

A Resolution of the Haines Borough Assembly Supporting a State Parks Recreational Trails Program Grant to Improve and Maintain Fifteen Miles of Haines State Forest Roads.

WHEREAS, Haines residents enjoy using trails for many recreational activities, including motorized and non-motorized use; and

WHEREAS, During times of social distancing, outdoor recreation on trails and roads is an excellent way to remain safe and healthy; and

WHEREAS, The Haines State Forest road system is already used by many locals, including hunters, berry-pickers, snowmachiners, ATV users, and hikers to access the State Forest and the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve; and

WHEREAS, The roads are also used by many tourism operators, including raft guides, hunting guides, and ATV tour guides; and

WHEREAS, While the Haines State Forest roads were built by the Division of Forestry for timber harvest, the Division does not have funds to maintain roads that are not presently accessing timber sales; and

WHEREAS, Many miles of forestry roads are becoming choked with alders and the surface is degraded and difficult to travel; and

WHEREAS, The forest road system has neither road signs nor maps; and

WHEREAS, Restoring the roads and adding signage and maps will benefit locals by increasing recreational access, and benefit the Haines economy by providing jobs in construction for improving the road, and providing better access to tourism operators and their clients to the public land in the Haines Borough; and

WHEREAS, The Haines State Forest is an excellent place to demonstrate how forest management can coexist with recreational and tourism opportunities, benefiting all.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Haines Borough Assembly supports the efforts of the Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry to pursue grant funding from the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation's Recreational Trails Program to improve the Haines State Forest road system for motorized and non-motorized use; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Outdoor Recreational Trails Advisory Board.

Adopted by a duly-constituted quorum of the Haines Borough Assembly on this 28th day of April, 2020.

Attest:


Alekka Fullerton, CMC, Borough Clerk




Janice Hill, Mayor