



STATE OF ALASKA DIVISION OF FORESTRY & FIRE PROTECTION

Department of Natural Resources

550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1400
Anchorage, AK 99501-3561

Haines State Forest Management Plan Amendment

Information Meeting – August 2025

Track the process here:

<https://forestry.alaska.gov/HSFamendment/>



Contact the Planning Team: dnr.dof.haines@alaska.gov

Background

Initial HSF RMA MP public amendment activities began in Spring 2024 with scoping meetings, online surveys, and an informational meeting in October 2024. During this initial scoping phase, the amendment was framed with the primary focus of inserting language to allow carbon offset projects as a potential use of the forest resources within the HSF RMA (AS 38.95.400, AS 41.15.300(c), 11 AAC Chapter 78).

After reflecting on the DOF's resource management goals within the HSF RMA and upon the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) goals to provide opportunities for carbon offset projects within Alaska's State Forest lands, the DOF has determined that additional changes to the management policy within the HSF RMA MP are necessary to best support these goals. These additional changes include the following:

- Policy language will be written to allow forest management including timber harvest and carbon offset projects on all land classifications within the HSF RMA.
- Management intent for each unit will be amended from broadly defining a unit's management intent by a single resource use to defining management intent for multiple resources present on the landscape.

Agenda

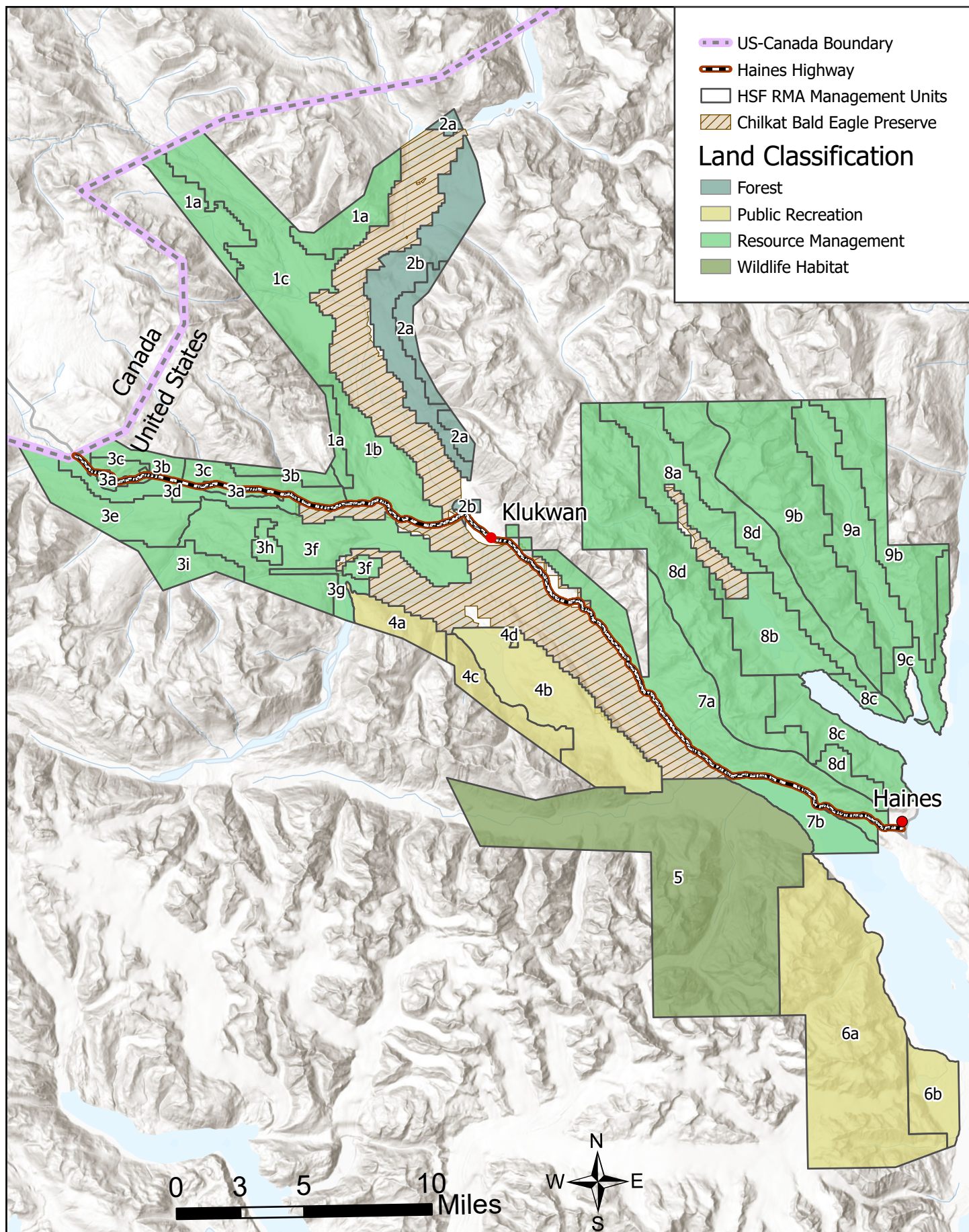
Introductions & Background– Geneva Preston, Ashley List, Greg Palmieri

Goals for this meeting – Geneva Preston (10 minutes)

Planning Process Overview & Online resources – Geneva Preston (5 minutes)

Opportunities to Participate – Geneva Preston (5 Minutes)

Question and Answer Session – All Staff (Remainder of meeting)



Haines State Forest Resource Management Area
Land Classifications



STATE OF ALASKA

DIVISION OF FORESTRY & FIRE PROTECTION

Department of Natural Resources

550 West 7th Avenue, Suite

Anchorage, AK 99501-3561

Haines State Forest Purpose Statement and Useful Definitions

What is Haines State Forest?

The **primary purposes** for the establishment of the Haines State Forest Resource Management Area are the utilization, perpetuation, conservation, and production of the land and water including but not limited to the **use of renewable and nonrenewable resources through multiple-use management and the continuation of other beneficial uses including traditional uses and other recreational activities.** (AS 41.15.300(a))

Who manages State Forest lands?

Responsibility for the management, control, development, and maintenance of the Haines State Forest Resource Management Area...is assigned to the **department [of Natural Resources]**. (AS 41.15.300(b))

Coordinated Management: The **division of forestry and fire protection** shall consult with **division of parks, Department of Fish and Game**, including each local fish and game **advisory committee** with jurisdiction in the area, and the **Alaska Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve Advisory Council** to **promote effective, efficient, and coordinated administration** of the Haines State Forest Resource Management Area and the Alaska Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve **for the values for which each is established.** (41.15.310(a))

Management Framework

Haines State Forest RMA shall be managed under the principles of **multiple use** and **sustained yield** under AS 41.17 [Alaska Forest Resources & Practices Act (FRPA)]

Multiple use: (A) The **management of all the various resources of forest land** so that they are used in the **combination that will best meet the needs of the citizens of the state**, making the most judicious use of the land for some or all of these resources or related values, benefits, and services over areas large enough to provide sufficient latitude for periodic adjustments in use to conform to changing needs and conditions; (B) that some land will be used for less than all of the resources; and (c) harmonious and coordinated management of the various resources, each with the other, without significant impairment of the productivity of the land and the water, and with consideration being given to the relative values of the various resources, and not necessarily the combination of uses that will give the greatest dollar return or the greatest unit output. (41.17.950(10))

Sustained Yield: The achievement and maintenance in perpetuity of a high level annual or regular periodic output of the various renewable resources of forest land and water without significant impairment of the productivity to the land and water, but does not require that timber be harvested in a non-declining yield basis over a rotation period. (41.17.950(26))



DIVISION OF FORESTRY & FIRE PROTECTION

HSF Purpose and Definitions

What's in a Forest Management Plan?

Management Plan. In adopting a forest management plan for the Haines State Forest Resource Management Area under AS 41.17.230, the department [of Natural Resources] shall consult with the department of Fish and Game and the Governing Bodies of each municipality in the general area. The Department of Fish and Game shall consult...before adopting regulations governing fish and wildlife.... Regulations may not be adopted by either department without prior review at a public hearing in Haines and Klukwan. (AS 41.15.320)

...To the extent they are found to be compatible with the primary purpose of state forests under AS 41.17.200, the forest management plan must consider and permit uses of forest land for nontimber purposes, including recreation, tourism, mining, mineral exploration, mineral leasing, material extraction, consumptive and nonconsumptive uses of wildlife and fish, grazing and other agricultural activities, and other traditional uses.... (AS 41.17.230)

What other planning tools does DOF use?

Allowable Cut (AC) – Also called *Annual Allowable Cut* (AAC) is an estimate of the volume of wood that can be sold and harvested over a specified period while adhering to sustained yield principles. in HSF, AC is calculated based on *Forest* classified and *Resource Management* classified lands that have been specifically identified as appropriate for timber harvest. Timber harvest may vary year-to-year, but DOF will not ever exceed AC over a ten-year period.

Five Year Schedule of Timber Sales (FYSTS) – A planning document published at least once every two years, each DOF Area FYSTS provides an overview of DOF's timber sale plans. Each FYSTS contains summarized information on proposed timber harvest areas, timber sale access, and reforestation plans. The FYSTS is a broad document connecting general areas with a general timeline over 5 years.

Best Interest Finding (BIF) – A decision document that must be issued prior to taking specific forest management actions. BIFs contain information about the resource/area of interest, relevant statutes, and determines a specific action to be in the best interest of the State. BIFs contain moderate detail describing *why* an action is proposed.

Forest Land Use Plan (FLUP) – A decision document that must be published for proposed timber sales or personal use harvest areas. Very few forest management activities are exempt from the requirement of a FLUP. FLUPs present detailed information on the location, access, harvest methods, duration, and proposed reforestation for each sale. In other words, FLUPs contain high-level detail describing descriptions of *how* an action will be applied.

The mission of the Division of Forestry & Fire Protection is to develop, conserve, and enhance Alaska's forests to provide a sustainable supply of forest resources for Alaskans.



STATE OF ALASKA

DIVISION OF FORESTRY & FIRE PROTECTION

Department of Natural Resources

Alaska DOF Forest Management Plans

What is a State Forest?

A state Forest is a tract of State-owned land containing commercially valuable forest and determined necessary for retention in State ownership for management under the principles of multiple use and sustained yield.

State owned land can only become a State Forest through an act of the Legislature, where the forest boundary is identified, and the land within that boundary can no longer be disposed. The Division of Forestry and Fire Protection (DOF) manages legislatively designated state forests. A State Forest designation means an area of land will be managed for timber, moving through cycles of growth and harvest. Working forest lands remain forest and cannot be subdivided, sold, or converted for agricultural uses.

What is a Forest Management Plan?

A management plan is a document that provides guidance to present and future DOF staff, helping them make informed decisions about activities and projects on forested land. These management guidelines focus on timber (the primary purpose for forest-classified lands and designated State Forests) and they provide information about how other resources or uses in forested land (like recreation or water quality and quantity) interact with forest resources. Multiple use management in State Forests means the DOF is required to allow a range of resource uses on State Forest lands, *as long as those uses are compatible with the primary purpose of timber management.*

Each State Forest is required by law to have a Forest Management Plan, but the State can request a Management Plan for the forest classified lands in an area, even if those lands are not identified in a Legislative Designation.

What about plan revisions?

Management plans need to be updated periodically to ensure the legal and scientific descriptions they contain are up to date. Recently, the State created a new Carbon Offset Program that DOF forest management plans need to be changed to acknowledge. This level of change in a management plan requires the DOF to engage a public process including public meetings, inter-agency review, and open comment periods on the revised plan drafts. Projects like this often span multiple years to accommodate the level of research and review necessary.

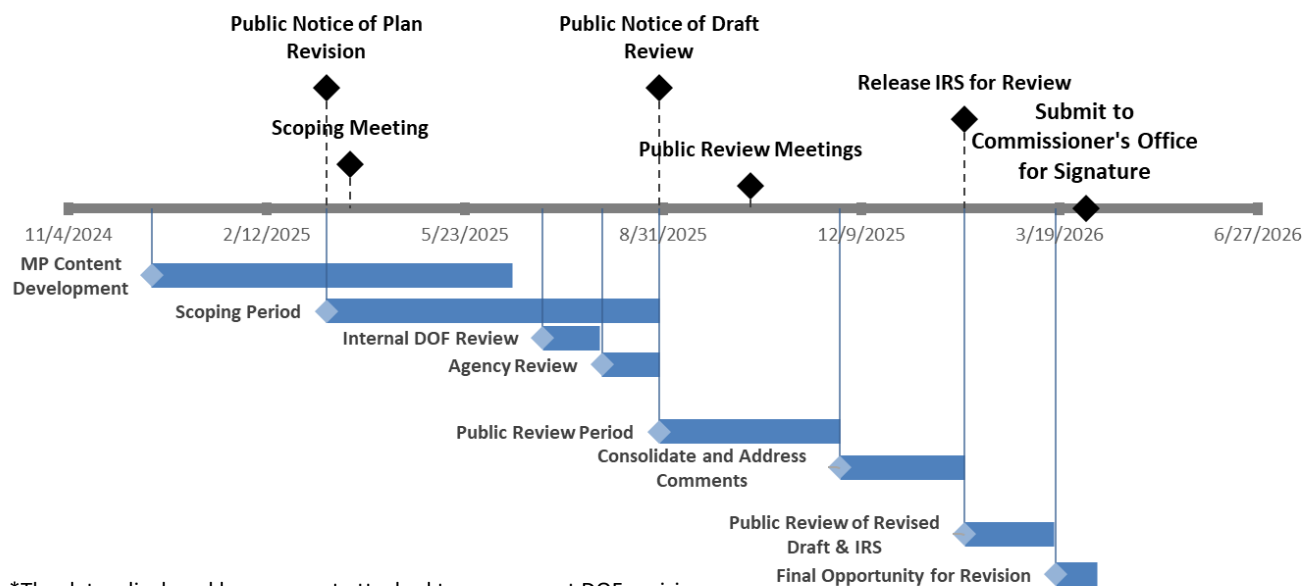
The mission of the Division of Forestry & Fire Protection is to develop, conserve, and enhance Alaska's forests to provide a sustainable supply of forest resources for Alaskans.



STATE OF ALASKA DIVISION OF FORESTRY & FIRE PROTECTION

Department of Natural Resources

Alaska State Forest Management Plan Amendment Process



*The dates displayed here are not attached to any current DOF revision project and the over-all timeline for each project may vary from what is represented here.

The steps and timing of DOF's planning process.

The black diamonds above the timeline represent events, while the blue bars below the timeline represent the processes that drive those events. In general, the events shown here are announced through Alaska's Online Public Notice System

DOF - Division of Forestry & Fire Protection

MP - Management Plan

IRS - Issue Response Summary

For more information about current management plan revisions....

Talk to a Forest Planner!

Geneva Preston - (907)225-3070

Trevor Dobell-Carlsson - (907)269-8667

Check out our projects online!

<https://forestry.alaska.gov/stateforests.htm>



Send us your questions or comments!

dnr.dof.haines@alaska.gov

dnr.for.tvsfrevision@alaska.gov

dnr.dof.matsuplanning@alaska.gov

The mission of the Division of Forestry & Fire Protection is to develop, conserve, and enhance Alaska's forests to provide a sustainable supply of forest resources for Alaskans.