

MEMORANDUM

TO: Ron Long, Assembly President
Members, Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

FROM: Milli Martin, Assembly Member

DATE: November 8, 2006

SUBJECT: Resolution 2006-094, supporting the Homer Soil and Water Conservation District's 2006 state recreation trail grant application for trail improvements and signage in the Homer Demonstration Forest

Attached is a resolution requesting Assembly support of a grant to fund improvements to trails and access in the Homer Demonstration Forest. This unique area, situated near the many Baycrest trails, is often used by summer and winter residents and visitors as well as being a special education site.

The Division of Forestry and the Homer Soil and Water Conservation District are presently working on a management plan for the Homer Demonstration Forest. As a part of the plan, one of the goals is to "encourage and provide facilities for recreational activities that are compatible with stewardship, education and research goals." To accomplish this goal, objectives are listed that include upgrading and improving existing trails to minimize erosion and/or impacts to wetlands and link trails to neighboring easements and public access right-of-ways. Pursuant to these goals and objectives, the Homer Soil and Water Conservation is in the process of applying for a state recreation trail grant to construct improvements and signage on the trail in this demonstration forest and has requested that the assembly adopt a resolution supporting its grant application.

Support for this latest work in the Demonstration Forest follows past Assembly support of the efforts of local and state agencies. The Soil and Water Conservation District that is proposing this latest effort has completed a number of successful access routes in the Southern Peninsula, including the trail out to the Caribou Lake area. They work well with other agencies, both state and private, to the benefit of the community at large.

I request your support of this resolution. Thank you.