

Introduced by:	Mayor
Date:	01/09/01
Hearing:	02/06/01
Action:	Postponed until 02/20/01
Action:	Postponed until 03/13/01
Action:	Postponed until 04/03/01
Action:	Enacted as Amended
Vote:	8 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent
Date:	04/03/01

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH  
ORDINANCE 2000-19-19**

**AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING A GRANT FROM THE U.S. FOREST SERVICE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,483,500 TO COMPLETE ACTIVITIES OUTLINED IN THE SPRUCE BARK BEETLE TASK FORCE ACTION PLAN AND PROVIDE FUNDING TO THE COOK INLET TRIBAL COUNCIL FOR REFORESTATION ON NATIVE INHOLDINGS AND FEDERAL LANDS IDENTIFIED BY THE TASK FORCE**

**WHEREAS,** the Kenai Peninsula Borough convened the Spruce Bark Beetle Task Force in January 1998 to prepare an action plan for managing the spruce bark beetle infestations in the Kenai Peninsula Borough and rehabilitating the infested areas; and

**WHEREAS,** more than 1,000,000 acres within the Kenai Peninsula Borough have been infested with spruce bark beetles during the past ten years; and

**WHEREAS,** the United States Congress and the Alaska Congressional delegation are very concerned about the potential for fire hazards caused by the spruce bark beetle infestation; and

**WHEREAS,** a congressional appropriation of \$7,483,500 has been made available in the form of a direct lump sum payment to the Kenai Peninsula Borough for hazardous tree removal and reforestation to further complete the Spruce Bark Beetle Task Force Action Plan; and

**WHEREAS,** Congress directed the borough to make 10% of the funds available to the Cook Inlet Tribal Council for reforestation on native inholdings and federal lands identified by the Spruce Bark Beetle task force;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:**

**SECTION 1.** That the mayor is authorized to accept the direct lump sum appropriation in the amount of \$7,483,500 from the U.S. Forest Service to address the spruce bark beetle infestation.

**SECTION 2.** That the Phase II Program Outline and Description attached to this ordinance are approved and shall guide the administration's expenditure of the funds, including contracting with the Cook Inlet Tribal Council to reforest native inholdings and federal lands identified by the task force equal to 10% of the grant funds received.

**SECTION 3.** That these grant funds are appropriated to Account No. 262.21320.01BTL.49999.

**SECTION 4.** That the Forest Fire Science Technical Committee created in Ordinance 2000-13 shall provide oversight and recommendations for expenditure of funds used in the hazard tree removal portion of this project. The Forest Fire Science Technical Committee shall review and comment on administration plans and proposals for the hazard tree removal program.

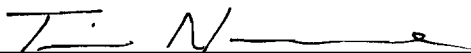
**SECTION 5.** That a Reforestation Committee consisting of seven members shall be appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the Assembly to monitor the reforestation program, assist in designing some projects under the program, and provide scientific oversight and technical expertise for implementing the reforestation portion of the grant. Members of the reforestation committee shall be knowledgeable in the areas of natural resource conservation, forestry, landscaping, agriculture, reforestation and other related fields.

**SECTION 6.** That the Spruce Bark Beetle Program Phase Two fiscal year 2001 grant funds program outline, attached to this ordinance and incorporated by reference, is approved and shall guide expenditure of the grant funds. The Mayor shall spend the funds in accordance with the approach set forth in the program.

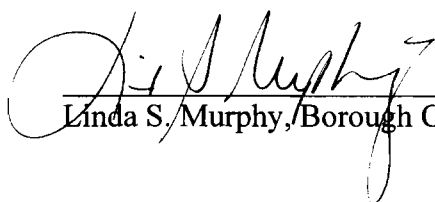
**SECTION 7.** That the Mayor is authorized to execute all documents deemed necessary to complete this project in accordance with this ordinance and applicable law.

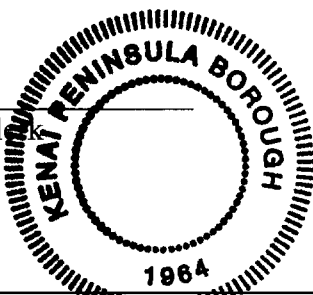
**SECTION 8.** That this ordinance takes effect immediately upon enactment.

**ENACTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 3RD DAY OF APRIL , 2001.**

  
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Timothy Navarre, Assembly President

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Linda S. Murphy, Borough Clerk



## **SPRUCE BARK BEETLE PROGRAM PHASE II**

### **FY 2001 GRANT FUNDS**

#### **PROGRAM OUTLINE DESCRIPTION**

Following is a brief description of the preliminary plan for spending the \$7.5 million recently appropriated by Congress for the Spruce Bark Beetle Program Phase II. See the attached table for further expenditure details.

#### **1. Reforestation - \$1,798,350**

A. Cook Inlet Tribal Council – \$748,350. These funds are to be used for reforestation by the Cook Inlet Tribal Council pursuant to congressional intent language supporting congress' appropriation.

B. Kenai Peninsula Borough – \$175,000 per year for 6 years with a program total of \$1,050,000. The intent is to establish a dedicated account including the grant funds and net revenues from timber sales, to be used for reforestation purposes as proposed by the reforestation committee.

#### **2. Hazard Tree Removal - \$4,000,000**

A. Clear rights of way and corridors - \$1,550,000. The use of these funds will be to clear from rights of way and corridors spruce bark beetle killed trees in order to provide fire breaks, escape routes and access.

B. Slash disposal - \$100,000. For disposal of slash generated by clearing projects.

C. Community Defensible space - \$1,100,000. To provide community defensible space by funding FireWise Community Mitigation Projects.

D. Utility hazard tree removal - \$1,250,000. These funds will be provided to utilities to remove hazard trees from the utility line corridors to improve safety and help ensure continued provision of utilities in the event of a major fire.

#### **3. Technical Assistance - \$815,000**

To fund capital projects and fire suppression equipment that the KPB Forest Fire Science Committee recommends in accordance with the 1998 Task Force Report.

#### **4. Public Education/Incident Training - \$110,000**

These funds will be used to provide incident training regarding forest fires and public education either through an outside contractor or using in-house personnel.

#### **5. Expand season for fire personnel - \$225,000**

To pay the crews such as the Kenai fire crew during the off-season to clear hazardous trees and create defensible spaces in public areas.

**6. Land and Vegetation Mapping - \$300,000**

Funding to continue with the 1998 grant efforts to provide satellite imagery and hazard risk assessment. These mapping services help predict how a fire will behave.

**7. Contingency - \$235,150**

These are remaining funds intended to be used in otherwise underfunded areas.