
HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4013

State of Washington 54th Legislature 1995 Regular Session

By Representatives Thompson, Fuhrman, Horn, Cairnes, Goldsmith, Radcliff, Hargrove, Lisk, Koster, Beeksma, D. Schmidt, Blanton, Stevens, McMahan, Sheldon, Pennington, B. Thomas, Buck, Benton, Smith, Mulliken and Honeyford

Read first time 01/31/95. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources.

1 TO THE HONORABLE BILL CLINTON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND
2 TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
4 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

5 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
6 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
7 represent and petition as follows:

8 WHEREAS, the Northern spotted owl is currently listed as threatened
9 under the federal Endangered Species Act; and

10 WHEREAS, Promoters of this listing contended that spotted owls
11 require old growth forests in order to survive; and

12 WHEREAS, This contention has proven to be false, and it is now
13 known that spotted owls also thrive in second growth forests which have
14 been logged for over a century; and

15 WHEREAS, In the 1970's, biologists believed that no more than 1,500
16 pairs of owls lived in the three-state region of Washington, Oregon,
17 and California; and

18 WHEREAS, As of 1993, over 4,000 pairs of Northern spotted owls, as
19 well as over 2,000 single birds for a total of more than 10,000
20 Northern spotted owls, have been documented to reside in this region;
21 and

1 WHEREAS, Land surveys conducted to be in compliance with the
2 federal act continue to document the presence of more and more owls;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, The presence of so many owls on federal, state, and
5 private lands is leading to even greater curtailment of timber harvests
6 in the region; and

7 WHEREAS, The restriction on logging because of a perceived but
8 erroneous count of Northern spotted owls is causing severe hardship in
9 the timber industry in Washington state; and

10 WHEREAS, The promoters of this listing have an agenda that goes far
11 beyond protection of this particular species;

12 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully ask Congress to take
13 immediate action to insure that the Northern spotted owl is no longer
14 listed as either a threatened or endangered species under the federal
15 Endangered Species Act.

16 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
17 transmitted to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the United
18 States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the
19 House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of
20 Washington.

--- END ---