

TANANA VALLEY STATE FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN

2024 REVISION



STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FORESTRY & FIRE PROTECTION



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PREFACE

In July of 1983 the Alaska Legislature created the Tanana Valley State Forest. It was the second of three forests in the Alaska State Forest System, created just one year after the Haines State Forest. It was in 2010, nearly three decades later, that the Southeast State Forest was added to the system.

The Tanana Valley State Forest encompasses almost 1.8 million acres of boreal forest. It is the largest of Alaska's state forests and stretches the length of the Tanana Valley from Tok to Manley Hot Springs. It lies adjacent to the main roads and waterways of the Tanana Valley and is near the majority of the population that lives in the area. As a result, it has consistently been managed with a focus on multiple uses.

Management of the region's forest resources has occurred in varying degrees since the 1960's, but the creation of the State Forest in 1983 ushered in a new era of forest management for Interior Alaska. A region-wide forest inventory was initiated in 1983 and the first forest management plan was completed in 1988. Since the 1960s, the commercial timber sale program has grown slowly. The number of harvested acres has varied on an annual basis from a few hundred acres to over a thousand acres in some years due to a high market demand for white spruce sawtimber.

The previous Tanana Valley State Forest Management plan was completed in 2001 and guided activities for more than two decades. The effort to revise the 2001 plan began in 2020 and has been a collaborative effort involving numerous stakeholders.

PLANNING TEAM

This document was created by a stakeholder planning team coordinated by the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry and Fire Protection.

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