

City Newsletter

From City Hall

April 2013

Governor Urged to Purchase Land in Tongass

Senator Stedman introduces resolution (SCR 2) urging the Governor to acquire more Tongass Land!

On March 28th, Stedman introduced SCR 2 in the Senate. A week later, the resolution was heard in the Senate Judiciary Committee and held with intentions of bringing forth some revisions in January of 2014.

The Tongass National Forest was created in 1907 by President Theodore Roosevelt. Today, it is the largest national forest in the United States with 16.8 million acres. In 1947 Congress enacted the Tongass Timber Act the purpose of which was to clear the way for long term timber sales on the Tongass. From the 1950's through the early 1990's, the commercial harvest of timber from the Tongass National Forest formed a major part of the economy in Southeast Alaska. Unfortunately, that's no longer the case because the timber industry does not have access to an adequate volume of timber supply that can be economically harvested from the Tongass National Forest. Interestingly, only 400,000 acres of the Tongass have been harvested between its creation in 1907 and today. In addition, there were more sawmills operating on the Tongass in 1900 than there are today.

Every significant timber sale the Forest Service has attempted to make since adoption of the 2008 Amended TLMP has been litigated. This litigation has caused annual Forest Service sales to be reduced to 30-40 MMBF.

In March 2011 the Federal Court set aside the Tongass Exemption from the 2001 Roadless Rule. This has resulted in 9.6 million acres of non-timber-harvest areas being created on the Tongass in addition to the 5.6 million acres of non-timber-harvest Wilderness areas. In addition, the Roadless Areas create a serious impediment to mining and to hydropower and other renewable energy opportunities on the Tongass.

The Tongass National Forest currently encompasses about 93% of the available timberlands in Southeast Alaska. However, only two percent of the Tongass National Forest is managed for the purpose of providing local communities with the opportunity to harvest timber. Consequently, the Forest Service has monopoly power over the timber supply. In the past four years, several efforts to revitalize the timber industry in Southeast Alaska have failed because a timber industry cannot exist without an adequate timber supply. Since the U.S. Forest Service is no longer able to provide enough timber in the Tongass National Forest to sustain a viable timber industry in Southeast Alaska, it is time for the Governor to intervene.

Under the Alaska Statehood Act, the federal government provided Alaska with a 103,350,000 acre land entitlement. Of that original land entitlement, 5,500,000 acres still remain available for selection. SCR 2 urges the Governor to take steps necessary to select land in the Tongass National Forest as part of Alaska's statehood entitlement. However, section 6 of the Alaska Statehood Act limits the state's selection of land from the Tongass and the Chugach National Forests to 400,000 acres and further limits the use of that land to recreation and community expansion. The state should be entitled to select some of its remaining land entitlement from the Tongass National Forest without being limited to recreation and community expansion. This could be achieved through efforts by the Governor to negotiate the transfer or sale of timberland in the Tongass National Forest or by working with our federal delegation to amend the Alaska Statehood Act.

MORE WAYS TO CUSTOMIZE THIS TEMPLATE

FOOTERS

To change the text at the very bottom of each page of your newsletter, click Headers and Footers on the View menu. Use the Header and Footer toolbar to open the footer, and replace the sample text with your own text.

INSERT SYMBOL

It is a good idea to place a small symbol at the end of each article to let the reader know that the article is finished and will not continue onto another page. Position your cursor at the end of the article, click Symbol on the Insert menu, choose the symbol you want, and then click Insert.

BORDERS

You can use page borders and text box borders to change the appearance of your newsletter. Borders on text boxes help keep different articles separate, and can set off sidebar articles from the rest of the page. To change a text box border, select it, double click its edge and choose the Colors and Lines tab in the Format Auto Shape dialog box.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q: I would like to change some of the text box shading to improve the print quality. Can that be done?

A: Yes. To change the shading or color of a text box, select it and double click its borders to open the Format Text Box dialog box. Click the colors and lines tab and then choose the new color from the Color drop-down list in the Fill section.

Q: What's the best way to print this newsletter?

A: Print page 2 on the back of page 1. Fold in half and mail with or without an envelope. For best results, use a medium to heavyweight paper. If you're mailing without an envelope, seal with a label.

Q: I would like to use my own clip art. How do I change the art without changing the design?

A: To change a picture, click on the picture, then point to Picture on the Insert menu and click From File. Choose a new picture, and click Insert.

Inserting and Editing Pictures

Type your sub-heading here

You can replace the pictures in this template with your company's art. Select the picture you want to replace, point to Picture in the Insert menu, and click From File. Choose a new picture and then click Insert. Select the Link to File box if you don't want to embed the art in the newsletter. This is a good idea if you need to minimize your file size; embedding a picture adds significantly to the size of the file.

To edit a picture, click on it to activate the Picture toolbar. You can use this toolbar to adjust brightness and contrast,

Choose a new picture, and click the Link to File box if you don't want to save the art with the newsletter.

change line properties and crop the image. For more detailed editing, double-click on the graphic to activate the drawing layer. ■

Q: How do I change the text and borders that appear at the bottom of every page?

A: Click Headers and Footers on the View menu. Use the Header and Footer toolbar to navigate among headers and footers, insert date or time, or format the page numbers. To change the text in the footer, select it and type your new text. To change the border, click Borders and Shading on the Format menu.

Q: Can I save a customized newsletter as a template for future editions?

A: Yes. First make any changes you want to this newsletter, then click Save As on the File menu. Choose Document Template from the Save as type drop down list (the extension should change from .doc to .dot). Save the file under a new name. Next time you want to create a newsletter, choose New from the File menu, then choose your template.
