests; and

**WHEREAS**, after years of study, public comment, and spending millions of dollars, the US Forest Service release of the revised Tongass Land Management Plan (TLMP) in 1997 to effect a detailed resource management plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the revised 1997 TLMP removed substantial amounts of natural resources from future development status; and

**WHEREAS**, in an April 1999 TLMP Record of Decision, the US Department of Agriculture unilaterally reclassified additional natural resource areas, thus making them ineligible for development; and

**WHEREAS**, President Clinton issued his "Roadless Directive" to implement the removal from development of "roadless areas" in national forests; and

**WHEREAS**, the Forest Service is now completing a revision of the Chugach National Forest Land Management Plan (CLMP); and

**WHEREAS**, the 1997 TLMP constitutes a substantially more complete analysis of the Tongass National Forest than the proposed Directive's process; and

**WHEREAS**, any further restrictions to access and road building in the Tongass National Forest as part of a nationwide ban are not appropriate due to the substantial recent management decisions made by the US Forest Service, US Department of Agriculture; and

**WHEREAS**, any further reduction of the resource base in the Tongass National Forest will increase the economic harm already felt by numerous Southeast Alaska communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the president has selected Alternative 3 (the most restrictive) as the preferred alternative in the Final Environmental Impact Statement for his Roadless Area Conservation Rule; and

**WHEREAS**, this selected Roadless Conservation Area rule alternative will prohibit road construction and reconstruction and seriously limit other management activities immediately within the Chugach National Forest and will likewise limit development activities within the Tongass National Forest, even prior to full implementation in 2004; and

**WHEREAS**, in passing the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act in 1980, Congress asserted that the appropriate balance had been struck between development and conservation and to that end included the "NO-MORE" clauses that prohibit the formation of new conservation units in Alaska without congressional approval;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Ketchikan Chamber of Commerce strongly opposes the inclusion of Alaska's two National Forests in the President's Roadless Area Conservation Rule; and

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Ketchikan Chamber of Commerce strongly requests the Governor of Alaska and Alaska's Congressional Delegation to work together to develop an integrated strategy for altering the roadless policy and to take all appropriate actions, including any appropriate litigation, to prevent the inclusion of the Tongass and Chugach National Forests in the National Roadless Area Conservation Rule.

Hereby adopted by the Greater Ketchikan Chamber of Commerce on this 13<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2000.

Signed: Dick Coose  
Dick Coose, President

Dated: Dec 13, 2000

cc: Senator Ted Stevens  
Senator Frank Murkowski  
Representative Don Young  
Governor Tony Knowles  
Mayor Jack Shay  
Mayor Bob Weinstein  
Alaska Forest Association  
Ketchikan Visitors Bureau

Introduced by: Popp, Merkes, Brown  
Date: 01/09/01  
Action: Adopted as Amended  
Vote: 8 Yea, 1 No

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH  
RESOLUTION 2001-005**

**A RESOLUTION OBJECTING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FINAL  
VERSION OF THE PROPOSED REVISED LAND AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
PLAN FOR THE CHUGACH NATIONAL FOREST BEFORE A COMPLETE LEGAL  
REVIEW OF THE PLAN CAN BE COMPLETED**

- WHEREAS,** the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest were available for public comment until December 14, 2000, and the National Forest Management Act of 1964 regulations require each Forest Plan to be revised every 10 to 15 years; and
- WHEREAS,** the planning area encompasses over 5.45 million acres within the Chugach National Forest, which is the second largest forest in the United States National Forest System and is subdivided into 3 administrative units, the Glacier, Seward and the Cordova Ranger Districts; and
- WHEREAS,** the Seward Ranger District of the Chugach National Forest encompasses a significant portion of the Kenai Peninsula Borough and includes a number of Kenai Peninsula Borough communities such as Hope, Cooper Landing, Moose Pass and Seward; and
- WHEREAS,** the "Situation Statements" of the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan describes conflicting public interests and existing conditions that could be improved by changing the 1984 Forest Plan, and that one of these conflicts was identified as a conflict between cross-country skiers and cross-country snowmobile operators that would be resolved by closing a number of existing trails or trailheads to snowmobiles because of these major ecological or social conflicts; and
- WHEREAS,** the Forest Service has stated that they have not completed any scientific studies to support closing any of the existing trails or trailheads to snowmobiles because of any major ecological or social conflicts; and
- WHEREAS,** the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the 5.45 million acre Chugach National Forest does not allow for reasonable methods of minerals extraction as access to the minimal amount of acreage made available for minerals exploration within the Forest is severely restricted by the Proposed Revised Land and Management Plan because the Revised Plan does not allow for any new roads to be constructed to provide access to newly surveyed mineral deposits within the Forest; and

**WHEREAS,** the Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest contains only minimal provisions for the mitigation, harvesting and reforestation of a total of 3,343 acres per year out of the hundreds of thousands of acres of forest impacted by the Spruce Bark Beetle infestation within the 5.45 million acre Chugach National Forest; and

**WHEREAS,** the Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest advocates the addition of over 2.5 million acres to restrictive classifications such as Wilderness, Wild Rivers, ANILCA classifications, Backcountry, Scenic Rivers, Brown Bear Core Area, and Recreation-Reduced Noise, all of which may have additional restrictions on numerous user groups and resource development within the Chugach National Forest; and

**WHEREAS,** the Office of General Counsel for the United States Forest Service has indicated to the Forest Service planners that it would take approximately one and a half years to complete a legal review of the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest to, in part, conduct a legal determination of the Proposed Plan for consistency with the legal provisions of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, or ANILCA; and

**WHEREAS,** the Forest Service has no stated plans to conduct a legal review of the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest to provide a legal determination that the Proposed Revised Plan is consistent with the provisions of ANILCA; and

**WHEREAS,** the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly has previously expressed its support for continued public access to Chugach National Forest for all recreational users of the forest through Kenai Peninsula Borough Resolution 2000-108; and

**WHEREAS,** the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly has previously expressed its support for provisions for expanded timber harvesting and minerals exploration within the Chugach National Forest and has requested a complete legal review of the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest through Kenai Peninsula Borough Resolution 2000-112; and

**WHEREAS,** the implementation of the final version of the Proposed Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest without a complete and thorough legal review to assure that the Plan is consistent with the provisions of ANILCA could cause serious harm to the economy and quality of life enjoyed now, and in the future, by the citizens of the Kenai Peninsula Borough;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:**

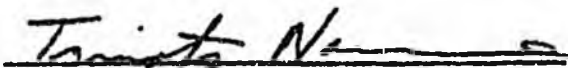
**SECTION 1.** That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly strongly objects to the implementation of the final version of the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan

for the Chugach National Forest and reserves its support until a complete and thorough legal review of the final version of the Proposed Revised Plan can be completed that provides a legal determination stating the final version of the Proposed Revised Plan is consistent with the provisions of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act.

**SECTION 2.** That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly specifically requests a complete and thorough legal review by the Office of General Counsel for the United States Forest Service or other appropriate agency of the final version of the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest with the objective to provide a detailed, written legal determination that the final version of the Proposed Revised Plan is consistent with the provisions of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act and other appropriate federal laws.


**SECTION 3.** That a copy of this resolution be sent to the members of the Alaska Congressional Delegation, the members of the Kenai Peninsula Borough State Legislative Delegation, the Governor of the State of Alaska, and to the United States Forest Service.

**ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 9TH DAY OF JANUARY 2001.**

  
Timothy Nease, Assembly President

ATTEST:

  
Linda S. Murphy, Borough Clerk



Introduced by: Merkes, Brown, Popp, Fischer  
Date: 11/21/00  
Action: Adopted  
Vote: 9 Yes, 0 No

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH  
RESOLUTION 2000-108**

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING LEAVING ALL EXISTING TRAILS IN THE  
CHUGACH NATIONAL FOREST OPEN FOR EXISTING RECREATIONAL USES,  
SUPPORTING IMPROVEMENTS TO AND MAINTENANCE OF TRAILS AND  
PARKING LOTS, AND SUPPORTING BUILDING NEW CROSS-COUNTRY SKI  
TRAILS**

- WHEREAS,** the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest are available for public comment until December 14, 2000, and the National Forest Management Act of 1964 regulations require each Forest Plan to be revised every 10 to 15 years; and
- WHEREAS,** the planning area encompasses over 5.45 million acres in the Chugach National Forest, which is the second largest forest in the National Forest System and is subdivided into 3 administrative units, the Glacier, Seward and the Cordova Ranger Districts; and
- WHEREAS,** the Forest interdisciplinary team must consider the environmental conditions, historic use and occupation, and other past and current data while conducting many planning meetings; and
- WHEREAS,** the "Situation Statements" describe conflicting public interests and existing conditions that could be improved by changing the 1984 Forest Plan, and one of these conflicts was identified as a conflict between cross-country skiers and cross-country snowmobilers; and
- WHEREAS,** four public meetings have been held on the Kenai Peninsula to receive comments on the Draft Plan, and comments at the Soldotna meeting, which was attended by over 200 people, overwhelmingly supported keeping all existing trails and railheads open to both snowmobiles and cross-country skiers, with possible opening of additional trails and parking lots; and
- WHEREAS,** all user groups should be able to work out compromises so they can use the existing trails and railheads at all times rather than for parts of a season or alternating years, and RS 2477 may have already established easements for traditional uses of both snowmobiles and cross-country skiers; and

**WHEREAS,** the Forest Service has stated that they have not completed any scientific studies to support closing any of the existing trails or railheads to snowmobiles because of any major ecological or social conflicts; and

**WHEREAS,** the Preferred Plan advocates considering adding over 2.5 million acres to restrictive classifications such as Wilderness, Wild Rivers, ANILCA classifications, Backcountry, Scenic Rivers, Brown Bear Core Area, Recreation-Reduced Noise, all of which may have additional restrictions on snowmobiles;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:**

**SECTION 1.** That the Kenai Peninsula Borough assembly strongly supports the Forest Service's not recommending closing, or restricting to seasonal use, the use by snowmobiles and skiers of any existing trails or trailheads in the Chugach National Forest-Seward District.

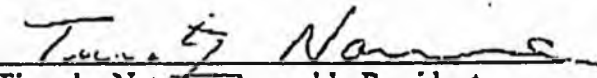
**SECTION 2.** That the existing trails and parking lots be upgraded for use by both snowmobiles and cross-country skiers in partnership with the federal, state, and local governments. Intergovernmental agreements should be made regarding leasing or exchanging land reasonably necessary to accomplish this goal.

**SECTION 3.** The Kenai Peninsula Borough also supports the federal government's giving grants or allowing private recreational groups to form partnerships with the federal government to improve or build trails or parking lots.

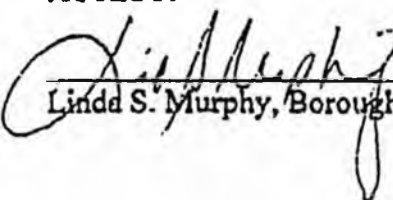
**SECTION 4.** That the Forest Service Plan consider building new access trails for cross-country skiers in appropriate locations in order to alleviate safety issues and conflicts with snowmobile use.

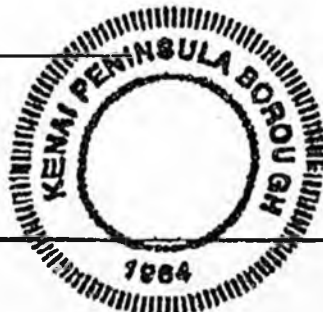
**SECTION 5.** That copies of this resolution be sent to the Alaskan Congressional Delegation, the Kenai Peninsula Borough State Delegation, and to the Forest Service Department.

**ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 21ST DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2000.**

  
Timothy Navarre, Assembly President

ATTEST:

  
Lindd S. Murphy, Borough Clerk



Introduced by: Popp, Merkes  
Dates: 12/12/00  
Action: Adopted  
Vote: 7 Yes, 0 No, 2 Absent

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH  
RESOLUTION 2000-112**

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING NEW TIMBER HARVESTING AND MINERALS  
EXTRACTION AS PART OF THE PROPOSED REVISED LAND AND RESOURCE  
MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE CHUGACH NATIONAL FOREST**

- WHEREAS,** the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest are available for public comment until December 14, 2000, and the National Forest Management Act of 1964 regulations require each Forest Plan to be revised every 10 to 15 years; and
- WHEREAS,** the planning area encompasses over 5.45 million acres in the Chugach National Forest, which is the second largest forest in the National Forest System and is subdivided into 3 administrative units, the Glacier, Seward and the Cordova Ranger Districts; and
- WHEREAS,** the Seward Ranger District of the Chugach National Forest encompasses a significant portion of the Kenai Peninsula Borough and includes a number of Kenai Peninsula Borough communities such as Hope, Cooper Landing, Moose Pass and Seward; and
- WHEREAS,** hundreds of thousands of acres of the Chugach National Forest within the Seward Ranger District have been infested by the Spruce Bark Beetle which has created a substantial fire hazard for the many communities, residences, businesses and citizens of the Kenai Peninsula Borough that reside within the Chugach National Forest; and
- WHEREAS,** the Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest contains only minimal provisions for the mitigation, harvesting and reforestation of a total of 3,343 acres per year out of the hundreds of thousands of acres of trees impacted by the Spruce Bark Beetle infestation within the 5.45 million acre Chugach National Forest; and
- WHEREAS,** the lack of a more comprehensive plan for mitigation, harvesting and reforestation of the hundreds of thousands of acres impacted by the Spruce Bark Beetle will result in the total loss of millions of board feet of potentially valuable trees and place millions of dollars of private property and many citizens of the Kenai Peninsula Borough at risk from catastrophic wildfires within the Chugach National Forest; and

**WHEREAS,** the "Preferred Alternative" proposed by the Forest Supervisor within the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest allows for less than 80 acres out of the total 5.45 million acres of the Chugach National Forest to be surveyed for commercial or recreational minerals deposits; and

**WHEREAS,** the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the 5.45 million acre Chugach National Forest does not allow for reasonable methods of minerals extraction as access to any newly discovered mineral deposits within the Forest is severely restricted by the Proposed Revised Land and Management Plan because the Revised Plan does not allow for any new roads to be constructed to provide access to newly surveyed mineral deposits within the Forest; and

**WHEREAS,** the Office of General Council for the United States Forest Service has indicated to the Forest Service planners that it would take approximately one and a half years to complete a legal review of the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest to, in part, conduct a legal determination of the Proposed Plan for consistency with the legal provisions of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, or ANILCA; and

**WHEREAS,** the Forest Service has no stated plans to conduct a legal review of the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest to provide a legal determination that the Proposed Revised Plan is consistent with the provisions of ANILCA; and

**WHEREAS,** the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly has previously expressed its support for continued public access to Chugach National Forest for all recreational users of the Park through Kenai Peninsula Borough Resolution 2000-108; and

**WHEREAS,** the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly has concerns about the potential impacts that many of the provisions of the Proposed Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest will have on the economy and quality of life enjoyed now, and in the future, by the citizens of Kenai Peninsula Borough;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:**

**SECTION 1.** The Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly urges the United States Forest Service to adopt more comprehensive provisions within the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest for the mitigation, harvesting and reforestation of the hundreds of thousands of acres impacted by the Spruce Bark Beetle infestation within the Seward Ranger District to prevent the loss of millions of board feet of potentially valuable trees and reduce the possible loss of millions of dollars worth of private property that is at risk from catastrophic wildfires within the Chugach National Forest Seward Ranger District;

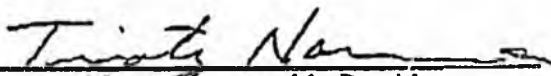
**SECTION 2.** That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly further urges the United States Forest Service to adopt additional provisions within the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest that will provide for new road access to newly discovered and existing mineral deposits that will allow for viable commercial and recreational minerals extraction.

**SECTION 3.** That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly requests that the United States Forest Service perform a legal review of the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest to provide a legal determination that the Proposed Revised Plan is consistent with the provisions of the Alaska National Interest Lands Act.

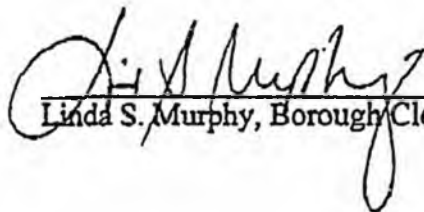
**SECTION 4.** That copies of this resolution be sent to the Alaska Congressional Delegation, the Kenai Peninsula Borough State Legislative Delegation, the Governor of the State of Alaska, and to the United States Forest Service.

**SECTION 5.** That this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

**ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 12TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2000.**

  
Timothy Navarre, Assembly President

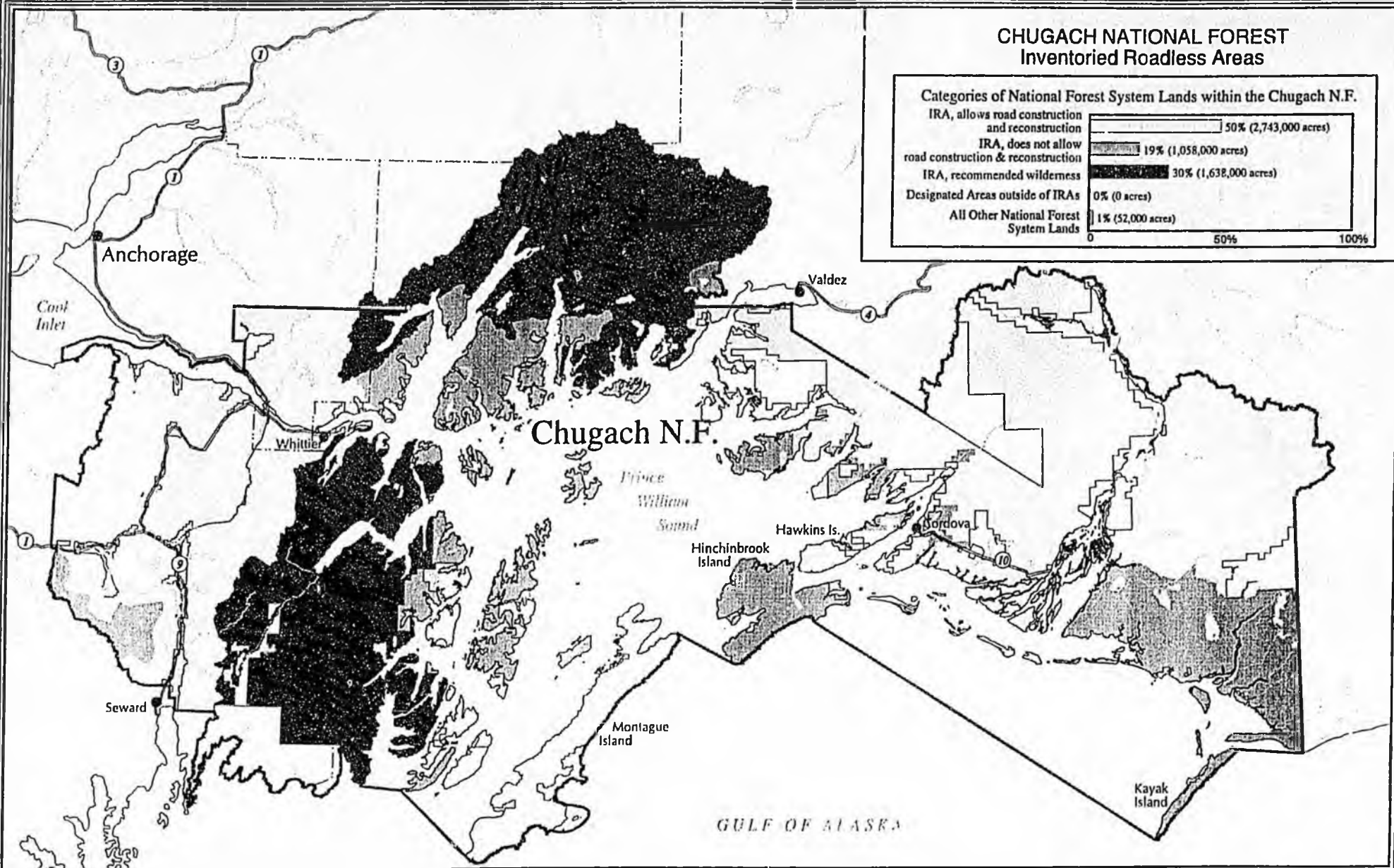
ATTEST:

  
Linda S. Murphy, Borough Clerk

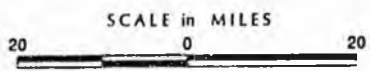


### CHUGACH NATIONAL FOREST Inventoried Roadless Areas

Categories of National Forest System Lands within the Chugach N.F.	
IRA, allows road construction and reconstruction	50% (2,743,000 acres)
IRA, does not allow road construction & reconstruction	19% (1,058,000 acres)
IRA, recommended wilderness	30% (1,638,000 acres)
Designated Areas outside of IRAs	0% (0 acres)
All Other National Forest System Lands	1% (52,000 acres)



The USDA Forest Service uses the most current and complete data available. GIS data and product accuracy may vary. Using GIS products for purposes other than those for which they were intended may yield inaccurate or misleading results. The USDA Forest Service reserves the right to correct, update, modify, or replace GIS products without notification.



September 15, 2000  
Data Supplied by Chugach National Forest  
Contact: Chugach N.F.  
3301 C Street, Suite 300  
Anchorage, AK 99503-3998  
(907) 271-2500



- Inventoried Roadless Area where road construction or reconstruction is allowed
- Inventoried Roadless Area where road construction or reconstruction is not allowed
- Inventoried Roadless Area where road construction or reconstruction is not allowed, and the forest plan recommends as wilderness
- Designated Areas outside of Inventoried Roadless Areas
- National Forest System lands outside of Inventoried Roadless Areas - not all private land is shown on the map

- Interstate Highway
- Other Highways
- County boundaries

Alaska

**TONGASS NATIONAL FOREST  
Inventoried Roadless Areas**

Map 2)

The USDA Forest Service uses the most current and complete data available. GIS data and product accuracy may vary. Using GIS products for purposes other than those for which they were intended may yield inaccurate or misleading results. The USDA Forest Service reserves the right to correct, update, modify, or replace GIS products without notification.

September 15, 2000  
Data Supplied by Tongass National Forest  
Contact: Tongass N.F.  
Federal Building  
648 Mission Street  
Ketchikan, AK 99701  
907/738-6292



SCALE IN MILES



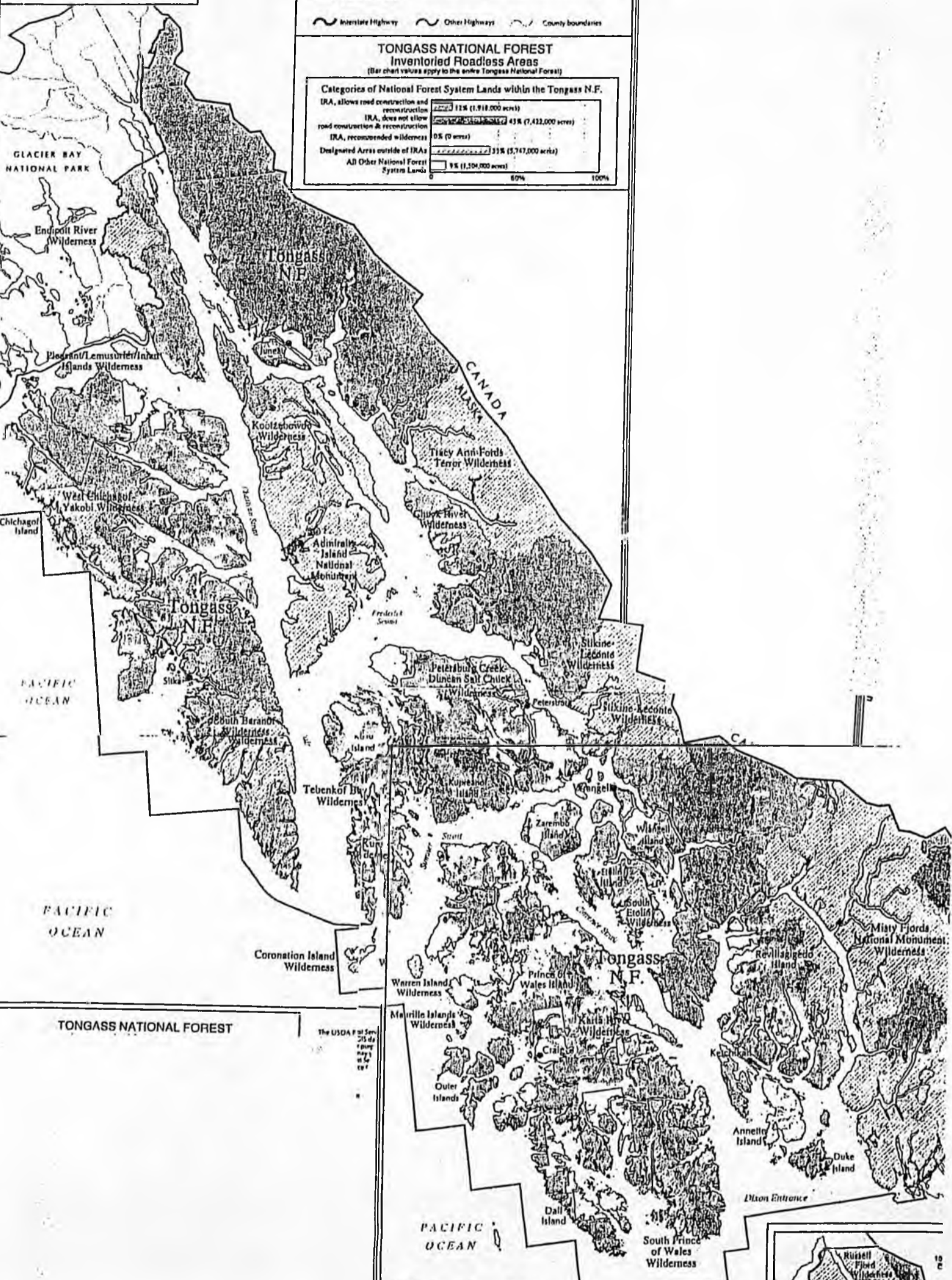
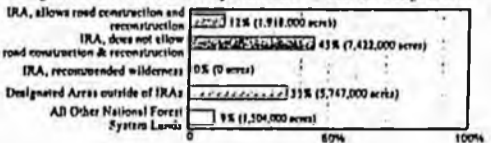
- Inventoried Roadless Area where road construction or reconstruction is allowed
- Inventoried Roadless Area where road construction or reconstruction is not allowed
- Inventoried Roadless Area where road construction or reconstruction is not allowed, and the forest plan recommends as wilderness
- Designated Areas outside of Inventoried Roadless Areas - *These are already roadless*
- National Forest System lands outside of Inventoried Roadless Areas - not all private land is shown on the map

Interstate Highway Other Highway County boundaries

**TONGASS NATIONAL FOREST  
Inventoried Roadless Areas**

(Bar chart values apply to the entire Tongass National Forest)

**Categories of National Forest System Lands within the Tongass N.F.**



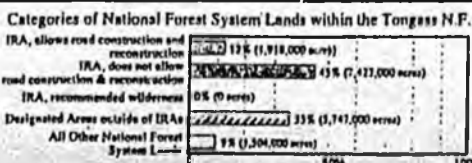
**TONGASS NATIONAL FOREST**

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Map 4) 10 0 10 Miles

**TONGASS NATIONAL FOREST  
Inventoried Roadless Areas**

(Bar chart values apply to the entire Tongass National Forest)



GULF OF ALASKA  
**Tongass N.F.**

**Alaska State Legislature  
House Resources Committee**

**Public Testimony On HJR 6  
January 24,2001**

**ROADLESS AREAS**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Resolution HJR 6. For more than two decades, Alaskans have been held to a separate standard from the other 49 states regarding the way the Federal Government has approached the management of lands in Alaska. Each time Alaskans and the Federal agencies have reached an agreement on land management policies in our National Forests, we've been told, "This is it. There will be no more withdrawal of lands". Recently, I served with fourteen other Alaskans on Governor Knowles Timber Task Force. At that time, former Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman told the Governor and our task force that the 1997 record of decision should be viewed as a conclusive decision after spending \$13 million and taking eleven years to revise the Tongass Land Use Plan. But as we all know, months later Undersecretary Lyons made wide sweeping changes to the Record Of Decision with no input from the public. Reasonable Alaskans were irked because certain selfish federal bureaucrats had duped us again. At the same time, the Roadless proposal for our national forests was being evaluated across the nation. Alaskans were told both the Tongass and Chugach would be exempt from inclusion because land use plans had just been completed. We know the rest of the story. Not only are we included, but as late as this past December, the effective date was to be the year 2004, but in the end, we were included with the same effective date and the other national forests. This is not a roadless policy for the Tongass. This can only be described as a **dead end** road policy. It is a **dead end** road to the sustainability of a viable wood fiber industry in Alaska. This presidential order brings a **dead end** road to access routes for hydro sites and power line corridors. It is a **dead end** road for funding for local schools that would have come from future timber sales receipts. It is a **dead end** road for entrance into watersheds to access public drinking water systems. It is a **dead end** road for hard surface linkage of our cities and towns. It is a **dead end** road for employment opportunities and further strangles local economies by forcing families to move on to seek other jobs – usually in a completely different field. Sadly and most important, this latest effort is a **dead end**

road for integrity and commitment made to Alaskans by the federal government. When there is no longer any trust in what our federal officials do and say, we are fraying the cords that bind democracy together.

The Governor has every reason to be outraged at this eleventh hour decision. And so should every reasonable Alaskan. The former President's Roadless decision violates numerous federal laws and I trust the Attorney General and other groups will be successful in quickly overturning this action in the courts. It is time for Alaskans to put up a **Dead End** sign to the heavy handed, selfishly motivated and non-involvement in the decision making process by our Federal government bureaucrats. I support the adoption of HJR 6 and commend the legislature for taking a strong stand opposing the Road less policy in Alaska.

However, please allow me to take another minute of your time because the Alaska timber industry desperately needs more legislative help than just the adoption of HJR 6. We are short on resources for fighting the legal battles that are associated with the environmental challenges brought by the well-healed environmental community. In addition, one of the biggest requirements we have is a current and objective report on the supply and demand for Alaska's wood fiber. To be really meaningful, this report must be expanded beyond the typical federal report of industry capacity and annual production. Other independent reports have stated that there is unlimited demand for Alaska type wood products. The constraint is the supply of timber from National Forest Land. For the past decade, these federal reports always conclude that production of manufactured wood products is declining and thus the federal supply of timber from the Tongass and Chugach should be further reduced. When USFS management sets annual harvest volumes using these incomplete reports, the outcome can best be described as sending the industry into a death spiral. We need a fresh in depth look from the state's perspective at the impacts of a shrinking forest products industry upon Alaska's citizens and communities. We must focus on the diminishing opportunity for jobs and the eroding ability for these communities to sustain their local economies. It is a very serious matter and time is of the essence to put forth the real facts about Alaska's remaining wood fiber industry. Thank you for the opportunity to testify this afternoon. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.



January 9, 2001

The Honorable Tony Knowles  
Governor of Alaska  
PO Box 110001  
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

JAN 19 2001

RE: Forest Service Roadless Rule

Dear Governor Knowles:

I was encouraged to read that you have directed your attorney general to prepare and file a legal complaint regarding the federal government's trumping of the forest planning process through implementation of the roadless rule. As you may be aware, Chugach Alaska Corporation (Chugach) has participated in the three year long Chugach National Forest Plan Revision. While we still have issues regarding the final outcome of that process, we were dismayed at how the roadless rule made a mockery of this public process, trumping its outcome by presidential fiat.

I am in total agreement with you that our public forests must be managed by the principles of sound science, conservation-based management, and an open, public process. The ongoing federal process to deem vast tracts of land in Alaska as forever roadless is clearly a slap in the face to those who struck the landmark compromise legislation, ANILCA, as well as those of us who have expended considerable funds and long hours in participating in the Forest Plan revision processes both on the Chugach and Tongass Forests. I want to thank you personally and on behalf of Chugach Alaska Corporation's entire board of directors for intervening in this most important issue. We stand by ready to assist that effort in any way deemed appropriate.

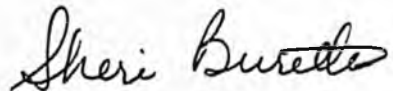
Our shared philosophy of open process, and sound science-based management may lead to further areas where we might be able to work towards common goals. As discussed at

Governor Knowles, January 9, 2001

the ANCSA Regional CEO meeting prior to the AFN annual meeting, Chugach welcomes the opportunity to meet with you personally and discuss areas where we can explore possible solutions to land management issues in the Chugach Region.

Again, thank you for standing up for Alaska on this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sheri Buretta".

Sheri Buretta,  
Chairman of the Board

Cc: Julie Kitka, President, AFN  
ANCSA Regional CEOS  
The Honorable Senator Ted Stevens  
The Honorable Senator Frank Murkowski  
The Honorable Congressman Don Young  
Rick Halford, Alaska State Senate President  
Brian Porter, Alaska State Speaker of the House

January 24, 2001  
P.O. Box 1331  
Petersburg, Ak. 99833

House Resource Committee  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Ak. 99801

Re; House Joint Resolution 6

Dear Honorable Representatives Masek, Scalzi, Fate, Green, Chenault, McGuire, Stevens, Kapsner, and Kertula:

I am a long time business owner in Petersburg. I hold a SE Alaska Salmon Drift Gillnet permit and I strongly support inclusion of the Tongass National Forest in the US Forest Service's Roadless Conservation Plan. I am a wife and mother of three sons, and we have fished together as a family since my sons were babies. My oldest is in now in college. While we have been forced over the years to adapt to change and engage in multiple fisheries, Southeast gillnetting has been our bread and butter.

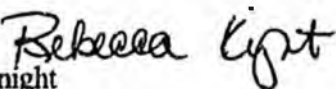
As you know, commercial fishing is Alaska's number one industry. The inability of the Forest Service to maintain the thousands of miles of logging roads currently on the Tongass is a disgrace and jeopardizes salmon stocks due to fish passage issues for juvenile salmon and resident fish species. Fish biologists are in agreement that salmon fisheries have peaked and are now on the down side of the "Pacific Decadal Oscillation" (PDO). Simply put, productive ocean cycles are declining which is exactly when habitat becomes very important. While I am in strong disagreement with the proposed resolution I am miffed that there was no acknowledgement of the condition of Tongass roads included. Shouldn't there be an amendment, which addresses Tongass road conditions in the proposed resolution?

If Tongass roads were repaired, there would be jobs ad infinitum for heavy equipment operators, support personnel, and region wide trickle-down employment. Forest Service timber sale/road planning jobs could be diverted to restoration planning and recreation projects. Forest Service personnel are adaptable. As you are probably also aware, recreation is the number one use of national forests. If Ted Stevens can secure funding for development projects, certainly he can do the same for habitat rehabilitation and recreation projects. Perhaps he needs to hear from you regarding that. And perhaps salmon fishermen need to hear from Alaska legislators that fishing is an important industry as well - important enough to defend fish habitat now and for the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed resolution.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Knight





# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Resources  
 committee name  
 committee on HJR 6, dated 1/27/01  
 bill/subject

My name is Florian Sever and I am a long-time resident of Sitka, Alaska, I have lived in Sitka for 25 years, and I have worked in the timber industry in the past.

I am definitely in favor of President Clinton's Roadless Policy, so I am against passage of HJR 6. There are way too many logging roads in Southeast Alaska already. The USFS does not maintain existing roads, and this has caused a heavy, negative impact on fish-rearing streams & receiving water from sediment-laden runoff. Silt generated by clearcuts ~~is~~ smothering spawning beds wherever these clearcuts exist, or occur.

Lastly, I feel it is incumbent upon this committee to hold public hearings on this issue in the towns of Southeast Alaska. Most working people cannot take time off of work to sit around at the legislative information office waiting for an opportunity to speak. Specifically I

Signed: Florian Sever - Florian Sever  
 Testifier  
 SELF  
 Representing (Optional)  
1706 Edgcumbe Drive, Sitka AK 99835  
 Address  
907-747-8466  
 Phone No.

REQUEST THAT REPRESENTATIVE WILSON COME TO SITKA TO HOLD EVENING PUBLIC MEETINGS TO GAUGE THE PUBLIC FEELING ON THIS ISSUE BEFORE SHE VOTES ON THIS ISSUE.

—END—



# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Resources  
 committee name  
 committee on HJR 6, dated 1/24/01  
 bill/subject

Why did Sitka not receive an equal opportunity to testify?  
 Every other community has multiple opportunities to testify before we were called.  
 The wording of the <sup>resolution</sup> ~~resolution~~ <sup>sponsors support</sup> is not correct. The Action is not  
 an affront to all Alaskans. Many Alaskans testified in favor of  
 the policy.

The impetus for the roadless policy is fiscal. The Forest Service cannot obtain enough funds to adequately maintain existing roads. Poorly maintained roads cause damage to fisheries habitat and water quality. In the steep terrain of S.E. Alaska, roads cost over \$100,000 per mile to build. A recent report, done by the Forest Service and ADF&G, documented that over 70% of our 4500 miles of roads on the Tongass are currently damaging fish resources. Fishery resources renew on a 7 yr. time cycle, trees 200 or more years. By supporting this resolution, the legislature would be urging the roads be built without any guarantee that there would be maintenance funds available, thereby damaging a resource that is much more important in the state's economy and renewable on a much swifter time scale.

Signed: Page V. Elbe  
 Testifier  
 Myself  
 Representing (Optional)  
2219 SMC  
 Address  
747-7509  
 Phone No.

1 of 2

9/86 Legislative Information Office

OVER

The TLMP process took 11 years because the viability population committee, composed of Alaska state agency representatives and other federal agencies fought for protection for fish & wildlife resources

of us were unable to speak during waiting hours.

Recommendations of the Viable Population Committee were not implemented in TLMP. Therefore Secretary Lyons was forced to make additional habitat protections. The cost of road maintenance was not adequately addressed under TLMP, nor was the research completed on the roads & fish crossing problem.

Page 82x

# Alaska State Legislature

## House of Representatives



Official Business

State Capitol  
Juneau, AK. 99801-1182

### Representative Peggy Wilson

#### SPONSOR STATEMENT – HJR 6

##### *Opposing the Clinton Administrations' decision on the Roadless Policy*

On January 5, 2001, President Clinton announced the final Record of Decision for the roadless policy including the Tongass and Chugach National Forests.

Alaskans from across this state must join forces to overturn the inclusion of Alaska forests within President Clinton's Roadless Policy.

This Presidential action is an affront to all Alaskans and continues the history of breaking promises to Alaskans regarding land management.

The president's Roadless Policy is a blatant disregard of the process that has been agreed to. Countless hours, over eleven years and 13 million dollars were spent making revisions to the Tongass Land Management Plan. The Chugach Forest Plan revision process has been underway for over three years requiring considerable investment of time money and resources. Now these processes have been completely disregarded.

The Roadless Initiative violates the "no-more" clauses of ANILCA and creates approximately 15 million acres of new defacto wilderness within Alaska.

I, like many Alaskans, am vehemently opposed to the inclusion of the Tongass and Chugach National Forests in the president's Roadless Initiative and ask that we work together and support the overturning of this inclusion by litigation, congressional action or by action of President-elect Bush.

State of Alaska  
Office of the Governor

**Tony Knowles**  
Governor  
P.O. Box 110001  
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0001  
**NEWS RELEASE**



**Bob King**  
Press Secretary  
**Claire Richardson**  
Deputy Press Secretary  
907-465-3500  
FAX: 907-465-3533  
[www.gov.state.ak.us](http://www.gov.state.ak.us)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 5, 2001

01-004

**TONGASS ROADLESS ACTION VIOLATES PUBLIC PROCESS, TRUST**  
*Knowles Seeks Legal, Congressional Action to Uphold "Doing it Right" Principles*

Calling it another federal fiat that constitutes a double-cross of the public process and the public's trust, Gov. Tony Knowles today directed his Attorney General to file suit against the Clinton Administration's midnight-hour executive action on roadless policy in the Tongass and Chugach National Forests. Knowles also called on Congress and the incoming Administration to take actions to confirm his "doing it right" principles of resource management in federal law.

"Our forests must be managed by the principles of sound science, conservation-based management, and an open, public process," Knowles said. "The executive action announced in Washington today is based on little or no science, and makes a mockery of the public process that was involved in the creation of the Tongass Land Management Plan and shortcuts the process now underway for the Chugach.

"Alaskans are tired of being double-crossed by the federal government with false promises of public involvement that is subsequently overturned by executive policy actions from Washington," Knowles added. "I am directing my Attorney General to file suit against this illegal and ill-advised executive fiat to preserve the integrity of the planning process."

Knowles called on Sen. Frank Murkowski, chairman of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, and Congressman Don Young, chairman of the Alaska Task Force of the House Resources Committee, to take the necessary congressional actions that confirm the 'doing it right' principles of science, management, and public process that exist in federal law." Knowles will also seek review of the roadless policy by the incoming Bush Administration.

Outgoing President Bill Clinton announced the roadless initiative in Washington, D.C. today, ignoring a 10-year, \$12 million, science based, public planning process that took place for the Tongass. Knowles has steadfastly supported the public process over federal fiats in resource decision making and said that bypassing the process was not a victory for either side. Conservation measures that were gained in the Tongass Plan could as easily be overturned by future executive action if today's roadless policy were left unchallenged, Knowles noted.

"There are no winners in the forest if the management of our resources is based on executive fiats rather than sound science and a public process," Knowles said. "Those who claim victory today may find themselves the victims of an executive action tomorrow. When federal policy establishes an open, public process in decision making, they must abide by the public's decision. That's why this action is wrong and must be challenged."

**CITY OF PETERSBURG**

P.O. BOX 329 • PETERSBURG, ALASKA 99833

TELEPHONE (907) 772-4511

TELECOPIER (907) 772-3759

January 19, 2001

Representative Peggy Wilson  
Room 409  
State Capital  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Wilson,

The City of Petersburg has been and remains strongly opposed to the Roadless Initiative, especially the inclusion of the Tongass National Forest in this initiative. Petersburg has gone so far as to send Representatives to Washington D.C., to voice our opposition to the Tongass inclusion. The City of Petersburg has also passed and distributed a resolution opposing this initiative, which we have attached to this letter for your utilization. Petersburg has additionally voiced its agreement with our Federal Congressional Delegation and the Governors intention to sue the Federal Government in opposition to this intrusion.

Petersburg thanks you for your co-sponsorship of HJR6 and whole heartedly supports your efforts in this matter. If we can be of any further service, besides our support, please feel free to contact our city offices.

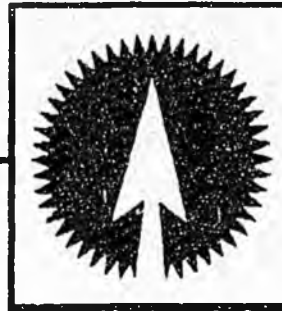
Sincerely,

Theodore (Ted) Smith  
Mayor of Petersburg

Enclosure (1)

sk

# Alaska Forest Association, Inc.



111 STEDMAN STREET, SUITE 200  
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA 99901-6599  
Phone 907-225-6114  
FAX 907-225-5920  
Web Site [www.akforest.org](http://www.akforest.org)

January 12, 2001

Representative Peggy Wilson  
State Capitol, Room 409  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

JAN 12 2001

Via Fax (907) 465-3175, Original Via Mail

## Re: House Joint Resolution 6, Opposing the Roadless Rule

Dear Representative Wilson:

Thank you for introducing HJR 6, a resolution opposing the inclusion of the Tongass and Chugach National Forests in the President's Roadless Rule. The Alaska Forest Association fully supports HJR 6 because Alaska is disproportionately harmed by the rule.

As HJR 6 clearly spells out, Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) contains provisions which were intended to prohibit the very kinds of actions that are at issue here. Aside from the immediate harm that will accrue to the industry and communities of Alaska's coastal region, the Roadless Rule should be opposed by the State of Alaska because of the promises embodied in ANILCA. Whether the Clinton Administration chose to call these roadless withdrawals "wilderness" or not, it amounts to the same thing. As HJR 6 states, these new areas will be *de facto* wilderness, the designation of which, or *even the study* of which, is prohibited by ANILCA. Additionally, the Roadless Rule violates the National Forest Management Act of 1976 (NFMA) which established a planning process for land management plans in individual forests.

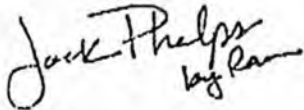
The Tongass Land Management Plan (TLMP) was revised in 1997 after the Forest Service spent 11 years and \$13 million on the revision. In 1999, Under Secretary of Agriculture, Jim Lyons unilaterally amended the plan under the guise of granting appeal points to some radical environmental groups. Whether his action was legal under federal laws and regulations is presently the subject of a complaint filed in federal district court by the AFA, the Metlakatla Indian Community, Coffman Cove, Wrangell, Ketchikan Gateway Borough, the City of Craig, Southeast Conference, Concerned Alaskans for Resources and Environment (C.A.R.E.) and some individuals. The result of Mr. Lyons' decision was a plan that is able to produce a maximum annual offering level of only 153 million board feet of timber, and is likely to produce much less, based on historic Forest Service performance. As a point of reference, existing sawmills in Southeast Alaska (including some that are currently closed) have a normal annual operating capacity of 355.5 million board feet.

Estimates given by the Forest Service, Alaska Region, state that application of the Roadless Rule to the Tongass and the Chugach will further reduce the land available for timber harvest from 576,000 to 311,000 acres in the Tongass, and to 53,000 in the Chugach. The Forest Service estimates it can offer approximately 50-55 million board feet of timber per year under the Roadless Rule and TLMP. If implementation of the Roadless Rule occurs there will certainly be more mill closures and loss of employment in the region. Given the dramatic decline in timber-related economic activity in Southeast Alaska over the past decade, it is time Alaska said "enough is enough" to these unnecessary and unacceptable federal preservation actions.

With respect to the Chugach National Forest, 98 percent of that forest is presently inventoried roadless. Application of the Roadless Rule would prohibit all new transportation infrastructure in that forest without the benefit of a public planning process specific to the Chugach. The Chugach Land and Resource Management Plan is presently undergoing revision under terms set forth in the National Forest Management Act of 1976. AFA and several other user groups have been very actively involved in the Chugach planning process. That is the proper venue for land use allocation decisions to be made in the Chugach, as it is with all the other national forests in this country. Such decisions should not be made through a national super-EIS initiated for the purposes of establishing an "environmental legacy" for the President and furthering his political aims.

Again, thank you for introducing this important resolution. It is our hope that the Alaska State Legislature will act swiftly in strong support of HJR 6. If you have any questions regarding the Roadless Rule, please call me.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Jack E. Phelps in cursive script. The signature includes the name "Jack Phelps" and a smaller signature below it that appears to be "by Ram".

Jack E. Phelps  
Executive Director

cc: The Honorable Tony Knowles, Governor of Alaska  
Senator John Torgerson



January 12, 2001

Representative Peggy Wilson  
State Capitol, Room 409  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

JAN 12 2001

Via Fax (907) 465-3175, Original Via Mail

**Re: HJR 6, Federal Roadless Rule**

Dear Representative Wilson:

I am writing on behalf of Chugach Alaska Corporation (Chugach) to express our full support of HJR 6. As the largest non-federal landowner within the Chugach National Forest (Chugach owns or has selection rights to 625,000 acres of full fee, subsurface and oil and gas estate within the boundaries of the Chugach National Forest) Chugach has participated fully in the Chugach Forest Plan revision process, investing considerable resources over the past several years. The roadless rule makes a mockery of that process.

We also have a future need to perfect road access across National Forest lands, access that was promised to Chugach as an integral part of its land settlement. It is disingenuous for the Forest Service to characterize those lands within the Chugach Forest that are burdened by Chugach's statutory access rights as forever roadless. The Roadless rule will only make perfecting such promised access more difficult.

We applaud Governor Knowle's resolve to defend our Corporation and all Alaskans who will suffer from this executive fiat. HJR 6 articulates these issues well and will further support the Governor's effort, while providing the needed backing for our President-elect and Congressional delegation in Washington to overturn this rule.

Enclosed is additional correspondence regarding this matter, should you wish to explore Chugach's position on this issue in greater detail. Feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss this issue further. Thank-you for your support

Sincerely,

Rick Rogers, Vice President  
Lands, Resources and Tourism

Enclosures: Letter to Governor Knowles  
Letter to Secretary of Agriculture Glickman

560 East 34th Avenue Suite 200 Anchorage, Alaska 99503-4196 Phone 907-563-8866 Fax 907-563-8402

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January 19, 2001

Representative Peggy Wilson  
Alaska State Capital  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Wilson,

My family and I applaud yours and Representative Williams' sponsorship of HJR6 opposing President Clinton's Roadless Proposal. We also strongly support Governor Knowles' decision to file suit against the proposal. This Proposal must be overturned by whatever methods it can, be it litigation, congressional action, or Presidential order.

I have lived in Alaska all my life. My parents settled in Alaska and fought for statehood over 50 years ago. My small family and myself currently reside in Ketchikan, where we own our home and operate a business. Please do not be deceived by those who have no stake in this area that the majority of testimonies at hearings were in favor of the Roadless Policy. I testified at the hearings in Ketchikan, and only in Ketchikan. I am certain if one compares names of those who testified at the hearings one will find a pattern of duplications. I have seen many of the same people soliciting ill guided comments from unsuspecting visitors unfamiliar with the issues and the areas. In fact, they launched a well-staffed and funded campaign in Ketchikan's summer 2000 visitor season to solicit 20,000 comments in favor of the Presidential initiative. To claim that the majority of hearing testimonies were in favor of the Roadless Policy truly emphasizes these people's methods of public deception.

This Roadless Policy action further handcuffs our state from ever being able to comply with our Statehood Compact of utilizing our natural resources to fund State Government. I believe the legislature should also re-consider former Governor Hickel's lawsuit against the federal government in breach of Alaska's statehood contract.

Thank you again for your sponsorship of HJR6.

Sincerely yours,

K.A. Swiger  
Owner

**Gerald and Deloris Herbrandson**  
**Solar Wind**  
**P.O. Box 1374**  
**720 Sandy Beach Road**  
**Petersburg, Alaska 99833**  
**(907) 772-4898**

Jan. 21, 2001

**Regarding HJR-6**

**Peggy Wilson -**

**My wife and I are very concerned that the Roadless legislation as being imposed upon our country, through executive order, is not in accordance with the will of the people and in many cases violates many of the public comment/check-and-balances which have been built into proposed actions of our government.**

**It is my observation that the communities of SE Alaska have been significantly effected by the management polices of the Forest Service. Through the 1970's, 80's, and early 90's the communities staggered under a tremendous housing shortage caused by the growth of the timber program and Forest Service employment. Hospitals, schools, support services, and community housing were expanded to meet the demands of a growing economy. The cost of housing rose significantly as the communities tried to react to housing shortages.**

**Beginning in the mid 90' Forest Service policy changed. Timber programs were cut, timber related industries closed, and Forest Service employment reduced. These government actions (many of which bordered being fraudulent and deceitful) significantly effected the economy of SE Alaska. The communities found themselves contenting with high unemployment, excess housing, declining property values, and unmet budgets.**

**It is my feeling that the Federal Government, as the largest land owner of SE Alaska, has a moral obligation to the economy of each community. This obligation is further burdened when one understands that the communities were built-up to their current condition in response to actions of the Federal Government.**

**For the Federal Government to arbitrarily close access to the natural resources that these communities rely upon with out taken full responsibility for the loss of property value, loss of employment, loss of economic incomes is not acceptable.**

**It is promoted by some that tourism and recreation are the new economies of SE Alaska. This sounds good but has no basis. Tourism provides employment to a very limited few for less than 12 months out of the year. No viable community can build it's economy upon tourism alone which can evaporate on the whims of public sentiment. The economy of SE Alaska, as with our total Nation, must be diverse with segments rooted in the development and wise management of natural resources.**

**Thank you for your support**  
**Gerald and Deloris Herbrandson**

January 19, 2001

Representative Peggy Wilson  
House of Representatives  
Room 409  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Re: Tongass Roadless Policy

Dear Representative Wilson:

I am delighted that you have taken the time and effort to pursue passage of a Resolution condemning the "Roadless" policy recently imposed upon us by the Clinton administration. I support this resolution and am adamantly opposed to this 'dictate', which is the death knell to our remaining chance of maintaining any type of a stable economy.

Any type of logging in the Tongass has been under attack by the extreme environmental organizations for years. However, the past 8 years have been particularly devastating to our economy in Southeast Alaska. We have witnessed the closure of our only two pulp mills in Sitka and in Ketchikan. We went through a 10 year Tongass Land Use Management Plan (TLMP) with literally hundreds of public hearings and studies that cost millions of dollars. The alternative that was finally agreed to (which further reduced timber harvest levels) and was 'signed-off' by the Forest Service was unilaterally altered by Under Secretary of Agriculture Jim Lyons. Without any public input or public hearings, he further reduced the harvest levels, set aside more lands as protected from any resource based activity, and increased the timber harvest rotation from 100 to 200 years.

This, now, has been followed by two staggering and unprecedented assaults on the Tongass. First is the "Roadless" issue which prohibits any road building in the Tongass except under unusual circumstances. This effectively limits timber harvest to under 50 million board feet per year - hardly enough to keep one small sawmill operating. The second, and most blatant edict issued recently WITHOUT any public input or comment, is the recent ruling by Dan Glickman that no "old growth" trees can be harvested at all!!

I've lived in Petersburg for over 20 years. Our school enrollment has been declining each year for the past 5 years. There are more homes for sale than ever before in Petersburg's history. Our sales tax revenues are declining. Property values are declining as well. Because of this, funding for schools, streets and roads, parks and recreation, and other services have been cut. People are leaving town; not because they want to but because there is no longer employment.

I will close here for the sake of brevity. But, what is presently happening in California with the energy crisis is the direct result of the environmental community fighting to keep any new power plants from being constructed within the State. These same extremists are now attempting to close the Tongass to any resource based activity including timber, fishing, and tourism (except the backpacker, of course). It is indeed sad when I, as a parent of two kids, have to admit that there is no chance of them coming back to live here because there are no jobs here. This is a sad day for Petersburg and a sad day for Alaska if this is allowed to happen.

I urge unanimous passage of your resolution.

Sincerely,



Dave Carlson  
PO Box 689  
Petersburg, AK 99833

I'm sick of the people in  
Washington D.C. Making these decisions  
for us who live in the Tongass N.F.  
This Roadless issue is a big waste of  
time and money that no one can  
afford. I worked for the Forest Service  
during the time T.L.M.P. was put together.  
Where are our Leaders minds.

Thank you

Sid  
Sid Bacom  
P.O. Box 683  
Petersburg, AK 99833

**Subject: Roadless Letter**

**Date: Sat, 20 Jan 2001 16:18:12 -0900**

**From: "Wilma E Leslie" <wilma@alaskawaters.com>**

**To: <Jean\_Ellis@legis.state.ak.us>**

Dear Representative Wilson:

I am opposed to President Clinton's Roadless Area Conservation rule. I support the overturning of this inclusion by litigation, by congressional action or by action of President Bush. The Roadless Area Conservation rule, if enforced will have a devastating effect on more than just the Timber industry. This Roadless Area Conservation rule is "THE DESTROYER OF FAMILIES" living in Southeast Alaska. This issue is a people issue not a wilderness issue. If initiated, the Roadless Rule will be the last nail in Southeast Alaska's economic coffin!

The goal of all environmental groups has been and always will be to shut down all Natural Resource based industries in Alaska. The timber industry just happen to be the first casualty. Legislation limiting access to the Tongass has already caused unnecessary hardship and grief for many families who were previously employed in the timber industry. If we don't stop this Roadless Rule there will be more families that will be devastated.

I know that national preservationist groups as well as the Southeast Alaska Conservation Council (SEACC) do not think that they have personally caused anyone harm. They are wrong, they have. These preservationist groups continue to cause the annihilation of small (rural) Alaskan communities by supporting radical environmental legislation. They need to look into the faces of the people who's lives they are destroying. They need to be held publicly accountable for their actions!

The only way to save Alaska from the whims of legislators in Washington D.C. is to educate the rest of the Nation about Alaska. The real issues and truths about Alaska are unknown to most Americans. Alaska is too far away and the Alaskan's lifestyle too "foreign" for most people to grasp. Radical environmental groups have used fear and misinformation to motivate these same people to send in money and sway the vote for extreme and sometimes absurd environmental legislation.

Alaska needs to initiate a scientifically based "Alaska Natural Resource Education Program". This program needs to be in all Alaska elementary, middle and high schools. Hopefully, through educating our own citizens about Alaska's natural resource based industries.

Alaska Women In Timber in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service tried to initiate a program called "Alaska's Great Green Forest". Unfortunately, their program did not address all Natural Resource Industries.

The Timber Industry was assured in 1990 by Congress and environmental groups that no jobs would be lost if the Tongass Timber Reform Act was put in place and 1.1 million additional acres set aside. This has turned out not to be the case. Promises now about maintaining the existing industry ring hollow when we are unable to redeem previous promises and more of the Tongass is being withdrawn through the proposed Roadless Area Conservation rule.

Wrangell's economy and families depend on multiple use access to the Tongass National Forest for their survival! Alaska's state legislators, Alaska's governor and the Alaska congressional delegation need to make sure that President Clinton's Roadless Area Conservation rule is overturned!

Sincerely,

12 Wilma E. Leslie - Wrangell

**Subject: KPPLUG SUPPORTS HJR 6**

**Date: Sat, 20 Jan 2001 17:11:52 -0900**

**From: "DeVito's" <gooches4@alaska.net>**

**To: Representative\_Peggy\_Wilson@legis.state.ak.us**

January 17, 2001

Kenai Peninsula Public Land Users Group

P.O. Box 1424

Soldotna, Alaska 99669

Alaska State Senate

State Capitol

Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator,

On behalf of the Kenai Peninsula-Public Land Users Group (KPPLUG), it is with great concern that we support and urge the adoption of HJR 6 and SJR 2, which opposes the inclusion of National Forests in Alaska within President Clinton's Roadless Area Conservation rule. We strongly support overturning this inclusion by litigation, congressional action, or by the action of President Bush.

KPPLUG represents many members and incorporates all varieties of user groups. We are a grass roots organization interested in the responsible utilization of our public lands on the Kenai Peninsula in particular, and the other public lands of Alaska in general.

Clinton's rule disregards the land management process, which Congress intended under the National Forest Management Act of 1976. It further conflicts with several specific sections of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA). As a result, the economic, social, traditional, recreational and educational rights and opportunities of Alaskans have been ignored.

The National Forests in Alaska are unique and mostly absent of roads, access, and abusive resource development. There is no cause, evidence, or legitimate explanation for such a drastic roadless conservation rule.

Again, KPPLUG strongly supports the Alaska State Legislature in opposing Clinton's Roadless Area Conservation rule, and particularly opposes the illegal inclusion of the Tongass and Chugach National Forests in this rule. We urge you to adopt HJR 6 and SJR 2.

Thank you,

Dennis Merkes - President KPPLUG

Cc: Alaska House of Representatives  
Alaska House Resource Committee  
Alaska State Senate  
Alaska State Senate Resource Committee

## MY TURN

by Robert W. Loescher

President & CEO, Sealaska Corporation

Alaskans from across this great state need to join forces with Governor Tony Knowles and the Alaska Congressional Delegation and keep the Clinton Administration's "roadless policy" out of our Tongass and Chugach National Forests. Here are four reasons why: (1) The roadless policy totally ignores the established forest land planning process. (2) By fiat, the roadless policy locks up so much suitable forest land that we can not sustain jobs and a viable timber industry. (3) The roadless policy violates the clause in Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) that unequivocally said no more public land would be locked up in Alaska. (4) It precludes rural communities from improving their core infrastructure needs including drinking water and utility and transportation corridors.

Governor Tony Knowles staunchly supports the right of the Alaskan public to participate in administrative and legislative actions that affect their lives. He said that the roadless initiative is not a public process. He understands that the roadless policy ensures that Alaska's forests will not sustain a viable and economically important timber industry. This policy will hurt Alaska's urban and rural communities. Alaska and our forest-dependent communities cannot absorb more loss of jobs and restricted access to land for core community needs that this policy will cause.

Alaska has a long history of responsible, public processes to guide the management of our forests and forest ecosystems. They were designed to protect wilderness, jobs and community well-being. ANILCA struck the right balance between the reservation of national conservation system units and those public lands necessary and appropriate for more intensive use and disposition. ANILCA's "no more" clause prohibited any further land withdrawals without the

approval of the US Congress. The "no more" clause made sure that voices of the small, forest-dependent communities were not drowned out by the "postcard diplomacy" of well-financed corporate environmental organizations and foundations.

Congress passed the Tongass Timber Reform Act (TTRA) in 1990 and set aside another 1.2 million acres of national forest land. TTRA was a very public process that fixed obvious oversights in ANILCA by adding small but important ecosystems to conservation units. In this process, the voice of Alaska residents was heard.

Unfortunately, the Clinton administration ignored the open and public processes in ANILCA and TTRA that produced the revisions to the Tongass Land Management Plan (TLMP). The revised TLMP Plan, initiated in 1986, and finally ratified in May 1997 allowed national public participation. Two years later, US Dept. of Interior Undersecretary Lyons disregarded this public process and significantly amended the 1997-revised TLMP. He cut the annual allowable harvest from the Tongass National Forest by over 30% and injured Alaskans' ability to sustain a viable timber industry.

This blatant disregard for the public process and the health of Alaska's forest-dependent communities occurred after Undersecretary Lyons declared his support for the public forest land management planning process. Lyons said to the Southeast Conference that there would be no further significant timber or other land withdrawals on the Tongass National Forest. Undersecretary Lyon's unilateral actions demonstrate clearly why there was a "no more" provision in the ANILCA: to stop Washington D.C. bureaucrats from imposing their own misguided ideology behind closed doors.

The Clinton administration continues to steamroll the Alaskan public. Undersecretary Lyons told us that the new national roadless policy would not apply to the Tongass National Forest because the Tongass land planning

process had just been completed. In an about-face, the US Forest Service EIS now recommends inclusion of the Tongass. This action reduces the annual harvest from Tongass by 82% and destroys our forest industry. All this without any meaningful site-specific considerations that the local planning processes require. The key public official obligated to ensure public participation in forest management decisions ignored the public's rights and became an agent for the corporate national environmental organizations who place ideology and perception above good science and the people's right to live and work in this great land.

The roadless agenda is clear. The Clinton administration's threat to implement its roadless policies is real. It will harm our communities, who depend on access to the adjacent forests for drinking water, for cheaper electrical power, and for basic safe and reliable transportation corridors.

We, as a State, must pull together and stop the economic strangulation of our communities. I applaud the way Governor Knowles stood up for Alaska and protested the preemption of the TLMP process. Governor Knowles said in a letter to Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman, "I remain firm in my opposition to any action that undermines the Tongass plan through federal fiat."

The Congressional Delegation has been using its authority and prestige in Washington, D.C. to urge Secretary Glickman to adhere to the National Forest Management Land Planning process and not to apply the roadless policy to the Alaska National Forests. The Governor and the Congressional Delegation working together with Alaskans can influence the outcome. However, lukewarm and measured responses to this threat will not prevail. We must adopt an aggressive strategy that may include litigation, congressional action and administrative challenges to prevent application of the roadless policy to either the Tongass or Chugach National Forest.

This is now a matter of survival. Alaskans treasure independence, and take pride in self-reliance. If we fail to act, our communities and the economies of the Tongass and Chugach National Forests will become financially-dependent wards of the State and Federal government.

*Robert W. Jensen*

708(b)(4)

managed for the purpose of protecting their suitability for wilderness designation pending revision of the initial plans; and

(4) unless expressly authorized by Congress the Department of Agriculture shall not conduct any further statewide roadless area review and evaluation of National Forest System lands in the State of Alaska for the purpose of determining their suitability for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

TITLE VIII—SUBSISTENCE MANAGEMENT AND USE

FINDINGS

16 USC 3111.

SEC. 801. The Congress finds and declares that—

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(1) the continuation of the opportunity for subsistence uses by rural residents of Alaska, including both Natives and non-Natives, on the public lands and by Alaska Natives on Native lands is essential to Native physical, economic, traditional, and cultural existence and to non-Native physical, economic, traditional, and social existence;

(2) the situation in Alaska is unique in that, in most cases, no practical alternative means are available to replace the food supplies and other items gathered from fish and wildlife which supply rural residents dependent on subsistence uses;

(3) continuation of the opportunity for subsistence uses of resources on public and other lands in Alaska is threatened by the increasing population of Alaska, with resultant pressure on subsistence resources, by sudden decline in the populations of some wildlife species which are crucial subsistence resources, by increased accessibility of remote areas containing subsistence resources, and by taking of fish and wildlife in a manner inconsistent with recognized principles of fish and wildlife management;

(4) in order to fulfill the policies and purposes of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act and as a matter of equity, it is necessary for the Congress to invoke its constitutional authority over Native affairs and its constitutional authority under the property clause and the commerce clause to protect and provide the opportunity for continued subsistence uses on the public lands by Native and non-Native rural residents; and

(5) the national interest in the proper regulation, protection, and conservation of fish and wildlife on the public lands in Alaska and the continuation of the opportunity for a subsistence way of life by residents of rural Alaska require that an administrative structure be established for the purpose of enabling rural residents who have personal knowledge of local conditions and requirements to have a meaningful role in the management of fish and wildlife and of subsistence uses on the public lands in Alaska.

43 USC 1601 note.

POLICY

16 USC 3112.

SEC. 802. It is hereby declared to be the policy of Congress that—

(1) consistent with sound management principles, and the conservation of healthy populations of fish and wildlife, the utilization of the public lands in Alaska is to cause the least adverse impact possible on rural residents who depend upon subsistence uses of the resources of such lands; consistent with management of fish and wildlife in accordance with recognized

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ACCESS

Nonfederally owned lands. 16 USC 3210.

SEC. 1323. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary of Agriculture may prescribe, the Secretary shall provide such access to nonfederally owned land within the boundaries of the National Forest System as the Secretary deems adequate to secure to the owner the reasonable use and enjoyment thereof: *Provided*, That such owner comply with rules and regulations applicable to ingress and egress to or from the National Forest System.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe, the Secretary shall provide such access to nonfederally owned land surrounded by public lands managed by the Secretary under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701-82) as the Secretary deems adequate to secure to the owner the reasonable use and enjoyment thereof: *Provided*, That such owner comply with rules and regulations applicable to access across public lands.

YUKON FLATS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE AGRICULTURAL USE

16 USC 3211.

SEC. 1324. Nothing in this Act or other existing law shall be construed as necessarily prohibiting or mandating the development of agricultural potential within the Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge pursuant to existing law. The permissibility of such development shall be determined by the Secretary on a case-by-case basis under existing law. Any such development permitted within the Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge shall be designed and conducted in such a manner as to minimize to the maximum extent possible any adverse effects of the natural values of the unit.

TERROR LAKE HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT IN KODIAK NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

16 USC 3212.

SEC. 1325. Nothing in this Act or the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd) shall be construed as necessarily prohibiting or mandating the construction of the Terror Lake Hydroelectric Project within the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. The permissibility of such development shall be determined by the Secretary on a case-by-case basis under existing law.

FUTURE EXECUTIVE ACTIONS

16 USC 3213.

Publication in Federal Register; notification of Congress.

SEC. 1326. (a) No future executive branch action which withdraws more than five thousand acres, in the aggregate, of public lands within the State of Alaska shall be effective except by compliance with this subsection. To the extent authorized by existing law, the President or the Secretary may withdraw public lands in the State of Alaska exceeding five thousand acres in the aggregate, which withdrawal shall not become effective until notice is provided in the Federal Register and to both Houses of Congress. Such withdrawal shall terminate unless Congress passes a joint resolution of approval within one year after the notice of such withdrawal has been submitted to Congress.

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



SEC. 1327. No additional requirement of transportation and approved transportation imposing any burden concerning such...

SEC. 1328. (a) made pursuant (44 Stat. 1364), Stat. 1097), wh within the time in Alaska that statutes when hundred and e except where subsection, or adjusted pursuant approval pursuant the time the adj

(2) Where an unit of the Nat Refuge System in the before the effect land was not w Native Claims land which has which on or tentatively app Alaska pursuant to section 11(a) from those lands the Act by any 11(b) of such Act of this section cated pursuant 1328(a)(1) heret other applicable

(3) Paragraph apply and the requirements on on or before t effective date o

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(B) the stating that access to la a political s thereon, or

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**RESOLUTION NO. 1598-R**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
PETERSBURG, ALASKA OPPOSING THE INCLUSION OF THE  
TONGASS NATIONAL FOREST IN THE USDA FOREST SERVICE'S  
NATIONAL ROADLESS AREA REVIEW**

Whereas, Section 708 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980 (ANILCA) resolved roadless issues in a compromise bill as well as established over five million acres in 14 areas as Wilderness on the Tongass National Forest; and

Whereas, the Tongass Timber Reform Act of 1990 added 350,000 acres on the Tongass National Forest in five new Wilderness areas and one addition to an existing wilderness; and

Whereas, the Tongass Timber Reform Act also designates almost 690,000 acres in 12 Congress mandated roadless areas to maintain their wildland characteristics; and

Whereas, the Record of Decision (ROD) signed by Undersecretary Lyons noted the Tongass National Forest would be exempt from roadless moratorium as the newly revised plan had the benefit of considerable science and public involvement in the 12 year revision process for the Forest Plan; and

Whereas, Mr. Lyons also noted that he considered the roadless issue in his decision and addressed it through changing land allocations to mostly natural Land Use Designations in 18 un-roaded areas totaling 500,000 acres; and

Whereas, Mr. Lyons stated in the ROD that 90 percent or more of all currently un-roaded lands on the Tongass will still be roadless at the time of the next forest plan revision; and

Whereas, only 3 percent of 17 million acres on the Tongass National Forest will be used to sustain the timber industry over the next 10 years; and

Whereas, approximately 1/2 of the current Tongass National Forest timber base is included in areas which would remain un-roaded under the initiative; and

Whereas, Mr. Lyons, on September 28, 1999 in Sitka, Alaska, stated at the Southeast Conference of Mayors, that his decision on the Tongass Plan was made to "finally provide some certainty with regard to future uses and management direction on the Tongass", and also assured the Mayors that "we have to move on"; and

Whereas, we agree with the Governor of the State of Alaska that the inclusion of the Tongass in the roadless review would be an outrage as assurances were provided that the resolution of the Tongass planning process would put an end to this issue; and

Whereas, the Tongass National Forest is essential in bringing stability and certainty to the economy of Southeast Alaska, providing jobs for many families dependent on such stability; and

Whereas, the implementation of the roadless initiative to the Tongass National Forest would greatly diminish access to timber and other natural resources and may eliminate opportunities for construction of future transportation or utility corridors throughout the Southeast Alaska region; and

Whereas, any further diminishment of the timber base in the Tongass National Forest would exacerbate economic harm to Petersburg and other Southeast Alaska communities caused by previous changes in federal policy.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Petersburg as follows:

- 1. The City Council strongly opposes the inclusion of the Tongass National Forest in the "roadless area" policy review; and
- 2. The Petersburg City Council opposes any unilateral action to modify the Record of Decision as such action is contrary to proper resource planning and circumvents the public planning process.

Passed and Approved by the City Council of the City of Petersburg, Alaska this 6<sup>th</sup> day of November, 1999.



*[Signature]*  
Mayor



## Greater Ketchikan Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 5957, Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

(907) 225-3184 • FAX: (907) 225-3187

### A RESOLUTION OPPOSING INCLUSION OF THE TONGASS AND CHUGACH NATIONAL FORESTS IN THE US FOREST SERVICE'S NATIONAL ROADLESS AREA CONSERVATION RULE AND REQUESTING APPROPRIATE LEGAL ACTION TO STOP INCLUSION

**WHEREAS**, managed access to the natural resources in the Tongass and Chugach National Forests, including timber, minerals, fisheries, water, and recreation opportunities is essential for the well-being of numerous communities within and adjacent to these forests; and

**WHEREAS**, after years of study, public comment, and spending millions of dollars, the US Forest Service release of the revised Tongass Land Management Plan (TLMP) in 1997 to effect a detailed resource management plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the revised 1997 TLMP removed substantial amounts of natural resources from future development status; and

**WHEREAS**, in an April 1999 TLMP Record of Decision, the US Department of Agriculture unilaterally reclassified additional natural resource areas, thus making them ineligible for development; and

**WHEREAS**, President Clinton issued his "Roadless Directive" to implement the removal from development of "roadless areas" in national forests; and

**WHEREAS**, the Forest Service is now completing a revision of the Chugach National Forest Land Management Plan (CLMP); and

**WHEREAS**, the 1997 TLMP constitutes a substantially more complete analysis of the Tongass National Forest than the proposed Directive's process; and

**WHEREAS**, any further restrictions to access and road building in the Tongass National Forest as part of a nationwide ban are not appropriate due to the substantial recent management decisions made by the US Forest Service, US Department of Agriculture; and

**WHEREAS**, any further reduction of the resource base in the Tongass National Forest will increase the economic harm already felt by numerous Southeast Alaska communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the president has selected Alternative 3 (the most restrictive) as the preferred alternative in the Final Environmental Impact Statement for his Roadless Area Conservation Rule; and

**WHEREAS**, this selected Roadless Conservation Area rule alternative will prohibit road construction and reconstruction and seriously limit other management activities immediately within the Chugach National Forest and will likewise limit development activities within the Tongass National Forest, even prior to full implementation in 2004; and

**WHEREAS**, in passing the Alaska National Interest lands Conservation Act in 1980, Congress asserted that the appropriate balance had been struck between development and conservation and to that end included the "NO-MORE" clauses that prohibit the formation of new conservation units in Alaska without congressional approval;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Ketchikan Chamber of Commerce strongly opposes the inclusion of Alaska's two National Forests in the President's Roadless Area Conservation Rule; and

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Ketchikan Chamber of Commerce strongly requests the Governor of Alaska and Alaska's Congressional Delegation to work together to develop an integrated strategy for altering the roadless policy and to take all appropriate actions, including any appropriate litigation, to prevent the inclusion of the Tongass and Chugach National Forests in the National Roadless Area Conservation Rule.

Hereby adopted by the Greater Ketchikan Chamber of Commerce on this 13<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2000.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dick Coose, President

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 13, 2000

cc: Senator Ted Stevens  
Senator Frank Murkowski  
Representative Don Young  
Governor Tony Knowles  
Mayor Jack Shay  
Mayor Bob Weinstein  
Alaska Forest Association  
Ketchikan Visitors Bureau

Introduced by: Popp, Merkes, Brown  
Date: 01/9/01  
Action: Adopted as Amended  
Vote: 8 Yes, 1 No

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH  
RESOLUTION 2001-005**

**A RESOLUTION OBJECTING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FINAL  
VERSION OF THE PROPOSED REVISED LAND AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
PLAN FOR THE CHUGACH NATIONAL FOREST BEFORE A COMPLETE LEGAL  
REVIEW OF THE PLAN CAN BE COMPLETED**

- WHEREAS,** the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest were available for public comment until December 14, 2000, and the National Forest Management Act of 1964 regulations require each Forest Plan to be revised every 10 to 15 years; and
- WHEREAS,** the planning area encompasses over 5.45 million acres within the Chugach National Forest, which is the second largest forest in the United States National Forest System and is subdivided into 3 administrative units, the Glacier, Seward and the Cordova Ranger Districts; and
- WHEREAS,** the Seward Ranger District of the Chugach National Forest encompasses a significant portion of the Kenai Peninsula Borough and includes a number of Kenai Peninsula Borough communities such as Hope, Cooper Landing, Moose Pass and Seward; and
- WHEREAS,** the "Situation Statements" of the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan describes conflicting public interests and existing conditions that could be improved by changing the 1984 Forest Plan, and that one of these conflicts was identified as a conflict between cross-country skiers and cross-country snowmobile operators that would be resolved by closing a number of existing trails or trailheads to snowmobiles because of these major ecological or social conflicts; and
- WHEREAS,** the Forest Service has stated that they have not completed any scientific studies to support closing any of the existing trails or trailheads to snowmobiles because of any major ecological or social conflicts; and
- WHEREAS,** the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the 5.45 million acre Chugach National Forest does not allow for reasonable methods of minerals extraction as access to the minimal amount of acreage made available for minerals exploration within the Forest is severely restricted by the Proposed Revised Land and Management Plan because the Revised Plan does not allow for any new roads to be constructed to provide access to newly surveyed mineral deposits within the Forest; and

- WHEREAS,** the Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest contains only minimal provisions for the mitigation, harvesting and reforestation of a total of 3,343 acres per year out of the hundreds of thousands of acres of forest impacted by the Spruce Bark Beetle infestation within the 5.45 million acre Chugach National Forest; and
- WHEREAS,** the Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest advocates the addition of over 2.5 million acres to restrictive classifications such as Wilderness, Wild Rivers, ANILCA classifications, Backcountry, Scenic Rivers, Brown Bear Core Area, and Recreation-Reduced Noise, all of which may have additional restrictions on numerous user groups and resource development within the Chugach National Forest; and
- WHEREAS,** the Office of General Counsel for the United States Forest Service has indicated to the Forest Service planners that it would take approximately one and a half years to complete a legal review of the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest to, in part, conduct a legal determination of the Proposed Plan for consistency with the legal provisions of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, or ANILCA; and
- WHEREAS,** the Forest Service has no stated plans to conduct a legal review of the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest to provide a legal determination that the Proposed Revised Plan is consistent with the provisions of ANILCA; and
- WHEREAS,** the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly has previously expressed its support for continued public access to Chugach National Forest for all recreational users of the forest through Kenai Peninsula Borough Resolution 2000-108; and
- WHEREAS,** the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly has previously expressed its support for provisions for expanded timber harvesting and minerals exploration within the Chugach National Forest and has requested a complete legal review of the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest through Kenai Peninsula Borough Resolution 2000-112; and
- WHEREAS,** the implementation of the final version of the Proposed Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest without a complete and thorough legal review to assure that the Plan is consistent with the provisions of ANILCA could cause serious harm to the economy and quality of life enjoyed now, and in the future, by the citizens of the Kenai Peninsula Borough;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:**

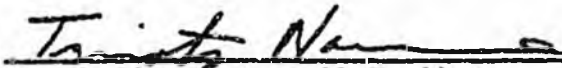
**SECTION 1.** That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly strongly objects to the implementation of the final version of the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan

for the Chugach National Forest and reserves its support until a complete and thorough legal review of the final version of the Proposed Revised Plan can be completed that provides a legal determination stating the final version of the Proposed Revised Plan is consistent with the provisions of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act.

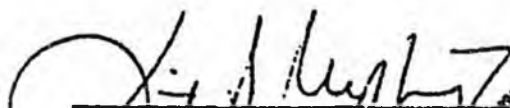
**SECTION 2.** That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly specifically requests a complete and thorough legal review by the Office of General Counsel for the United States Forest Service or other appropriate agency of the final version of the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest with the objective to provide a detailed, written legal determination that the final version of the Proposed Revised Plan is consistent with the provisions of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act and other appropriate federal laws.

**SECTION 3.** That a copy of this resolution be sent to the members of the Alaska Congressional Delegation, the members of the Kenai Peninsula Borough State Legislative Delegation, the Governor of the State of Alaska, and to the United States Forest Service.

**ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 9TH DAY OF JANUARY 2001.**

  
Timothy Naysate, Assembly President

ATTEST:

  
Linda S. Murphy, Borough Clerk



Introduced by: Merkes, Brown, Popp, Fischer  
Date: 11/21/00  
Action: Adopted  
Vote: 9 Yes, 0 No

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH  
RESOLUTION 2000-108**

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING LEAVING ALL EXISTING TRAILS IN THE  
CHUGACH NATIONAL FOREST OPEN FOR EXISTING RECREATIONAL USES,  
SUPPORTING IMPROVEMENTS TO AND MAINTENANCE OF TRAILS AND  
PARKING LOTS, AND SUPPORTING BUILDING NEW CROSS-COUNTRY SKI  
TRAILS**

- WHEREAS,** the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest are available for public comment until December 14, 2000, and the National Forest Management Act of 1964 regulations require each Forest Plan to be revised every 10 to 15 years; and
- WHEREAS,** the planning area encompasses over 5.45 million acres in the Chugach National Forest, which is the second largest forest in the National Forest System and is subdivided into 3 administrative units, the Glacier, Seward and the Cordova Ranger Districts; and
- WHEREAS,** the Forest interdisciplinary team must consider the environmental conditions, historic use and occupation, and other past and current data while conducting many planning meetings; and
- WHEREAS,** the "Situation Statements" describe conflicting public interests and existing conditions that could be improved by changing the 1984 Forest Plan, and one of these conflicts was identified as a conflict between cross-country skiers and cross-country snowmobilers; and
- WHEREAS,** four public meetings have been held on the Kenai Peninsula to receive comments on the Draft Plan, and comments at the Soldotna meeting, which was attended by over 200 people, overwhelmingly supported keeping all existing trails and railheads open to both snowmobiles and cross-country skiers, with possible opening of additional trails and parking lots; and
- WHEREAS,** all user groups should be able to work out compromises so they can use the existing trails and railheads at all times rather than for parts of a season or alternating years, and RS 2477 may have already established easements for traditional uses of both snowmobiles and cross-country skiers; and

WHEREAS, the Forest Service has stated that they have not completed any scientific studies to support closing any of the existing trails or trailheads to snowmobiles because of any major ecological or social conflicts; and

WHEREAS, the Preferred Plan advocates considering adding over 2.5 million acres to restrictive classifications such as Wilderness, Wild Rivers, ANILCA classifications, Backcountry, Scenic Rivers, Brown Bear Core Area, Recreation-Reduced Noise, all of which may have additional restrictions on snowmobiles;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:

SECTION 1. That the Kenai Peninsula Borough assembly strongly supports the Forest Service's not recommending closing, or restricting to seasonal use, the use by snowmobiles and skiers of any existing trails or trailheads in the Chugach National Forest-Seward District.

SECTION 2. That the existing trails and parking lots be upgraded for use by both snowmobiles and cross-country skiers in partnership with the federal, state, and local governments. Intergovernmental agreements should be made regarding leasing or exchanging land reasonably necessary to accomplish this goal.

SECTION 3. The Kenai Peninsula Borough also supports the federal government's giving grants or allowing private recreational groups to form partnerships with the federal government to improve or build trails or parking lots.

SECTION 4. That the Forest Service Plan consider building new access trails for cross-country skiers in appropriate locations in order to alleviate safety issues and conflicts with snowmobile use.

SECTION 5. That copies of this resolution be sent to the Alaskan Congressional Delegation, the Kenai Peninsula Borough State Delegation, and to the Forest Service Department.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 21ST DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2000.

*Timothy Navarre*  
Timothy Navarre, Assembly President

ATTEST:

*Linda S. Murphy*  
Linda S. Murphy, Borough Clerk



Introduced by: Popp, Merkes  
Dates: 12/12/00  
Action: Adopted  
Vote: 7 Yes, 0 No, 2 Absent

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH  
RESOLUTION 2000-112**

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING NEW TIMBER HARVESTING AND MINERALS  
EXTRACTION AS PART OF THE PROPOSED REVISED LAND AND RESOURCE  
MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE CHUGACH NATIONAL FOREST**

- WHEREAS,** the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest are available for public comment until December 14, 2000, and the National Forest Management Act of 1964 regulations require each Forest Plan to be revised every 10 to 15 years; and
- WHEREAS,** the planning area encompasses over 5.45 million acres in the Chugach National Forest, which is the second largest forest in the National Forest System and is subdivided into 3 administrative units, the Glacier, Seward and the Cordova Ranger Districts; and
- WHEREAS,** the Seward Ranger District of the Chugach National Forest encompasses a significant portion of the Kenai Peninsula Borough and includes a number of Kenai Peninsula Borough communities such as Hope, Cooper Landing, Moose Pass and Seward; and
- WHEREAS,** hundreds of thousands of acres of the Chugach National Forest within the Seward Ranger District have been infested by the Spruce Bark Beetle which has created a substantial fire hazard for the many communities, residences, businesses and citizens of the Kenai Peninsula Borough that reside within the Chugach National Forest; and
- WHEREAS,** the Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest contains only minimal provisions for the mitigation, harvesting and reforestation of a total of 3,343 acres per year out of the hundreds of thousands of acres of trees impacted by the Spruce Bark Beetle infestation within the 5.45 million acre Chugach National Forest; and
- WHEREAS,** the lack of a more comprehensive plan for mitigation, harvesting and reforestation of the hundreds of thousands of acres impacted by the Spruce Bark Beetle will result in the total loss of millions of board feet of potentially valuable trees and place millions of dollars of private property and many citizens of the Kenai Peninsula Borough at risk from catastrophic wildfires within the Chugach National Forest; and

WHEREAS, the "Preferred Alternative" proposed by the Forest Supervisor within the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest allows for less than 80 acres out of the total 5.45 million acres of the Chugach National Forest to be surveyed for commercial or recreational minerals deposits; and

WHEREAS, the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the 5.45 million acre Chugach National Forest does not allow for reasonable methods of minerals extraction as access to any newly discovered mineral deposits within the Forest is severely restricted by the Proposed Revised Land and Management Plan because the Revised Plan does not allow for any new roads to be constructed to provide access to newly surveyed mineral deposits within the Forest; and

WHEREAS, the Office of General Council for the United States Forest Service has indicated to the Forest Service planners that it would take approximately one and a half years to complete a legal review of the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest to, in part, conduct a legal determination of the Proposed Plan for consistency with the legal provisions of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, or ANILCA; and

WHEREAS, the Forest Service has no stated plans to conduct a legal review of the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest to provide a legal determination that the Proposed Revised Plan is consistent with the provisions of ANILCA; and

WHEREAS, the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly has previously expressed its support for continued public access to Chugach National Forest for all recreational users of the Park through Kenai Peninsula Borough Resolution 2000-108; and

WHEREAS, the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly has concerns about the potential impacts that many of the provisions of the Proposed Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest will have on the economy and quality of life enjoyed now, and in the future, by the citizens of Kenai Peninsula Borough;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:**

**SECTION 1.** The Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly urges the United States Forest Service to adopt more comprehensive provisions within the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest for the mitigation, harvesting and reforestation of the hundreds of thousands of acres impacted by the Spruce Bark Beetle infestation within the Seward Ranger District to prevent the loss of millions of board feet of potentially valuable trees and reduce the possible loss of millions of dollars worth of private property that is at risk from catastrophic wildfires within the Chugach National Forest Seward Ranger District;

**SECTION 2.** That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly further urges the United States Forest Service to adopt additional provisions within the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest that will provide for new road access to newly discovered and existing mineral deposits that will allow for viable commercial and recreational minerals extraction.

**SECTION 3.** That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly requests that the United States Forest Service perform a legal review of the Proposed Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest to provide a legal determination that the Proposed Revised Plan is consistent with the provisions of the Alaska National Interest Lands Act.

**SECTION 4.** That copies of this resolution be sent to the Alaska Congressional Delegation, the Kenai Peninsula Borough State Legislative Delegation, the Governor of the State of Alaska, and to the United States Forest Service.

**SECTION 5.** That this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

**ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 12TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2000.**

Timothy Navarre  
Timothy Navarre, Assembly President

ATTEST:

Linda S. Murphy  
Linda S. Murphy, Borough Clerk

