

Assembly Will Talk Logging Tonight

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Brianna Gibbs/KMXT

Tonight the Kodiak Island Borough Assembly will meet for a work session and discuss logging at length. The assembly is set to hear from Robert Deal, a research forester and ecosystem services team leader from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service. Deal is set to present his thoughts on logging practices, specifically what has been done in southeast Alaska, and how it might apply to logging being done, or could be done, here in Kodiak.

In recent weeks there has been a series of community events regarding Leisnoi's logging practices on its privately-owned land in Chiniak. There was a public meeting earlier this month and a protest outside the Afognak Native Corporation headquarters on Near Island. A new group, the Kodiak Conservation Society, has formed in opposition to the logging and hopes to present aerial photos of the logged areas in Chiniak during tonight's work session.

Likewise, Leisnoi President and CEO Von Veeh has requested an opportunity to address current timber practices and hopefully shed some light on what is being done on their land.

Tonight's work session will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the borough conference room and will also include a final borough budget review by the assembly, including nonprofit funding.