

But you own the land . . . don't you?

Across the nation, property owners are battling to protect their rights.

In South Carolina: David Lucas paid \$900,000 for two beach front lots. He planned to build private homes, but the state quickly passed an ordinance outlawing *all* development on the beaches. Mr. Lucas sued. He had to take his property rights battle all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court, which ruled that, if he could not make reasonable use of his land, he must be reimbursed.

In Oregon: A couple purchased 40 acres of scrub forest after being assured by the county planning commission that they could build their retirement home on the land. *Then* the county changed its zoning laws, and told them they could not build because the construction did not relate to development of forest resources. Their property rights case now is in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

In California: A couple purchased a beach front lot, where they wanted to build a two-story home similar to others nearby. The California Coastal Commission said they could build—if they gave the state one-third of their property for a park. The couple sued. They also had to go the judicial distance. The U.S. Supreme Court called the Coastal Commission's demand "extortion."

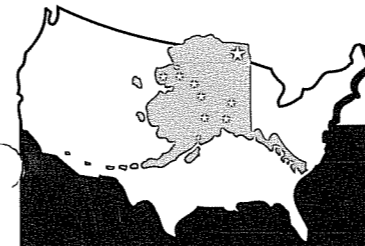
And in Alaska: A gold miner whose claims are within Denali National Park was working a placer deposit according to sound environmental principles. The National Park Service shut him down, telling him he couldn't mine if his operation caused *any* surface disturbance. His property rights case now is in Federal District Court . . .

As environmental regulations proliferate at all levels of government, property rights are being compromised with increasing frequency. Preservation of cherished property rights requires constant vigilance and involvement by advocacy groups. And action by *us*, the individual property owners.

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Tongass reforms, environmental mandates take toll on Sitka pulp mill

APC mill to close September 30, hundreds to lose jobs

Major changes in a federal logging contract, coupled the removal of two-thirds of the commercial forest in the Tongass National Forest from logging, has forced the Alaska Pulp Corporation to announce the indefinite suspension of its Sitka pulp mill operations.

Four-hundred employees with an annual payroll of \$18.9 million will lose their jobs when the mill closes September 30. A permanent closure would ultimately lead to the loss of hundreds of additional jobs and an indirect payroll of \$11.3 million.

While a weak world pulp market is

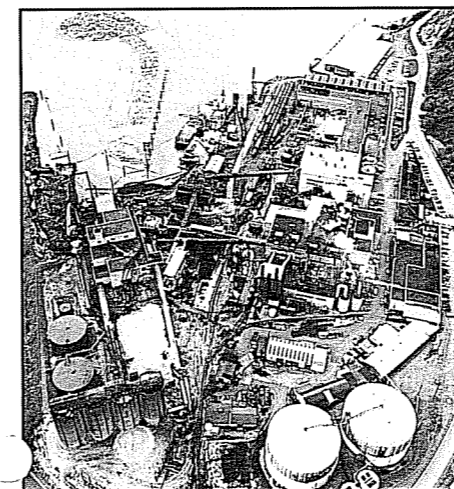
a contributing factor in the mill's upcoming closure, the worst damage has come from changes in the company's 50-year logging contract that have made a difficult situation "completely unworkable," said Frank Roppel, Alaska Pulp executive vice president. He said the company will seek relief through a recently-filed lawsuit against the Forest Service and will explore additional uses for the Sitka mill site.

The company's contract with the Forest Service allowed for the purchase of 5 billion board feet of timber through the year 2011. But since the contract was signed in 1957, Congress has moved to set aside most of the commercial forest from logging.

In the 1980s, a major lobbying effort by state and national environmental groups led to the passage of the 1990 Tongass Reform Act, which removed even more prime areas from the timber base and led to major changes in the harvest contract. Those changes substantially increased the price of wood and decreased the overall quantity and quality of logs available to the company.

Moreover, operating costs at the mill have increased over the years with stricter permit requirements. Since 1968, the company has spent over \$100 million installing air and water pollution controls. It now spends over \$12 million

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The APC mill accounts for a quarter of Sitka's water revenues and 20 percent of its property tax base.

Alaska Pulp sues USFS

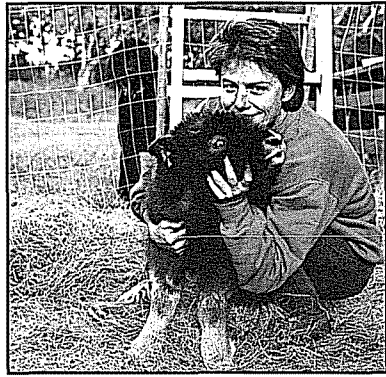
Changes to timber contract prompts suit

After months attempting to resolve issues out of court with the U.S. Forest Service, Alaska Pulp Corporation has filed suit in U.S. District Court in Juneau challenging modifications to the company's 50-year timber purchase contract.

APC claims the Forest Service's administration of the Tongass Timber Reform Act of 1990 has improperly changed provisions of the company's timber agreement and has made it much costlier to do business.

"We had hoped and tried to resolve differences through negotiations and discussions," said Frank Roppel, APC Executive Vice President. "But the Forest Service remained unyielding in its position, and, unfortunately, we had no recourse other than legal action."

According to Roppel, the Act
(Continued to page 4)



Making a difference at the Musk Ox farm

In keeping with RDC's tourism and agriculture interests, RDC Executive Director Becky Gay holds "Ermalee," a Musk Ox calf at the Palmer farm. Gay works as a volunteer for the Musk Ox Development Corporation with Connie Oomittuk, farm manager, and had the added pleasure of helping nurse the baby calf back to health this spring.

Federal environmental policy is serious threat to Alaska's resource-dependent economy



Message from the Executive Director

by
Becky L. Gay

Wetlands Coalition (AWC) to spearhead the battle on wetlands policy and regulation. Federal wetlands policy represents yet another attempt to retard Alaska's ability to develop not only resources, but transportation corridors, airport and port sites, tourism facilities, and the most basic elements of infrastructure in rural and urban Alaska, especially water and sewer systems.

With thanks to the Alaska Congressional delegation, the AWC was invited to Washington, D.C. earlier this month to testify before the White House Interagency Working Group on Federal Wetlands Policy chaired by Keith Laughlin of the Environmental Policy group for President Clinton.

Commissioner John Sandor, Nelson Angapak of Calista and I spoke to the group on issues ranging from community needs, rural sanitation considerations, regulations, coastal zone management, federal conservation units, demographics, native lands, as well as specific wetland issues such as strict mitigation sequencing, abundance, functions, values and permafrost. I also took the opportunity to fire a few shots at the latest misinformation campaigns of groups perpetuating fearful myths about Alaska wetlands.

The Alaska team was well received and felt we had made the case for flexibility and reason in the case of Alaska wetlands policy to the working group in the new administration. This is a prime example of the way in which pro-development Alaskans must unify and work together. None of us can achieve lasting success on our own against the formidable odds out there. I encourage everyone reading this to call and ask for the testimony delivered and if possible, to spare a few dollars earmarked for wetlands work. I'll even send you the opposition's misinformation campaign literature if you'd like

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Warning: This month's Resource Review might be depressing to people concerned about the future of resource development in Alaska.

The cumulative impacts of massive federal actions on the economic health of Alaska are beginning to rear their ugly heads. Government policies, combined with the goals of non-development groups such as the "Alaska" Wilderness League, are overtly hostile toward resource development—Alaska's economic lifeline.

As predicted, such extremism is finally having a serious impact on the state's timber, minerals and oil and gas sectors. And if fishing and tourism interests (the only apparent politically-correct industries) don't think they will be affected—think again. Bluntly put, Alaska's basic industries are under siege and Alaska residents are the initial victims, since economic misery strikes locals first.

In light of federal and Outside influences on both public and private lands in our state, RDC has worked hard over the years to be heard and influential at the national level.

Since 1989, for instance, RDC has coordinated the Alaska

The Resource Development Council (RDC) is Alaska's largest privately funded nonprofit economic development organization working to develop Alaska's natural resources in an orderly manner and to create a broad-based, diversified economy while protecting and enhancing the environment.

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Carl Portman

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Wilderness to cover Windy Craggy

British Columbia's decision to create a 2.5 million-acre wilderness park on top of a world-class, \$8.5 billion copper and gold deposit in the remote wilderness of northern British Columbia has left miners fuming mad and environmentalists jumping for joy.

"We came to the conclusion that the preservation of wilderness and the proposed mining activities could not co-exist, said Premier Michael Harcourt in announcing the creation of the massive wilderness park directly over the Windy Craggy copper deposit north of Haines, Alaska. Harcourt was forced to make a political choice between environmentalists and miners, who battled for years over whether the area should be preserved or a fraction used for the development of the copper mine at Windy Craggy.

The park's declaration kills the proposed \$550 million Windy Craggy project. Claim holder Geddes Resources of Vancouver has said it will demand compensation of "several hundred million dollars" from the province — many times what the province is expected to offer. Geddes has spent some \$50 million on exploration and says the after-tax value of its proposed

mine would range from \$110 million to \$620 million.

Windy Craggy became a lightning rod for environmental activists, who eventually attracted the support of Vice President Al Gore. The Vice President praised British Columbia for setting aside the region as a park, which U.S. officials hope to merge with two national parks in Alaska to create a 21 million-acre protected wilderness, the world's largest. The area, about the size of Ireland, is largely inaccessible to humans and would be off limits to all development. It is popular with river runners who pay thousands of dollars to raft the Tatshenshini and Alsek rivers.

Environmentalists claim Windy Craggy's demise is one of the greatest conservation victories since the passage of the Alaska Lands Act in 1980. However, newspaper columnist Terence Corcoran warned that the decision to create the huge wilderness preserve is yet another example of "mail-order professional environmentalists seizing the public agenda on economic development."

"Today, no government dares lift a finger in favor of a new mine or resource project lest one of these interest groups

fly into a public relations rage and spread fear throughout the population of a possible environmental apocalypse," Corcoran said.

The Canadian decision has brought relations between government and industry to a new low. Miners claim policies are driving industry out of the province.

Alaskan miners warn the Canadian action was not an isolated example of the mining industry being booted out. They say similar policy decisions have become the norm throughout the U.S.

In a recent front-page editorial, the Wall Street Journal detailed how the mining industry is relocating to South America. The number of U.S. and Canadian mining companies operating in Latin America has more than doubled over previous years while exploration spending in North America fell sharply.

"The companies are leaving the U.S. with the blessing, if not open encouragement, of the Clinton administration and Congress, which are proposing even stiffer environmental regulations and new royalties on metals on public lands," the Journal said.

The environmentalists' Windy Craggy victory will cost the region 2,500 jobs.

Wilderness League ...

(Continued from page 6)

tions to take care of ex-congressmen who couldn't get jobs."

"Given the League is being led by a representative who did not run for reelection because of the House check-bouncing problems, it looks like this will be another extreme environmental group whose real purpose is to solicit contributions from the public to pay staff salaries and to gain headlines from a gullible media," said Senator Frank Murkowski.

Mike Matz, a Washington, D.C.-based Sierra Club lobbyist, will open the league's office. The League's board of directors is primarily made up of Outside environmentalists, including Tim Mahoney, a former Sierra Club lobbyist and Idaho Governor Cecil

Andrus, who as Interior Secretary under President Carter was instrumental in putting 104 million acres of Alaska into parks and refuges through the passage of the Alaska Lands Act in 1980.

"This group purports to be a 'good mix of Alaskans' and others from outside the state, when a close look at their board of directors reveals just one Alaska resident," said Debbie Reinwand, executive director of Arctic Power. "We view this group's efforts as a direct slap in the face to Alaskans -- what they are saying is we are not responsible enough to chart our own future on land use issues."

Reinwand said Alaskans view the creation of the Wilderness League as a rallying cry to arms.

"If they intend to lock up ANWR, they'd best understand it won't come easy."

State to sue feds ...

(Continued from page 6)

royalties from federal lands, but over the years the federal government has restricted or prohibited development on many of those lands, Hickel said. The state deserves compensation for the natural resources that have been locked up, he said.

"What's unique about Alaska is the pattern of land ownership," Hickel said. "There was a guarantee that we would use the land to create an economy."

A little less than two-thirds of Alaska is owned by the federal government. The state's economy is almost entirely based on resource development, but ever-increasing amounts of land have been put off limits to development, locking up key resource deposits vital to Alaska's economic health.

Alaska to sue feds over land issue

Insisting Alaska has been robbed of its sovereign rights, Governor Wally Hickel is promising to sue the federal government for violating the statehood compact.

In a speech before the Resource Development Council last month, Hickel said his administration will file a lawsuit in mid-July against the federal government seeking compensation for the taking of promised royalties and for denial of access to state lands and resources. The lawsuit could be worth up to \$70 billion to Alaska.

Under the terms of statehood, Alaska was promised 90% of all mineral

(Continued to page 7)

Federal refuge plan would add more Wilderness here

The Resource Development Council is opposing a federal proposal to expand Wilderness zones inside Alaska's national wildlife refuges.

In comments filed with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, RDC President Jim Cloud warned that "increasing Wilderness areas in Alaska would be a crippling attack on its land base and would create bureaucratic redundancy which is not needed nor wanted, given the high level of protection already granted by federal laws and regulations."

At issue is a document called, "Refuges 2003: A Plan for the Future of the National Wildlife Refuge System." The draft proposal is a blueprint on how America's wildlife refuges will be managed in the 21st Century.

RDC opposes the Proposed Alternative which would add 29 million acres of Wilderness to the national wildlife refuge and discourage public recreation inside the units. Most of the Wilderness additions would come from Alaska, a state which already accounts for 90% of all Wilderness designations in the national refuge system. Overall, Alaska accounts for 62% of all federal Wilderness, a heavy burden for one state to carry.

RDC explained that existing and proposed Wilderness designations in Alaska adversely impact access, recreation, camping, fishing and hunting, as well as most other human activities. When lands are withdrawn from multiple use and closed to development, economic opportunities are not only lost in the minerals, timber and energy industries, but tourism, too. Wilderness designations forbid the construction of roads and facilities which attract visitors and support new visitor opportunities.

RDC also objected to any action which would de-emphasize public recreation in the national wildlife refuges. The proposed alternative would continue a trend toward restricting recreational opportunities and access in Alaska refuges.

"Since so much of Alaska is inaccessible because of geographical barriers and the lack of infrastructure, the last thing the state needs are federal conservation units with policies discouraging public recreation," RDC said in its comments. "What Alaska does need are facilities and policies which allow greater public use and enjoyment of its remote refuges and parks. Access to and from the refuges, along with new facilities for recreation and tourism, are needed if these refuges are to be visited and enjoyed by potential users, other than refuge employees and their friends."

In its comments, RDC pointed out that the draft environmental impact statement, as written, is deceptive in that it masks the true extent of proposed Wilderness additions by assuming a base acreage which provides for even more Wilderness additions by Congressional actions which have not yet occurred.

New group wants more Wilderness

Although Alaska already carries the burden of supporting two-thirds of the nation's designated Wilderness zones, 90 percent of its refuge lands and 70 percent of all park lands, a new national environmental group has formed to lobby Congress exclusively on expanding Wilderness designations in the 49th state.

The first priority of the new Alaska Wilderness League will be to convince Congress to designate the Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as Wilderness. The League is likely to be unpopular in Alaska where a clear majority of residents favor responsible oil development on the Coastal Plain, America's most promising onshore oil and gas prospect.

The organization's chairman is former Rep. Bob Mrazek, a New York Democrat who led battles in the House to reform management of the Tongass National Forest and to turn ANWR's Coastal Plain into Wilderness. The results of Mrazek's efforts have been felt in Southeast Alaska where the Alaska Pulp Corporation recently announced the September 30 closing of its Sitka pulp mill. Tongass reforms are largely to blame for the closure and the subsequent loss of hundreds of jobs.

"We're not just a bunch of Outsiders trying to lock up Alaska," Mrazek said in a prepared statement. "We're interested in seeing Alaska move toward a sustainable economy..."

Alaska Senator Ted Stevens sniffed at the idea that Mrazek would be behind any environmental initiatives promoting economic diversity for the state. Stevens noted that Mrazek and the environmental community have fought to stop mining, logging and oil development in Alaska.

"What would they like us to diversify to?" Stevens asked. "Maybe we could run bed and breakfast opera-

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Thoughts from the President

by
James L. Cloud

With "Friends" like these, who needs enemies?

Under pressure from eastern special interests who claim to be "friends of Alaska," the U.S. Forest Service has unilaterally made changes to long-term harvest contracts leading to the closure of the Alaska Pulp Company's mill in Sitka, putting over 400 people out of work this fall. Accounting for 25% of Sitka's employment base, the forest products industry reduction will likely effect 50% of Sitka's economy with ramifications throughout Southeast Alaska. With a rather large multiplier effect on the economy, the APC closure could result in a \$40 million reduction in personal income in Southeast and \$8 to \$10 million less federal income taxes paid to Uncle Sam. With "friends" like these back East, who needs enemies?

In 1906, U.S. Secretary of Interior Gifford Pinchot withdrew all coal deposits in the Bering River Coal Fields under pressure from eastern special interests who claimed to be "friends of Alaska." The move forced Cordova residents and businesses to import coal from British Columbia rather than use the vast coal resources located nearby. On May 4, 1911, 300 frustrated Cordova residents held the infamous "Cordova Coal party," shoveling several tons of British Columbia coal into the Cordova harbor. Eighty-two years ago, Alaskans failed to appreciate the concerns of their eastern "friends."

Let me introduce you to some of your new "friends" from Outside that are here to help save Alaskans from themselves:

• **The Alaska Wilderness League** - Chaired by former New York Representative Bob Mrazek, this organization is dedicated to designating the Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Wilderness and preventing Americans from using the oil and gas that may lie underneath the frozen tundra.

• **The Alaska Coastal Rain Forest Campaign** - Organized by the Southeast Alaska Conservation Coalition and the Alaska Center for the Environment, this organization is armed with several advisors from Washington, D.C., and Atlanta, Georgia to lock up timber resources in the Tongass National Forest, the "Lost Coast" between Yakutat Bay and Cape Suckling and the coastal forest lands from Cordova to Kodiak.

Add to these the legion of other special interest lobbies

that are bound and determine to raise funds to help lock-up Alaska and prevent consumers from around the world the opportunity to enjoy products made from Alaska's resources. These people introduce a new meaning to the definition of "carpetbaggers." Even Judge James Wickersham would turn over in his grave at the thought of this invasion of outside intervenors.

It's not bad enough to have to counter propaganda and misinformation from groups like these, Alaskans must work tirelessly to fight efforts of the government to set aside more wilderness and restrictions on federal lands. Already 57 million acres of federal lands in Alaska are closed to any form of development. This represents 62% of all federal Wilderness real estate. Moreover, development is banned or severely limited in tens of millions of acres in Alaska national parks and refuges (outside designated wilderness areas). And if all this isn't enough to satisfy non-development interests, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recently closed comments on a plan that would set aside millions of additional acres into Wilderness.

When the government and others limit uses of land and resources, there is inevitably an impact on consumers and the economy. The federal and state Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustees Council recently voted to purchase land to prevent the harvest of 100-plus million board feet of timber. This renewable resource could have produced nearly 170 million board feet of lumber, enough to build over 11,000 homes. Given proper forest management, this could have been repeated every 50 to 60 years, forever.

While private landowners may find opportunity in selling their land to the government, one would have to question the wisdom of the government's role in limiting resource availability to consumers while spending enormous sums to add to the already obscene amounts of land in government ownership in Alaska.

With greater amounts of our natural resource base being closed to development, where will America find the raw materials to produce the products its consumers demand? Before long, America will become a nation of consumers without producers. Jobs will flow overseas to develop resources in countries with much weaker environmental laws. And the trade deficit will only grow larger as America imports the products it no longer produces at home.

With so much interference on Alaskans' right of self-determination, it's not hard to understand the frustration of the Bostonians at the Boston Tea Party or Cordova residents at the Cordova Coal Party.

Our friends have been with us since the beginning, fighting over the land. The faces and names have changed, but the battles are still the same.

Come join the fight.

Gay . . . *(Continued from page 2)*

to see for yourself what we are up against.

On a positive note, in August the AWC will be touring Congressional and Administration staff around the state wetlands. Look for us in Sitka, Juneau, Anchorage, Palmer, Bethel, Kwethluk, Fairbanks, Nome, Barrow and Prudhoe Bay.

Pulp mill to close, Sitka ponders its future

(Continued from page 1)

annually to meet environmental mandates.

To comply with a newly-proposed permit requirement, the company would have to spend an additional \$104 million initially and triple its annual environmental expenses. These costs cannot be passed on to the consumer, the company has said.

State officials have recently voiced concern that burdensome federal red tape could lead to the demise of both the Sitka and Ketchikan pulp mills, sending the Southeast Alaska economy into a tailspin.

In response to news of the mill's closure, Governor Wally Hickel said "this is the painful result of the policies of an uncaring federal government, policies that are calculated to, sooner or later, put an industry out of business."

A permanent shut-down of the APC

mill would be "devastating," warned Sitka Mayor Dan Keck. The seasonal nature of Sitka's tourism and fishing industries could not make up for the year-round loss of high-paying mill jobs, said Keck, a member of the RDC Board of Directors.

When the cruise boats stop coming and the town loses the millworkers, whose salaries average about \$45,000 a year, "it's going to be pretty tough during the winter," said Keck.

Alaska Pulp accounts for nearly 2,000 direct and indirect jobs in Alaska and pumps tens of millions of dollars into the economy each year. The company spends over \$6 million annually in local contracts and its employees spend over \$30 million on local goods and services.

APC also accounts for nearly a quarter of Sitka's water revenues and 20 percent of its property tax base. As a result, the mill's closure eventually could mean an end to Sitka's low prop-

erty tax rate.

"The social costs of the mill's closure, including unemployment benefits and the loss in tax revenues, have yet to be calculated," noted APC spokesman Rollo Pool.

"I just bought a house last year and I'm probably going to have to walk into the bank and give them the keys," said millworker Chris Skoog. "That's the only thing I can think of. The house won't sell now. Property values just went through the basement."

With strong and escalating prices for lumber, APC will continue operating a second facility at Wrangell which produces lumber. The Wrangell sawmill employs 235 people. Company logging operations will employ up to 500 more people during the peak season.

But a permanent closure of the Sitka mill could result in a restructuring of logging operations in the northern Tongass because Alaska Pulp's long-term contract is linked to an operating

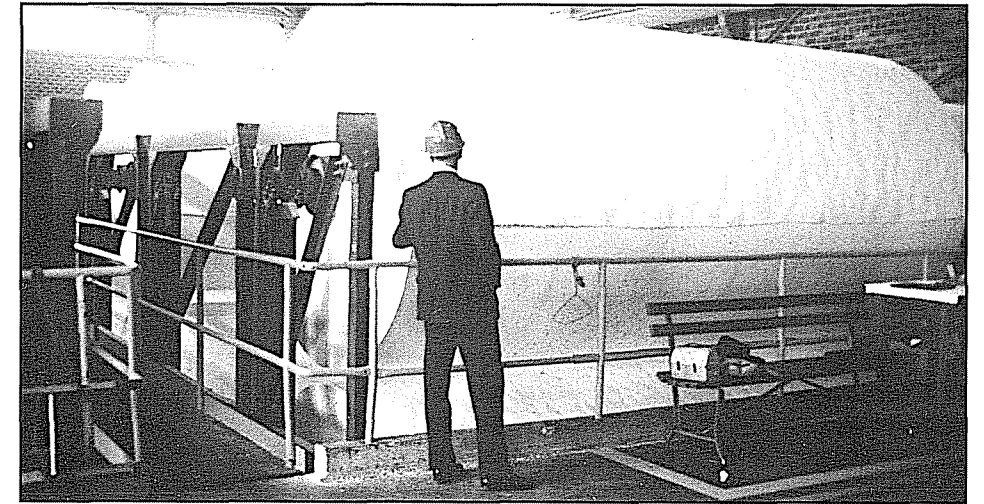
pulp mill.

"A pulp mill was a definite requirement for the contract," said Wayne Nicolls, a Forest Service spokesman. Nicolls said the contract allows for temporary closure of the mill, but if it remains closed, then the Forest Service might seek to terminate the contract.

APC's Roppel would not speculate on what it would take to re-open the mill, saying "It's clear that it will take some time to resolve our differences with the Forest Service or to find some additional use for the property. Given the situation, we felt it would be more fair to our employees to offer an enhanced and comprehensive severance program, rather than to put them in a state of long-term uncertainty and financial jeopardy — in the hope that more work would be available at our facility any time soon."

The Ketchikan mill, Southeast Alaska's largest private employer, resumed operations in June after a six-week shut down. The mill will likely have to shut down again next month and might stay closed until October, said Martin Pihl, the company's president and general manager.

"This is obviously a very sad day in the history of Southeast Alaska," Pihl said. "The difficulties that Sitka speaks



The pulp mills in Sitka and Ketchikan are the largest employers in Southeast Alaska. The mills produce a high-grade dissolving pulp that is used to manufacture rayon, cellophane, food additives and a wide variety of other products used in everyday life.

of -- the contract management and changes -- affect all of us in the industry."

Alaska's congressional delegation blamed environmental extremists, the Forest Service and East Coast elitists for the mill's closure.

"The extreme environmental crowd has demanded change after change that makes it impossible to sustain this mill's productive activity in the Tongass," said Senator Ted Stevens. "They are the ones who should tell the 400 workers

who lost their jobs why they can no longer support their families."

Congressman Don Young vented his anger at majority Democrats.

"In their effort to appease the East Coast environmental elitists who have decided to tell the rest of the nation how to live their lives, the Democrats in Congress who pushed for strict restrictions on timber development have thrown hundreds of people out of work and destroyed Southeast Alaska's second largest employer," Young said.

APC: USFS improperly changed provisions of contract

(Continued from page 1)

unilaterally changed the administration of the long-term contract by raising prices and by reducing the time for harvesting offered timber. The Forest Service additionally interpreted the act in a way that substantially reduces APC's timber volume through the remaining 18 years of the timber harvest contract.

APC also claims the Forest Service used the act to wipe out an economic test in the contract that was used to determine suitability of timber offered to the company.

"It's not in anyone's best interest to let these improper changes destroy a successful working relationship that has been providing jobs and year-around

economic activity for our part of Alaska for more than three decades," Roppel added.

Some of the challenged changes to APC's contract are:

- **Comparable Pricing:** APC must pay the average price of other timber purchasers if those prices are higher than those calculated under the long-term timber contract. Other timber buyers may purchase logs only occasionally, have no continuing purchase obligation and can speculate on future market conditions.

"The Forest Service's interpretation of the comparable pricing clause is like an elevator that only travels in one direction," Roppel said.

- **Utility Grade Logs:** For the first 30 years of the company's contract with the federal

"It's not in anyone's best interest to let these improper changes destroy a successful working relationship that has been providing jobs and year-around economic activity for our part of Alaska for more than three decades." -Frank Roppel

government, the volume promised and delivered was measured in sawlog volumes. Any additional utility logs (which generally are only usable for manufacturing pulp) were purchased but not included in the total volume. Now the Forest Service says utility logs must be included in the total volume, effec-

tively reducing the Forest Service's obligation to provide timber to APC.

"As a consequence, APC is not receiving sufficient supply of saw logs to operate its sawmill at full capacity," Roppel said. "It is a shame not to be able to take advantage of the currently good lumber markets."

- **Mid-Market Assessment:** This is a question of whether or not there should be a market-value test before APC is required to accept and purchase timber from the Forest Service. The APC contract called for such a test, but the Forest Service deleted this requirement, relying on an interpretation of the Act.

Roppel noted that the first offerings since the Tongass Reform Act was passed have failed this test and that future offerings now being developed will fail, too.



While a weak world pulp market is a contributing factor in the mill's closure, company officials says the worst damage has come from changes in a 50-year logging contract that have made a difficult situation unworkable. Above, pulp bales are loaded on a ship.