

Tongass Futures Roundtable
December 4-5, 2008
Ketchikan, Alaska

Break Out Groups

- Community Planning
- Coffman Cove Plan
- Customary/Traditional Uses
- Value-added Processing
- Biomass
- Update Craig Project
- Climate Change
- Administrative Committee – TFR Size Limit
- Stewardship Conference
- Young Growth Inventory
- Audubon/TNC February Science Workshop
- Sealaska Land Entitlement
- SE Alaska Native Energy Conference
- Economic Stimulus/energy
- Subsistence

December 4, 2008

A Place to Start?

1. Transfer Federal Lands to private trust 180k acres
2. Sealaska 70K acres
3. Federal working forest – 250k acres
 - a. Young growth
 - b. Priority – consistent wood base for industry sustainability
4. Community Stewardship Forest
 - a. 1 million acres – restore OG stand structures and fisheries
 - b. Jobs and economy
5. Conservation/roadless
 - a. 4.6 million acres – conservation areas
 - b. Exclude timber harvest and road construction
 - c. No impact on mineral rights
 - d. Roadless rule (exc 1, 2, 3)
 - e. Young growth forest to restoration

Sealaska Entitlement

Trust – land base

- Sufficient for industry

- Alienation of public lands
- Rules/regulations for conservation values

Federal Working Forest

- Subsistence

Community Stewardship Forest

- Subsistence

Conservation

- Sacred sites
- Landless Native villages
- Veterans allotments
- Subsistence

Roadless

Connect to Amended Plan/USFS Role

Questions/Issues

Breakout groups

Content

- What allowed each area?
- Need clarity/durability?
- Flexibility? Mining opportunity?
- Climate change impacts?
- Mechanisms?
- Trust timing/duration?

Process:

- What? How? Communication?
- Rec: Aggressive schedule
 - Small technical group – map
 - ID information gaps – set dates
 - Set sideboards and criteria e.g., FPA
 - 5 components – sep. trust and Sealaska
 - How determine target volume

Support for most concepts

Good to have pieces to chew on.

Clarify intent of sections/structure

Issues:

- What Trust is? Advisable?
- Distinguish Sealaska
- Consider what federal forest can address (subsistence?)
- Durability?
- Mining?
- Can we find solution and carry it?
- Support for ideas/intent.

Strong reactions – why? How?

Push back – national organizations

Precedent setting?

New industries, sustainable economies

Thinking/understanding must be done

Political, not technical solution

Appearance of dissolving national forest

Clarification

Recognition Sealaska entitlements

Alternative models?

LT supply for industry possible?

Regulation/supply of timber tradeoff

Perpetual trust

Working forest

Stewardship/conservation

What happens to sacred sites?

What lands are in play?

250k Young growth

- Longer rotation/poor sites
- Younger than average
- Mature in about 50 years?

Sealaska

Trust 180k about 1% of Tongass

1.8 million acres 2/3 harvested

Current plan 700k acres equals not enough acres

Adequate economy of scale?

No integrated industry.

Uncertain how much fore land is left

Congressional change

People think industry will get less from FS

Look at more volume/integrated industry.

Conceptual support

Community partnerships

Conservation and land

Look at carbon sequestration
Replicates Sealaska
Subsistence, include sacred sites, landless, vets.

Keep subsistence/customary and traditional use of land
State control – does not recognize native preference
Federal control – Native preference
Glad we're talking.

December 5

Process

Continue small group work outside Roundtable

- Develop context
- Draft legislation
- Take advantage of stimulus package window
- Restoration committee
- Deadline
- More small group discussion
- Don't try to rush.

2.5 million acres as “futures” – next generation to determine
Some acreage into possible new mining
Need maps with numbers.

Start with no sideboards on acreage.

Alternative to “trust” concept?

- Purpose, ideas, reasoning behind the concept – control, subsistence, development

What size timber industry?

Economics – acreage – business plan

Forest Service timber sale plans – update management, industry supply

Trust concept

Certainty

Sale design

Harvest-market

Young growth

Implementation of current plan

Assumption about intent

Bridge timber

Flexibility in the total plan –

What happens to these lands up to future decisions?

Get as creative as possible with options.

Timber reserve vs. trust.

Protections for other resource values vs. size of the withdrawals.

Mental health lands trust concept
Sealaska role in managing

Priority – meet timber needs
All OG harvest and within reserve/trust

What future plan?

State rules are less stringent.
FPA as basis for management.
What happens in existing plan? How many jobs /what happens?

Trust

- Is there an alternative within federal land?
- Reverter clause – ultimate fate of these lands
- How much land?
- Public access?
- Activities permitted/excluded
- Who owns? Use of income?
- Cash need to start?
- Effect on tribal resources
 - Gov't to gov't relationship
- Need presentation on forest plan and uncertainties
- Timber receipts for education
- What happens on other FS lands
- What happens under forest plan.

Stimulus package

- Restoration and development
- Big stuff
- Shellfish – SBA, EDA, 300-400 jobs, \$50-80 million eventual industry
- \$25 million for fuels management
- Alaska on own – Focus on western states
- Funding via assistance to states?

Web meeting – early January

Stimulus
Ad hoc team
Brainstorming

Political

Delegation – statewide proposal

Possible SE regional proposal via Roundtable

Forward looking

Self-sustaining

Focus on jobs

Ad Hoc Work Group – Harris, Bristol, Dovichin, Cooper, Sund, Cole, Maisch, Hardigg, Ridley. Schedule for consideration – complete responses by 12/15.

FS 500 million restoration proposal

Tongass fit within it?

Soil conservation plans/village corporations – need funding

Community Stewardship forest

Selective harvest

Ecotourism

Restoration

Management/local/not big timber production

Action requires quorum and consensus.

Framework of concept

Bullets

Email to Roundtable

10 days by 12/15

10 days before next meeting

Fleshed out concept paper

Maps/more specificity

10 issue/problem to be solved.