

**SUBJECT:** A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH MANAGER TO SELL THE MORaine RIDGE SALVAGE TIMBER HARVEST (MSB008132).

**AGENDA OF: December 3, 2024**

**ASSEMBLY ACTION: Adopted without objection 12/03/24 - BJH**

**AGENDA ACTION REQUESTED:** Present to Assembly for consideration.

Route To	Signatures
Originator	<div style="text-align: center;"> <small>11/18/2024</small>                      X      E m e r s o n   K r u e g e r  <hr/> <small>Signed by: Emerson Krueger</small> </div>
Department Director	<div style="text-align: center;"> <small>11/20/2024</small>                      X      J i l l i a n   M o r r i s s e y  <hr/> <small>Signed by: Jillian Morrissey</small> </div>
Finance Director	<div style="text-align: center;"> <small>11/20/2024</small>                      X      C h e y e n n e   H e i n d e l  <hr/> <small>Signed by: Cheyenne Heindel</small> </div>
Borough Attorney	<div style="text-align: center;"> <small>11/20/2024</small>                      X      N i c h o l a s   S p i r o p o u l o s  <hr/> <small>Signed by: Nicholas Spiropoulos</small> </div>
Borough Manager	<div style="text-align: center;"> <small>11/21/2024</small>                      X      M i c h a e l   B r o w n  <hr/> <small>Signed by: Mike Brown</small> </div>
Borough Clerk	<div style="text-align: center;"> <small>11/22/2024</small>                      X      B r e n d a   J .   H e n r y   f o r  <hr/> <small>Signed by: Brenda Henry</small> </div>

**ATTACHMENT (S) :** Fiscal Note (1 pp)  
 Moraine Ridge Salvage Timber Harvest Map (1 pp)  
 Public Comments (3 pp)  
 Resolution Serial No. 24-123 (1 pp)

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:** The Matanuska-Susitna Borough Land and Resource Management Division has identified a potential salvage timber sale on approximately 1,000 acres of Borough-owned forestland on Borough parcels Tax ID 16N05W09A001, 16N05W10B002, 16N05W04A002, 17N05W33B001, 17N05W28A001 and 5695000T00A-1. The parcels encompass approximately 4,152 acres, but only about 1,000 acres are included in the proposed harvest area.

Timber in this harvest area was offered as part of a larger, 7,061-acre commercial harvest in 2018, which was not purchased. Recent discussions with multiple operators have indicated an interest in a sale of this size. Harvest is expected to either be winter only utilizing an ice bridge over the Little Susitna River, or will occur once the first segment of the West Susitna Access Road is constructed over the Little Susitna River.

The public comment period was open from September 16 through October 16, 2024. Three public comments were received in response to the notice and were in support of the proposed harvest.

A salvage harvest within the subject Borough parcels was proposed because of the amount of over-mature or defective birch with minor components of dead and damaged spruce. Forest management activities will target the reduction of birch stocking and removal of salvageable dead and damaged spruce to promote natural regeneration, enhance growth of residual trees, reduce fire hazard, and improve overall forest health.

The proposal for the timber salvage sale was made in the best interest of the forest and the surrounding community. This larger sale will allow for the management of Matanuska-Susitna Borough forestland and reduce the risk of wildfire. There is an opportunity here to realize some value from the trees before more succumb to rot and other disturbances.

**RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:**

Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly adoption of Resolution Serial No. 24-123 authorizing the Borough Manager to sell the Moraine Ridge Salvage Timber Sale (MSB008132).


**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH**

**FISCAL NOTE**

Agenda Date: December 3, 2024

SUBJECT: A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY

AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH MANAGER TO SELL THE MORAINE RIDGE SALVAGE TIMBER HARVEST (MSB008132).

FISCAL ACTION (TO BE COMPLETED BY FINANCE)	FISCAL IMPACT <b>YES</b> NO
AMOUNT REQUESTED TBD	FUNDING SOURCE Timber Sale Revenue
FROM ACCOUNT #	PROJECT
TO ACCOUNT: 203.000.000 3xx.xxx	PROJECT #
VERIFIED BY:  X Liesel Weiland Signed by: Liesel Weiland	

**EXPENDITURES/REVENUES:**

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Personnel Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land/Structures						
Grants, Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING						

CAPITAL						
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REVENUE		TBD				
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**FUNDING:**

(Thousands of Dollars)

General Fund						
State/Federal Funds						
Other		TBD				
TOTAL		TBD				

**POSITIONS:**

Full-Time						
Part-Time						
Temporary						

**ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary) Amount based on bids received for the sale of the salvaged timber.**

APPROVED BY:	11/20/2024 X Cheyenne Heindel Signed by: Cheyenne Heindel
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## Emerson Krueger

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**From:** Land Management  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 15, 2024 2:43 PM  
**To:** Emerson Krueger  
**Subject:** FW: MSB008132 Moraine Ridge Timber Sale

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**From:** Greg McConnell <gmconne22@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 15, 2024 11:06 AM  
**To:** Land Management <Land.Management@matsugov.us>  
**Subject:** MSB008132 Moraine Ridge Timber Sale

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL - CAUTION: Do not open unexpected attachments or links.]**

I fully support the efforts to open this area for timber harvest. It will improve the natural habitat for wildlife and greatly reduce the danger of wildfires. I see this as a total win for the environment as well as providing natural resources for use by local sawmills which helps the local economy. I thank the Resource Management Division for this planning effort.

Gregory McConnell P.E.





MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH  
 Community Development  
 Land & Resource Management Division  
 350 East Dahlia Avenue  
 Palmer, Alaska 99645

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Type: Salvage Timber Sale (MSB008132)

Tax ID: 16N05W04A002; 16N05W10B002  
 16N05W09A001; 17N05W28A001  
 17N05W33B001; 5695000T00A-1

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough (Borough) Land & Resource Management Division is proposing an oral outcry bid salvage timber sale on Borough owned parcels tax ID 16N05W04A002, 16N05W09A001, 16N05W10B002, 17N05W28A001, 17N05W33B001, and 5695000T00A-1. These parcels are located west of Big Lake and west of the Little Susitna River. Forest management activities would focus on approximately 1,000 acres targeting the removal of over-mature white birch and beetle-killed spruce. Access to the designated harvest area will be off W. Susitna Parkway. A 100-foot buffer between the harvest area and wetlands and waterbodies will be required to reduce any negative visual effects and protect water quality.

Tree species composition is highly comprised of over-mature white birch with minor components of white spruce and quaking aspen. The recommended treatment is a seed-tree cut (leaving 5-10 trees/acre) harvesting the over-mature white birch and dead spruce. This treatment aims to facilitate natural regeneration of hardwoods and enhance growing conditions for residual trees. This treatment aims to facilitate natural regeneration of hardwoods and promote the release of residual live spruce trees in both the understory and midstory. An estimated volume of 7,000 cords of timber is expected to be extracted from the 1,000-acre harvest area.

Supporting material is available for public inspection during normal business hours on the 2nd floor of the Borough Building in the Land & Resource Management office or visit the Public Notice Section on the Borough's web page, [www.matsugov.us](http://www.matsugov.us). Public comment is invited on this request. If you have any comments please mail or deliver them to the Borough offices at the address indicated above, no later than **October 16, 2023**. If you have questions about this request call Emerson Krueger at 907-861-7867 between 8 am - 5 pm or you can send an e-mail to: [LMB@matsugov.us](mailto:LMB@matsugov.us) (please refer to MSB008132 Moraine Ridge Salvage Timber Sale when submitting comments).

Comments: I totally support salvages in This manner. It Will support Increased wild life, It will Help with Fire prevention. And it will Help support Local businesses Through small scale Rough Cut Lumber and Fire wood sale and acquisition, This is

Signature: over do. Jeffery J. Schweizer

(If you need more space for comments please attach a separate sheet of paper.)  
 \*This public notice & request for comments is in compliance with MSB Code 23.05.025



MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH  
 Community Development  
 Land & Resource Management Division  
 350 East Dahlia Avenue  
 Palmer, Alaska 99645

41  
 Jill Parson  
 Big Lake RSA #21  
 PO Box 521315  
 Big Lake, AK 99652

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH  
 PUBLIC NOTICE

Type: Salvage Timber Sale (MSB008132)

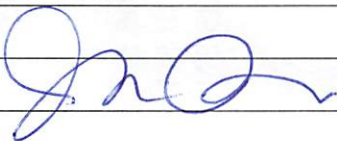
Tax ID: 16N05W04A002; 16N05W10B002  
 16N05W09A001; 17N05W28A001  
 17N05W33B001; 5695000T00A-1

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Comments: No objection - good idea to reduce fire danger from dead spruce.




Signature: 

(If you need more space for comments please attach a separate sheet of paper.)  
 \*This public notice & request for comments is in compliance with MSB Code 23.05.025

# Moraine Ridge STH 25-003 Salvage Timber Harvest

MSB008132

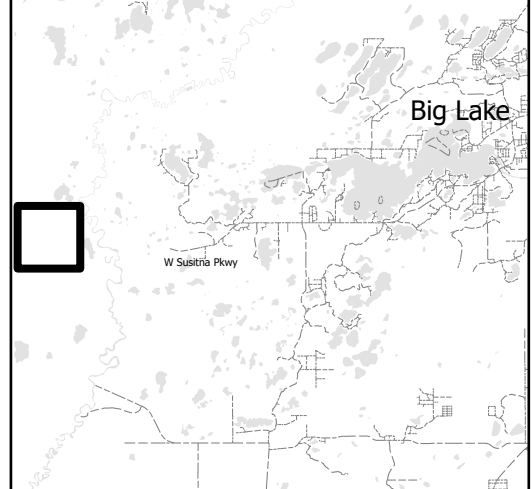
16N05W04; 16N05W06 SM  
16N05W09; 16N05W10 SM  
17N05W28; 17N05W33 SM

-  Forest Access
-  Wetland
-  Harvest Boundary



Matanuska-Susitna Borough  
Land & Resource Management

0 2.5 5  
Mi



0 4,000 8,000  
Feet

