

Tanana Valley State Forest Management Plan

Recommended Revisions

May 2025

This is a summary of recommended revisions to the Tanana Valley State Forest Management Plan draft. These recommended revisions were developed in response to comments submitted during the Intent to Adopt (ITA) review period, March 19- April 19, 2025. The ITA draft management plan plus the revisions noted in this document will constitute the final Tanana Valley State Forest Management Plan.

Subject	Recommended Change
Fish & Wildlife/Habitat	P. 93, line 19 on section 2 (fish and wildlife habitat), add text as follows: “Low elevation areas of both the Kantishna and the Tanana Rivers are important habitat for black bears and moose. Wood bison were reintroduced to Unit 2A of the TVSF near the Minto Flats State Game Refuge in 2024.
Fish & Wildlife/Habitat	P. 163, section 2 (fish and wildlife habitat), add text after sentence on Fortymile caribou: “Plains bison were introduced to the Delta Junction area in 1928. Nearby the Delta Junction State Bison Range was established in 1979, with Unit 10C of the TVSF established adjacent on the east in 1983.”
Fish & Wildlife/Habitat	Pg 25, line 7: add reference at end of this paragraph: Paragi et al. (2020) provides best practices for managing boreal forest habitat for both timber and wildlife resources.
Fish & Wildlife/Habitat	Pg 25, line 22: Recommend inserting these two paragraphs in order to address other wildlife considerations in habitats other than post-harvest: Other wildlife, such as insect-eating birds and raptors, can help reduce the risks of destabilizing herbivory events, such as damage from irruptive insects and small mammals, while providing viewing opportunities for tourists and residents. Paragi et al. (2020: Table 2) highlighted management suggestions that promote beneficial activity of avian predators. For example, retaining forest patches with late-seral features across harvested areas. This provides predators with snags and cavity trees needed for nesting and hunting in a manner that mimics natural disturbance, such as fire. Finally, voles disperse fungal spores that facilitate seedling establishment, regeneration and tree growth (Paragi et al. 2020). Retaining dispersed woody debris in open harvested areas facilitates vole movement into, and soil inoculation of, areas where conifer regeneration is desired (Paragi et al. 2020: Table 2). In central Alaska, vole herbivory is generally not extreme (Paragi et al. 2016: 122-123).
Fish & Wildlife/Habitat	Pg 26, line 4: Insert this text after "mortality": Paragi et al. (2016, 2020) recommended wildlife-based management strategies to reduce the risk of insect irruptions when trees are weakened by environmental stressors (e.g., drought, fire, or floods), by maintaining a diverse suite of birds that act as insect predators. Birds can also target key pests, such as woodpecker predation of bark beetles.
Fish & Wildlife/Habitat	Add the following as the second to last sentence of this introductory paragraph: "Reforestation on carbon sequestration projects was initially considered early in market scoping (Alden 2001)."

Tanana Valley State Forest Management Plan
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Fish & Wildlife/Habitat	Pg 216, Line 5: Add the following as the second to last sentence of this introductory paragraph: "Reforestation on carbon sequestration projects was initially considered early in market scoping (Alden 2001)."
Bibliography	New citation: Paragi, T. F., J. C. Hagelin, and S. M. Brainerd. 2016. Wildlife-reforestation interactions and adaptive management. Pages 122–186 [In] M. Freeman and J. Durst, editors. Forest Resources and Practices, Region II-III Reforestation Review, Annotated Bibliography. Department of Natural Resources, Forestry Science and Technical Committee. Document version 30 August 2016. https://www.arlis.org/docs/vol1/D/1078701684.pdf
Editorial Change	Throughout document, search for capitalized “Native” and revise to “Alaska Native”
Editorial Change	P. 59, line 28: consider adding link or use formal name “Alaska DNR Forestry Resources Viewer” to aid internet searching to find the online interactive GIS tool.
Editorial Change	P. 270, insert citations (Hanson cited p. 259, line 19 but missing; Alden and Sundquist contingent on adopting inserts for p. 32): Alden, J.N. (tech. ed.). 2001. Reforestation needs and opportunities for carbon sequestration in Alaska. Proceedings of the Alaska Reforestation Council, 24 May 2000 workshop. Miscellaneous publication 2001-2, Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station, University of Alaska, Fairbanks. Hanson, D. 2013. Timber inventory of state forest lands in the Tanana Valley 2013. Anchorage, AK: Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry. 42 p. [plus appendices]. http://forestry.alaska.gov/timber/forestinventories. Sundquist, S., D. Lutz, A. Foster, P. Fulé, and S. Goetz. 2024. Integrating remotely sensed imagery in a forest gap model to study North American boreal forests in a changing world. Environmental Research Ecology 3:045001.
Editorial Change	Preface, Pg I remove erroneous punctuation
Editorial Change	Pg 4, Line 11 strike "and Restoration Division"
Editorial Change	Pg 23, Line 11 strike "American peregrine falcons have been...list."
Carbon Management	P. 32, line 14 (carbon management guidelines, section on evaluation): insert sentences with information: “Reforestation on carbon sequestration projects was initially considered early in market scoping (Alden 2001). Recent modeling of forest dynamics under climate scenarios included outcomes of decreasing biomass potentially important to offset evaluations (Sundquist et al. 2024).”

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Carbon Management	Add Management Guideline: Requirements for Carbon Offset Projects. AS 38.95.410 limits the term of a carbon offset project to 55 years; requires that State land used for a carbon offset project, to the extent practicable, remain open to (1) the public for access, hunting, fishing, and other generally allowed uses and (2) other resource development; and requires that State land used for a carbon offset project remain open to mineral exploration and development.
Carbon Management	P. 32, line 14 (carbon management guidelines, section on evaluation): insert sentences with information: “Reforestation on carbon sequestration projects was initially considered early in market scoping (Alden 2001). Recent modeling of forest dynamics under climate scenarios included outcomes of decreasing biomass potentially important to offset evaluations (Sundquist et al. 2024).”
Enabling Legislation	Pg 1, lines 7-9: document references an outdated line of statute. Recommend revision to match 2024 AS language.
Scientific Resources	P. 57, lines 9-12 states, “Non-native species will be planted only for research purposes, not for forest management operations that would convert native forests to non-native species.” Page 216, “Silvicultural Research” add the following research topic prioritized as item (b) in research needs: “Potential advantages and disadvantages of reforestation with non-native, non-invasive tree species after timber harvest or natural mortality events are uncertain. How would naturalized species in Alaska like lodgepole pine or Siberian larch influence carbon sequestration, future timber supply, and fish and wildlife habitat in boreal forest? Prior to adopting forest regeneration at an operational scale that include non-native trees, a Science and Technical Committee and an Implementation Committee could be convened to consider pros and cons to forest health, ecosystem services, the forest industry and provide guidance for implantation and monitoring.”
Land Classifications	Add language to clarify the respective management roles of land use designations and land classifications
Management Intent	Co-designate Research Natural Areas as Forest and Reserved Use
Management Intent	Clarify management intent in research Natural Areas to reflect Reserved Use designation.
Land Use	Additional land record information will be added to necessary unit summary tables.
General Edits	Update maps for clarity
General Edits	Finalize formatting throughout plan