

MEMORANDUM
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

State of Alaska
DIVISION OF FORESTRY
CENTRAL OFFICE

TO: Forestry Management Team
Area Foresters

DATE: February 4, 2016

FROM: John "Chris" Maisch
Director



FILE: PPM

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SUBJECT: DOF Road and Bridge Standards

The Division of Forestry (DOF) constructs and maintains forest road on State Forest as well as other State land in support of forest management activities. Forest road typically is constructed through timber sales, public works or force account projects to meet the State's forest management objectives. The DOF managed transportation infrastructure generally is accessible and is incidentally used by the public for a variety reasons. The DOF Road and Bridge Standards, adopted with this memo, represent a standard meeting guidelines for safety and engineered design of a forest road used by public and industrial users. The standards represent the minimum acceptable condition of State forest roads. The standards are applied based on a classification of a road's type of use. They shall guide all work on DOF managed roads during new construction, reconstruction and maintenance unless site specific plans are otherwise approved by the Resource Program Manager or his designee.

The standards are designed to meet regional conditions. They represent best management practices of the Alaska Forest Practices Act and Regulations, guidelines of professional organizations and are consistent with other forest road design practices used in western states. They are presented in a modular format that allows managers to focus the "boiler plate" as needed for the tasks being performed. The set of standards are predominately graphic in nature and will print full size in 11x17 format. The goal is to impart intent to a wider group of users without losing important detail.

Application:

1. Timber Sale Contracts:
 - a. The Forest Road Performance Standard A-2 sheet and other sheets as applicable from the DOF Road and Bridge Standards set as listed on the Title Sheet A-1, shall replace in its entirety Exhibit "E" (Road Construction and Maintenance Requirements) in long form timber sale contracts requiring road construction or maintenance.
 - b. Road maintenance agreements or management requirements previously referenced in long form Exhibit "E" are to be addressed in the long form timber sale contract by adding language to the requirements of the Exhibit "D" "Operating Plan Requirements" and subsequently acknowledged by the DOF and the timber purchaser in Exhibit "H" the purchaser's "Approved Operating Plan".
2. Public Work Contracts (less than \$100,000)
 - a. All force account and contract work on roads by Areas shall be based on the DOF Road and Bridge Standards.

3. Public Work Contracts (Greater than \$100,000)
 - a. Unless issues require a site specific engineered solution all work will be developed based on the DOF Road and Bridge Standards. All work greater than \$100,000 is required to be stamped by an Alaska Licensed Professional Engineer per AS 38.95.160.

4. Non-typical Infrastructure and Bridges.
 - a. Infrastructure such as sort yards, log transfer facilities, bridges and areas having notable public use shall be appropriate for its use and engineered by a knowledgeable professional.
 - b. Regardless, all bridge work managed by the DOF shall conform to the DOF Road and Bridge Standards. All DOF owned or managed bridge structures shall be designed by a Professional Engineer licensed in the State of Alaska. Records for these structures shall be centrally retained by the DOF through out the life of the bridge. The DOF standards assume conditions that shall be verified or inspected regularly. Bridge use and maintenance is a nationally recognized ownership risk. Care and fore thought is required with all action regarding bridges.

Attachments

DOF Road and Bridge Standards