

State of Alaska
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Forestry Kenai-Kodiak Area Office

Notice of Best Interest Finding and Timber Sales:

East Ninilchik, North Ranch, Jerome and South Ninilchik

Pursuant to AS 38.05.945 this notice is intended to inform the public that the Department of Natural Resources is issuing a Best Interest Finding under AS 38.05.035(e) that the East Ninilchik Timber Sale (SC-3072 K), North Ranch Timber Sale (SC-3051 K), Jerome Timber Sale (SC-3112 K) and South Ninilchik Timber Sale (SC-3138 K) are in the best interest of the State and the Division has decided to initiate these forest management actions. Copies of the decision documents may be viewed at the Division of Forestry, 42499 Sterling Highway/ Soldotna, AK 99669. The Best Interest Finding/ Forest Land Use Plans may be viewed on the Division of Forestry's website:

<http://www.dnr.state.ak.us/forestry/timber/kenaikodiak.htm>.

The timber sales are located within the Kenai Peninsula Borough. Information regarding these sales is as follows:

	Sale area Acres	Legal Descriptions
East Ninilchik SC-3072 K	200	Sections 17, 18, 19, & 20 Township 1 South, Range 13 West, Seward Meridian
North Ranch SC-3051 K	120	Section 28 Township 1 South, Range 13 West, Seward Meridian
Jerome SC-3112 K	300	Sections 10 and 11 Township 5 North, Range 2 West, Seward Meridian
South Ninilchik SC-3138 K	1500	Sections 17, 18, 19, and 20, Township 3 South, Range 12 West, and Sections 13, 23, 25, 26, 27, 33, 34, 35, and 36, Township 3 South, Range 13 West, Seward Meridian

A person affected by this decision who provided timely written comment or public hearing testimony on this decision may appeal it, in accordance with 11 AAC 02. Any appeal must be received by December 30, 2013 and may be mailed or delivered to Joe Balash, Commissioner, Department of Natural Resources, 550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 1400, Anchorage, Alaska 99501; faxed to 1-907-269-8918, or sent by electronic mail to <mailto:dnr.appeals@alaska.gov>. If no appeal is filed by that date, this decision goes into effect as a final order and decision on January 9, 2014. An eligible person must first appeal this decision in accordance with 11 AAC 02 before appealing this decision to Superior Court.

Failure of the commissioner to act on a request for reconsideration within 30 days after issuance of this decision is a denial of reconsideration and is final administrative order and decision for the purposes of an appeal to Superior Court. The decision may be appealed to Superior Court within a further 30 days in accordance with the rules of the court, and to the extent permitted by applicable law. An eligible person must first request reconsideration of this decision in accordance with 11 AAC 02 before appealing this decision to Superior Court. A copy of 11 AAC 02 may be obtained from any regional information office of the Department of Natural Resources.

If you have any questions, please contact Hans Rinke Kenai-Kodiak Area Forester at (907) 260-4200 or by e-mail hans.rinke@alaska.gov.

Notice of Timber Sales:

Pursuant to AS 38.945, the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry, will offer the following commercial timber sales for competitive sealed bid.

The proposed timber sales are located within the Kenai Peninsula Borough and are in the vicinity of Ninilchik and Happy Valley.

Timber harvest for these sales entails salvaging dead trees and partial overstory removal leaving reserves of timber. All dead spruce—standing or down—over eight inches in diameter will be harvested. Live spruce trees over 10 inches in diameter may be harvested; the State may select live trees to be retained for silvicultural purposes. All-season roads may be constructed for access if approved by the Division of Forestry. Primary access for these sales is by winter road. All-season roads must be approved by the Division of Forestry. Performance deposits are required for all sales as detailed in the contracts.

The minimum bid prices, performance bonds, and contact periods are as follows:

Sale Name	Acres for Harvest	Minimum Bid	Performance Bond	Contract Expiration
East Ninilchik SC-3072 K	200	\$3,000	\$8,000	July 31, 2016
North Ranch SC-3051 K	120	\$1,800	\$5,000	July 31, 2016
South Ninilchik SC 3138 K	1500	\$22,500	\$15,000	July 31, 2018

The Alaska Department of Natural Resources hereby gives notice that the State will accept **sealed bids for these timber sales until 1:00 p.m. on January 9, 2014** at the Kenai-Kodiak Area Forestry Office at Mile 92.5 Sterling Highway. To qualify for bidding all bidders must, prior to the bid opening, submit a copy of their current Alaska Business License. The business license copy may accompany the sealed bid. Sealed bids may be mailed with forms provided by the Division of Forestry, marked on the outside with the timber sale name and number, and addressed to the Kenai-Kodiak Area Office, 42499 Sterling Hwy., Soldotna, Alaska 99669. Sealed bids may also be presented in person to the Kenai-Kodiak Area Forester before the bid opening. Prospective bidders are required to submit a 10% bid deposit for the total bid amount, for each sale they are bidding on with their bid form. The State reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Unless all bids are rejected, the sale will be awarded to the responsible qualified bidder offering the highest total bid value for the timber on each sale. The State also reserves the right to waive technical defects in this advertisement in the best interest of the State. **Bid envelopes will be opened at 1:15 pm January 9, 2014.**

Prior to executing the contract, the timber sale purchasers must visit the timber sale with a representative of the State to verify access and ensure that expectations of the contract are clear. Persons interested in these timber sales are encouraged to visit the sale areas, review the contracts, logging and road construction standards prior to bidding. More detailed information pertinent to the sales, prospectus and a sample contracts may be obtained at the following web site, <http://www.dnr.state.ak.us/forestry/timber/kenaikodiak.htm>, or at the Division of Forestry office in Soldotna or by calling 260-4200.

The State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry, complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Individuals with disabilities who may need help with bidding should contact Hans Rinke at 260-4200 (Hans.Rinke@alaska.gov) no later than, **December 30, 2013** to make any necessary arrangements.

Hans Rinke—Area Forester