

**Region II Riparian Management Review
Science & Technical Committee**

January 6, 2005

At the request of the Alaska Board of Forestry, the Division of Forestry, the Office of Habitat Management and Permitting, and the Department of Environmental Conservation are reviewing the forest practices standards for riparian areas in the boreal forest of southcentral Alaska (Forest Practices Region II).

In the first phase of this review the agencies worked with a Science and Technical Committee to review existing data on riparian management, identify research priorities, develop a stream classification system, and review existing riparian standards. The committee provided scientifically-based recommendations for revisions to the riparian management standards. The Board of Forestry reviewed the recommendations and asked the agencies to proceed.

The second phase will be to work with an Implementation Group to draft changes to the statutes and regulations that implement the scientific recommendations in a practical and effective manner. The Implementation Group includes representatives of the state resource agencies, forest landowners, local governments, timber and fishing industries, and environmental groups. Draft changes will again be reviewed by the Board before submitting statute changes to the Legislature or proceeding with adoption of new regulations.

All Implementation Group meetings will be open to the public and meeting minutes are available. The public is welcome to submit written comments at any time. We will distribute all written comments to committee members. If you have any questions, or would like to be on the mailing list for Implementation Group minutes, please contact one of the Committee co-chairs:

Marty Freeman
DNR Division of Forestry
550 W. 7th Ave., Ste. 1450
Anchorage, AK 99501
907-269-8473
martyw@dnr.state.ak.us

or

James Durst
DNR Office of Habitat Management & Permitting
1300 College Road
Fairbanks, AK 99701-1551
907-459-7254
james_durst@dnr.state.ak.us