S-1698

Agenda No.

BURSTFALLE

RESOLUTION NO.

35203

Title

As Amended

Request federal legislation to end timber harvesting in the Bull Run Management Unit, the Little Sandy Watershed, and related land as necessary. (Resolution)

INTRODUCED BY	DATE FILED: OCT 1 9 1993	
MIKE LINDBERG, COMMISSIONER	Barbara Clark Auditor of the City of Portland	
NOTED BY COMMISSIONER		
Affairs	By: Cay Carohur Deputy	
Finance and Administration	Deputy	
Safety To	For Meeting of:	
Utilities ///	·	
Works	ACTION TAKEN:	
BUREAU APPROVAL		
Bureau:		
Prepared by Date		
ARTHUR ALEXANDER		
Budget Impact Review:	·	
Completed Not Required		
Bureau Head: MIKE ROSENBERGER		

AGENDA		FOUR-FIFTHS AGENDA		COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
				YEAS	NAYB	
Consent	Regular X	Blumenauer	Blumenauer			
NOTED BY		Hales	Hales			
City Attorney		Kafoury	Kafoury	-		
City Auditor		Lindberg	Lindberg			
City Engineer		Katz	Katz			

## SUBSTITUTE

## RESOLUTION No.

# 35203

### 'As Amended

Requesting federal legislation to end timber harvesting in the Bull Run Management Unit, the Little Sandy Watershed, and related land as necessary. (Resolution)

- WHEREAS, the City of Portland has obtained the vast majority of its drinking water from the Bull Run River in the Mount Hood National Forest for nearly 100 years;
- WHEREAS, many other communities in the Portland metropolitan area now also obtain their water from the Bull Run system which serves 775,000 people and over one-quarter of the population of Oregon;
- WHEREAS, the Bull Run watershed and the Little Sandy River watershed were reserved and protected by Executive Order as early as 1892 to provide water supply to Portland;
- WHEREAS, the Bull Run River and the Little Sandy River watersheds were protected from human entry except to service the water supply system and protect the forest, by the Trespass Act of 1904;
- WHEREAS, the Bull Run drainage and much of the Little Sandy drainage is still contained within the Bull Run Watershed Management Unit, administered by the Forest Service under the 1977 Bull Run Management Act, P.L. 95-200, the purpose of which Act was to insure the production of pure, clear, raw potable water from the Unit for the City of Portland and surrounding communities that obtain their water from the Portland system;
- WHEREAS, the City has special state statutory water rights on both the Little Sandy and the Bull Run Rivers;
- WHEREAS, pursuant to P.L. 95-200, the Forest Service must adopt plans and manage the Bull Run Watershed Management Unit so as to avoid any adverse effect on Bull Run water quality or the quantity of water produced by the Unit for the use of the City and surrounding communities;
- WHEREAS, the Portland Water Bureau has completed Phase I of a planning process to meet water supply needs in the Portland metropolitan region to the year 2050, which identified the Bull Run system as one of the main sources for further study and future development;

- WHEREAS, 27 water providers in the Portland metropolitan area, including Portland, are currently engaged in a multi-year, multi-million dollar phase two planning process to identify more specifically the water conservation and supply options for the region, which study is assessing in detail the potential for a third dam on the Bull Run River;
- WHEREAS, the Portland City Council has identified the Little Sandy River as a potential long-term water supply source for the City that should be protected, especially given the current uncertainties surrounding all alternative water supply development;
- WHEREAS, citizens value the restrictions on human access to the Bull Run Watershed Management Unit which have historically protected their pure, clean, raw, potable water supply from contamination by bacteria, viruses, treated sewage, pesticides, herbicides, human-caused fire, industrial waste and nuclear waste;
- WHEREAS, commercial logging activities within watersheds have the potential to degrade water quality;
- WHEREAS, the water from the Bull Run River currently meets federal and state drinking water standards without the use of costly filtration systems;
- WHEREAS, the Management Unit is currently managed under a plan and Environmental Impact Statement issued in 1979;
- WHEREAS, since that plan and Impact Statement were adopted much new scientific information and policy direction has become available, including: the blowdown results of a 1983 storm in the Management Unit; City Council Resolutions 34331 (1987), 34597 (1989), and 35024 (1992); implementation by the Bureau of Water Works and Forest Service of the 1989 and 1990 water quality monitoring recommendations of the Water Quality Task Force (Wyden Task Force); the 1991 designation of the Bull Run as a "New Perspectives" watershed by the Forest Service; and the designation of much of the Bull Run Management Unit as critical spotted owl habitat by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service;
- WHEREAS, the Forest Service has recently issued a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and proposed policy on old growth forest management at the direction of President Bill Clinton and in conjunction with the Report of the Forest Ecosystem Management Assessment Team;
- WHEREAS, the preferred alternative in that Draft Impact Statement designates much of the Bull Run Management Unit as Late Successional/Old Growth Reserve (that is,

land reserved for old growth and spotted owl habitat purposes) and identifies the Bull Run drainage as a "Tier 2 Key Watershed," (that is, a watershed that is valued for its production of high quality water);

- WHEREAS, the standards and guidelines applicable to the Bull Run Unit in the proposed old growth policy may significantly affect management in the Unit: on the one hand, they would permit some timber management activity that the City considers incompatible with the protection of the Bull Run as a municipal watershed while, on the other hand, they would appear to restrict or limit the City's ability to construct additional water storage facilities and utilize its current facilities;
- WHEREAS, the Forest Service has not proposed to designate the Little Sandy watershed either as a Late Successional/Old Growth Reserve or a Key Watershed, but instead proposes to allow continued commercial timber cutting to occur in the Little Sandy basin;
- WHEREAS, the City Council believes that the Bull Run Unit can be managed to preserve and enhance the area both as a water supply source and as an important habitat for old-growth dependent species;
- WHEREAS, the City Council's Water Quality Advisory Committee has urged the Council to seek legislation or administrative actions protecting both the Bull Run and the Little Sandy drainages from further commercial (green, salvage and special forest products) sales related to timber management activities or any other forest management activities which do not maintain or enhance water quality and water quantity, except for the removal of the minimum forest necessary for the construction of new municipal water reservoirs and related facilities;
- WHEREAS, the Council shares the goals and hereby accepts the recommendation of its Advisory Committee to take steps necessary to protect fully the Bull Run and Little Sandy watersheds and the City's rights and interests in those watersheds as water supply sources;

#### NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that:

- 1. This resolution shall replace and supersede all previous Council policy direction on the Bull Run Management Unit.
- 2. The Council requests that the Congress of the United States enact protective legislation to increase the size and revise the land management direction for the Bull Run Management Unit in a manner that will accomplish the goals of the City of Portland;