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DATE : Apr 05, 1993

TO : Kathleen McGinty, Director
: Office of Environmental Policy

FROM : Brian Hunt
: Lead Organizer, AFSEEE

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MESSAGE :

*Christian
No for KM
Pls pass to*

*~~Cathryn~~
CZ
4/19*

April 5, 1993

Kathleen McGinty, Director
Office of Environmental Policy
Old Executive Office Bldg., Rm 360
Washington, D.C. 20501

Dear Ms, McGinty,

This letter is to request a meeting with you regarding the U.S. Forest Service and that agency's mismanagement of our National Forests.

The Association of Forest Service Employees for Environmental Ethics (AFSEEE) is a non-government organization of 2000 current and retired Forest Service employees. We possess a unique "insider's view" of this very troubled agency.

The purpose of the meeting would be two-fold. First of all, to share our thoughts about important reforms that are needed within the Forest Service. Secondly, to present you with a copy of our White Paper to the Administration regarding the Tongass National Forest.

As the Administration struggles to place National Forest management on the track of ecosystem approaches, the greatest impediment you face is the Forest Service, itself. Recently, Vice President Gore received a letter from 23 of the nation's top resource scientists regarding abuses of science by the agency. That letter, facilitated by AFSEEE, points not only to suppression of reports and intimidation of resource professionals, but also of the reward and incentive system that promotes commodity extraction over resource protection.

Furthermore, the agency is currently down-sizing in a manner that is cutting the muscle of ecosystem management from the agency, the biologists, hydrologists and ecologists on the ground. In many instances, these "ologists" are surplusd while their position is filled with timber sale planners who have seniority. These are two of several institutional issues that must be addressed as you grapple with the issue of Forest management.

Attending the meeting would be Dave Iverson, President of AFSEEE's board and the regional economist for Forest Service Region 4 (Mr. Iverson will be on his personal time as a citizen and not acting as a representative of the agency), Jeff Ruch, Esq. of the Government Accountability Project and myself.

Thank you for your consideration.

Cordially,

Brian Hunt
Lead Organizer

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