

HAINES STATE FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN

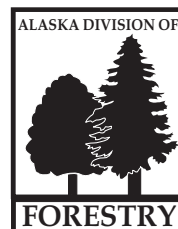


August 2002

Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Division of Mining, Land & Water, Resource Assessment & Development Section
Division of Forestry



Alaska Department of
**NATURAL
RESOURCES**



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Chapter 1

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Chapter 1

Establishment and Purpose of the Haines State Forest

On July 1, 1982, Alaska took the first step in the development of a system of State-owned lands legislatively dedicated to the multiple use management of forest resources. Alaska Statutes (AS) 41.15.300—41.15.330 established the Haines State Forest Resource Management Area (State Forest). At the same time, AS 41.21.610—41.21.630, established the Alaska Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve (Preserve), which is surrounded by the Haines State Forest Resource Management Area. This legislation was the result of cooperation among a host of diverse interest groups.

The legislative intent in establishing the State Forest states:

"The primary purposes for the establishment of the Haines State Forest Resource Management Area are the utilization, perpetuation, conservation, and protection 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."

Creation of the State Forest also reflects legislative intent to dedicate state land to long-term management by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for the benefit of the public.

Map 1-1 depicts the boundary of the Haines State Forest and the generalized land status of the study area.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN STATE FOREST PLAN AND CHILKAT BALD EAGLE PRESERVE PLAN

During the revision process of the State Forest Plan and the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve Plan, both of which occurred during 2001-2002, considerable confusion existed over the differences between these plans and the underlying management concepts of each. Future interpretations of the Forest Plan and Preserve plans need to be made with an understanding of the conceptual differences that exist and that establish the basis for much of the decision-making by the Department of Natural Resources concerning the State Forest and the Preserve.

The legislature intended the Haines State Forest to include timber harvest, recreation, mining, traditional uses, fish and wildlife habitat protection, tourism, and other uses. The type, intensity, and location of these uses was, under AS 38.04.005, to be derived from a planning

process that would determine the best balance of these uses. Most importantly, the State Forest was to be *managed for multiple uses*. Multiple use management could include a mix of those uses identified under AS 38.05.112(c) and varying levels of use, depending on the results of the planning analysis. Renewable resources must be managed according to the sustained yield principles of AS 41.17.

The Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve in contrast has an 'exclusive use' management intent, rather than multiple use. Its management focuses on the protection of bald eagles and their associated habitat, as well as the spawning and rearing areas of the anadromous streams that provide food for the bald eagle population. The traditional lifestyle of the Haines community is recognized as an important value and its continuation is included in the management of the Preserve. The Preserve must also be managed according to AS 41.21.027(g), which provides that commercial activity within the Preserve is prohibited except for guided tours and those activities that secure a non-competitive commercial use permit. The focus of Preserve management, then, is to be one of habitat protection and the maintenance of traditional lifestyles rather than multiple use. Uses are intended to be more limited in type and of lesser intensity than those within the State Forest.

This distinction between multiple use and exclusive use was intended by the Legislature. According to AS 41.21.610(c):

"Accordingly, the establishment of the Alaska Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve and the Haines State Forest Resource Management Area under AS 41.15.305 is determined to represent a proper balance between the preservation of state public domain land and water for bald eagle preserve purposes and state public domain land and water more appropriate for multiple use." (Italics added for emphasis.)

PURPOSE AND ORGANIZATION

This management plan is for those lands designated by the Legislature in 1982 as the Haines State Forest Resource Management Area. The plan will guide long-term land management of the Haines State Forest. The plan identifies the uses that management of the forest will emphasize and the policies that will be followed when these uses occur. Since the plan is designed to promote multiple use, it establishes rules or guidelines to allow these various uses to occur with minimal conflict. The plan provides overall management direction for the Haines State Forest. It also establishes the context for scheduling and implementation of the individual management actions contained in the five-year timber harvest schedules prepared by the Division of Forestry.

The plan is designed to provide management flexibility as environmental, social, or governmental conditions change, additional resource data become available, and other landowners or managers make management decisions. The plan also includes a schedule for review and modification.

Map 1-1

Boundary of Haines State Forest & Generalized Land Status

Please click on the map link to view Map 1-1.

This plan is divided into four chapters.

Chapter 1 provides a description of the planning area, the use of the plan, the relationship to other plans in the area, how the plan can be modified, and provides definitions of terms used throughout the plan.

Chapter 2 contains the goals, management guidelines, and a summary of how each of the major resources will be managed throughout the State Forest.

Chapter 3 is a detailed description of the management direction for each of the Forest's nine management units. For each management unit there is a statement of management intent, a listing of the guidelines that apply only to that unit, and any other management or implementation direction that is appropriate to that unit. A chart summarizing the management direction has been prepared for each management unit.

In addition, each of the nine management areas has been depicted on Unit Plan Maps. These maps identify the boundary of the management unit as well as the internal boundaries of any subunits. Subunits within management units were created in order to more effectively communicate the management direction for an area. The boundaries for the management units are the same as the 1985 Plan and are generally the same for the subunits.

Chapter 4 explains how the plan will be implemented. Appendices provide detailed information on certain aspects of the plan.

STUDY AREA

The State Forest contains approximately 286,208 acres. The State Forest and the adjoining Bald Eagle Preserve contain a wide variety of terrain and habitats. The forest borders on upper Chilkoot, Lutak, and Chilkat inlets and includes the watersheds of several major mainland river systems. These include portions of the Tsirku, Klehini, Kelsall, Takhin, and Kicking Horse Rivers, all of which are major tributaries to the Chilkat River. The forest also encompasses the Chilkoot and Ferebee Rivers.

The Chilkat River Valley is the largest drainage in the Haines area. It rises in a region of glaciers and ice fields located on the Alaska-Canada border approximately 38 miles north-northwest of Haines. The Chilkat River is characterized by a broad floodplain composed of deep deposits of sand, silt, and gravel alluvium, primarily of glacial origin. The river is braided with numerous channels, gravel bars, and islands covered with dense stands of willow and cottonwood. The Ferebee River flows southeast from the Ferebee Glacier, twelve miles to Taiyasanka Harbor. The Chilkoot River flows southeast from its glacial source approximately 17 miles before entering Chilkoot Lake. Chilkoot Lake is 3.5 miles long and one mile wide. From Chilkoot Lake the river flows a short distance to Lutak Inlet. The Chilkoot and Ferebee Rivers have no major tributaries.

The Chilkat River forms extensive tideflats, referred to as the McClellan Flats, near its mouth. The area of upper Lutak Inlet at the Chilkoot River outlet is another major tideflat

feature. Saltwater wetlands and the unvegetated tidflats comprise the intertidal zone transitional to the marine environment of upper Lynn Canal.

The topography of the area is rugged, as part of the Pacific Mountain System. Elevations range from sea level to over 7,000 feet, with the majority of peaks between 5,000 and 6,000 feet. The mountains influence the local climate. Air masses forced over the mountains lose their moisture, the snow forming numerous glaciers and ice fields at the higher elevations. These mountains provide spectacular scenery.

RELATIONSHIP OF THIS PLAN TO OTHER DNR PLANS

The Northern Southeast Area Plan and the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve Plan (Preserve Plan) affect and are directly related to the Haines State Forest Plan (Forest Plan). The integration between the Forest Plan and the Preserve Plan is especially significant since use patterns, especially recreational use patterns, overlap the Preserve and Forest. The long stretches of border shared by the Forest and Preserve, the streams that flow from one area to the other, the migration of fish and wildlife across management boundaries, and the necessary access routes that connect these areas all benefit from coordinated planning.

Because of the relationships between these plans, a planning process, initiated in the year 2000 by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), integrated the revision of the Preserve and Forest plans with the preparation of the Northern Southeast Area Plan. The Northern Southeast Area Plan replaces the previous Haines-Skagway Land Use Plan, prepared by DNR in the late 1970's.

Northern Southeast Area Plan

The Northern Southeast Area Plan (NSEAP) covers those areas of state-owned and state-selected land outside the State Forest Plan and the Preserve Plan. The NSEAP covers large areas generally west and northwest of the Haines State Forest and areas east of the State Forest. Most of the land adjacent to the Klehini River is state owned, but most of the remaining alpine upland areas are federally owned. The State of Alaska has selected the remaining portions of federal land in the Haines and Skagway areas, and it is likely that large portions will be conveyed to the state in the future.

The purpose of an area plan is to provide guidance to DNR in decision-making on land and resources. Land use designations indicate general management direction for specific areas, while management intent statements provide more detail for land and resource management.

Within the Haines planning unit of the Area Plan, land classifications were established for all state owned lands not within the State Forest or Preserve, including Federal lands under selection by the state. In the Haines area of the NSEAP, because of the very large size of the units, their relative remoteness and inaccessibility due to its mountainous terrain, and the absence of clear economic trends, these lands were designated as 'General Use'. The tidelands and submerged lands adjoining the State Forest were also given designations in the Area Plan. A 'Habitat' designation was applied to the Lower Chilkat River and to important estuarine areas, and the 'Recreation–Undeveloped' designation was applied to areas that

contain important recreation and scenic resources. These designations were converted to land classifications in Land Classification Order SE 01-02 contained in the Area Plan. This order, and the accompanying plan maps, should be consulted for specific classifications on general state lands.

Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve Plan

The Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve Plan (Preserve Plan) provides guidance for decisions by the DNR Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation on lands within the Preserve. The Preserve, which was established by Alaska statute in 1982, occupies a substantial portion of the drainage of the Chilkat and Klehini rivers and a small portion of the Tsirku River. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) is also responsible for managing the Council Grounds, the main area of bald eagle use and viewing within the Preserve.

The differences in management between the State Forest and the Preserve are discussed in the Chapter 1 section 'Differences Between State Forest Plan and Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve Plan'.

The Preserve Plan does not contain land use classifications like the Area Plan or the Forest Plan. Management direction in this plan relates to specific management direction provided for the eight major planning units within the Preserve. The management orientation in this plan is to protect the bald eagle population and anadromous fish streams, while providing for traditional uses and other activities within the Preserve that are consistent with the statutory purposes of this area.

Five-Year Forest Management Schedule of the Division of Forestry

The Department of Natural Resources prepares a Five-Year Forest Management Schedule annually. This Schedule provides "a timeline that identifies timber sales, their amounts and their locations..." ((AS 38.05.113(a)). The Schedule also lists planned transportation routes to access proposed sales and reforestation projects for each area, as well as any proposed recreation trails or cabins to be constructed. One purpose of the Schedule is to "provide the public and the forest products industry with a basis to comment on future sale offerings". Draft Schedules are published for public, industry, and agency review prior to adoption.

RESEARCH – RECREATION, LAND STATUS, HABITAT AND WILDLIFE, AND FORESTRY RESOURCES

Since the preparation of the initial Haines State Forest Plan in the mid-1980's, various plans and studies of recreation, land status, habitat, and timber resources have been prepared.

Recreation. Within the last five years, the commercial recreation industry in the Haines area has grown significantly. Some of the more intensive activities caused local concern and opposition. To better gauge recreation uses in the Haines area, the Department conducted a Community Resident Survey (2001). It identified the principal recreation areas and their uses, areas where commercial recreation was viewed as intrusive to Haines residents, and the perceived severity of that intrusion. The survey covered the northeast part of Southeast

Alaska, with Haines and Skagway as subunits. The state also prepared a Commercial Recreation Provider Survey (2001) that gathered information about charter and tour operations, and about lodges that provided commercial recreation services. This survey covered all of Southeast Alaska, with Haines and Skagway as subunits. It identified the geographic patterns, activities, and intensity of commercial recreation uses, and helped assess the nature of this activity locally. Together, these two studies show where local recreation and commercial recreation overlap in the Haines-Skagway areas. Because of the importance of the Community Resident Survey to the understanding of recreation patterns and the attitude toward commercial recreation expressed in this survey, both the survey questions and survey results are contained in Appendix J.

Land Status. Land status was analyzed in 2001 because of the land ownership changes over the last 15 years, and because it is essential to know what land is actually within the Preserve or State Forest. The legislation creating the State Forest and the Preserve established an external boundary and excluded private land, land owned by the University of Alaska, lands selected by the Haines Borough, and lands affected by Native allotments within this boundary. Existing DNR maps did not accurately locate state lands within the State Forest and Preserve. The maps have since been revised to incorporate this new information. See Plan Maps for management units (Chapter 3, Map 3-1) and the nine maps depicting the subunits within management units (also in Chapter 3).

It is unlikely that additional changes to land status of the state lands within the State Forest will occur. The entitlements of the Haines Borough, University of Alaska, and Mental Health Trust Authority have been fulfilled and it is state policy to preclude conveyances of land from Legislatively Designated Areas, which include state forests and parks. However, there are a number of pending Native allotment decisions in the general area of Chilkat Lake. If the federal government approves these applications, the lands affected by these allotments will transfer out of state ownership. Refer to 'Pending Native Allotments' in the Plan maps to locate these holdings.

Habitat and Wildlife. The initial Forest Plan process included research on locations of certain important wildlife, fisheries, and habitat. This information has been updated. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation prepared the updated information on trumpeter swans and bald eagles within the Chilkat Valley, respectively. The bald eagle research derives from a two-year analysis (1999-2001) of the effects of non-motorized boat operations in this area. Research on trumpeter swans derives from periodic censuses conducted by the Fish and Wildlife Service between 1996 and 2001. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) updated previous information on the location of sensitive rearing and spawning areas of anadromous streams (2001). This information incorporates the results of fisheries and habitat research conducted over the last 10-15 years. ADF&G also updated information on the distribution of moose populations. Information on winter and summer goat concentrations was acquired from the U.S. Bureau of Land Management and ADF&G. This information has been converted to map form and is presented in an overall plan map of sensitive wildlife and fisheries species and habitats. See Plan Map 1-2.

Map 1-2

Habitat & Anadromous Streams

Please click on the map link to view Map 1-2.

Forest Management. The Division of Forestry, using updated ownership and land status plats, updated the timber base, adjusting for those areas harvested since the original forest plan and Forest Inventory were completed. Mental Health Trust land and University of Alaska lands, which were included in the timber base in the original management plan in 1986, were removed from this coverage. The existing forest inventory field work (completed in 1985, finalized and published in May 1994) was used in recalculating the annual allowable harvest level.

The Division of Forestry has requested funding to complete a new forest inventory for the Haines State Forest. When and if funding becomes available the inventory will be completed and the annual allowable harvest level updated.

PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

The Haines State Forest management plan establishes state policy for the management of state lands in the Haines State Forest. All Department of Natural Resources decisions, including timber sales, road building, mineral leasing, land classifications, approval of commercial recreational activities, and other actions on state lands shall comply with the provisions of this plan.

Chapter 4, Implementation, includes descriptions of implementation techniques that will be used to carry out some of the plan's recommendations. The appendices contain the specific implementation orders and agreements.¹ They also include descriptions of plan amendment procedures and establish agency responsibilities for plan implementation for both the Division of Mining, Land, and Water and the Division of Forestry.

MODIFICATION OF THE PLAN

A plan can never be so comprehensive and visionary as to provide solutions to all land use and resource problems, nor should it be inflexible. Therefore, the land use designations, the policies, and the management guidelines of this plan may be changed if conditions warrant. The plan will be updated periodically as new data become available, as shifts in land and resource management emphasis occur, and as changing social and economic conditions place different demands on public lands. The Division of Forestry will coordinate periodic reviews of this plan. In addition to periodic review, modification of the plan or exceptions to its provisions may be proposed through amendments and minor modifications (see Chapter 4).

¹ See appendices for the following: Land Classification Order, Leasehold Location Order, Mineral Closing Order and Administrative Decision, Management Agreement, and Special Use Designations.

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Chapter 2

FOREST-WIDE LAND MANAGEMENT POLICIES

INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains forest-wide land management policies for each major resource or land use category: fish and wildlife, forest resources, forest protection, recreation, subsurface resources and materials, transportation, and watersheds.

The policies in this chapter consist of goals, management intent statements, and management guidelines, which combine the general conditions the plan is trying to achieve (goals) and specific directives that can be applied on the ground by land managers as development occurs (guidelines).

Goal: A general statement of intent, usually not quantifiable nor having a specified date of completion. Goals identify desired long-range conditions.

Management Intent Statements: Those statements that define DNR's near and long term management objectives and the general approach to achieve those objectives. These statements have a specific geographic scope. They pertain to specific management subunits.

Management Guidelines: Specific standards or procedures to be followed by DNR in the issuance of permits, leases, or other authorizations for the use of state land or resources. Guidelines range in their level of specificity, providing detailed management direction, general guidance, or the identification of factors that need to be considered in decision making.

Note: The recommendations that follow only pertain to state land within the Haines State Forest. They do not apply to private lands, Native allotments, or lands of the University of Alaska or the Mental Health Trust Authority, all of which are found within or adjoin the State Forest.

MANAGEMENT POLICIES

FISH AND WILDLIFE

Goals

The State Forest contains valuable habitats for fish and wildlife species that support the economy and lifestyle of the Haines community. The management of the Forest will minimize the impact on these resources, even in units classified as Forest Land.

1. Maintain and enhance the fish and wildlife resources that support commercial, recreational, and subsistence activities in the Haines area.
2. Maintain or improve the level of water quality through sound land management, stream bank management, and silvicultural practice.
3. Maintain and enhance the existing diversity of fish and wildlife habitat through coordinated interagency management, habitat enhancement, site rehabilitation and research programs.

Management Guidelines

1. Mitigation

All land use activities should be conducted with appropriate planning and implementation to avoid or minimize foreseeable or potential adverse effects on fish and wildlife populations or their habitats. Mitigation should include the following:

- A. Avoid the loss of natural fish and wildlife habitat.
- B. Where habitat loss cannot be avoided, reduce loss and the need for habitat restoration or maintenance efforts. Procedures for this include the following:
 - Include fish and wildlife habitat and use considerations in the early phases of project planning and design to minimize the spatial and temporal extent of impacts.
 - Develop location and design criteria which will minimize wildlife-caused damage to life and property where conflicts between people and animals may arise.
 - Provide information on best management practices to local, state, and federal resource and development agencies as well as to private individuals.
- C. When loss of habitat production potential cannot be reduced, restore and rehabilitate the habitat that was lost or disturbed to its pre-disturbance conditions where doing so is feasible and prudent.

D. When loss of existing habitat is substantial and irreversible and the above objectives cannot be achieved, compensation with or enhancement of other habitats will be considered. In general, compensation with similar habitats in the same locality is preferable to compensation with other types of habitat or habitats elsewhere.

2. Permits, Leases, and Plans of Operations for Non-Water Dependent Facilities

Commercial and industrial facilities, transportation facilities, and pipelines will, where feasible, require setbacks between these facilities and adjacent water bodies to maintain stream bank access and protect adjacent fish habitat, public water supplies, and public recreation. The width of this setback may vary depending upon the type and size of the non-water dependent facilities, but will be adequate to maintain access and protect adjacent waters from degradation below the water quality standard established by ADEC. Adjacent to designated anadromous fish spawning habitat, this setback will, to the extent feasible, not be less than 100 feet landward of ordinary high water.

Where it is not feasible to maintain a setback adjacent to fish habitat, public water supplies, or recreational waters, other measures will be implemented to meet the intent of this guideline.

This guideline will be implemented in conjunction with the special management zone guideline in the Forest Resources section of this chapter.

3. Structures and Activities in Fish Habitat

To maintain migration of juvenile fish, DNR will, to the extent feasible, require that structures in fish habitat be built to minimize impacts on fish migration. An Alaska Statute Title 16 Fish Habitat Permit, issued by ADF&G, is required prior to any in-water work in anadromous fish streams.

4. Water Intake Structures

When issuing water appropriations in fish habitat, DNR will, to the extent feasible and prudent, require that practical water intake structures be installed that do not entrain or impinge upon fish. The most simple and cost effective technology may be used to implement this guideline.

Water intake structures will be screened and intake velocities will be limited to minimize entrapment, entrainment, or injury to the species of fish found in the water. The structures supporting intakes should be designed to prevent fish from being led into the intake. Other effective techniques may also be used to achieve the intent of this guideline. Screen size, water velocity, and intake design will be determined in consultation with ADF&G. An Alaska Statute Title 16 Fish Habitat Permit, issued by ADF&G, is required prior to any in-water work in anadromous fish streams.

5. Alteration of the Hydrologic System

To the extent feasible, channelization, diversion, or damming that will alter natural hydrological conditions and have a significant adverse impact on important riverine habitat will be avoided.

6. Operation of Heavy Equipment in Wetlands

Permits issued for activities that require the use of heavy equipment in wetlands that have important hydrologic, recreation, or habitat values will, to the extent feasible and prudent, require that damage to wetland vegetation be avoided. Whenever feasible, access in or across wetlands should be limited to winter. DNR will consult with other affected agencies prior to issuing such permits.

7. Lands Classified Wildlife Habitat

Lands classified Wildlife Habitat will be managed principally for the protection of fish and wildlife resources, and their associated habitat. Other compatible uses may be identified in the discussion for each management unit.

8. Impacts on Subsistence

Potential impacts on subsistence will be considered in management decisions within the State Forest.

9. Intertidal Areas

Important intertidal habitats, including estuaries, tide flats, and other lands in the intertidal zone, will be maintained to the extent feasible and prudent.

10. Sedimentation

Activities that could generate sedimentation in excess of state water quality standards will be managed to ensure compliance with those standards.

11. Other Guidelines Affecting Fish and Wildlife

A number of other guidelines in this chapter may affect fish and wildlife. For details, see the following sections of this chapter:

- Forest Resources
- Forest Protection
- Recreation
- Subsurface Resources and Materials
- Transportation
- Watersheds

Resource Allocation Summary

The Southeast Alaska fishery contributes greatly to the recreational, tourism, and commercial fishing industries of the Haines area and southeastern Alaska. The fishery contributes millions of dollars to the local economy and to that of Southeastern Alaska. Fishing is also an essential part of the subsistence lifestyle of the area, mainly for salmon. The salmon that spawn in the Chilkat drainage support the eagle populations in the Alaska Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve.

Because of the importance of the fishery, this management plan for the State Forest has adopted management intent statements and management guidelines that will ensure continued viability of the fishery. These plan recommendations are supplemented by the requirements of the Forest Resources and Practices Act and Regulations (AS 41.17).

Since 1985, research has been conducted on salmon and the stream and estuary characteristics that are essential to maintain salmon populations. These studies provided background information to develop the recommendations in this plan revision. The documents produced as a result of this research are found in the Department of Natural Resources Regional Office in Juneau, DNR's Area Office in Haines, and the Haines Public Library. They may be consulted for detailed information.

Wildlife habitats in the Haines State Forest support species as small as the red back vole to those as large as moose. The most important species to the local economy and personal use are moose, mountain goat, brown and to lesser extent black bear, fur bearers, and eagles. These species are important for wildlife viewing, sport hunting, subsistence, recreation, and trapping. Beaver activity in the Haines State Forest has increased dramatically in recent years. Further studies may be required to determine the appropriate management techniques to minimize conflicts with human activities in the Forest.

The management plan for the State Forest recognizes the importance of these wildlife resources and attempts to minimize disturbances to the habitats that support them. One strategy used in the plan to accomplish this is to keep from harvesting some of the commercial old growth timber, about 17,000 acres, and to spread the harvesting of much of the remaining 42,000 acres of commercial timber over a relatively long period of time. In addition, 29,000 acres of inoperable or inaccessible timber, which includes 17,000 acres of nonproductive forest, will not be harvested. This allocation will provide a diversity of habitats.

Since 1980, studies on moose, mountain goats, and eagles have been conducted within the Chilkat River system. These studies were also used in developing the plan.

FOREST RESOURCES

Goals

The state's forest management goal for Southeast Alaska is to provide raw material for a viable timber industry in a way that is compatible with the conservation and sustained yield of all renewable resources that are important to present needs, consistent with the need to preserve future options. Generally, this strategy involves offering state timber to support wood product industries in Southeastern Alaska communities in order to provide steady jobs for residents by producing value-added products. Other, secondary goals include:

1. Increase the per-capita income and provide jobs for the people of Haines, Klukwan, and other communities in the region and the state.
2. Stabilize and diversify the economies of Haines, Klukwan, and other communities in the region and the state.
3. Provide revenue to the State of Alaska through the sale of public resources.
4. Provide a sustained yield of forest products for local, state, national, and international markets and personal use.
 - A. Offer sales of commercial timber to support existing operations and help establish value-added timber processing operations.
 - B. Offer cottonwood sales on request. Due to the current low market demand, the annual allowable cut for cottonwood has not been calculated; a significant increase in demand would necessitate its determination.
 - C. Offer personal use houselog and sawlog sales on a request basis. These sales will not exceed 2,500 lineal feet or 10, 000 board feet per household per year, with a maximum of two sales per household.
 - D. Offer commercial firewood sales, generally western hemlock, on a request basis. In addition, other forest products such as poles, posts and Christmas trees can be made available on a request basis.
 - E. Continue to make up to ten cords per year per person of dead or downed timber available, generally at no charge, for personal use.
5. Enhance the productivity of land dedicated to the production of forest products through the planned harvest of mature and over-mature stands, regeneration of harvest sites, intermediate thinning and conversion of non-forested "brush" areas.

Sustained Yield Requirement: Affected Area and Land Classifications

The state constitution and Alaska statutes requires that the state manage its timber on a sustained yield basis. Areas identified as appropriate for timber harvest in the Haines State Forest will be managed to ensure the perpetual supply of renewable resources, including timber. In this plan, two land classifications are used to designate areas appropriate for timber harvest: Forest Land and Resource Management Land. If the Resource Management classification is used, the management intent language must specifically identify whether a subunit is appropriate for timber harvest. The Resource Management classification may be applied to other uses, including uses that may not be compatible with timber harvest. Annual allowable timber harvest for the Haines State Forest shall be based on the acreages within these classifications.

The amount of timber harvested annually will vary and may be more or less than the annually allowable harvest figure for the State Forest. However, at no time shall the acreage harvested on a decadal basis exceed the annual allowable harvest for that period.

The Division of Forestry has updated the timber base using improved Geographic Information System (GIS) techniques. The timber base is the operable available commercial forest lands that are included in making the sustained yield or annual allowable cut calculations. In the original Haines State Forest Management Plan the forest land base included General state lands, Mental Health Trust lands and University of Alaska lands. This current calculation uses this same forest land base with two exceptions: University of Alaska and Mental Health Trust lands have been removed.

University of Alaska lands were originally included in the Haines State Forest timber base through a cooperative management agreement with the University. Since this time, The University Statewide Office of Land Management has taken a more active role in the management of their lands statewide so these lands have been removed from the Haines State Forest timber base. Mental Health Trust lands were involved in a lawsuit with the final settlement returning most of the Mental Health Trust lands within the boundaries of the State Forest to the State Forest as general state lands. Some of the Mental Health Trust Lands were not returned to the State Forest but were retained by the Mental Health Trust and are now managed by them. Land retained by the Mental Health Trust has been removed from the Haines State Forest timber base.

The remaining timber base lands have been edited for accuracy using GIS technology. The timber base was also adjusted for those lands that have been harvested since the original Forest Plan and Forest Inventory were completed. The current timber base is 41,652 acres.

The annual allowable cut is calculated using the area control method. Using strict area control, 347 acres per year could be harvested yearly yielding 1.83 million cubic feet or 7.87 million board feet. These figures are reduced three percent for habitat maintenance within the harvest areas. The Scribner volume is further reduced 23 percent for conversion from short log scale to long log scale. The resulting annual allowable cut comes to 1.77 million cubic feet or 5.88 million board feet.

Management Guidelines

All activities related to timber harvest must comply with the State of Alaska Forest Resources and Practices Act and Regulations.

To thoroughly understand the Forest Resources management policy for the Haines State Forest one must be familiar with the standards and guidelines contained in the Forest Resources and Practices Act and Regulations. These documents contain, in part, requirements and/or guidelines concerning the following:

- Road construction and Maintenance
- Harvesting
- Cleanup and Stabilization
- Aesthetics
- Log Transfer and Storage Facilities
- Reforestation
- Insect and Disease Prevention and Control
- Forest Fire Protection

Haines State Forest Specific Guidelines

1. Stand Management

Based on the production capabilities of the land, assure a non-declining sustained yield of a variety of wood products by regulating stand age classes in the commercial forest lands during the next 120 years.

Generally, stands on non-commercial forest lands will be managed for uses other than commercial timber harvest. However, salvage may occur in these portions of the Forest under circumstances listed in the guidelines found in this section (Salvage of Damaged Trees) and 11 AAC 71.010.

2. Commercial Stand Improvement

Intermediate or pre-commercial thinning may be done in overstocked stands to enhance growth rates. Where feasible, the overall site productivity of poor timber stands will be increased through rehabilitation and stand improvement.

Map 2-1

Timber Inventory & Timber Management Areas – Northern Area

Please click on the map link to view Map 2-1.

Map 2-2

Timber Inventory & Timber Management Areas – Southern Area

Please click on the map link to view Map 2-2.

3. Harvesting

A. Clearcutting will be the primary method of commercial timber harvest. Clearcutting is the best method of encouraging natural regeneration. Soil temperatures are increased and nutrient cycling improved. Increased light favors spruce, a relatively shade-intolerant species. Losses from windthrow are minimized and damage to residual trees is avoided. The system is also appropriate for stands infested with hemlock dwarf mistletoe or other diseases. For over-mature, decadent stands, the system is especially appropriate from a wood utilization, safety, and harvest efficiency standpoint.

Size of Clearcuts - Individual clearcuts may be smaller than, but will not exceed, 160 acres without agency review and approval of the Commissioner. Items considered when reaching a decision will be topography, proximity to other natural or artificial open areas, visual effects, effects on fish and wildlife habitats, regulation requirements, transportation and harvest system demands, relative total costs of preparation, logging, and administration. Current division management is to keep the majority of clearcuts less than 100 acres in size.

B. Shelterwood and selective methods of harvesting may be used in some situations, particularly in conjunction with small commercial and personal use sales, or sensitive fish and wildlife habitats. Their broad application, however, will require further research to determine the feasibility of applying these alternative silvicultural systems under the topographic, climatic, and economic conditions found in the Haines State Forest.

C. Salvage of Damaged Trees. Trees damaged by wind, insects, or disease may be salvaged in all land use classifications unless the management intent statements for a subunit specifically prohibits salvage harvest. Salvage harvest will generally be by clear-cutting. The size of the clear-cut may vary from the size standards described above since the area that is affected by disease, windthrow, or insect infestation defines the area of harvest.

D. Utilization of Merchantable Timber. Generally, utilization standards to be employed on the Forest are as follows:

- (1) Any live or dead spruce, hemlock or cottonwood tree is merchantable which is 12.0 inches in diameter outside bark at breast height and in the judgment of the state contains at least one merchantable piece.
- (2) Merchantable piece is defined as any piece of spruce, hemlock, or cottonwood which is at least 12 feet long, at least 6 inches in diameter inside bark at the small end and has a net scale of at least 33 1/3 percent of its gross scale.
- (3) In addition, any piece of spruce or hemlock is considered a merchantable utility log which is at least 12 feet long, at least 6 inches in diameter inside bark at the small end, which will produce not less than 50 percent of the gross volume in firm usable pulp chips. An example: a log 18 inches in diameter

with only a 3-inch rind of solid wood on the outside. This log is merchantable under the contract specifications, and would meet this 50 percent requirement.

For small commercial sales, use of utility logs is not required; however, all segments of designated trees within the sale area must be yarded to the landing so that the public has access to non-merchantable wood for personal use.

E. Logging Methods. Within the Haines State Forest 80 to 90 percent of the commercial timber will probably be harvested by means of standard cable systems, typically high lead, with equipment capable of yarding up to 1,200 feet. On the remainder of the Forest, ground skidding and helicopter systems will be utilized where conditions warrant and/or allow.

Cable harvest systems are preferable on slopes steeper than 30 percent to minimize soil damage. Cable systems also reduce the construction of roads necessary to access the timber. Cable logging can also be used where wet ground or soil compaction limits the use of skidders.

Ground skidding systems, including shovel, tractor crawler or rubber-tire skidder, or a similar machine will generally be restricted to slopes of 30 percent or less. Where wet ground or soil compaction are problems, ground skidding systems can sometimes be used without significant impact during periods of dry or frozen ground. Whether cable or ground skidding systems will be used for operations in the Haines State Forest will be decided on a case-by-case basis consistent with the management intent and guidelines of this plan and the Forest Resources and Practices Act and Regulations.

Due to the type of equipment currently used by local small operators in the Haines State Forest, timber harvesting under the small sales program will be designed to accommodate ground skidding systems. As areas with terrain suitable for ground skidding become less available, harvest areas necessitating the use of small inexpensive cable yarding systems, such as a jammer, will be incorporated into the small sales program.

F. Special Management Zone (SMZ) adjacent to Anadromous Fish Streams and Lakes. A 300-foot wide special management zone, as measured from the ordinary high water mark, is established on each side of all catalogued anadromous streams. A 500-foot wide special management zone is established around lakes containing anadromous fish. These zones are to be managed in a similar manner to such buffers in the Forest Resources and Practices Act. Site specific circumstances may sometimes dictate the establishment of a special management zone that is wider than 300 feet along anadromous streams. The primary management objective for special management zones is to maintain or enhance anadromous fish habitat. Only activities that are or can be made compatible with this objective will be allowed in these zones. DNR will consult with ADF&G before and throughout project planning to determine the appropriateness of a project, appropriate buffers and their widths, and the appropriate design and maintenance of projects that meet the objectives of the management zone.

G. Sequence of Entry. The decision on which areas of the forest to enter for commercial harvest will be guided by a number of considerations including, but not limited to: accessibility, cost, markets, quality of timber, social impacts, and environmental impacts.

Generally, the existing commercial forests will be harvested through a series of entries that are spaced over a 120-year period. Advantages of multiple entries include fewer disturbances to soils, and maintenance of diverse ages of stands that provide edge effect, migration corridors, and shelter for wildlife. Smaller units required under a system of multiple entries also increase the probability of adequate natural restocking of the site.

H. Personal Use Timber. The harvesting of timber for personal use is allowed unless the management intent language for a particular subunit specifically prohibits personal use timber harvest. The amount that may be harvested shall not exceed 2,500 lineal feet or 10,000 board feet per household per year, with a maximum of two sales per household.

I. Forest Land Use Plans (FLUP). Although the Forest Plan establishes the area of potential timber harvest, it does not make specific timber harvest decisions. Before timber harvest decisions are made for specific locations in areas classified Forest Land or Resource Management Land¹ a Forest Land Use Plan must be prepared pursuant to AS 38.05.112 for all sales greater than 10 acres. FLUPs are used by the Division of Forestry to determine whether a proposed sale is in the best interest of the state.² When a written Best Interest Finding is required under AS 38.05.035, it is included as part of the FLUP. Negotiated timber sales may also occur that are less than 10 acres in size or less than 500 MBF. These sales do not require a Best Interest Finding but may require a FLUP if they are greater than 10 acres in size. In either case, FLUPs must adhere to the Forest Plan's standards identified in Chapter 2 as well as the management intent statements and management guidelines in Chapter 3. In addition, the issues and resources that are identified in the management intent statements or management guidelines of the subunit within which the potential sale may occur must be considered in the preparation of a FLUP.

4. Site Preparation

A. Where slash disposal is determined to be necessary either for stand improvement or fire prevention, broadcast or pile burning, mechanical means, YUM yarding, or a combination of these methods will be used. Typical mechanical methods of slash disposal, for the most part, will be either crushing or piling. Steepness of terrain and potential of soil compaction are the two main limiting environmental factors when considering mechanical means. A burn plan will be developed by the Area Forester and approved by the Regional Forester prior to the use of broadcast or extensive pile burning. In the Haines State Forest large accumulations of logging debris have not been and are not expected to be a major limiting factor in obtaining adequate regeneration following harvest.

¹ Timber harvests may occur in areas classified Resource Management Land where it is specifically indicated that such activities are allowed.

² All timber sales must be in the best interest of the state.

B. Competition from brush, vegetation, or young cottonwood in some previously harvested areas has had a significant impact on stocking levels and growth of conifer regeneration (Alaska Division of Forestry, September 1983). Treatment of brush competition may be conducted by means of prescribed burning, mechanical or hand scarification, or a combination of both, in an effort to increase conifer production. Herbicides will not be used as a means of eliminating competing vegetation.

5. Reforestation

Areas to be clearcut in the Haines State Forest will, to the extent feasible, be laid out to allow seeds from adjoining stands to restock the cut area. A seed source will be left to promote the natural seeding of the area.

In the event that natural regeneration is not adequate, artificial reforestation will be done. Generally, plantings of suitable seedlings from appropriate seed source zones will be the method used.

6. Other Guidelines Affecting Forest Resources

A number of other guidelines in this chapter may affect forest resources. For details of those guidelines, see the following sections of this chapter:

- Forest Resources
- Forest Protection
- Recreation
- Subsurface Resources and Materials
- Transportation
- Watersheds

Resource Allocation Summary

The Haines State Forest has a total area of 286,208 acres. Only 31 percent, or 88,659 acres of predominantly spruce-hemlock stands, is considered forest land. The remainder of the Forest is either near or above timberline and consists of tundra, rock outcrops, snow and ice, gravel bars, or brush and cottonwood along the rivers.

To develop the Forest Resources portion of the Forest Management Plan, these 88,659 acres of predominantly spruce-hemlock forest lands were analyzed and segregated into three broad management categories; commercial forest lands, non-commercial forest lands, and forest lands not available for commercial harvest due to other important resources. Each management category was further rated as operable or inoperable. The results of this analysis are displayed in Table 2-1. The table shows how the commercial and non-commercial forest lands were allocated among various possible uses.

There are several fundamental principles contained in the policies of this chapter and the two appendices that can be summarized to give the reader a sense of the Department's general strategy for managing the commercial timber base of the State Forest. These points are:

- clearcutting is the preferred method of harvest, with cutting units not exceeding 160 acres;
- the rotation period for commercial harvest is 120 years;
- areas of existing available commercial timber will be harvested through multiple entries over a 120-year period. The decision of when to enter an area and how much to harvest will be based on markets, accessibility, social impacts, and environmental impacts among other factors. This decision is the subject of the Five-Year Forest Management Schedule.

The following discussion summarizes how forest lands have been allocated and the Department's management intent for those lands.

1. Commercial Forest

There are 60,194 acres of predominantly western hemlock and Sitka spruce that are available for harvest. However, only 41,652 acres are operable and will be managed for commercial timber harvest. These 41,652 acres represent 47 percent of the 88,659 acres of forest land and 15 percent of the 286,208 acres in the entire State Forest. The 41,652 acres of operable timber that are available for harvest constitute the current timber production base from which the annual allowable cut is calculated. Almost 78 percent of the operable timberland is considered to be site "100" or better, meaning it can produce trees at least 100 feet tall in 100 years.

At this time, the majority of the timber on these lands is mature or over-mature, averaging 160 years or more in age. During the last 40 years, about 10,150 acres were harvested, the majority of it from 1963 to 1972. The volume harvested annually since 1962 is illustrated by Figure 2-1.

Over 90 percent of the existing stands are of saw timber size, ranging in diameter at breast height from 11 inches to 45 inches. Gross volumes average close to 30,000 board feet per acre, ranging from a minimum of six thousand or so board feet to a high in excess of 40,000 board feet. Defects due to decay and poor form amount to about 30 to 40 percent of gross volume, with the greatest percentage occurring in the largest trees.

Over the next 120 years, 41,653 acres of operable commercial forest lands will be systematically harvested, with an annual allowable cut of 5.88 MMBF. The annual allowable cut is not a static figure. It could change if non-commercial forest lands become commercial because the productivity of existing stands is improved, or technology or other factors lower the cost of operations. Under this management plan and with an annual allowable cut of 5.88 MMBF, vigorously growing young trees will replace over-mature stands at a rate of about 347 acres a year. Natural reproduction will be relied upon to regenerate the stands and, if

Table 2-1

HAINES STATE FOREST
LAND CLASSIFICATION BY MANAGEMENT UNIT
ACRES OF FOREST LAND BY OPERABILITY

Management Unit	Land Available for Timber Harvest				Land Not Available for Timber Harvest						TOTAL
	Forest Lands		Resource Management Lands		Public Recreation Lands		Resource Management Lands		Wildlife Habitat Lands		
	Operable	Inoperable	Operable	Inoperable	Operable	Inoperable	Operable	Inoperable	Operable	Inoperable	
1 - Kelsall River	12,187	521	416	429	72	0	-	-	-	-	13,625
2- East Chilkat	4,753	1,668	-	-	-	-	49	50	-	-	6,520
3- Klehini River	10,706	544	631	60	699	11	-	-	785	138	13,574
4- Chilkat Lake	8,227	277	-	-	954	214	-	-	-	-	9,672
5- Takhin/Kicking Horse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,599	712	7,311
6- Chilkat Inlet	-	-	-	-	2,579	367	-	-	-	-	2,945
7- Haines Highway	-	-	359	166	-	-	-	-	-	-	525
8- Chilkoot Lake	-	-	1,931	921	1,546	675	224	347	3,758	1,171	10,574
9- Ferebee River	2,348	2,204	-	-	-	-	462	1,720	-	-	6,735
TOTAL	38,221	5,215	3,336	1,577	5,850	1,266	736	2,118	11,142	2,021	71,482

Inoperable acres includes non-productive forest land.

Resource Management Lands may or may not have timber harvest on them depending on the intent of the Management Plan.

Resource Management Lands not available for timber harvest in this table were not included in the annual allowable cut determination.

necessary, planting will be used to stock difficult sites. Sitka spruce will be the dominant species occurring more or less in a mixture with western hemlock. (See guidelines on regeneration, this section.) Net sawlog volumes at rotation age are expected to range from 20,000 board feet per acre to 50,000 board feet, with trees varying in diameter at breast height from 15 to 25 inches and in total height from 90 to 115 feet. Wood products will include, among others, sawlogs, houselogs, poles, piling, pulpwood, and chips.

2. Non-Commercial Forest

There are approximately 12,196 acres of Forest land (4 percent of the Forest), which are available for commercial timber harvest but are considered to be inoperable because:

- Commercial harvesting of timber could cause irreversible damage to the soil, site productivity, and watershed; or
- Accessibility to timber using existing conventional logging systems is not physically or economically possible.

These lands will generally be managed for uses other than commercial timber harvest and were not included in the annual allowable cut calculations. In the future, field reconnaissance might reveal sites that meet the criteria of operability and may be harvested.

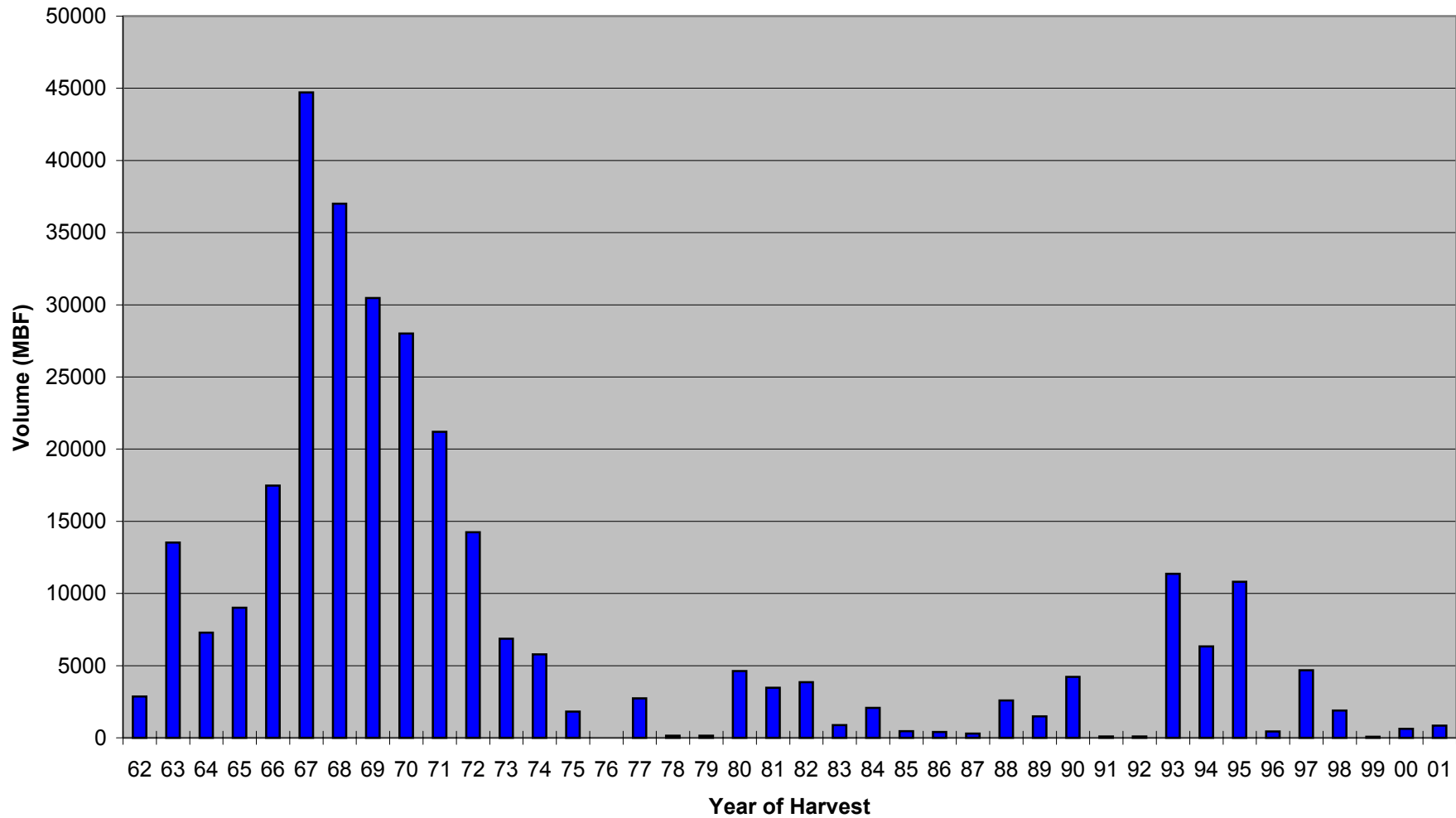
There are also 28,464 acres of forested land, about 17,694 acres of which are of commercial quality and operable, that are not designated for commercial timber harvest. These lands are designated for public recreation, fish and wildlife, and other uses which, in these specific areas, are considered to have priority over commercial timber production. The management of these lands is described under the Recreation, Fish and Wildlife, Watershed and other appropriate sections of this Plan.

3. Cottonwood

Cottonwood is not included in the previous commercial or noncommercial acreage figures. It is now considered non-commercial.

Some cottonwood occurs in mixed stands with spruce and will be harvested along with the spruce. Removal of cottonwood will increase conifer production by decreasing the potential cottonwood seed source and allowing the stand to regenerate to Sitka spruce. The Klehini River valley has significant pure stands of cottonwood that are available for harvest under this plan if the market does become favorable in the future.

FIGURE 2-1
Timber Harvested within the Haines State Forest 1962 - 2001



4. Non-forested Land

There are 197,549 acres of non-forested land in the State Forest. These lands range from stream bottoms to mountaintops and encompass a variety of habitats ranging from riparian areas to tundra and ice field. Management of these lands is described in the Fish and Wildlife, Recreation, Subsurface Resources and Materials, and other appropriate sections of this Plan.

FOREST PROTECTION

Goal

Protect valuable forest resources from wildfire, insects, disease, and other destructive agents. In addition to the protection of forest resources, the Division of Forestry will provide for the protection of human property and life from wildfire within the Haines State Forest.

Management Guidelines

Spruce Bark Beetle Infestation

Sitka spruce trees in the Chilkat Valley have been attacked by a spruce bark beetle (*dendroctonus rufipennis*) infestation that developed in 1989 and tapered off around 1998. Approximately 40,000 acres have been impacted by varying degrees of infestation. Stand impacts have ranged from 100 percent mortality to only 20 percent loss of the spruce component normally present. The dead trees have lost most of their value as saw timber and as the decay process continues they will lose value as pulp or firewood. These dead and dying trees have been the focus of the Division of Forestry's harvest program since shortly after the infestation began and will remain the focus as long as the beetle infested spruce have lumber, firewood or pulp value.

To thoroughly understand the forest protection policy for the Haines State Forest, an understanding of the standards and guidelines contained in the Forest Resources and Practices Act and Regulations is necessary. The Alaska Interagency Fire Management Plan provides additional policy for the Haines State Forest. These documents contain requirements and/or guidelines concerning the following:

- Insect and Disease Control
- Burn Permits
- Emergency Closure
- Equipment for Operations

Haines State Forest Specific Guidelines

1. Forest Pest Management

A forest pest is defined as any insect, disease, or competing vegetation that is detrimental to the productivity of the forest stand.

A. Methods. The primary approach to pest control in intensively managed sites in the Haines State Forest will be prevention assisted by suppression. Prevention will consist largely of stand manipulation (i.e. pre-commercial thinning, windthrow salvage, etc.) to maximize natural mortality of pests, thereby minimizing the need for suppression. However, silviculture, or other direct control measures, may be required in areas with high commercial or aesthetic values where failure to control could result in loss of resource value. Pesticides³ will not be used.

B. Detection. An annual detection survey will be conducted by the Division of Forestry (DOF) to determine current insect and disease activity.

C. Cooperative Research. The Division of Forestry will work with other agencies and landowners to develop improved control techniques for insects, diseases, and competing vegetation. Herbicides and insecticides will not be used.

2. Fire Management

A. Forest Fire Protection Priorities. DOF will place the highest priority on aggressive and continued suppression of wildland fires that threaten human life and physical developments consistent with the physical and economic capabilities of the State of Alaska.

B. Prescribed Burning as a Management Tool. DOF will use prescribed fire as a management tool and apply it in a manner consistent with achieving resource management objectives.

C. Fire Prevention. DOF will carry out prevention activities throughout the forest as needed.

3. Other Guidelines For Forest Protection

A number of other guidelines in this chapter may affect forest protection. For details of those guidelines, see the following sections of this chapter:

- Fish and Wildlife
- Forest Resources

³ The use of small amounts of pheromones (scents used in attracting or repelling insects) in monitoring forest insect populations, conducting research on spruce beetles or other insects, and controlling small outbreaks of forest insects is not banned by this prohibition.

RECREATION

The Haines State Forest (State Forest) will be managed for multiple use, consistent with the purpose of the establishment of the State Forest (AS 41.15.300). The statute recognizes the importance of the "continuation of other beneficial uses including traditional uses and other recreational activities". The Forest will be retained in state ownership and managed to allow a range of activities to occur, including public recreation. It will be managed to provide a wide range of recreational opportunities. Preference will not be given to one recreational use over another by restricting particular recreation uses. The State Forest will be managed to allow people to pursue "generally allowed" recreational activities (11 AAC 96), except in those instances where a Special Use Designation affects portions of the Forest. In these instances, the number of allowed uses may be reduced and specific restrictions placed on their operation.

Goals

1. Encourage the development of recreational uses and facilities in each management unit consistent with the management intent for the unit and the management guidelines.
2. To the extent feasible, complement or protect recreational values when conducting timber harvest, fire control activities, related road and trail development, mining, habitat improvement, and other development activities.
3. Increase per capita income and provide employment opportunities for people in the area through tourism and commercial recreation.
4. Allow and encourage a wide range of recreational uses of the State Forest, including recreational activities associated with tourism.
5. Ensure that public recreation activities are consistent with the need to protect natural features, fish and wildlife, and ensure scenic views and viewsheds.
6. Allow appropriate commercial development of recreational facilities and services through leases or other authorizations where public recreation activities will most effectively be provided by private enterprise.

Management Guidelines

1. Public Access

Access to the State Forest shall be provided to the public, but may be limited or curtailed at certain times to protect public safety, allow special uses, and prevent harm to the environment. Examples of conditions that may justify limiting public access are fire management, timber harvest operations, and high soil moisture content when traffic may

cause extensive damage to roads and trails. Statutes address restrictions of easement and right-of-way use (AS 38.04.058) and restrictions of traditional means of access (AS 38.04.200). These and subsequent statutes and regulations must be considered when contemplating use restrictions.

Use levels on public access routes within the State Forest may vary. Consideration should be given to use/development of facilities if needed and if funding is available.

2. Trails

The need for trail maintenance or upgrades and/or the development of new trail routes will be evaluated in the Five-Year Forest Management Schedule. The Schedule will identify the location and type of improvement and will provide budget details. The funding of trail maintenance or new trail facilities depends on the availability of funding for construction and maintenance. Trail improvements, often associated with other types of recreational facilities like public use cabins, are recommended in many of the units within the Forest.

A forest access road may be converted to a trail after its use as a road has terminated. The nature of the road may require that it be put-to-bed. Thus, the new "trail" may have water bars, removed culverts, grass seeding, or other measures to prevent erosion which other trails may not have. These "trails" can be reverted to the original intended use as required by the Division of Forestry. Roads will be converted to trails only after consideration in the Five-Year Forest Management Schedule and Forest Land Use Plans.

The rerouting of trails for a short distance may be permitted to minimize land use conflicts or to facilitate use of a trail if alternate routes provide opportunities similar to the original route. If trails are rerouted, provision should be made for construction of new trail segments if warranted by type of use. Rerouting of trails will be addressed in the Five-Year Forest Management Schedule and Forest Land Use Plan processes.

3. Management of Public Recreation Land

A. Areas classified as Public Recreation Land will primarily be managed⁴ for the purposes of maintaining and enhancing the use of these areas for public recreational uses. Although most areas classified Public Recreation Land will allow for a wide variety of public recreational uses (both non-motorized and motorized), not all recreational uses may be appropriate in some units. In these instances the management intent and management guidelines for the unit specify those uses that are not allowed or are allowed under specific conditions. Private, commercial or not-for-profit operations are allowed within areas classified Public Recreation land, but all such uses must be compatible with the management intent and management guidelines of specific units. They may also be

⁴ Recreation activities may also occur in other land classifications. See the listing of allowed recreational uses identified in the use tables for management subunits included in Chapter 3. These use tables occur at the beginning of the section that describes a management unit. Generally, dispersed recreation is allowed throughout the State Forest. More specific requirements apply to private recreation facilities or uses. See subsequent sections on the permitting of private recreation uses and the distribution of recreational activities throughout the State Forest.

allowed in the land classifications of Forest Land and Resource Management Land if authorized under the permitting requirements described in this section. Public recreation facilities are recognized as an appropriate use within all such land classifications, and may also occur in areas with the land classification of Wildlife Habitat Land.

B. Areas classified Public Recreation land will generally be managed by the Division of Forestry, although the Division of Mining, Land and Water will complete all required permitting on these lands.

C. Areas classified as Public Recreation Land will be open to selective timber harvest for personal use.

D. Mining on lands classified Public Recreation Land may only occur under leasehold location requirements unless a Mineral Closing Order affects the area, which prohibits mining. See management guidelines for 'Subsurface Resources and Materials'.

E. Construction of roads for access to privately-owned land, state land, federal land, municipal land, or valid mining claims, is allowed to assure reasonable, timely, and economically feasible access.

F. Other uses will be allowed within areas classified Public Recreation Land if compatible with the unit's specific management intent statements, management guidelines, and the special use designations included in the appendices; and, if a commercial recreation use is compatible with the procedures and standards of 'Private Recreation Facilities and Uses' in Chapter 2.

G. The Division of Forestry shall coordinate with Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation (DPOR) in the management of recreational activities in areas where the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve adjoins the State Forest. DOF will also coordinate with the Division of Mining, Land, and Water where general state land adjoins the State Forest, or where there is another need to coordinate state recreational management.

4. Historical and Archaeological Sites

Prior to approval of projects on State land that may affect sites of historical or archaeological significance, the State Office of History and Archeology must evaluate the potential impact to the sites. Upon discovery of historic or archaeological resources, all work in the vicinity of a find shall cease, pending field investigation by the State Office of History and Archeology. (AS 41.35.070)

5. Public Use Cabins and Trails

A system of public use cabins and trails should be established in the State Forest, subject to the availability of funding. Public use cabins and trails may be constructed where analysis indicates a need, and where the state, federal, or local government, or local non-profit organizations are able to construct and maintain the facilities. The Division of Forestry, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation and the Department of Fish and Game shall closely coordinate the establishment of any public use cabin site or trail. Analysis and

identification of public cabin sites and trails will be done as part of the Five-Year Forest Management Schedule. Public use cabins will be sited to avoid conflicts with existing or planned resource use such as timber or mineral development. A number of public use cabins are recommended for establishment in certain units.

6. Private Recreation Facilities and Uses

Private facilities or uses for private profit making, or private not-for-profit recreation operations, including facilities and uses associated with tourism, may be authorized if the following conditions are met:

- Significant public access or recreational opportunities will not be lost or blocked by the facility or operation, or reasonable alternative access to areas that otherwise would be blocked can be provided;
- the amount of use generated by the use or facility shall be consistent with the land use classification and management intent statement for the applicable plan subunit;
- the proposed use or facility shall not create significant adverse impacts to sensitive fish and wildlife populations, fish and wildlife habitat, water quality and quantity, wetlands or sensitive riparian areas, or those resources identified as important for protection in the management intent statement in the plan subunit, or management measures shall be provided/imposed to ensure that any such impacts are precluded or mitigated;
- the facility or use shall be located, designed, and operated to preclude or minimize conflicts with recreational, subsistence, and traditional uses.

DNR may issue either a permit or a lease for uses and facilities consistent with these conditions. DNR will determine the duration of this authorization. The Director of Mining, Land, and Water may impose fees appropriate for the type and intensity of use authorized. The Division of Mining, Land and Water is responsible for administering permits or leases or other authorizations on behalf of the Division of Forestry under the Cooperative Agreement (See appendix I), and may impose those conditions of approval necessary to assure adherence to the aforementioned standards and to ensure that the overall best interest of the state are met⁵. Applications judged inconsistent with these standards shall either be denied or stipulations shall be imposed to the final permit or lease that will reasonably assure adherence to these standards.

⁵ Examples of the types of management techniques that might be applied are limitations on the areas of use, hours of operation, and days of use as well as stipulations to mitigate the impacts that might be caused by commercial recreation uses, which include siting, operating, and development stipulations.

7. Distribution of Recreational Activities throughout the Forest

Dispersed recreational activities are intended to be distributed throughout the State Forest except for those few areas identified as appropriate for higher intensity recreation use, described below. Dispersed recreation activities include both personal and commercial use as well as both motorized and non-motorized forms. The intensity of recreational use for certain types of commercial operations, motorized and non-motorized, is controlled in a few subunits. This occurs within subunits 6a (West Chilkat Inlet), 5 (Takhin/Kicking Horse), 7a (Haines Highway), 8b (Chilkoot Lake), 8c (Lutak Inlet), and 8d (Chilkoot Alpine). The remaining areas of the State Forest are open to both commercial and personal use, and both motorized and non-motorized uses. Refer to each subunit for a description of the management restrictions.

Because the pattern of recreational activities is likely to change somewhat over time, the Division of Forestry will periodically re-evaluate recreational activities within the State Forest. The Division of Forestry will coordinate with the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation in the preparation of this analysis.

Recreation activities involving private operations and high intensity levels,⁶ often associated with the use of facilities, are to be concentrated within certain areas of the State Forest. These areas are identified in the management intent language of particular subunits, occurring within subunit 6b (Davidson Lake and Glacier) and 8b (Chilkoot Lake). Other than these areas, developed recreation activities are not identified but may be permitted in areas classified Forest Land or Resource Management Land, if consistent with the management intent language and management guidelines within a particular subunit, and if the permitting requirements pertinent to private uses are met. (See the Private Recreation Facilities and Uses section, previous.) Private operations will not be authorized in areas where public recreation facilities are provided (campgrounds, public use cabins, or other developed recreation facilities).

8. Traditional Uses and Modes of Transportation

Traditional means of access as well as access to traditional use areas will be maintained in the State Forest. The statute establishing the State Forest (AS 41.15.300) includes as a primary purpose the "continuation of other beneficial uses including traditional uses and other recreational activities". The definition of and protection for traditional uses is further established in AS 38.04.200. This section of statute, which is applicable to the State Forest in addition to general state lands, states that DNR may not manage state lands or waters so that a traditional means of access for traditional outdoor activities is to be restricted for the purpose of protecting aesthetic values, except under certain limited conditions. Traditional means of access means those types of transportation for which a popular pattern of use are developed. Traditional outdoor activities includes those types of activities that people use for sport, subsistence, personal enjoyment, or that have been historically conducted as part of an individual, family, or community life pattern. These management restrictions protect personal use, either motorized or non-motorized. They do not extend to commercial uses of any kind. Accordingly, once patterns of 'popular use' have been established within the State

⁶ Private commercial operations with a client load of 40 or more clients per day.

Forest, DNR cannot prohibit these uses if the use is of a personal (non-commercial) type. Most areas of the State Forest have at least some established popular use patterns for recreation, and most of these areas are used by both forms of transportation.

9. Scenic Values

Development activities such as timber harvesting, will be sited, designed, and carried out to minimize adverse impacts to scenic values. Vegetation that obscures scenic vistas may be managed to facilitate viewing. The maintenance of scenic values is an especially important consideration in areas of the State Forest that adjoin the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve along the Haines Highway or that can be viewed from this highway. Specific management guidelines are recommended for such areas in Chapter 3.

10. Private Remote Cabins

Remote cabins or similar types of private residential facilities are prohibited in the forest.

11. Information and Education

Interpretive signs, trails, and displays are encouraged to provide recreational and educational opportunities. Development of interpretive facilities will be addressed within the annual Five-Year Forest Management Schedule or other public review process. The development of these types of facilities will be subject to available funding.

12. Other Recreation Guidelines

Other guidelines may affect recreation management practices. For details of these guidelines, see the following sections of this chapter:

- Fish and Wildlife
- Forest Resources
- Transportation

Resource Allocation Summary

Much of the recreation that occurs in the State Forest is based on fish and wildlife resources: hunting, fishing, trapping, photography, nature study, and sightseeing. The eagle concentration is one example of the value and importance of wildlife for viewing and study. Other activities include skiing, snowmobiling, dog sledding, berry picking, hiking, boating, recreational driving, gold panning, rafting, scenic viewing, bird watching, mountaineering and camping.

Under multiple use management, the entire Forest is open to some form of recreation. Much of the local population depends upon motorized access for uses in the forest. It is likely that the State Forest, as road access and recreation use increase, will become more popular for many recreational activities. Increases are likely in camping, hiking and other activities that do not require developed facilities. Demand for developed facilities may also increase. It is also likely that the level of commercial recreation activity will increase in the future.

Areas used now may experience pressure for additional use, and areas not having much current use may experience the spill-over of recreational activities from more heavily used areas. It will become increasingly important to cooperatively manage recreational activities in the State Forest and the Bald Eagle Preserve.

SUBSURFACE RESOURCES & MATERIALS

Goals

1. Develop mineral and material resources to contribute to the mineral and material supplies of the community, region, state and nation.
2. Contribute to the local, regional and state economy by developing mineral resources and materials which will provide stable job opportunities and stimulate growth of secondary and other primary industries.
3. Aid in the development of infrastructure where feasible and continue to provide geologic mapping and technical support to the mining industry.
4. Protect the integrity of the environment and affected cultures to the extent feasible when developing mineral and material resources.

Management Guidelines

Mining and material extraction in the Haines State Forest are governed by statutes and regulations described in the publication, 'Laws and Regulations for Mineral Rights on State Land'. (DNR, July 1995). All activities of this type in the State Forest must follow these processes and adhere to the results of the permit (or other authorization) review processes. Regulatory and statutory authorities exist to manage these types of activities and impose stipulations necessary to achieve adherence to these authorities as well as the management requirements of the Forest Plan.

1. Areas open to Mineral Entry

All areas classified Forest Land, Resource Management Land or Materials Land are open to mineral entry and, if approved under state mining law, mining operations. All lands open to mineral entry are multiple use areas where mineral development will be accommodated and encouraged. DNR may determine that some traditional forms of access will not be allowed in specific areas to avoid resource damage. Any adverse affects of mining on surface resources or uses will be managed through compliance with state laws and regulations and the guidelines and management intent of this plan.

2. Areas Closed to Mineral Entry

Areas with developed recreation facilities (campgrounds) or particularly significant for recreational use or management are closed to mineral entry under AS 38.05.185 and to mineral leasing under AS 38.05.205. Mineral Closing Order 771 is included in Appendix C. A total of 110.6 acres are affected.

3. Areas open to Leasehold Location

All areas not designated Forest Land, Material Land, or Resource Management Land are open to mining through Leasehold Location under AS 38.05.135. Leasehold Location procedures must be followed in areas classified Wildlife Habitat or Public Recreation Land. Requiring that locatable mineral developments occur under a lease is a more flexible management tool than mineral closure. Therefore, mineral leasing is preferred over mineral closure as a management option to resolve conflicts between other significant resources and mining and mineral location. DNR shall consult with ADF&G and ADEC on proposed mining operation within areas open to leasehold location. Any adverse affects of mining on surface resources or uses will be managed through compliance with state laws and regulations and the guidelines and management intent of this plan. Mineral Leasehold Location Order 25 is included in Appendix D. A total of 101,339.1 acres are affected.

4. Visual Impacts of Mining

The Division of Mining, Land & Water in its review of Plans of Operation for mining operations and material extraction sites, shall consider the visual impacts of mining and shall minimize the adverse visual impacts of mining or material extraction sites in areas near settlements, recreation areas, and in areas viewed from roads.

5. Consolidation of Mining and Timber Access

Where feasible, consolidate timber and mining access. Consolidation should lower costs to all users and avoid unnecessary impacts to other resources by minimizing roads and stream crossings.

6. Screening of Mining Operations and Material Extraction Sites

To the extent feasible, mining operations and material extraction sites should be screened from roads, residential areas, recreational areas and other areas of significant human use. Sufficient land should be allocated to the mining operation or material extraction site to allow for such screening.

7. Preferred Locations for Material Extraction Sites

The highest priority for locating material extraction sites should be given to existing upland material sources. Using materials from wetlands, lakes, and the active or inactive floodplain of rivers should be avoided, unless no feasible alternative exists. Sales or permits for gravel extraction will not be permitted in fish spawning beds. The Corps of Engineers may also regulate material extraction from water sources.

Material extraction from wetlands, bogs, or stream corridors should occur only after design consultation with ADF&G and ADEC. If the only feasible and prudent source of gravel is an active or inactive floodplain of a river or stream, the guidelines from "Gravel Removal Studies in Arctic and Subarctic Floodplains in Alaska" (USFWS, June 1980) should be used.

8. Other Guidelines that Affect Mining and Materials

A number of other guidelines may affect subsurface resource and material management. For details of these guidelines, see the following sections of this chapter:

- Forest Resources
- Forest Protection
- Transportation
- Watersheds

Resource Allocation Summary

1. Minerals

Most land in the Haines State Forest is open to mineral entry and location; however, all Mental Health land is currently closed to mineral entry. Areas around Chilkat Lake, Chilkat River, Takhin River, Tsirku River, Herman and Walker Lakes, Mosquito Lake, Kicking Horse River and a portion of the beach at Taiyasanka Harbor are open to the staking of leasehold locations. Consult 11 AAC 86.300-.321 concerning leasehold locations on state land.

Mineral development could become more important to the economy of Haines as well as that of Alaska.

Placer mining presently represents a small industry in the Haines area with small mining operations active on Porcupine, McKinley, Nugget and Little Salmon creeks. Other creeks and placer properties are being prospected at this time in the Haines State Forest.

Three different major mineralized belts are recognized in the Haines area that might contain commercial mineral deposits.

A. Slate belt containing gold-bearing quartz veins similar to the Juneau gold belt.

The Haines area slate belt is credited with supplying the gold placers of the Porcupine, McKinley, Cahoon, Glacier, Christmas, Cottonwood, Nugget, Rosaunt, and Nataga creeks and the Tsirku, Little Salmon and Kelsall rivers. These slate belts could contain possible commercial lode gold deposits and additional placer gold deposits.

B. The ultra basic rocks containing pyroxene, olivine and plagioclase with magmatic concentrations of magnetite and ilmenite.

This belt is exposed on the east side of the Chilkat Valley at Klukwan, at 4 mile on the Haines Highway, and on the Chilkat Peninsula beginning at the Haines graveyard to slightly northwest of Port Chilkoot. This basement belt probably extends at least to Battery Point where there is a known magnetic disturbance.

C. The third mineralized belt consists of basaltic marine volcanics containing barite, lead, zinc, copper, gold, silver and possibly cobalt and nickel.

This belt is exposed near the Canadian border at the headwaters of the Jarvis and Glacier Creeks.

This belt has good commercial potential, but its entire extent is not known at this time.

Other potential commercial mineral deposits worthy of mention are cement grade limestone deposits exposed at 39 mile Haines Highway and clay deposits that have produced some bricks and pottery in the past.

There may be some mineralized skarn (copper, silver) deposits in the Haines Forest area similar to the Maid of Arin mine in Canada near 55 mile old Haines Highway. These deposits would be associated with diorite intrusive into limestones.

The Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys, in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Mines, conducted three investigations and printed the results in 1984 and 1985. The reports or maps include: "Stream Sediment, Float, and Bedrock Sampling in the Porcupine Mining Area, Southeast Alaska" (1984); "Geology and Geochemistry of the Skagway B-2 Quadrangle, Southeastern Alaska" (1984); and "Preliminary Bedrock Geologic Map of the Skagway B-4 Quadrangle, Alaska" (1985). Copies of these reports and maps are available at the Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys office in Juneau.

2. Materials

Materials, such as sand and gravel, are an important resource in the development of any community. The Haines area has abundant material resources. It has major glacial river floodplains which tend to provide an easily developable source of materials. There are also talus slopes, glacial moraines, and beach deposits available as material sources.

As the major landowner in the Haines area, the State owns a significant portion of the area's material sources. It is also a major user of materials for state projects such as highways, harbors, and airports.

Since Haines is near major glacial rivers, a shortage of material sources is not likely in the foreseeable future.

Materials may be extracted from most state lands in the Forest consistent with the management intent, and management guidelines of the specific unit and this chapter. Material extraction is only prohibited on lands classified Public Recreation.

TRANSPORTATION

Goals

1. Manage the Haines Highway Corridor for transportation and scenic values. Timber harvest activities will be limited to small commercial and personal use sales. (See Forest Resources section.)
2. Expand the existing road system to provide safe and economical access for timber harvest, as well as mining, public recreation, fire protection and other resource management activities within the State Forest.
3. Design, construct, and maintain all roads with consideration for the environmental values of the Haines State Forest.
4. Maintain state-owned timber access roads and bridges for public access subject to available funding, safety concerns and environmental conditions.

Management Guidelines

1. Road Construction (Coastal Region Forestry Road Standards)

A. General Conditions

- (1) State inspectors will be present on site during most road construction activities, especially in environmentally sensitive areas.
- (2) Road width: Roads shall be 20 feet, including ditch and 35 feet where designated turnouts are built.
- (3) Surfacing width: 14-16 feet.
- (4) Surfacing: the minimum necessary to allow log trucking without surface deformation.
- (5) Turnouts: will be intervisible, with a surfaced length of 50 feet at full width.

(6) Grade: the maximum favorable grade is 20 percent. The maximum adverse grade is 10 percent unless otherwise designated.

(7) Degree of curvature: the absolute maximum permitted is 100 degrees. The ordinary designed maximum shall be 90 degrees.

B. Clearing and Grubbing

(1) The clearing boundary limits will be marked with pink ribbon on both sides except where the road passes through harvest units.

(2) Snags and trees leaning heavily over the roadway that are outside the clearing limits shall be felled. Snags will be felled in conjunction with cutting the regular right-of-way.

(3) All stumps, any portion of which falls within the cut slopes, shall be removed.

(4) All stumps that extend within three feet of the finished sub-grade or road shoulders shall be removed.

(5) No debris resulting from the clearing and grubbing operation shall be permitted to remain under any portion of the embankment within the cleared right-of-way.

(6) Debris will not be piled or pushed against existing trees.

C. Grading

(1) The roads shall be constructed according to the state's horizontal and vertical control profiles.

(2) All material within the control lines shall be removed with excess excavation used to widen the embankments. End haul may be required.

(3) All fills six feet deep and over shall be widened two feet for each six feet of centerline depth to a maximum width of 36 feet. Embankment slopes shall not be steeper than 1-1/4:1 for common and 1:1 for rock. Fills shall be compacted in two-foot layers.

(4) Cut slopes shall be constructed as designated on slope stakes and reference markers. Generally these slopes will be 3/4:1 below 70 percent, 1/2:1 above 70 percent, and vertical in rock.

D. Drainage Structures

- (1) Culverts will be galvanized corrugated metal pipe (not aluminum), minimum 18" diameter or the equivalent in plastic culverts.
- (2) Culverts will be buried at least 20 percent of the diameter or a minimum of 12", whichever is greater, and will project three feet beyond the fill on the inlet and outlet.
- (3) Culverts will be laid at a slope of two to six percent unless specified otherwise. Culverts will be placed at the natural stream gradient on anadromous fish streams. Bottomless crossing structures will be employed on anadromous fish streams where appropriate. All stream crossings that contain fish habitat must be approved and permitted by ADF&G.
- (4) All bridges shall be designed or approved by the regional engineer. All bridges that do not meet minimum load carrying specifications will be repaired, replaced, or posted for reduced load minimums.

E. Location

- (1) Roads constructed within the State Forest boundary for the purpose of accessing private ownership, mineral claim sites, material lease sites, etc., will be to the location and quality specifications as designated by the Division of Forestry on a case-by-case basis.
- (2) Reasonable, timely and economically feasible access will be cooperatively determined with all parties concerned.
- (3) No land classification will prohibit construction of roads for access purposes.

2. Road Design

A. Roads will be designed to maximize resource access while minimizing adverse environmental impact.

B. Design for roads through critical fisheries and wildlife areas should be done in consultation with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. These areas may include moose and goat winter concentration areas, eagle nesting trees, bear denning areas, and salmon spawning and rearing habitat.

3. Road Maintenance

A. As with construction, the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities is responsible for the repair and maintenance of all state highways.

B. Timber harvest access roads shall be maintained under the following guidelines:

- (1) Primary haul roads for the most part are to be maintained and left open for public access. Closure shall be considered on a case-by-case basis. This maintenance shall not include winter snow removal.
- (2) Secondary haul roads shall be considered on a case-by-case basis. Those not designated to be maintained shall be properly "put-to-bed".
- (3) Spur roads, with very few exceptions, will be properly "put-to-bed".
- (4) If maintenance funds are not available, roads that may adversely impact anadromous fish habitat will be "put-to-bed".

C. For purposes herein, properly "put-to-bed" may include, but is not necessarily limited to: removal of bridges or culverts, construction of water bars to control run-off, and grass seeding where necessary to reduce erosion potential.

D. The primary source of maintenance of state-owned timber harvest access roads, including bridge maintenance and replacement, is through timber sale contracts.

E. The Department of Transportation and Public Facilities shall conduct periodic inspections on all state-maintained bridges.

F. Treatment of encroaching roadside brush may be by hand, or by mechanical means in order to maintain safety standards and visibility.

4. Protection of Cultural Resources

Known historic and archaeological sites should be avoided during construction of transportation facilities unless no other feasible alternative exists.

5. Curtailing Public Access

Access to public lands may be curtailed at certain times to protect public safety, to allow special uses, and to prevent harm to the environment. Examples of conditions that may justify limiting public access are fire management, curtailment of maintenance funds, timber harvest operations, control of hunting pressure, and high soil moisture content when traffic may cause extensive damage to roads and trails.

6. Right-of-Way Across Native Allotments

Right-of-way access needs across Native allotments should be coordinated with the Southeast Agency of the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Juneau or Tlingit & Haida Central Council whichever is the agency responsible for overseeing the Native Allotments in the area.

7. Other Guidelines Affecting Transportation

A number of other guidelines may affect transportation. For details of those guidelines, see the following sections of this chapter:

- Fish and Wildlife
- Forest Resources
- Recreation

WATER QUALITY AND QUANTITY, WETLANDS, AND RIPARIAN AREAS

Goals

1. Improve, maintain or cause minimal adverse impact to existing stream and overall drainage conditions.
2. Maintain or exceed surface and groundwater quality standards set by the Department of Environmental Conservation.
 - A. Minimize the amount of point and non-point source pollution, including untreated storm water, siltation from road construction and timber harvest activities, and hydrocarbon contamination from fuel storage tanks as well as roads and highways.
 - B. Manage public use activities to ensure the protection of habitat areas, riparian areas, and wetlands important to habitat or hydrologic functions.
3. Preserve and protect riparian areas, especially those determined critical to the maintenance of fish and wildlife or important recreational or scenic areas.
4. Allow opportunities for a variety of recreational activities within stream corridors, including remote and developed recreational activities.
5. Preserve and protect riverbank vegetation identified as essential to habitat functions.

Management Guidelines

1. Water Quality on Commercial Forest Land

In areas of timber harvest, maintain water quality, drainage patterns, wetlands, and riparian areas by deliberate design and location of roads, location and placement of culverts, and design and layout of harvest areas.

2. Wetlands and Riparian Areas

Structures, recreation facilities, and road/bridge projects should be sited, designed, and developed so that impacts to riparian areas and wetlands essential to habitat functions within the Haines State Forest are minimized or, if possible, precluded. Where appropriate, structures and facilities should not be sited within the stream areas defined by ordinary high water.

3. Diversion, Channelization, and Dam Construction

Diversion, channelization or dams that will alter the natural hydrological conditions and that have a significant adverse impact on important riverine habitat should be avoided.

4. Stream Bank Management

Maintain water quality by protecting the integrity of stream banks when carrying out management responsibilities. (Also see Forest Resources guidelines regarding special management zones (SMZ) adjacent to anadromous fish streams and lakes.)

5. Activities in Special Management Zones

To the extent feasible and prudent, commercial and industry uses, transportation facilities, and pipelines will be located outside a Special Management Zone⁷ unless these uses are water dependent. Where this is not feasible, other measures will be implemented to meet the intent of these guidelines. Timber harvest may occur in special management zones if it is sited and designed to be consistent with the primary recreation, fish and wildlife, and water quality goals stated above.

6. Cooperation with other Landowners

Participate with other landowners in cooperative watershed management programs designed to maintain the water quality of local streams and rivers.

7. Other Guidelines Affecting Watersheds

A number of other guidelines may affect watersheds. For details of the guidelines see the following sections of this chapter:

- Forest Resources
- Forest Protection
- Recreation
- Subsurface Resources and Materials
- Transportation

⁷ See Forest Resources, Management Guidelines, Special Management Zones in this Chapter for a description of this guideline.

Chapter 3

LAND MANAGEMENT POLICIES FOR MANAGEMENT UNITS

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CHAPTER 3

Land Management Policies for Management Units

MANAGEMENT UNITS AND GENERAL MANAGEMENT INTENT

This Chapter contains the land management policies for the nine management units within the Haines State Forest.

These areas are called 'management units' and generally correspond to areas that are large, contiguous areas and often have similar characteristics. They are broken into 'subunits' where appropriate to describe specific management directions for areas that vary in character or management orientation. Map 3-1 depicts the nine management units of the Forest Plan. Management subunits are depicted in the maps of the management units.

There are two components to these land management policies: overall management direction or orientation, termed 'management intent', and 'management guidelines' that give more specific direction on certain aspects of management important to some subunits. These specific 'management guidelines' are in addition to the general standards and policies for land management identified in Chapter 2. Chapter 2 guidelines apply to the entire forest.

RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

In the description that follows it is important to note certain considerations pertinent to public recreation¹. In this plan, there are two different forms of public recreation: Dispersed Recreation and Developed Recreation.

Dispersed Recreation uses fairly large geographic areas, and is dispersed rather than concentrated at one location. It may be non-motorized or motorized. Non-motorized uses include berry picking, hunting, hiking, fishing, and picnicking. Motorized modes of transportation include snow machine, ATV, jet boat, jet ski, air boat. These uses may either be personal or commercial.

¹ In this context, 'public recreation' is meant to describe the types of recreation that occur on public lands within the Haines State Forest regardless of land classification. It is different from the land classification of Public Recreation Land. Public recreation occurs throughout the Forest in areas that may be classified in a variety of ways, including Habitat, Forestry, or Resource Management. The land classification of 'Public Recreation Lands' means that the dominant management theme within an area with this classification is the various forms of public recreation. Areas with different land classifications, reflecting a different management orientation, also allow public recreation as a secondary use.

Developed Recreation is limited to fairly small geographic areas, generally uses facilities or structures, and is often associated with recreational service providers. Either motorized or non-motorized vehicles may be used. For the purposes of this plan, Developed Recreation refers to commercial operators providing services to more than 40 clients per day.

In the description that follows, management guidelines are identified for recreation activities in those areas where the management of this use is more complex. Because the lower intensity forms of Dispersed Recreation are allowed throughout the State Forest except in the relatively few areas where permit authorization is necessary, it is not identified under 'management guidelines'. Management guidelines are provided for those areas requiring a higher level of management. Developed recreation uses can occur in many areas but all such uses are to be authorized through a permit process. Recreational uses that are conditionally allowed or are prohibited are always identified in the Use Table for the subunits. The Use Table can be found at the beginning of the description of each management unit following the "Background" information.

Special Use Designation ADL 106858 provides specificity in management intent for commercial recreation activities. This Special Use Designation identifies allowed, conditionally allowed, and prohibited forms of commercial recreation activity in the subunits of the Forest. Commercial recreation operations are defined in terms of daily client load². Operations classified as 'low intensity' are allowed throughout the Forest although in a few subunits they may require authorization. Operations in the 'medium intensity' category do not require authorization, except for a few subunits where the management intent is to generally manage the area for Dispersed Recreation. Operations classed 'high intensity' must either obtain authorization or are prohibited in those subunits where high intensity commercial recreation operations are considered inappropriate. In the description of the subunits that follows, subunits that are intended primarily for Dispersed Recreation operations are identified in management guidelines for a subunit.

LAND CLASSIFICATION, MANAGEMENT INTENT, AND AUTHORIZED USES

Land Classifications. Land classifications, required by statute, are identified for each subunit in this plan. The land classifications provide a general indication of the types of uses that will be allowed. Classification is defined as, "... the designation of lands according to their apparent best use." It "... identifies the primary use for which the land will be managed ...", but "... all other uses are initially presumed as compatible with the primary use." For this reason, all plan classifications may include other uses, if these uses are consistent with the primary use. In this plan the subunits are assigned a single, principle classification in order to identify a dominant management intent within a given area. Inconsistent uses are identified in the management intent language or the table of allowed uses. Appendix F includes the Land Classification Order (SE-02-02) classifying lands within the State Forest.

² Commercial recreation operators with a daily client load of less than 11 are termed 'low intensity'; those with client loads between 11 and 39 are classified 'medium intensity', and those with more than 40 clients are 'high intensity'.

Map 3-1
Management Units

Please click on the map link to view Map 3-1.

Management Intent. Land classifications are general, and do not provide a complete picture of how a subunit is to be managed. The general management intent as well as the more specific manner in which a subunit is to be managed is contained in management intent language and management guidelines that are provided for each unit. In a few instances, few uses are to be allowed and little or no development is anticipated during the planning period, so specific management guidelines beyond the classification are not described. In these instances, the general standards and guidelines apply to any uses or facilities that may be authorized by the Department.

Use Tables. Each unit contains a listing of allowed uses and activities, termed a 'Use Table'. These tables identify those uses and activities that are allowed or prohibited in a subunit, or may be conditionally allowed. Conditionally allowed activities are subject to review and must have a permit, lease, or other authorization. The tables also identify other acceptable activities, such as timber sales, mining, or material sales. They also identify the land classification and indicate whether certain types of recreational use are affected by a special use designation. The use tables are presented at the end of the description of a subunit or following the 'Background' description.

SPECIAL USE DESIGNATIONS

Special Use Designations establish 'special use areas' which may preclude certain uses that would otherwise be allowed on state land or may establish certain management requirements for certain uses. Three Special Use Designations (SUDs) affect the Haines State Forest. SUD ADL 106858, included as Appendix E, affects commercial recreation operations, particularly those operations providing services to more than 11 clients per day. It applies to the entire Forest. SUD ADL 106929, Appendix B, establishes a non-motorized area at Mt. Ripinski north of City of Haines and prohibits the use of personal watercraft for commercial purposes in those parts of Chilkoot Lake and Chilkat Lake within the State Forest. SUD ADL 106939, Appendix K, prohibits most forms of commercial helicopter tours and sets standards for the landing of helicopters for the purpose of heli-skiing. The effect of these special use designations are identified in the management guidelines for each subunit.

UNIT 1

KELSALL RIVER

BACKGROUND

The Kelsall River unit encompasses the portion of the Kelsall River drainage west of the Chilkat River and outside of the Alaska Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve (Preserve). A certified Native allotment is located in the unit. This unit also includes the Mosquito Lake area and abuts private and University of Alaska property south of the lake.

This unit contains approximately 29,815 acres of land and 12,667 acres of operable forest land. It comprises approximately one-quarter of the Haines State Forest commercial forest land base. Harvest activity has occurred in the unit since the 1960s. The unit contains significant recreation values (there is a State Campground at Mosquito Lake), as well as important anadromous fish habitat; and moose, bear, and mountain goat habitat. The area is used extensively for its camping, hunting, and subsistence resources.

The Kelsall River Unit is divided into three subunits with lands classified as Resource Management, Forest, and Public Recreation. Refer to the Map 3-2 for boundaries of the unit and its subunits.

Commercial tour activities occur along the Kelsall 100 Road on a limited basis in both summer and winter.

MANAGEMENT INTENT/GUIDELINES

Subunit 1a (Alpine Areas)

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Subunit 1a consists of three separate areas containing high elevation alpine and sub-alpine land in the Kelsall River Unit. This subunit is classified Resource Management Land to include all the resource values in the area, such as minerals, fish and wildlife habitat, timber, recreation, and scenic values. There are approximately 415 acres of operable commercial timber within this subunit. Winter concentrations of mountain goats have been identified in portions of this unit. The habitat, scenic, and wildlife values within this subunit are to be protected.

Map 3-2

**Management Unit 1
Kelsall River**

Please click on the map link to view Map 3-2.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

1. *Timber Harvest*

Commercial Timber harvest is allowed in this unit.

2. *Dispersed and Developed Recreation*

Recreation activities are intended to be of a dispersed type in this subunit. Commercial recreation operations with more than 39 clients per day are prohibited, and operations greater than 11 clients per day must obtain authorization. A special use designation affects this unit; see Appendix E.

3. *Conditional and Prohibited Uses: Commercial Recreation*

Conditional and prohibited uses are specified in Table 3-1.

Subunit 1b (Mosquito Lake)

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Subunit 1b contains the Mosquito Lake Campground located on the south shore of Mosquito Lake. The campground provides summertime camping, canoeing, and power boating opportunities and a starting point for wintertime cross-country ski and snowmobile trips up the Chilkat River. This subunit is classified Public Recreation Land and will be managed to protect public recreational values. The subunit will also be managed to maintain or enhance fish spawning and rearing habitats.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

1. *Facilities Maintenance*

The Department of Transportation and Public Facilities will maintain the Mosquito Lake road for public access as far as the Mosquito Lake Campground. The Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation will maintain the campground facilities for public use and access.

2. *Commercial Surface Resource Sales*

Material sales and commercial timber harvest will not be allowed.

3. *Mineral Development*

Mineral development is not authorized in this unit. See Mineral Closing Order; Appendix C.

4. *Conditional and Prohibited Uses*

Conditional and prohibited uses are specified in Table 3-1.

Subunit 1c (Kelsall River Lowlands)

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Subunit 1c includes most of the Kelsall River drainage found in the State Forest. Also included is the land in the vicinity of Mosquito Lake located between the Chilkat River and the private and municipal land along the Haines Highway. The subunit abuts the Chilkat Bald Eagle Reserve on its east boundary.

The subunit is classified Forest Land and will be managed for commercial timber harvest. The area near Mosquito Lake will provide resources for the small timber sale and personal use programs. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game has identified much of the area east of the Kelsall River as a winter concentration area for mountain goats. Impacts to goat habitat will be mitigated through cutting unit design and by removal of the proposed temporary bridge crossing the upper river after completion of harvest activities.

The Kelsall River and Nataga Creek contain significant anadromous fish spawning and rearing habitats. This area includes the largest spawning population of king salmon in the Lynn Canal area, as well as significant populations of coho sockeye, pink and chum salmon, Dolly Varden char, and cutthroat trout. Due to steep banks in this area, the special management zone should be larger than the specified 300' in some areas.

Much of the subunit is accessed by a road system that runs from the Haines Highway north, past Mosquito Lake and continues up the west side of the Kelsall River for about fourteen miles. This road system will be extended up the Kelsall River and Nataga Creek drainages as part of the planned timber harvest operations. This road system will be open to the public for a variety of summer and winter dispersed recreation activities.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

1. *Road Maintenance*

If feasible, the Division of Forestry will maintain the existing and proposed portions of primary haul roads including the following:

Kelsall 100 Road- entire length. This is the main road that links the area to the Mosquito Lake Road.

Kelsall 300 Road - from intersection with 100 Road to its terminus on the west side of the Kelsall River. Upon completion of the timber harvest in the area, the Division of Forestry will remove the proposed temporary bridge across the upper Kelsall River and close the proposed haul road over to the northeast side of the river.

2. *Nataga Creek and Kelsall River Bridge Repair and Maintenance*

In conjunction with timber sale contracts, the Division of Forestry will repair or replace the existing bridges at Nataga Creek and the Kelsall River, if upon inspection they do not meet minimum load carrying specifications. Bridges with restricted carrying capacity will be posted and condemned bridges will be closed.

3. Mitigation of Impacts to Goat Habitat in the Kelsall Valley

Proposed timber cutting units will be designed to leave uncut areas during the initial entry period to provide travel corridors and winter food for goats. During subsequent entries in designated travel corridors immediately adjacent to recent harvest areas, timber harvest activities will be limited to selective methods over a fifteen-year period. After this period, all harvest methods will be permitted in these areas. Forest Land Use Plans shall give consideration to the maintenance of goat habitat.

4. Public Use Cabin

A public use cabin should be constructed on the 200 Road system.

5. Conditional and Prohibited Uses

Conditionally allowed and prohibited uses are specified in Table 3-1.

TABLE 3-1 USE TABLE: Conditional & Prohibited Uses ^{a, b}

MANAGEMENT USE SUMMARY

MANAGEMENT UNIT: Kellsall River

MANAGEMENT SUBUNIT	LAND USE CLASSIFICATION	SURFACE USES		MINERALS	
		PROHIBITED USES	CONDITIONAL USES	LOCATABLE MINERALS	SAND AND GRAVEL
1a Alpine Areas	Resource Management	Personal Use Cabins Commercial Recreation Operator (H), Commercial Helicopter Landings (Heli-skiing, Tours)	Commercial Recreation Operator (M)		
1b Mosquito Lake	Public Recreation	Commercial Recreation Operator (M, H), Personal Use Cabins, Commercial and Personal Timber Harvest, Commercial Helicopter Landings (Heli-skiing, Tours)	Commercial Recreation Operator (L)	Prohibited	Prohibited
1c Kellsall River Lowlands	Forest Land	Personal Use Cabins, Commercial Helicopter Landings (Heli-skiing, Tours)	Commercial Recreation Operator (H)		

^a Uses that are not specifically prohibited or conditionally allowed are permitted, consistent with the management intent and management guidelines of a subunit. Most activities that occur on the surface or waters of the State Forest are allowed under the DNR list of Generally Allowed Uses. Special notes: 1) Forestry – personal and salvage timber harvest are allowed in all subunits except subunits 1b and the state campground area of subunit 8b. 2) Minerals (Leaseable) – Leaseable Minerals (which do not occur in the State Forest according to available information) are subject to standard permitting requirements under AS 38.05.135-181 and are considered to be allowed in each subunit except for those classified Wildlife Habitat Land and Public Recreation Land, where development must follow the Leasehold Location Order (LLO). Mineral entry and development (Locatable Minerals) follows standard permitting requirements in all subunits that are not affected by an LLO.

^b See Special Use Designation (Appendix E) for specific requirements affecting commercial recreation uses. This table employs the definitions used in the SUD.

UNIT 2

EAST CHILKAT RIVER

BACKGROUND

The East Chilkat River encompasses spruce and hemlock forests on slopes east of the Chilkat River outside the Alaska Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve, from the Haines Highway north to the Haines State Forest boundary. This unit contains approximately 13,970 acres of land and 4,700 acres of operable forest land. It also contains important mineral resources and significant recreation and scenic values. The unit supports moose, bear, and goat. Mountain goats concentrate in this unit in the winter.

The Chilkat River provides the only access to most areas in this unit. The unit is divided into two subunits classified as Resource Management Land and Forest Land. Refer to Map 3-3 for boundaries of this unit and its subunits.

MANAGEMENT INTENT/GUIDELINES

Subunit 2a (East Chilkat Alpine)

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Subunit 2a encompasses two separate areas that lack known high value surface resources. Resources in this unit include a goat winter concentration area, low-grade iron ore, and scenic values. This subunit is classified Resource Management Land. There is approximately 50 acres of operable commercial timber within this subunit. The goat habitat and scenic values of this subunit will be protected.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

1. Resource Development

Because of the remote, mountainous location of this subunit, development is not anticipated during the planning period. If authorizations are granted by the Department, the general standards of Chapter 2 apply.

2. Dispersed and Developed Recreation

Recreation activities are intended to be of a dispersed type in this subunit. Commercial recreation operations with more than 39 clients per day are prohibited, and operations greater than 11 clients per day must obtain authorization. A special use designation affects this unit; see Appendix E.

3. Conditional and Prohibited Uses

Conditionally allowed and prohibited uses are specified in Table 3-2.

Subunit 2b (East Chilkat)

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Subunit 2b is classified Forest Land and will be managed for commercial timber harvest. Road access to a substantial portion of this subunit will be developed as part of the timber harvesting activities. This subunit will also be managed for the fish and wildlife resources that occur within its boundaries. Portions of this subunit provide habitat for bear and winter concentrations for moose and mountain goat. Authorizations granted by DNR shall follow the general standards of Chapter 2. Conditional and prohibited uses are specified in Table 3-2.

Map 3-3

Management Unit 2 East Chilkat River

Please click on the map link to view Map 3-3.

TABLE 3-2 USE TABLE: Conditional & Prohibited Uses^{a, b}

MANAGEMENT USE SUMMARY		MANAGEMENT UNIT: <u>East Chilkat River</u>			
MANAGEMENT SUBUNIT	LAND USE CLASSIFICATION	SURFACE USES		MINERALS	
		PROHIBITED USES	CONDITIONAL USES	LOCATABLE MINERALS	SAND AND GRAVEL
2a East Chilkat Alpine	Resource Management	Personal Use Cabins Commercial Recreation Operator (H), Commercial Helicopter Landings (Heli-skiing, Tours)	Commercial Recreation Operator (M)		
2b East Chilkat	Forest Land	Personal Use Cabins, Commercial Helicopter Landings (Heli-skiing, Tours)	Commercial Recreation Operator (H)		

^a Uses that are not specifically prohibited or conditionally allowed are permitted, consistent with the management intent and management guidelines of a subunit. Most activities that occur on the surface or waters of the State Forest are allowed under the DNR list of Generally Allowed Uses. Special notes: 1) Forestry – personal and salvage timber harvest are allowed in all subunits except subunits 1b and the state campground area of subunit 8b. 2) Minerals (Leaseable) – Leaseable Minerals (which do not occur in the State Forest according to available information) are subject to standard permitting requirements under AS 38.05.135-181 and are considered to be allowed in each subunit except for those classified Wildlife Habitat Land and Public Recreation Land, where development must follow the Leasehold Location Order (LLO). Mineral entry and development (Locatable Minerals) follows standard permitting requirements in all subunits that are not affected by an LLO.

^b See Special Use Designation (Appendix E) for specific requirements affecting commercial recreation uses. This table employs the definitions used in the SUD.

UNIT 3

KLEHINI RIVER

BACKGROUND

The Klehini River unit encompasses the Klehini River and Little Salmon River drainages and is defined by the Haines State Forest boundary to the north, south and west. The unit extends eastward to Muncaster Creek, the Alaska Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve, and the Tsirku River. Numerous parcels of private land and Native allotments are located in this unit, mostly along the Haines Highway.

This unit contains approximately 37,126 acres of State Forest land of which 11,440 acres are available as operable forest land. The unit also contains spawning habitat for chinook, coho, sockeye, and chum salmon, cutthroat trout and Dolly Varden char. The river corridor supports bald eagles. The area is used for recreational and subsistence hunting, fishing, and trapping.

The Haines Highway, the main transportation route to the interior, lies along the north side of the river. Gravel extraction has occurred in designated material sites along this corridor. Logging roads provide access to and through the south part of the unit, while the Haines Highway accesses the northern part.

The unit contains the Pleasant Camp Post along the Canadian Border, originally a police post on the Dalton Trail. The federal government purchased the site to preserve the historic building. The historic route of the Dalton Trail along the Porcupine Road is partially included in this unit.

Gold was discovered in 1898 in the Porcupine District. There have been about 250 lode and placer claims filed in the area; about a dozen of these are patented federal claims. Some historic gold mining has occurred at the eastern end of Walker Lake, but there is no activity at present. There is a public recreation trail approximately 1.2 miles long accessing Walker Lake in Subunit 3h. Marble deposits are located near Herman Lake. Historic mining activity has occurred on Big Boulder and Little Boulder Creeks; however, there is no current mining activity at those locations.

This unit is divided into ten subunits which include land classifications of Forest, Wildlife Habitat, Public Recreation, and Resource Management. Refer to plan Map 3-4 for boundaries of this unit and subunits.

MANAGEMENT INTENT/GUIDELINES

Subunit 3a (Haines Highway)

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Subunit 3a consists of the area adjacent to the northwestern boundary of the unit and is the "transportation corridor" along the Haines Highway. This subunit is classified Resource Management Land because of the diversity of uses and values.

Known resource values include the following. Two anadromous streams, Pleasant Camp and 37 Mile Creeks, flow through this subunit. Mineral claims have been located and a cement grade limestone deposit is located near Mile 39 on the Haines Highway. Material sources are found in this subunit. Portions of this subunit which can be seen from the Haines Highway have important scenic values. State land adjacent to Pleasant Camp should be managed in a manner compatible with its historic values. Generally, the Haines Highway Corridor is to be managed for transportation and the maintenance of scenic values adjacent to the highway corridor.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

1. *Materials*

Material extraction will occur in designated areas along Haines Highway. These sites should be screened from the road.

2. *Uses Adjacent to the Haines Highway*

Additional transportation uses of this corridor such as pipelines, power lines, widening or improving existing roads, and parallel logging roads are allowed uses. However, their design may require screening to enhance their compatibility with scenic values.

3. *Timber Harvest*

Timber harvest activities will be limited to small commercial sales and personal use sales. Use of harvested areas as turnouts, waysides or recreational sites should be evaluated and, where feasible, incorporated into cutting unit design. Timber harvests adjacent to the highway should be screened.

4. *Future Pipelines*

Future pipelines will, to the extent feasible, be located in the same right-of-way as the existing unused pipeline.

Map 3-4

**Management Unit 3
Klehini River**

Please click on the map link to view Map 3-4.

5. Coordination between DNR & DOT-PF

The Department of Natural Resources will coordinate with the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities to implement management policies within the right-of-way and on adjacent lands.

6. Conditional and Prohibited Uses

Conditional and prohibited uses are specified in Table 3-3.

Subunit 3b (Klehini Uplands)

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Subunit 3b encompasses land abutting the Haines State Forest boundary and Muncaster Creek north of the Haines Highway. This subunit is classified Resource Management Land. This subunit contains operable timber, and timber harvest is recognized as an allowable use under this classification. Portions of this subunit adjoin the Haines Highway.

Known resource values include the following. Boulder Creek and Muncaster Creek, anadromous fish streams, flow through this subunit. Management should ensure protection of salmon spawning habitat. Mountain goat habitat exists in this subunit and should be considered in designs for operations. Portions of this subunit can be seen from the Haines Highway and have important scenic values that must be considered when activities are authorized.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

The management guidelines of Subunit 3a, 1 through 5, apply to this Subunit 3b.

Subunit 3c (Haines Highway Uplands)

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Subunit 3c includes forested lands north of the Haines Highway. The subunit contains approximately 563 acres of operable timber, is classified Forest Land, and will be managed for commercial timber harvest. Management of this subunit will ensure maintenance of fish and wildlife resources as well as recreation uses and the scenic resources associated with the highway corridor.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

The management guidelines of Subunit 3a, 1 through 5, apply to Subunit 3b.

Subunit 3d (Klehini River)

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Subunit 3d includes the Klehini River. It will be managed to protect fish and wildlife habitat. The area is classified Wildlife Habitat Land. Other resource uses are allowed in the subunit if the activities can be conducted to protect the habitat values found within this area. It is intended that the Klehini River accommodate a variety of motorized and non-motorized activities. Mineral development is not appropriate within this unit and is to be managed under a Leasehold Location Order (LLO).

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

1. *Mineral Development and Material Sales*

Mineral entry and development will be authorized only under a Leasehold Location Order. See Appendix D. Material sales may be authorized for the improvement of the Haines Highway or other projects.

2. *Timber harvest*

Commercial timber harvest is permitted. Harvest units must provide for habitat protection and clear-cut harvest areas cannot be larger than 20 acres in size.

3. *Conditional and Prohibited Uses*

Conditional and prohibited uses are specified in Table 3-3.

Subunit 3e (Jarvis/Glacier Creeks)

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Subunit 3e (Jarvis/Glacier Creeks) encompasses the forested state land west of Porcupine Creek. The subunit, containing approximately 4,400 acres of operable forest land, is classified Forest Land and will be managed primarily for commercial timber harvest. Mineral and material values include silver, lead, and limestone east of Jarvis Creek and gold on Glacier Creek. A barite deposit on federal land is near the headwaters of Glacier Creek. The bridge crossing Glacier Creek has failed and the Division of Forestry will need to replace it to provide access to the area. Mining operations and minerals extraction will also be allowed. Habitat, recreation, and scenic values are present within this subunit.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

1. *Porcupine Road*

Manage the lands adjacent to the Porcupine Road for forest, mining, and recreation uses. Cutting units directly adjacent to the road should be designed to minimize the visual impact. The Haines Borough, through a service area agreement, provides the road maintenance and access.

2. *Scenic Resources*

The scenic values of this subunit, as viewed from the Haines Highway, are to be considered in the preparation of Forest Land Use Plans.

3. *Conditional and Prohibited Uses*

Conditional and prohibited uses are specified in Table 3-3.

Subunit 3f (Lower Klehini)

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Subunit 3f includes land between the lower Klehini and Tsirku Rivers. The subunit contains many properties owned privately or by the University of Alaska. The subunit adjoins the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve in many places.

State land within this subunit is classified Forest Land and will be managed for commercial timber harvest. This subunit contains about 5,817 acres of operable forest, most of which has already been harvested and is regenerating. The Sunshine Mountain Road provides access to this area.

Management for this subunit will continue to accommodate existing dispersed recreation activities including berry picking, cross-country skiing, and snow machining. Scenic resources will also be protected.

The trail from the old Porcupine Road to Herman Lake, reconstructed in 1984 by the Division of Forestry to provide recreation access, may be maintained when funding is available.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Scenic Resources

The scenic values of this subunit should be considered in the preparation of Forest Land Use Plans.

Subunit 3g (Tsirku-West)

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Subunit 3g encompasses land on both sides of the Little Salmon River and along the western shore of the Tsirku River. This subunit is classified Wildlife Habitat Land and will be managed to protect the important fish and wildlife resources found in the area of the Little Salmon River. This subunit contains 500 acres of operable forest land, including significant stands of cottonwood, which will not be harvested unless salvage is necessary, to protect other uses of the Little Salmon and Tsirku Rivers.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

1. *Timber Harvest*

Timber sales are not allowed, except for salvage sales.

2. *Mineral Development and Material Sales*

Mineral development will be authorized only under a Leasehold Location Order. See Appendix D. Material sales are not allowed.

3. *Conditional and Prohibited Uses*

Conditional and prohibited uses are specified in Table 3-3.

Subunit 3h (Herman and Walker Lakes)

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Subunit 3h consists of Herman and Walker Lakes, as well as an area around each lake approximately 1000 feet wide. This subunit will be designated Public Recreation Land and managed for both Dispersed Recreation uses and fisheries resources associated with Herman Lake. Existing public recreation uses include backcountry fishing, hiking, and camping. Mining is not considered an appropriate use in this subunit. Timber harvest, except for salvage, is not permitted. The Department of Fish and Game funded the construction of a trail from the Sunshine Mountain road to Walker Lake in 2001.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

1. *Public Use Cabin*

A public use cabin should be constructed on the shore of the lake at the end of the trail to Walker Lake.

2. *Timber Harvest*

Commercial timber harvesting will not occur unless salvage is necessary.

3. *Minerals*

Material sales are not allowed. Mineral entry and development is subject to a Leasehold Location Order. See Appendix D.

4. *Habitat*

Management of the subunit should include the maintenance or enhancement of fish habitat where appropriate if funding is available.

5. *Recreation Uses*

A special use designation (SUD) affects this subunit; see Appendix E. Under the SUD, commercial recreation operators with less than 40 clients per day are considered allowed uses, while those in excess of this amount may be allowed, but require authorization.

6. *Conditional and Prohibited Uses*

Conditional and prohibited uses are specified in Table 3-3.

Subunit 3i (Porcupine Creek)

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Subunit 3i encompasses the mineralized area of Porcupine and McKinley Creeks. This subunit will be managed to ensure the opportunity for mineral development. Other known resources include 478 acres of operable timber and mountain goat concentrations. The subunit is classified Resource Management Land. Timber harvest is authorized in this subunit in the areas of operable timber.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

1. *Timber Harvest*

Commercial timber harvest is allowed.

2. *Habitat – Forest Land Use Plan*

Forest Land Use Plans shall minimize adverse impacts upon areas of goat winter concentration.

3. *Conditional and Prohibited Uses*

Conditional and prohibited uses are specified in Table 3-3.

TABLE 3-3 USE TABLE: Conditional & Prohibited Uses^{a, b}

MANAGEMENT USE SUMMARY

MANAGEMENT UNIT: Klehini

MANAGEMENT SUBUNIT	LAND USE CLASSIFICATION	SURFACE USES		MINERALS	
		PROHIBITED USES	CONDITIONAL USES	LOCATABLE MINERALS	SAND AND GRAVEL
3a Haines Highway	Resource Management	Personal Use Cabins, Commercial Helicopter Landings (Heli-skiing, Tours)	Commercial Recreation Operator (H)		
3b Klehini Uplands	Resource Management	Personal Use Cabins, Commercial Helicopter Landings (Heli-skiing, Tours)	Commercial Recreation Operator (H)		
3c Haines Highway Uplands	Forest Land	Personal Use Cabins, Commercial Helicopter Landings (Heli-skiing, Tours)	Commercial Recreation Operator (H)		
3d Klehini River Area	Wildlife Habitat	Commercial Timber Harvest (except for small sales of less than 20 acres), Personal Use cabins, Commercial Helicopter Landings (Heli-skiing, Tours)	Commercial Recreation Operator (H)	LLO	Prohibited
3e Jarvis/Glacier Creek	Forest Land	Personal Use Cabins, Commercial Helicopter Landings (Heli-skiing, Tours)	Commercial Recreation Operator (H)		

^a See next page.

^b See next page.

MANAGEMENT SUBUNIT	LAND USE CLASSIFICATION	SURFACE USES		MINERALS	
		PROHIBITED USES	CONDITIONAL USES	LOCATABLE MINERALS	SAND AND GRAVEL
3f Lower Klehini	Forest Land	Personal Use Cabins, Commercial Helicopter Landings (Heli-skiing - Parts, Tours)	Commercial Recreation Operator (H) Commercial Helicopter Landings (Heli-skiing - Parts)		
3g Tsirku West	Wildlife Habitat	Commercial Timber Sales, Personal Use Cabins, Commercial Helicopter Landings (Heli-skiing, Tours)	Commercial Recreation Operator (H)	LLO	Prohibited
3h Herman & Walker Lakes	Public Recreation	Commercial Timber Sales, Personal Use Cabins, Commercial Helicopter Landings (Heli-skiing, Tours)	Commercial Recreation Operator (H)	LLO	Prohibited
3i Porcupine Creek	Resource Management	Personal Use Cabins, Commercial Helicopter Landings (Heli-skiing - Parts, Tours)	Commercial Recreation Operator (H), Commercial Helicopter Landings (Heli-skiing - Parts)		

^a Uses that are not specifically prohibited or conditionally allowed are permitted, consistent with the management intent and management guidelines of a subunit. Most activities that occur on the surface or waters of the State Forest are allowed under the DNR list of Generally Allowed Uses. Special notes: 1) Forestry – personal and salvage timber harvest are allowed in all subunits except subunits 1b and the state campground area of subunit 8b. 2) Minerals (Leaseable) – Leaseable Minerals (which do not occur in the State Forest according to available information) are subject to standard permitting requirements under AS 38.05.135-181 and are considered to be allowed in each subunit except for those classified Wildlife Habitat Land and Public Recreation Land, where development must follow the Leasehold Location Order (LLO). Mineral entry and development (Locatable Minerals) follows standard permitting requirements in all subunits that are not affected by an LLO.

^b See Special Use Designation (Appendix E) for specific requirements affecting commercial recreation uses. This table employs the definitions used in the SUD.

UNIT 4

CHILKAT LAKE

BACKGROUND

The Chilkat Lake unit encompasses land between the Takhin and Tsirku Rivers and lies west of the Chilkat River. The Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve adjoins this unit on its northern and eastern boundaries. This unit contains approximately 18,898 acres, 8,222 acres of which are operable forest land. Chilkat Lake is in this unit and has extensive private land holdings along the eastern shore. The entire unit provides important public recreation opportunities, as well as valuable fish and wildlife habitat. Chilkat Lake supports the largest concentration of sockeye salmon in the Chilkat drainage. Coho, pink, cutthroat trout and Dolly Varden char are also present in Chilkat Lake. The Dalton Trail may pass through this unit, though it is more likely that in this area the trail runs along the Chilkat River on lands that are now part of the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve. Commercial recreation activities occur in the unit and are primarily associated with the use of lake resources. The Chilkat Lake Unit has been divided into four subunits, two classified Forest Land and two classified Public Recreation Land. Refer to the plan Map 3-5 for boundaries of this unit and its subunits.

MANAGEMENT INTENT/GUIDELINES

Subunits 4a (Devil's Elbow) and 4b (North Takhin)

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Subunits 4a and 4b are classified Forest Land and will be managed for commercial timber harvest. There are approximately 1,280 acres and 6,942 acres, respectively, of operable timber in these two subunits. There are also significant scenic, recreational, and habitat resources within these subunits. A sockeye salmon spawning stream flows through subunit 4a and drains into Chilkat Lake. These resources are to be considered in the siting and layout of harvest units.

Due to the location of the Alaska Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve boundary and the ridge on the east side of Subunit 4b, timber harvest activities should be hidden from the Haines Highway. However, in those instances where potential harvest units may be visible from the Haines Highway, their design should attempt to minimize the visual impacts from the highway between Miles 10 and 20, and especially as viewed from the area of the highway at the Council Grounds. The scenic resources of this subunit, particularly as viewed from the Haines Highway, will be considered in the preparation of a Forest Land Use Plan for the area.

Fish and wildlife habitat and recreation activities are valuable resources in both subunits. Management of these subunits should ensure the maintenance of these resources.

The preferred option for accessing Subunit 4b is from the 26-Mile Klehini River Bridge, then south along the existing road system and then across the Tsirku River in the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve. Road location and design should minimize undesired impacts to the hydrology of the Tsirku River (especially its associated downstream fan) and private land in the subunit. Road design should also be consistent with the management requirements for the access across the Tsirku River described in the Tsirku River Unit of the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve Plan.

When drawing the boundary of the State Forest in this area, the legislature excluded some lands used by eagles for shelter during bad winter weather. Therefore, while Subunit 4b may receive some use by eagles for shelter, this should not be a major impediment to timber management. Adjustments to forest road location, the design and layout of cutting units, and the timing of timber harvest operations will mitigate any conflicts between these activities and eagle use.

Specific timber management standards apply to Chilkat Lake. Chilkat Lake, which sustains an anadromous fish population, is subject to the 500' special management zone requirement for timber harvest around anadromous lakes. Timber management activities near private land will be designed to avoid conflicts with adjacent landowners to the extent feasible and prudent.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

1. Access Across the Tsirku River

Access across the Eagle Preserve and the Tsirku River will be required to remove timber from this unit. This access should be coordinated with access to Subunit 4b. Any proposed forest road and bridge across the Tsirku River should be situated and designed to minimize impacts on the surface water flows onto and over the fan.

2. Logging Traffic and Eagle Disturbance

If necessary, logging traffic in the north half of subunit 4b may be restricted during six months of the year (November to April) to minimize disturbance of eagles.

3. Special Management Zone Adjacent to Chilkat Lake

A 500' special management zone applies to areas adjacent to the lake; see Chapter 2, Forest Resources (F), Management Guideline. The primary management objective within this area is to maintain anadromous fish habitat. Only activities that are compatible with this objective are considered appropriate.

Map 3-5

**Management Unit 4
Chilkat Lake**

Please click on the map link to view Map 3-5.

4. *Timber Harvest Areas adjacent to Private Properties*

The Division of Forestry (DOF) will consider using selective harvest or other partial cutting techniques within 200' of private land and will consider the potential impacts of roads on adjacent private land when planning forest road locations. During the public review process for the proposed activity, DNR will attempt to contact private landowners whose land adjoins a proposed timber sale area or road.

5. *Scenic Resources*

Timber harvest and management activities should maintain the scenic resources of this subunit, as viewed from the Haines Highway. Harvest design and layout should ensure that cutting units are screened from the highway or that unit design and harvest methods are used that minimize the impacts to this viewshed. DOF will address the scenic resources of this subunit in a Forest Land Use Plan when proposing timber harvest in this subunit.

6. *Personal Watercraft*

Commercial jet skis operations are not permitted on Chilkat Lake. See the Special Use Designation included as Appendix E. Personal 'Personal Watercraft' use is permitted, however.

7. *Mineral Development and Material Extraction*

Mineral development is allowed only under a Leasehold Location Order in the part of the subunit visible from the Haines Highway, generally the area from the ridgeline to the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve. Material extraction is not allowed in this area.

8. *Conditional and Prohibited Uses*

Conditional and prohibited uses are specified in Table 3-4.

Subunit 4c (West Chilkat Lake)

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Subunit 4c (West Chilkat Lake) is the large area of steep terrain on the west shore of Chilkat Lake. The subunit contains scenic and recreation values, which will be protected in any timber management activity. The subunit is classified Public Recreation Land.

There are important spawning and rearing grounds in the lake and in tributary streams, including Chilkat Lake Creek and Clear Rose Creek. Land adjacent to these waters will be managed to maintain fishery values and habitat.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

1. *Timber Harvest and Other Uses*

No commercial timber harvest is allowed in this subunit. Timber harvest is limited to selective cutting for personal use. Other uses and activities are allowed, but must be compatible with maintenance of scenic values and fish and wildlife habitat.

2. *Mineral Development*

Mineral entry is allowed only under a Leasehold Location Order.

3. *Material Extraction*

Material extraction is not allowed within this subunit.

4. *Conditional and Prohibited Uses*

Conditional and prohibited uses are specified in Table 3-4.

Subunit 4d (Chilkat Recreation)

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Subunit 4d is located on the east shore of Chilkat Lake and is classified Public Recreation Land. Since Chilkat Lake is one of only two large lakes in the Haines area, it is important that public access to, and recreational use of, this state land adjacent to the shoreline be maintained.

This subunit contains a public cabin that is not currently maintained. The Division of Forestry is currently planning for the development of new recreation facilities to be located in the subunit.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

1. *Timber Harvest and Material Sales*

There will be no commercial timber harvest or material sales in this subunit.

2. *Public Use Cabin*

The Division of Forestry should replace the public use cabin on the eastern shore of Chilkat Lake.

3. *Mineral Development and Material Extraction*

Mineral entry and development are allowed only under a Leasehold Location Order (LLO). Material extraction is prohibited.

4. *Conditional and Prohibited Uses*

Conditional and prohibited uses are specified in Table 3-4.

TABLE 3-4 USE TABLE: Conditional & Prohibited Uses^{a, b}

MANAGEMENT USE SUMMARY		MANAGEMENT UNIT: <u>Chilkat Lake</u>			
MANAGEMENT SUBUNIT	LAND USE CLASSIFICATION	SURFACE USES		MINERALS	
		PROHIBITED USES	CONDITIONAL USES	LOCATABLE MINERALS	SAND AND GRAVEL
4a Devil's Elbow	Forest Land	Personal Use Cabins, Commercial Helicopter Landings (Heli-skiing - Parts, Tours)	Commercial Recreation Operator (H) Commercial Helicopter Landings (Heli-skiing - Parts)		Prohibited
4b North Takhin	Forest Land	Personal Use Cabins, Commercial Jet Ski Operator, Commercial Helicopter Landings (Heli-skiing, Tours)	Commercial Recreation Operator (H)	LLO required in areas visible from Haines Highway	Prohibited
4c West Chilkat Lake	Public Recreation	Personal Use Cabins, Commercial Timber Harvest, Commercial Helicopter Landings (Heli-skiing, Tours)	Commercial Recreation Operator (H)	LLO	Prohibited
4d Chilkat Recreation	Public Recreation	Personal Use Cabins, Commercial Timber Harvest, Commercial Helicopter Landings (Heli-skiing, Tours)	Commercial Recreation Operator (M, H)	LLO	Prohibited

^a Uses that are not specifically prohibited or conditionally allowed are permitted, consistent with the management intent and management guidelines of a subunit. Most activities that occur on the surface or waters of the State Forest are allowed under the DNR list of Generally Allowed Uses. Special notes: 1) Forestry – personal and salvage timber harvest are allowed in all subunits except subunits 1b and the state campground area of subunit 8b. 2) Minerals (Leaseable) – Leaseable Minerals (which do not occur in the State Forest according to available information) are subject to standard permitting requirements under AS 38.05.135-181 and are considered to be allowed in each subunit except for those classified Wildlife Habitat Land and Public Recreation Land, where development must follow the Leasehold Location Order (LLO). Mineral entry and development (Locatable Minerals) follows standard permitting requirements in all subunits that are not affected by an LLO.

^b See Special Use Designation (Appendix E) for specific requirements affecting commercial recreation uses. This table employs the definitions used in the SUD.

UNIT 5

TAKHIN/KICKING HORSE

BACKGROUND

This unit varies from spruce-hemlock forested slopes to cottonwood forests of Murphy Flats to ice fields of Garrison Glacier. It includes the Takhin River Valley, the Kicking Horse River Valley, and the forested slopes to the north of the Haska Creek drainage. This unit contains approximately 6,598 acres of operable timberland. The hillside south of the Takhin River is visible from the Haines Highway and contains important moose and goat habitat. In the Murphy Flats area, the moose winter habitat is particularly significant. That area contains fish habitat as well. The Takhin River corridor is important for its recreational values. Native allotment claims exist in this unit primarily on the lower Kicking Horse River area. The Dalton Trail may have passed through this unit although its exact location is uncertain.

This management unit has not been divided into any subunits since the management intent is similar throughout the unit. See Table 3-5 for a description of conditional and prohibited uses.

MANAGEMENT INTENT/GUIDELINES

MANAGEMENT INTENT

This unit is classified Wildlife Habitat Land in order to protect the valuable fish and wildlife resources found in the unit. Recreation, both commercial and non-commercial, is an important additional resource in the unit and should be considered during management decisions. The level of recreational use is intended to be low intensity and dispersed. Developed Recreation activities are prohibited. A special use designation affects this subunit, precluding developed forms of recreation unless consistent with the management intent of this subunit and with the recreation management and permitting standards of Chapter 2.

Management activities in this unit will emphasize wilderness-type hunting, low intensity dispersed recreation, protection of fish and wildlife habitat, and maintenance of scenic values as viewed from the Haines Highway.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

1. *Timber Harvest*

Commercial timber harvest is not allowed within the Takhin/Kicking Horse Unit.

Unit 5 – Takhin/Kicking Horse

2. Dispersed and Developed Recreation

A special use designation affects this unit; see Appendix E. Dispersed commercial recreation uses involving less than eleven clients per day are allowed, while those with more than eleven clients and less than 40 per day may be allowed, but require authorization from DNR. Commercial operations with more than 40 clients per day are not authorized.

3. Mineral Development

Mineral entry and development within this unit is subject to a Leasehold Location Order.

4. Material Sales

Material sales are not allowed in this subunit.

5. Conditional and Prohibited Uses

Conditional and prohibited uses are identified in Table 3-5.

Map 3-6

Management Unit 5 Takhin/Kicking Horse

Please click on the map link to view Map 3-6.

TABLE 3-5 USE TABLE: Conditional & Prohibited Uses^{a, b}

MANAGEMENT USE SUMMARY

MANAGEMENT UNIT: Takhin/Kicking Horse

MANAGEMENT SUBUNIT	LAND USE CLASSIFICATION	SURFACE USES		MINERALS	
		PROHIBITED USES	CONDITIONAL USES	LOCATABLE MINERALS	SAND AND GRAVEL
Unit 5 (no subunit) Takhin/Kicking Horse	Wildlife Habitat	Personal Use Cabins, Commercial Timber Harvest, Commercial Recreation Operator (H), Commercial Helicopter Landings (Heli-skiing - Parts, Tours)	Commercial Recreation Operator (M), Commercial Helicopter Landings (Heli-skiing - Parts)	LLO	Prohibited

^a Uses that are not specifically prohibited or conditionally allowed are permitted, consistent with the management intent and management guidelines of a subunit. Most activities that occur on the surface or waters of the State Forest are allowed under the DNR list of Generally Allowed Uses. Special notes: 1) Forestry – personal and salvage timber harvest are allowed in all subunits except subunits 1b and the state campground area of subunit 8b. 2) Minerals (Leaseable) – Leaseable Minerals (which do not occur in the State Forest according to available information) are subject to standard permitting requirements under AS 38.05.135-181 and are considered to be allowed in each subunit except for those classified Wildlife Habitat Land and Public Recreation Land, where development must follow the Leasehold Location Order (LLO). Mineral entry and development (Locatable Minerals) follows standard permitting requirements in all subunits that are not affected by an LLO.

^b See Special Use Designation (Appendix E) for specific requirements affecting commercial recreation uses. This table employs the definitions used in the SUD.

UNIT 6

CHILKAT INLET

BACKGROUND

This unit includes the forested slopes from Haska Creek south to the Davidson Glacier area. The unit lies west of the Chilkat Inlet across from the City of Haines, Mud Bay Road, and Chilkat State Park. Consequently, the scenic values of the unit are high. This unit contains approximately 33,015 acres, 2,578 acres of which are operable forest land. Approximately 350 acres have been previously harvested. The unit also contains recreation opportunities, fish and wildlife habitat, and mineral resources.

The start of the Dalton Trail, as well as the historical community associated with the trail, is located on lands adjacent to Pyramid Harbor in this unit. Private property and Native allotment selections are contained in the unit.

In recent years commercial recreation activities have significantly increased in the southern portion of the unit in association with Davidson Lake and the Davidson Glacier. Recreation use of this area by local residents has also occurred.

This unit is divided into two subunits, both classified as Public Recreation Land. Refer to the plan Map 3-7 for the boundaries of the subunits.

MANAGEMENT INTENT/GUIDELINES

Subunit 6a (West Chilkat Inlet)

MANAGEMENT INTENT

This subunit is characterized by mountainous terrain and has significant scenic and recreational values. It is classified Public Recreation Land. The management intent is to protect the scenic and recreation values while allowing for low intensity, dispersed recreational uses. Commercial timber harvest and material sales are not allowed, and only mining activities that can be effectively screened from view of Haines are appropriate. Recreational use is intended to be of a low intensity type, reflecting the kind of activities associated with Dispersed Recreation.

Map 3-7

**Management Unit 6
Chilkat Inlet**

Please click on the map link to view Map 3-7.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

1. *Timber Harvest*

Commercial timber harvest is not allowed in this unit.

2. *Developed and Dispersed Recreation*

A special use designation affects this unit; see Appendix E. Dispersed commercial Recreation uses involving less than 11 clients per day are allowed, while those with more than 11 and less than 40 clients per day require authorization from DNR. Commercial operations with more than 40 clients per day are not authorized.

3. *Mineral Entry and Material Sales*

Mineral entry and development are subject to a Leasehold Location Order. Material sales are not allowed.

4. *Conditional and Prohibited Uses*

Conditional and prohibited uses are identified in Table 3-6.

Subunit 6b (Davidson Glacier/Lake)

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Subunit 6b consists of the lands and water of the Davidson Glacier and is classified Public Recreation Land because of scenic and recreation resources present in the area. Recreational use is intended to be of a developed recreation type, although Dispersed Recreation activities are also appropriate. Portions of this subunit have been used for intensive commercial recreation activities, focusing on the use of the Lake. Further development of this area for commercial recreation activities is appropriate. Use of this area for this purpose is considered appropriate because of the attractiveness of the site, the relatively small impact to state lands and waters, and distance from populated areas.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

1. *Timber Harvest and Material Sales*

Commercial timber harvest and material sales are not allowed in this unit.

2. *Commercial Recreation*

This subunit is affected by a special use designation; see Appendix E. Commercial operators with less than 11 clients per day are allowed; commercial operations with more than this amount must be authorized by permit. The further development of this subunit for commercial recreation activities is considered appropriate, subject to the requirements of Chapter 2 and the Special Use Designation. Dispersed recreation activities are to be taken into consideration in authorizations issued by DNR to commercial recreation operators with

more than 11 clients per day. Such authorizations should not preclude the opportunity for dispersed recreation activities within the subunit.

3. Recreation Facilities and Trail

A recreation trail should be constructed from the shoreline of Chilkat Inlet to the lake at the mouth of the Davidson Glacier from the north. A public cabin or three-sided shelter should be considered for construction somewhere along this trail.

4. Mineral Entry and Development

Mineral entry and development are subject to a Leasehold Location Order. Any mineral development shall be hidden from Davidson Glacier and Lake. See Leasehold Location Order; Appendix D.

5. Conditional and Prohibited Uses

Conditional and prohibited uses are identified in Table 3-6.

TABLE 3-6 USE TABLE: Conditional & Prohibited Uses^{a, b}

MANAGEMENT USE SUMMARY		MANAGEMENT UNIT: <u>Chilkat Inlet</u>			
MANAGEMENT SUBUNIT	LAND USE CLASSIFICATION	SURFACE USES		MINERALS	
		PROHIBITED USES	CONDITIONAL USES	LOCATABLE MINERALS	SAND AND GRAVEL
6a West Chilkat Inlet	Public Recreation	Personal Use Cabins, Commercial Timber Sales, Commercial Recreation Operator (H), Commercial Helicopter Landings (Heli-skiing, Tours)	Commercial Recreation Operator (M)	LLO	Prohibited
6b Davidson Glacier/ Lake	Public Recreation	Personal Use Cabins, Jet Ski Operators (Personal & Commercial), Commercial Timber Harvest, Personal Timber Harvest, Commercial Helicopter Landings (Heli-skiing, Tours)	Commercial Recreation Operator (M,H)	LLO	Prohibited

^a Uses that are not specifically prohibited or conditionally allowed are permitted, consistent with the management intent and management guidelines of a subunit. Most activities that occur on the surface or waters of the State Forest are allowed under the DNR list of Generally Allowed Uses. Special notes: 1) Forestry – personal and salvage timber harvest are allowed in all subunits except subunits 1b and the state campground area of subunit 8b. 2) Minerals (Leaseable) – Leaseable Minerals (which do not occur in the State Forest according to available information) are subject to standard permitting requirements under AS 38.05.135-181 and are considered to be allowed in each subunit except for those classified Wildlife Habitat Land and Public Recreation Land, where development must follow the Leasehold Location Order (LLO). Mineral entry and development (Locatable Minerals) follows standard permitting requirements in all subunits that are not affected by an LLO.

^b See Special Use Designation (Appendix E) for specific requirements affecting commercial recreation uses. This table employs the definitions used in the SUD.

UNIT 7

HAINES HIGHWAY AND LOWER CHILKAT RIVER

BACKGROUND

This unit contains the Chilkat River, a strip of land on both sides of the Haines Highway, and the uplands to the east. Except for parcels of private land along the Haines Highway and near the City of Haines, most of the land within the unit is in the State Forest. It is divided into two subunits, one composed of the Chilkat River from approximately Mile 8 on the Haines Highway to just north of Pyramid Island, and the other composed of the uplands east of the Haines Highway. This unit adjoins the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve along the Haines Highway.

Resources include timber (approximately 358 acres of operable forest land); habitat for bear, moose, and goats; fish habitat in feeder streams to the Chilkat River; minerals, including low-grade iron ore, copper, gold, and titanium; scenery; and recreation.

The trailhead for the Ripinski Trail is located in this unit at approximately Mile 7 of the Haines Highway.

MANAGEMENT INTENT/GUIDELINES

Subunit 7a (Haines Highway)

MANAGEMENT INTENT

This subunit contains a variety of resources. Recreation is particularly important in the southern portion of the subunit, on Mt. Ripinski's hiking trails. Other resources include scenic values along the Haines Highway, and a transportation corridor. The subunit will be managed for its multiple use characteristics, none of which has been identified as being more important than another, and is classified Resource Management Land.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

1. Mount Ripinski Trail System

The Mt. Ripinski trail system should be maintained and expanded as funding becomes available.

2. Scenic quality of the Highway Corridor

Land along the Haines Highway will be managed to maintain its scenic qualities. Forest Land Use Plans should protect the scenic values of the highway.

3. Access and Utility Development

Access across or along the corridor is allowed, including pipelines, power lines, and the widening or improving existing roads, but design and construction should be sensitive to the scenic values of the surrounding landscape. Future pipelines should be located in the same right-of-way as the existing unused pipeline, if feasible.

4. Material Sales and Mineral Development.

Material sales are not permitted and mineral development is subject to a Leasehold Location Order (LLO). See Appendix D. Maintaining the scenic view is the primary consideration in any authorization of mineral development under an LLO.

5. Recreation Uses

Special Use Designation affects this unit; see Appendix E. The general standards for commercial recreation that apply in this subunit are supplemented by specific requirements for the Ripinski trail corridor. Commercial recreation uses with not more than 39 clients per day are authorized in this subunit. Uses above this amount are not authorized. Within the trail corridor, which is defined as 50 feet on either side of the tread of the trail, commercial recreation uses with less than 39 clients must be authorized by permit only. Such uses in excess of this amount within the trail corridor are not authorized. Commercial recreation activities are also affected by another special use designation; see management guideline #6. Within this portion of the subunit, only non-motorized operations are authorized.

6. Mount Ripinski Non-Motorized Area

Special Use Designation ADL 106929, included as Appendix B, prohibits the use of motorized vehicles in the area of Mt. Ripinski north to Seven Mile Saddle.³ The affected area is identified in a map that accompanies the SUD. This non-motorized designation also affects subunits 8b, 8c, and 8d.

Motorized uses that require facilities or access rights-of-way on state land outside of the SUD shall be reviewed by DNR, and any such use or facility that is authorized shall avoid actual or incidental access to the non-motorized area. Siting, design, or management requirements shall be used to ensure that such access is precluded. Such uses shall be limited to summer operation only.

7. Conditional and Prohibited Uses

Conditional and prohibited uses are identified in Table 3-7.

³ The use of motorized vehicles for the purpose of search and rescue or for establishing communication systems is authorized, however.

Map 3-8

Management Unit 7 Haines Highway and Lower Chilkat River

Please click on the map link to view Map 3-8.

Subunit 7b (Lower Chilkat River)

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Subunit 7b includes the Chilkat River south of the Eagle Preserve to tidewater. The subunit is comprised of the braided lower flood plain of the Chilkat River and contains important fish and wildlife habitat. It is classified Wildlife Habitat Land in order to maintain the natural resources associated with the Chilkat River. The Lower Haines Highway Unit of the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve borders subunit 7b to the north.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

1. *Multiple Use Management within the Lower Chilkat River*

Although the overall management intent is to protect those resources associated with the Wildlife Habitat classification, management of the Chilkat River in Subunit 7b is subject to the multiple use requirements of the State Forest. A variety of uses and intensities are appropriate in Subunit 7b, including the various forms of traditional uses and the accommodation of some level of commercial use.

2. *Land Classification Order*

The Land Classification Order (SE-01-02) of the Northern Southeast Area Plan affects this subunit.⁴ This LCO classifies all of the subunit as Wildlife Habitat Land except for nearshore areas adjoining the urban area of Haines, which are classified Public Recreation Land and Shoreline Development. A recent public access use study prepared by the City of Haines recommends that some of the Chilkat River Beaches be retained and managed for their public recreation values.

⁴ The LCO for the Area Plan is used in this one instance to classify a portion of the Haines State Forest. The Forest Plan does not use designations, which provide more specificity in management, while the Area Plan does. Designations are necessary to provide appropriate management for shoreline areas developed for residential or other uses, and to reflect the use of the Chilkat River Beaches for public recreation.

TABLE 3-7 USE TABLE: Conditional & Prohibited Uses^{a, b}

MANAGEMENT USE SUMMARY		MANAGEMENT UNIT: <u>Haines Highway and Lower Chilkat River</u>			
MANAGEMENT SUBUNIT	LAND USE CLASSIFICATION	SURFACE USES		MINERALS	
		PROHIBITED USES	CONDITIONAL USES	LOCATABLE MINERALS	SAND AND GRAVEL
7a Haines Highway	Resource Management	Personal Use Cabins, Motorized Uses (Part), Commercial Helicopter Landings (Heli-skiing, Tours)	Commercial Recreation Operator (H)	LLO	Prohibited
Mt. Ripinski Trail Corridor		Commercial Recreation Operator (H)	Commercial Recreation Operator (L,M)		
7b Lower Chilkat River	Wildlife Habitat			LLO	

Note: The Mt. Ripinski trail is treated as part of subunit 7a. The conditional and prohibited uses listed are specific to a corridor of 100' measured 50' from edge of tread.

^a Uses that are not specifically prohibited or conditionally allowed are permitted, consistent with the management intent and management guidelines of a subunit. Most activities that occur on the surface or waters of the State Forest are allowed under the DNR list of Generally Allowed Uses. Special notes: 1) Forestry – personal and salvage timber harvest are allowed in all subunits except subunits 1b and the state campground area of subunit 8b. 2) Minerals (Leaseable) – Leaseable Minerals (which do not occur in the State Forest according to available information) are subject to standard permitting requirements under AS 38.05.135-181 and are considered to be allowed in each subunit except for those classified Wildlife Habitat Land and Public Recreation Land, where development must follow the Leasehold Location Order (LLO). Mineral entry and development (Locatable Minerals) follows standard permitting requirements in all subunits that are not affected by an LLO.

^b See Special Use Designation (Appendix E) for specific requirements affecting commercial recreation uses. This table employs the definitions used in the SUD.

UNIT 8

CHILKOOT LAKE

BACKGROUND

This unit includes state land in the Chilkoot River Valley and on both sides of Lutak Inlet. Unit 8 contains a variety of identified resources and uses including significant fish and wildlife habitat, approximately 7,460 acres of operable forest land (1,930 acres are available for harvest), traditional cultural and subsistence uses, historical land selections, recreation uses, and scenic values.

Many private property holdings, Native allotments and subdivided parcels, are contained in this unit, as well as municipal and borough land. The federal government, BLM, owns land within the unit associated with the former Fairbanks-Haines pipeline fuel terminal. This industrial site is no longer in operation and the cleanup process has begun to transfer the land to a new owner. Completion dates for the cleaning and transfer of the property are unknown. The federal government also retains a "power withdrawal" encircling Chilkoot Lake at the 200' contour and extending ¼-mile downstream from the outlet, for the potential purpose of developing a hydroelectric source. The land owned by the federal government has been selected by the State for conveyance, but will not be conveyed until the Public Land Order is vacated. The DPOR campground at the southern end of the Chilkoot Lake is located within this federal land. When the land is conveyed to the state the campground area will be within the Haines State Forest. The campground and the land adjacent to the Chilkoot River Road receive heavy recreational use, especially during the fall. There is also an un-maintained access route starting on private property near the head of Lutak Inlet. This route then extends across State Forest land to the northern edge of the lake and the Bald Eagle Preserve (Preserve). This trail also receives considerable recreational pressure during the Summer and Fall.

The Haines terminal dock for the State of Alaska Ferry system is located in the unit, as well as industrial sites owned by the City of Haines (Lutak Dock), and private property containing the former Chilkoot Lumber mill site.

Lutak Road runs along the west side of Lutak Inlet providing access to this portion of the unit and Chilkoot Lake.

The Department of Fish and Game maintains and manages a fish weir as part of a wild salmon stock monitoring and management program along the outflow river of Chilkoot Lake.

Significant commercial recreation activities occur in the unit associated primarily with lake resources, such as guided fishing, hunting, scenic/wildlife viewing, and boating. Extensive non-commercial recreation activities occur in the unit as well, including hunting, fishing,

camping, boating, wildlife viewing, subsistence gathering, and hiking. A portion of Mt. Ripinski Trail passes through the unit along the ridge at the southwestern boundary.

The management unit is divided into four subunits with lands classified as Public Recreation Land, Resource Management Land, and Wildlife Habitat Lands. See plan Map 3-9 in this section for boundaries of these subunits.

MANAGEMENT INTENT/GUIDELINES

Subunit 8a (Upper Chilkoot River)

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Subunit 8a includes upper elevation lands surrounding Chilkoot Lake, the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve, and the upper Chilkoot River. This area is classified Wildlife Habitat Land. Fish and wildlife resources include a migration corridor and spawning ground for sockeye, coho, chum and pink salmon, and Dolly Varden; a bald eagle feeding ground during salmon runs; and moose and bear habitat. Management will also provide for the recreation and scenic values present. Any resource use should consider wildlife habitat protection as a primary goal.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

1. *Timber Harvest and Material Sales*

Commercial timber harvests and material sales are not allowed in this subunit.

2. *Mineral Development*

Mineral entry and development is to be authorized under a Leasehold Location Order. See Appendix D.

3. *Recreation Uses*

Recreation activities are intended to be primarily those of a dispersed type. Commercial recreation operations with more than 11 clients per day must be authorized by permit.

4. *Conditional and Prohibited Uses*

Conditional and prohibited uses are identified in Table 3-8.

Map 3-9

**Management Unit 8
Chilkoot Lake**

Please click on the map link to view Map 3-9.

Subunit 8b (Chilkoot Lake)

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Fish and wildlife habitat, personal use timber, and public recreation are the principal resources in this unit. The management intent of this subunit are similar to those of the adjoining lands within the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve (Preserve) and focus on the maintenance of these resources. To facilitate integrated management of the corridor along the Chilkoot Lake road, DOF will enter into a Management Agreement with DPOR that transfers management responsibility to DPOR for land along the road, as well as for the campground at the southern end of Chilkoot Lake, when selected federal lands are transferred to the state. The purpose of this management agreement is to provide consistent management within the Chilkoot River corridor, protecting habitat and recreational resources. The Management Agreement is attached as Appendix G. The subunit is classified Public Recreation Lands.

The existing road, which runs across the west side of Chilkoot Lake, may be improved in the future to provide access to Native allotments and private in-holdings within the Preserve. The road may also provide some recreational access to the subunit and the Preserve.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

1. *Protection of Salmon Habitat*

Ensure that all activities are compatible with protection or enhancement of salmon spawning and rearing habitat of Chilkoot Lake and Chilkoot River. Particularly sensitive are the sockeye spawning areas on the west side of the Lake near the entering tributaries and in the shallow water adjacent to these tributaries and along the shoreline.

2. *Road Access*

Access through this subunit to the private in-holdings within and near the Bald Eagle Preserve is allowed, but only within the area of the current RS 2477 easement.⁵ Because an improved road in this subunit would access private in-holdings and since timber harvests are not allowed in this or adjacent subunits, the state shall not pay for road construction. Any road or trail that is built, however, shall conform to the requirements for road construction specified in the Alaska Forest Practices Act.

3. *Timber Sales*

No commercial timber sales are allowed. Timber sales to facilitate improvement of the road right-of-way may be allowed.

⁵ Public access may be authorized across federal land, including land conveyed by the federal government to the state, under a federal statute termed 'RS 2477'. The intent of this statute was to provide for continued public access on roads and trails that had experienced historic access use when the land crossed by the road or trail was under federal ownership. These easements, however, are subject to certification by the federal government and lawful access is only authorized when such certifications are approved. This route has been nominated by the state as an 'RS 2477 easement' but has not yet received certification by the Bureau of Land Management.

4. *Chilkoot Lake Campground*

If lands are transferred to the state for the area that includes the campground, the Management Agreement described above will be in place for DPOR to continue managing the site. Management Agreement ADL 106860, included as Appendix G, transfers management authority for recreation activities and facilities to the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation. Should the site become privately owned, thereby making it unavailable for public use, another site must be found for the campground. The Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation and the Division of Forestry shall work together to ensure adequate recreation opportunities within this subunit.

5. *Personal Watercraft*

The use of 'Personal Watercraft' for commercial purposes is prohibited on Chilkoot Lake. See Special Use Designation ADL 106929, included as Appendix B. Personal use of 'Personal Watercraft' is permitted, however.

6. *Management Agreement – Chilkoot River Corridor*

The Management Agreement described above will also include lands adjacent to the road on the west side of the Chilkoot River.

7. *Material Sales and Mineral Development*

Material sales are not allowed in this unit. Mineral entry and development is closed in the campground and in the area adjacent to the Chilkoot River Road (Mineral Closing Order #771. The rest of the unit is subject to a Leasehold Location Order. Note: although the MCO includes a larger area, it only affects the areas of *state* land within the State Forest. The MCO will only attach to the federally owned land within the area when it is conveyed to the state.

8. *Sensitive Spawning Areas*

Development activities, including commercial motorized activity, should not occur in the areas of sensitive sockeye spawning habitat situated on the west shore of Chilkoot Lake.

9. *Dispersed and Developed Recreation Uses*

Both forms of recreation use are appropriate for this area. However, all commercial recreation operations must obtain authorization in order to ensure that the recreation values of Chilkoot Lake are protected. See Appendix E. Specific standards apply to commercial operations using 'Personal Watercraft'; see Special Use Designation ADL 106929, included as Appendix B. Such operations are prohibited on Chilkoot Lake.

10. *Mount Ripinski Non-Motorized Area*

Special Use Designation ADL 106929, included as Appendix B, prohibits the use of motorized vehicles in the area of Mt.21 Ripinski north to Seven Mile Saddle.⁶ A small portion of this subunit is affected by this SUD. The affected area is identified in a map that accompanies the SUD. This non-motorized designation also affects subunits 7a, 8c, and 8d.

⁶ The use of motorized vehicles for the purpose of search and rescue or for establishing communication systems is authorized, however.

Motorized uses that require facilities or access rights-of-way on state land outside of the SUD shall be reviewed by DNR, and any such use or facility that is authorized shall avoid actual or incidental access to the non-motorized area. Siting, design, or management requirements shall be used to ensure that such access is precluded.

11. Conditional and Prohibited Uses

Conditional and prohibited uses are identified in Table 3-8.

Subunit 8c (Lutak Inlet)

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Subunit 8c includes state lands on both the east and west side of Lutak Inlet, and south to the City of Haines. This subunit contains approximately 1,931 acres of operable forest land and is classified Resource Management Land, to reflect the diversity of intended uses in the subunit. Commercial timber harvest is an allowed use under this classification. Other resources include transportation, scenery, and recreation values. The design of harvest units should minimize their visibility from the Lutak Road Corridor and minimize impacts to traditional recreational use. The land adjacent to Lutak Road will be managed for transportation, industrial, and port site purposes.

The land on the east side of Lutak Inlet is to be managed to permit the construction of an access road to private land or other communities, while maintaining scenic values. Timber harvest in this area will be limited to that necessary to provide for development of this access.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

1. Commercial Timber Harvest

Commercial timber harvest is allowed in this subunit. Cutting units must be designed and spaced over time to minimize impacts on scenic and recreational values. Forest Land Use Plans shall consider the impact of harvest on the scenic viewshed along Lutak Inlet.

2. Screen Industrial Development on Lutak Road

A vegetative screen between Lutak Road and adjacent industrial development should be retained or developed to protect scenic values.

3. Timber Harvest on the Eastern Shore of Lutak Inlet

Timber harvest on the eastern shore of Lutak Inlet will be limited to that which is necessary to clear for port, industrial, or transportation corridor development. Timber harvests should be designed to minimize impacts on scenic resources of this area.

4. Mt. Ripinski Trail

Lands along the Ripinski trail system should be managed in a manner that is compatible with recreational trail use. The current trail system should also be expanded. The new portion of trail would extend from the seven-mile saddle trail north to Lutak Road or to Chilkoot Lake campground. An overall assessment of the maintenance of this trail system should occur. The Mount Ripinski Trail is subject to the requirements of the Special Use Designation 106858 (See Appendix E), described under Subunit 7a, 'Haines Highway'.

5. Johnson Creek Drainage and Haines Municipal Water Supply

The Johnson Creek drainage was at one time used as a water supply for the City of Haines and, according to the City of Haines is a potential future water source. Activities in the subunit will consider potential use of the drainage as a water source for the Borough of Haines.

6. East Lutak Transportation Development

Road development through the area is allowed to provide access to developments on private land or from city to city. The feasibility of a road can not be determined until scoping and environmental studies have been completed. Such analyses are required whenever federal monies are used in highway construction, and, given the size and cost of any such project, it is almost certain that federal transportation funds will be involved. The feasibility of this road, if intended to provide intercity access, must also be consistent with the requirements of the Northern Southeast Area Plan, since areas that a road might traverse cross state land located outside of the State Forest.

7. Mount Ripinski Non-Motorized Area

Special Use Designation ADL 106929, included as Appendix B, prohibits the use of motorized vehicles in the area of Mt. Ripinski north to Seven Mile Saddle². The affected area is identified in a map that accompanies the SUD. This non-motorized designation also affects subunits 7a, 8b, and 8d.

Motorized uses that require facilities or access rights-of-way on state land outside of the SUD shall be reviewed by DNR, and any such use or facility that is authorized shall avoid actual or incidental access to the non-motorized area. Siting, design, or management requirements shall be used to ensure that such access is precluded.

8. Conditional and Prohibited Uses

Conditional and prohibited uses are identified in Table 3-8.

Subunit 8d (Chilkoot Alpine)

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Subunit 8d will be managed for its scenic, recreational, wildlife habitat, and potential mineral values under a land classification of Resource Management to represent the diversity of resources. There are approximately 224 acres of operable commercial timber in this unit.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Because of the remote, mountainous location of this subunit, development is not anticipated or considered appropriate. If authorizations are granted by the Department, the general standards of Chapter 2 apply except for the specific requirements of a special use designation prohibiting motorized uses in certain parts of the subunit.

1. *Mount Ripinski Non-Motorized Area*⁷

Special Use Designation ADL 106929, included as Appendix B, prohibits the use of motorized vehicles in the area of Mt. Ripinski north to Seven Mile Saddle. The affected area is identified in a map that accompanies the SUD. This non-motorized designation also affects subunits 7a, 8b, and 8c.

Motorized uses that require facilities or access rights-of-way on state land outside of the SUD shall be review by DNR, and any such use or facility that is authorized shall avoid actual or incidental access to the non-motorized area. Siting, design, or management requirements shall be used to ensure that such access is precluded.

2. *Conditional and Prohibited Uses*

Conditional and prohibited uses are identified in Table 3-8.

⁷ The use of motorized vehicles for the purpose of search and rescue or for establishing communication systems is authorized, however.

TABLE 3-8 USE TABLE: Conditional & Prohibited Uses^{a, b}

MANAGEMENT USE SUMMARY

MANAGEMENT UNIT: Chilkoot Lake

MANAGEMENT SUBUNIT	LAND USE CLASSIFICATION	SURFACE USES		MINERALS	
		PROHIBITED USES	CONDITIONAL USES	LOCATABLE MINERALS	SAND AND GRAVEL
8a Upper Chilkoot River	Wildlife Habitat	Personal Use Cabins, Commercial Timber Harvest, Commercial Helicopter Landing (Tours, Heli-skiing)	Commercial Recreation Operator (H, M),	LLO	Prohibited
8b Chilkoot Lake	Public Recreation	Personal Use Cabins, Commercial Timber Harvest, Commercial Jet Skis, Motorized Uses (Parts), Commercial Helicopter Landing (Heli-skiing, Tours)	Commercial Recreation Operator (L,M,H)	LLO	Prohibited
8c Lutak Inlet	Resource Management	Personal Use Cabins, Motorized Uses (Parts), Commercial Helicopter Landing (Heli-skiing, Tours)	Commercial Recreation Operator (H)		

^a See next page.

^b See next page.

MANAGEMENT SUBUNIT	LAND USE CLASSIFICATION	SURFACE USES		MINERALS	
		PROHIBITED USES	CONDITIONAL USES	LOCATABLE MINERALS	SAND AND GRAVEL
8d Chilkoot Alpine	Resource Management	Personal Use Cabins, Motorized Uses (Parts), Commercial Helicopter Landing (Heli-skiing - Parts, Tours)	Commercial Recreation Operator (H)		
Mt. Ripinski Trail		Commercial Recreation Operator (H), Personal Use Cabins	Commercial Recreation Operator (L,M)		
Note: The Mt. Ripinski trail is treated as part of subunit 8d. The conditional and prohibited uses listed are specific to a corridor of 100' measured 50' from edge of tread.					

^a Uses that are not specifically prohibited or conditionally allowed are permitted, consistent with the management intent and management guidelines of a subunit. Most activities that occur on the surface or waters of the State Forest are allowed under the DNR list of Generally Allowed Uses. Special notes: 1) Forestry – personal and salvage timber harvest are allowed in all subunits except subunits 1b and the state campground area of subunit 8b. 2) Minerals (Leaseable) – Leaseable Minerals (which do not occur in the State Forest according to available information) are subject to standard permitting requirements under AS 38.05.135-181 and are considered to be allowed in each subunit except for those classified Wildlife Habitat Land and Public Recreation Land, where development must follow the Leasehold Location Order (LLO). Mineral entry and development (Locatable Minerals) follows standard permitting requirements in all subunits that are not affected by an LLO.

^b See Special Use Designation (Appendix E) for specific requirements affecting commercial recreation uses. This table employs the definitions used in the SUD.

UNIT 9

FEREBEE RIVER

BACKGROUND

This unit is located northeast of the City of Haines across the Lutak Inlet. The area is largely composed of state lands and a small amount of University of Alaska Trust lands, with the exception of several large Native allotments in the Ferebee Valley. These private lands could restrict access to the upper portions of the valley. Also, a well-protected harbor exists at the mouth of the Ferebee River.

The unit contains 2,810 acres of operable forestland, minerals, fish and wildlife habitat, recreation, and scenic resources. The Ferebee River is an anadromous fish stream that provides spawning and rearing habitat for coho salmon and Dolly Varden char. Taiyasanka Harbor, at the mouth of the Ferebee River, was used as a log raft storage area at one time.

No log transfer facility currently exists to support the harvest of the operable land base located in this unit. The lack of any current infrastructure will make development expensive and may limit the possibility of actively managing the timber resource in the unit.

The management unit is divided into three subunits with lands classified as Resource Management and Forestry. See plan Map 3-10 for the boundaries of these areas.

MANAGEMENT INTENT/GUIDELINES

Subunit 9a (Ferebee River Valley)

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Subunit 9a encompasses land adjacent to the Ferebee River. This land is classified Forest Land. Within this subunit there are a variety of scenic, recreational, and wildlife resources, anadromous streams, and some estuarine wetlands. These resources are to be protected. Although local residents rarely use this area because of the subunit's remoteness, recreational use may increase in the future because of the scenic values in the unit and its proximity to the community of Haines. All forms of dispersed recreation use are appropriate, both personal and commercial.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

1. *Timber Harvest*

It is not anticipated that this subunit will be used for timber harvest during the near term given the difficulty of development of a log transfer facility in Taiyasanka Harbor. Nonetheless, because of the uncertainty of economic conditions and other market factors, this subunit is retained in the sustained yield base of the State Forest and it may be used for this purpose if other sources of supply within the State Forest cannot be economically developed. Timber harvests shall protect the anadromous stream (Ferebee River), wildlife resources, and sensitive habitats. These resources and habitats will be considered in the preparation of a Forest Land Use Plan.

2. *Conditional and Prohibited Uses*

Conditional and prohibited uses are identified in Table 3-9.

Subunit 9b (Ferebee Alpine)

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Subunit 9b is composed primarily of uplands above the Ferebee and Chilkoot Rivers. The subunit contains wildlife habitat (bear, moose, fish, and goats), minerals (iron, garnet, and gold), recreation opportunities, and scenic resources. The subunit is classified Resource Management. There are approximately 90 acres of operable forest in this subunit.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

1. *Resource Development*

Because of the remote, mountainous location of this subunit, development is not anticipated during the planning period. If authorizations are granted by the Department, the general standards of Chapter 2 apply.

2. *Developed and Dispersed Recreation*

Recreation activities are intended to be of a dispersed type in this subunit. Commercial dispersed recreation operations of more than eleven clients per day must be authorized by permit. Developed recreation operations are not permitted in this unit. See the Special Use Designation, Appendix E.

3. *Conditional and Prohibited Uses*

Conditional and prohibited uses are identified in Table 3-9.

Subunit 9c (Taiyasanka Harbor)

MANAGEMENT INTENT

Subunit 9c consists of the lands surrounding Taiyasanka Harbor. This subunit will be managed for its recreational and scenic qualities while providing for the potential use of the protected harbor. Management will also support upland development, including potential timber harvest, under the classification of Resource Management Land.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

1. *Recreation*

The land around Taiyasanka Harbor will be managed for the protection of its scenic qualities. The parcel at the south end of the harbor, including the spit of land that projects into the harbor, will be managed primarily for recreational use. This subunit should be considered as a potential location for a public use cabin site.

2. *Materials*

Sand and gravel sales will not be allowed on the portion of this subunit managed primarily for recreational use (specifically the spit of land that projects into the harbor at its southern end).

3. *Log Storage*

Future use of this site for log storage is allowed. Applicable state and federal regulations will be followed when granting permits or leases for such use.

4. *Timber Harvest*

Commercial timber harvest is not allowed except in the development of a log transfer facility and roads into subunit 9a (Ferebee River Valley).

5. *Conditional and Prohibited Uses*

Conditional and prohibited uses are identified in Table 3-9.

Map 3-10

**Management Unit 9
Ferebee River**

Please click on the map link to view Map 3-10.

TABLE 3-9 USE TABLE: Conditional & Prohibited Uses^{a, b}

MANAGEMENT USE SUMMARY

MANAGEMENT UNIT: Ferebee River

MANAGEMENT SUBUNIT	LAND USE CLASSIFICATION	SURFACE USES		MINERALS	
		PROHIBITED USES	CONDITIONAL USES	LOCATABLE MINERALS	SAND AND GRAVEL
9a Ferebee River Valley	Forest Land	Personal Use Cabins, Commercial Helicopter Landing (Heli-skiing, Tours)	Commercial Recreation Operator (H)		
9b Ferebee Alpine	Resource Management	Personal Use Cabins, Commercial Recreation Operator (H), Commercial Helicopter Landing (Heli-skiing, Tours)	Commercial Recreation Operator (M)		
9c Taiyasanka	Resource Management	Personal Use Cabins, Commercial Timber Harvest (partial area; see management guidelines), Commercial Helicopter Landing (Heli-skiing, Tours)	Commercial Recreation Operator (H)		Prohibited (partial area; see management guidelines)

^a Uses that are not specifically prohibited or conditionally allowed are permitted, consistent with the management intent and management guidelines of a subunit. Most activities that occur on the surface or waters of the State Forest are allowed under the DNR list of Generally Allowed Uses. Special notes: 1) Forestry – personal and salvage timber harvest are allowed in all subunits except subunits 1b and the state campground area of subunit 8b. 2) Minerals (Leaseable) – Leaseable Minerals (which do not occur in the State Forest according to available information) are subject to standard permitting requirements under AS 38.05.135-181 and are considered to be allowed in each subunit except for those classified Wildlife Habitat Land and Public Recreation Land, where development must follow the Leasehold Location Order (LLO). Mineral entry and development (Locatable Minerals) follows standard permitting requirements in all subunits that are not affected by an LLO.

^b See Special Use Designation (Appendix E) for specific requirements affecting commercial recreation uses. This table employs the definitions used in the SUD.

Chapter 4

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Chapter 4

PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

This chapter summarizes the actions necessary to implement the policies and recommendations of this plan not otherwise covered or explained in detail in Chapters 2 and 3. These actions include land classification, mineral closing and leasehold location orders, special use designations, management agreements, operating plans, cooperative agreements, agency involvement and coordination, agency responsibilities for plan implementation, desired research and studies, and procedures for plan amendment.

LAND CLASSIFICATION ORDER

The land classifications for the Haines State Forest are established in Land Classification Order SE-02-02 (See Appendix F). These classifications supercede and replace all previous land classifications created by the Haines-Skagway Land Use Plan that affected the Forest. Land classifications for each subunit are shown on Map 3-2 through 3-10.

MINERAL ENTRY AND LEASEHOLD LOCATION ORDERS

All of the State Forest not covered by a Mineral Closing Order (see next section) is open to mineral exploration and development except areas where, because of potential inconsistencies with surface uses, mining shall follow Leasehold Location requirements. Areas classified Wildlife Habitat Land or Public Recreation Land are closed to mineral entry under standard mining statutes, but are open to mineral development under the requirements of the Leasehold Location Order.

Mineral Closing Order

Mineral Closing Order 771 closes to mineral entry all locatable mineral operations in specific recreation areas, including campgrounds and areas along Chilkoot River Road. The closure affects 110.6 acres. See Appendix C.

Leasehold Location Order

A leasehold location order is used to authorize mineral entry and subsequent development in areas where a higher level of review is required of a proposed mineral development. This review generally includes the presence of sensitive historic, cultural, habitat, wildlife, hydrologic, or recreation features or activities in an area that is likely to have mineral

development at some time. Mineral Leasehold Location Order 25, included as Appendix D, affects those subunits classified Public Recreation Land or Wildlife Habitat Land. Approximately 101,340 acres are affected by this Order. Mineral development can be authorized under the Leasehold Location Order, but must also be consistent with the management guidelines for each subunit. Stipulations may be imposed on proposed mineral developments that protect sensitive resources or activities identified in the subunit.

SPECIAL USE DESIGNATIONS

Special Use Designations (SUD) establish specific requirements for uses of state lands that would otherwise be permitted under 11 AAC 96.20. Those uses of state land that require and do not require a permit or other form of authorization are specified in 11 AAC 96. It also provides, under 11 AAC 96.014, that DNR may, through the use of a Special Use Designation, establish special permit requirements and requirements for receipt of authorization. Special Use Designations are confined to specific geographic areas, and specify conditions or standards that must be satisfied by the affected use(s). Uses not typically requiring a permit are identified in 11 AAC 96.020.

Special Use Designation ADL 106858

Included as Appendix E, this SUD affects certain types of commercial recreation activities and recreational facility types. Uses affected by this Special Use Designation must, to receive authorization, meet the specific conditions of the SUD and the general standards for permitting such uses under 'Recreation' in Chapter 2. The uses that are affected by the SUD are described more fully in the subunit descriptions of Chapter 3.

This SUD is intended to implement the management intent and management guidelines of specific subunits, and DNR authorizations are to be consistent with these management intent statements and guidelines. Information gathered through the annual submittal of 'summary of operation reports' by commercial recreation operators is to be periodically reviewed to ensure that DNR authorizations are consistent with these statements and guidelines. During the first five years of its use, either the authorizations or the SUD should be revised if the management intent for recreation activities in the subunits is not being met. The SUD must also be thoroughly reviewed at the end of each five-year use period. The purpose of this review is to determine whether the SUD has been effective in meeting the management intent and guidelines for specific subunits or if changes in the authorizations granted by DNR or to the SUD itself are necessary to bring commercial recreation activities into compliance with the Forest Plan.

This SUD works in combination with a similar Special Use Designation used in the Northern Southeast Area Plan. The designation in the Area Plan affects general state land outside the State Forest.

Special Use Designation ADL 106929

Included as Appendix B, this SUD establishes a non-motorized area in the Mt. Ripinski area near the City of Haines. The affected area is identified in the map accompanying the Special Use Designation. In addition, the SUD prohibits the use of commercial 'Personal Watercraft' on those portions of Chilkat and Chilkoot Lakes within the Haines State Forest.

Special Use Designation ADL 106939

Included as Appendix K, this SUD manages certain forms of commercial helicopter operation within the Haines area. It precludes most forms of commercial tours and specifies allowed landing areas as well as other management requirements for heli-skiing operations. The SUD affects state land in the Haines State Forest as well as large areas of general state land adjacent to parts of the Forest. It also establishes the basis for the management of such operations in areas of state selected land when federal land is conveyed to the state. Lands affected by the SUD are depicted in a map that is included in the SUD.

The Special Use Designations must be re-evaluated in five years from their date of adoption.

MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

Appendix G contains a management agreement between the Division of Mining, Land, and Water (DMLW), Division of Forestry (DOF), and Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation (DPOR). The agreement affects the state and federal land containing the campground at the southern end of Chilkoot Lake, the navigable waters of Chilkoot River between the lake outlet and Lutak Inlet (including certain tidelands), and a 200' buffer along the west side of Chilkoot River Road right-of-way. However, the Management Agreement will only become effective in the area of federal land at the campground when this land is conveyed to the state. The purpose of the Management Agreement is to permit the Department of Parks and Outdoor Recreation to manage recreational activity within the area affected by the Management Agreement and to establish DPOR's enforcement authority to impose criminal sanctions, if necessary.¹

FIVE-YEAR FOREST MANAGEMENT SCHEDULE

The Five-Year Forest Management Schedule is the implementation action plan for this management plan. The schedule contains the planned actions for each resource in the forest, including sections on forest production, fish and wildlife, recreation, transportation, forest protection, and subsurface resources.

¹ Note: the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities is not yet part of this agreement, but it is intended that the area of the road right-of-way will also be administered by DPOR for the purposes of integrated recreational management, assuming DOT/PF will agree to a transfer of powers.

Each section will lay out in detail the actions scheduled for the next five years. The plan's forestry guidelines will include a harvest schedule, proposed site improvement activities, inventory, and research. Recreation plans would include information such as proposed cabin sites, and trail routes. Costs may be presented for each project. The Division of Forestry will coordinate development of the schedules, but other divisions and departments will be requested to contribute to them. The schedules will be updated annually.

COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

DOF and DMLW have operated under a cooperative management agreement for land management activities as well as the administration of gravel and material sales, mining permits and leasehold location orders. (See Appendix I.) Most activities involving land management are authorized under 11 AAC 96.020 and therefore do not require permitting by DMLW. The exceptions are leasehold location orders, mining plans of operations, gravel and other material sales, as well as recreational uses, facilities, or operations that are affected by Special Use Designations in the Forest Plan. In the issuance of permits or other authorizations covered under this Agreement, the DMLW will use the Forest Plan as the basis for its decision-making. Authorities identified in the Forest Plan, under AS 41.300-315 or other applicable state statute or regulation may be used by DMLW to implement the recommendations of the Forest Plan or fulfill the responsibilities of the Cooperative Agreement.

RESPONSIBILITIES FOR PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

The responsibilities for implementation of the Forest Plan rest with two Department of Natural Resources divisions: Division of Forestry (DOF) and the Division of Mining, Land, and Water (DMLW). DOF is generally responsible for the overall management of the Haines State Forest and, specifically, for the management of its forest resources. That management includes the administration of timber sales and enforcement of the Forest Practices Act and related regulations. DMLW is responsible for the management of those resources that are not directly related to the management of the timber resources. These responsibilities include management of land, water, mining, and recreation activities within the State Forest. These responsibilities are defined in a Cooperative Agreement between the two divisions (See Appendix I). Under this Agreement, DMLW must consult with the Division of Forestry about decisions it intends to make, and must receive DOF concurrence with those decisions. Specific divisional responsibilities for different resources are identified below.

University of Alaska and Mental Health Trust Authority

DOF shall provide services requested by the University of Alaska or the Mental Health Trust Authority for the administration of University or Mental Health Trust lands that adjoin the State Forest. Other than those DOF services requested and reimbursed by the University or Mental Health Trust, each entity shall have sole responsibility for the management of lands under their authority.

Recreational Facility Development Management

The plan recommends the construction of roads, public cabins, boat launches, picnic areas, trails and other recreation facilities. DOF will take the lead in the development of these projects and will set funding priorities. DOF will coordinate these projects with DPOR, to ensure the coordinated development of recreation projects on state land within the State Forest and Preserve. DOF and DPOR may create a management agreement to assist DPOR in the construction or maintenance of those recreation facilities.

Road Construction and Maintenance

Under AS 41.15.315[c], DNR controls access within the State Forest, except that the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT/PF) is responsible for the repair and maintenance of public roads and highways. The Haines Highway is excluded from the State Forest and is maintained and upgraded by DOT/PF. DOF is responsible for maintaining or closing all primary haul roads, secondary haul roads and spur roads constructed for timber sale operations. DNR will review all DOT/PF plans for road reconstruction or realignment adjoining the State Forest to ensure consistency with the Forest Plan.

Gravel and Material Sources, Mining

DOF shall be responsible for the management of gravel or material pits created as part of timber harvest operations. DMLW shall be responsible for material sales and subsequent field inspections in all other instances.²

DMLW shall administer all placer mining and mine permits, upland mining leases, and leasehold location orders. DMLW is also responsible for all reclamation reviews required under AAC 11.097.0200. Mineral exploration or development activities requires a plan of operations, not a land use permit. DMLW shall coordinate with DOF in the permitting of mines, upland mining leases, and mine and material extraction reclamation.

Recreational Operations

DMLW will authorize recreational activities, and specifically those identified in the Special Use Designations. When issuing permits or other authorizations, DMLW shall use the Forest Plan as the basis for its decision-making. In addition, DMLW must obtain DOF concurrence for recommended actions. DMLW may use authorities identified in the Forest Plan and AS 41.300-315, or other applicable state statute or regulation to fulfill the responsibilities of the Cooperative Agreement or to implement the requirements of the Forest Plan.

Water Resources

DMLW is responsible for issuing water right permits and any other authorizations involving the use of state water within the State Forest.

² Under AS 27.19, pits are required to be reclaimed if they are greater than 5 acres in size or produce 50,000 cubic yards of material per year. Pits not meeting these criteria do not require reclamation. Most pits in the Forest area are less than 5 acres in size.

General Land Management

The Cooperative Agreement assigns the responsibility for general land management, not including the management of forest resources, to DMLW. This responsibility covers all other aspects of land management not specifically identified previously. For permits or other authorizations covered under this Agreement, DMLW shall use the Forest Plan as the basis for decision-making. Authorities identified in the Forest Plan, under AS 41.300-.315, or other applicable state statute or regulation may be used to fulfill the responsibilities of the Cooperative Agreement.

Most activities on state land are authorized under AAC 11.96 and do not require permits. Examples of Generally Allowed Uses include hunting, fishing, hiking, and grazing. Uses that require a permit are indicated in 11 AAC 96.010. Uses requiring permits include mining operations affected by a Leasehold Location Order, the allocation of water resources, gravel and other types of material extraction, the use of helicopters for commercial heli-skiing operations, and commercial recreational uses affected by the Special Use Designation.

FUTURE RESEARCH

Forest Management Research

DOF studies related to forest management may include the following:

- Regeneration surveys of future harvest areas.
- Stand stocking surveys to evaluate the quantity and quality of regeneration in harvested areas.
- Pre-commercial thinning evaluation studies to analyze silvicultural benefits and economics.
- Growth and site productivity evaluation of study plots.
- A new operational forest inventory³.
- Brush competition surveys and studies.
- Site preparation studies to evaluate the effects and benefits of various site treatments.

³ AS 41.15.320 (b)(a) states that “the management plan should be based on a current operational level inventory completed within the last 10 years and revised as future inventory information becomes available to the department.” The fieldwork for the current inventory was completed in 1985 and the inventory was published in 1994. This inventory was used along with the updated GIS land base in calculating the annual allowable harvest level and as a basis for the revision of this management plan. DNR feels that this inventory is adequate for the plan revision. DNR also realizes that due to changes in the forest, primarily because of the recent spruce beetle infestation, a new forest inventory should be completed within the next few years.

- Feasibility of selective cut, shelterwood and other alternative logging methods.
- Evaluation of management applications of a computerized database.

Fish and Wildlife Research.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game may conduct the following studies to aid in the management of the State Forest, in cooperation with DOF:

- Analyses of the need to curtail public access on forest roads during hunting seasons to protect game populations.
- Monitor the effects of logging on wildlife populations.
- Management strategies for second growth stands that would increase their value to wildlife for forage and shelter.
- The effects of human use of the forest on wildlife.
- Life cycle of the chum salmon. Pre-emergent salmon fry sampling at the confluence of the Tsirku and Chilkat Rivers and at the existing study site on the Klehini River should continue until the full cycle has been studied.
- Stream inventories to determine salmon use and temperature sensitivity in relation to exposure to wind.
- The value of applying prescribed fire as a possible habitat enhancement technique.

PLAN MODIFICATION AND PROCEDURES FOR APPEAL

Agencies Involvement in Plan Modification

DNR will revise and modify the State Forest Plan. The components of plan revision and modification are described subsequently. A core group of state agencies shall participate in the revision of or modification to the Forest Plan: the Department of Natural Resource's DPOR, DMLW, and DOF; and the Habitat and Restoration Division of the Department of Fish and Game. DNR may request the participation of other state and federal agencies, as well as the Haines Borough, to participate in plan revision or modification.

Procedures for Plan Modification or Revision

The land use designations, policies, and management guidelines of this plan may be changed if conditions warrant. The procedures for area plan changes, specified in 11 AAC 55.030, have been adapted to and are to be applied to the revision process for the Forest Plan. There are three types of changes that may be made to the Forest Plan: Amendment, Special Exception, and Minor Change.

Amendment. An Amendment permanently changes the Forest Plan by adding to or modifying the basic management intent for one or more of the plan's units or subunits or by changing its allowed or prohibited uses, policies, or guidelines.

Special Exception. A Special Exception does not permanently change the provisions of the Forest Plan and cannot be used as a basis for modifications to its management intent, policies, or guidelines. Instead, it is intended to allow a one-time, limited-purpose variance of the plan's provisions, without changing the plan's general management or guidelines. A special exception might be made if complying with the plan would be excessively burdensome or impractical or if compliance would be inequitable to a third party, and if the purposes and spirit of the plan can be achieved despite the exception.

Minor Change. A minor change to a (land) plan is not considered a revision under AS 38.04.065. A 'minor change' is a change that does not modify or add to the plan's basic intent, and that serves only to clarify the plan, make it consistent, facilitate its implementation, or make technical corrections. DNR, other agencies, municipalities, or members of the public may propose minor changes.

Requests for Plan Modification or Revision and Appeal Procedures

Amendments and Special Exceptions. DNR, other agencies, municipalities, or members of the public may propose amendments or special exceptions. Requests for amendments or special exceptions are to be submitted to the Northern Southeast Area Office of DOF. The DNR Commissioner must approve amendments. The Northern Southeast Area Forester can approve special exceptions with a written finding. The finding identifies the extenuating circumstances that require a special exception, describes the course of action to be followed, and explains the basis for the determination is that the basic intent of the Forest Plan is not affected. Decisions of the Northern Southeast Area Forester involving special exceptions may be appealed to the DNR Commissioner.

Minor Changes. Requests for minor changes are submitted to the Northern Southeast Area Office of the Division of Forestry, Alaska Department of Natural Resources. A minor change does not require a public hearing, although it can be provided if determined to be appropriate by the State Forester.

Appendices

Appendix A – Glossary

Appendix B – Special Land Use Designation 106929 – Non-motorized Area

Haines State Forest Mt. Ripinski Non-Motorized Map

Appendix C – Mineral Closing Order #771

Appendix D – Mineral Leasehold Location Order No. 25

Appendix E – Special Use Land Designation 106858 – Commercial Recreation Activities

Appendix F – Land Classification Order No. SE-02-02

Appendix G – Management Agreement between DNR Divisions

Map – Chilkoot River Road

Appendix H – Land Classifications

Appendix I – Cooperative Agreement Between DNR Divisions

Appendix J – Results of Community Recreation Survey

Appendix K – Special Use Designation 106939 – Commercial Helicopter Operations

Haines State Forest – Areas of Heli-Skiing Use and Non-Use

APPENDIX A

GLOSSARY

AAC: Alaska Administrative Code

Adverse grade: The uphill gradient in the direction of travel of a loaded log truck.

Allowed Use: A land use or activity involving the use of state lands or waters that is allowed to occur. These uses are typically identified in the management intent statements or management guidelines of the state forest plan.

Allowable cut: The quantity of wood that can be sold and subsequently harvested from a given land area on a sustained yield basis.

Area control: A method of controlling the amount of timber to be harvested, annually or periodically, on the basis of stocked area.

Area plan: Prepared by the Department of Natural Resources, area plans allocate resources and identify allowed and prohibited uses on state lands including uplands, tidelands, and submerged lands.

Anadromous Fish Streams: The portion of a fresh water body or estuarine area that has been determined by the Department of Fish and Game to contain or exhibit evidence of anadromous fish, in which event the anadromous portion of the stream or waterway extends up to the first point of physical blockage.

AS: Alaska Statutes

Breast height: A standard height from ground level, generally 4.5 feet, for recording diameter, circumference (girth), or basal area of a tree. The measurement is usually taken on the uphill side of the tree.

Broadcast burning: The management technique of burning slash or other vegetation within fire lines, for the purpose of enhancement of regeneration, fire hazard reduction, or habitat improvement.

Bucking: Cutting a fallen tree into logs.

Buffer: An area of land between two activities or resources used to reduce the effect of one activity upon the other.

Cable logging: Taking logs from the stump area to a landing using an overhead system of winch-driven cables to which logs are attached with chokers.

Classification: Land classification identifies the purposes for which state land will be managed. All classification categories are for multiple use, although a particular use may be considered primary. Land may be given a total of three classifications in combination.

Clearcutting: A regeneration or harvest method which removes all of the trees in a given area at one time. It is used principally in even-aged stands and is considered essential to the reforestation of species that are not shade tolerant, such as Sitka spruce.

Closed to mineral entry: Areas where staking mineral claims is prohibited because mining has been determined to be in conflict with significant surface uses in the area. Existing mineral claims that are valid at the time of plan adoption are not affected by mineral closures.

Commercial forest land: Forest land which is (a) producing or capable of producing usable crops of industrial wood (will net a minimum of 8,000 board feet per acre, International 1/4-inch rule), (b) economically accessible now or in the foreseeable future, and (c) considered available for timber harvest by the Haines State Forest Management Plan.

Commissioner: The Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Natural Resources.

Conditional Use: A land use or activity involving the use of state lands or waters that may be allowed to occur subject to certain standards and the applicable permitting standards of Chapter 2. These uses are typically identified in the management intent statements or management guidelines of the state forest plan.

Conventional logging system: Includes ground skidding, as well as cable and helicopter systems currently utilized in the timber industry.

Department: Department of Natural Resources

Designated use: See 'primary use'.

Easement: An interest in land owned by another that entitles its holder to a specific limited use.

Favorable grade: The downhill gradient in the direction of travel of a loaded log truck.

Felling: The process of cutting down trees.

Feasible: The term "feasible" is taken from the forest practices regulations and means "Capable of being accomplished in a successful manner within a reasonable period of

time, taking into account economic, environmental, technical, and safety factors." 11 AAC 95.900(29).

Feasible and Prudent: The phrase "will, to the extent feasible and prudent," is taken from the Standards of Alaska Coastal Management Program (6 AAC 80.010-.900) and is used when the resource manager or permitting agency's decision must be consistent with sound engineering practice and not cause environmental, social, or economic problems that outweigh the public benefit to be derived from compliance with the guideline which is modified by the term "feasible and prudent". 6 AAC 80.900(20).

Fish and wildlife: Any species of aquatic fish, invertebrates and amphibians, in any stage of their life cycle, and all species of birds and mammals, including feral domestic animals, found in, or that may be introduced in, Alaska except domestic birds and mammals. NOTE: The term "area(s)" in association with the term "fish and wildlife" refers to both harvest and habitat area. The term "value(s)" in association with the term "fish and wildlife" refers to the relative importance of a harvest area or habitat and its vulnerability to development impacts.

FLUP: Forest Land Use Plan prepared by division of Forestry, Department of Natural Resources. Required prior to certain types of timber sales, this document assesses alternative approaches to a proposed timber harvest, identifies a preferred alternative recommended for implementation, and identifies any required stipulations for such timber sales.

Forest Land: A land use classification that applies to lands that are or have been forested and are suited for forest management activities because of their physical, climatic, and vegetative conditions. See 11 AAC 55.070.

Forestland: Land stocked or having been stocked with forest trees of any size and not currently developed for non-forest use, regardless of whether presently available or accessible for commercial purposes. (AS 41.17.950(5)). (For the purposes of determining the annual allowable cut and operability, "forest land" does not include land primarily stocked with cottonwood.)

Forestry: On uplands, any activity or structure for the harvest or management of timber resources. On tidelands, any activity or structure for timber harvest or for the transfer of logs from uplands to tidelands, including but not limited to felling, yarding, and hauling of logs, roads, log transfer facilities, upland and marine log storage areas, and camps and other support facilities associated with timber resource development.

Generally Allowed Use: An activity conducted on state land managed by the Division of Mining, Land, and Water that is not in a special category or status. These types of uses are for the most part allowed for a period of 14 days or less, and a permit is not required. Uses on state land that require a permit are identified under 11 AAC 96.010.

Goal: A statement of basic intent for a general condition(s) desired in the long term. Goals usually are not quantifiable and do not have specific dates for achievement. Goals identify desired long-range conditions.

Grubbing: Process of digging plants from the soil usually including parts of the root systems. Trees, stumps, etc. are commonly "grubbed" in the process of road and trail construction.

Guideline: A specific course of action that must be followed when a resource manager permits, leases, or otherwise authorizes use of state lands. Some guidelines state the intent that must be followed and allow flexibility in achieving it. Guidelines also range from giving general guidance for decision-making or identifying factors that need to be considered to setting detailed standards for on-the-ground decisions.

HSFP: Haines State Forest Management Plan

Intervisibility: The ability to see in a direct line of sight from one position on the earth's surface to another, considering the intervening terrain.

Jacking: Process of using a hydraulic jack or lift to influence the direction of tree fall. Used especially around anadromous streams, roads, etc.

Landing: A cleared area in the woods to which logs are yarded for loading onto trucks for shipment to a processing plant.

Land Classification Order: An order of the Department of Natural Resources that classifies state land into their principle uses. These uses are the principle manner in which land is to be managed by the Department, although an area plan or state forest plan may, through its specification of management intent or allowed and prohibited uses, further limit or direct the management orientation provided by the land classification. These classifications, depending on the area within the state, may include uplands, tidelands, or submerged lands; The LCO only affects uplands within the state forest. Navigable waters within the State Forest and abutting tidelands and submerged lands are classified in the Northern Southeast Area Plan.

Land Use Classification: The classification of state land into principle, and sometimes secondary, uses in order to establish the primary use(s) for which the land will be managed by the Department of Natural Resources. Under state statute, all other uses are initially presumed as compatible with the primary use. An area plan, forest plan, or site specific plan may, however, identify certain uses that are inconsistent with the primary use and may limit the range or intensities of uses that may occur on state land.

Leasehold Location Order (LLO): An order, issued by the Department of Natural Resources that requires the exploration, development, and extraction of locatable minerals to occur under the leasing provisions of AS 38.05.135.

Lining: The process of using a cable to influence the direction of fall of a tree being cut. Used especially around anadromous streams, roads, etc.

Log transfer facility (LTF): See resource transfer facility.

Management Agreement: An agreement between one or more of the divisions of the Department of Natural Resources that specifies agency responsibilities for the management of a resource. In addition to specifications on management, it is typically used to transfer authorities for management from one division to another.

Management Intent Statement: The statements that define the Department's near-, long-term and management objectives and the methods to achieve those objectives. Management intent statements are always included in the State Forest Plan for units and subunits. They further define the way in which, and occasionally the standards under which, state lands are to be managed.

Materials: Materials include but are not limited to common varieties of sand, gravel, rock, pumice, clay and sod.

Mature Stand: A stand of trees of the age where the mean annual increment of wood has reached a maximum and is beginning to decline.

May: Same as 'should'.

MBF: Thousand Board Feet. A unit of quantity used in Forestry science to describe a volume of wood. A board foot is a quantity for lumber equal to the volume of a board 12 in. by 12 in. by 1 in.

MCO: see Mineral Closing Order

Merchantable: Trees or stands of trees of size and quality suitable for marketing and utilization.

Mineral Closing Order: All state lands are open for the prospecting and production of locatable minerals unless the lands are specifically closed to mineral entry. The Commissioner may close land to mineral entry if a finding has been made that mining would be incompatible with a significant surface use on state land. A significant surface use of state land has been interpreted by the Department to include not only residential and commercial structures, but also fish and wildlife habitat, recreational, and scenic values.

Mineral Entry. Acquiring exploration and mining rights under AS 38.05.185- 38.05.275.

Mining: Any structure or activity for the commercial exploration and recovery of minerals, including but not limited to resource transfer facilities, camps, and other

support facilities associated with mining development. The term mining does not refer to offshore prospecting.

Minor change: A minor change to a land use or state forest plan is not considered a revision under Alaska Statute 38.04.06. A minor change is a change that does not modify or add to the plan's basic intent, and that only serves to clarify the plan, make it consistent, facilitate its implementation, or make technical corrections. 11 AAC 55.030.

MMBF: Million Board Feet.

Multiple use: The term "multiple use" as defined in the Alaska Forest Resources and Practices Act (AS 41.17.950 (8)) means:

1. 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 Alaska, 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 adjustment in use to conform to changing needs and conditions;
2. that some land will be used for less than all of the resources; and
3. harmonious and coordinated management of the various resources, each with the other, without significant impairment of the productivity of the land and water, 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.

Non-commercial forest land: Forest land incapable of producing usable industrial wood because of adverse site conditions or not considered available by the HSFMP.

Ordinary high water mark: The mark along the bank or shore to which the presence and action of the non-tidal water are so common and usual, and so long continued in all ordinary years, as to leave a natural line impressed on the bank or shore and indicated by erosion, shelving, changes in soil characteristics, destruction of terrestrial vegetation, or other distinctive physical characteristics. 11 AAC 53.900(23).

Operable forest lands: For forest management purposes, operable forest lands are accessible lands physically suitable for timber harvest without irreversible damage to soils and watershed, and where there is reasonable assurance that adequate reforestation will occur within five years following harvest.

Permanent use: A use that is more than one year in duration requiring state lease or right-of-way and may include a structure that is not readily removable.

Permit: A Department of Natural Resources authorization for the use of state land according to the terms set forth in 11 AAC 96.

Pesticide: Any one of various chemicals use to kill pests, as insects, rodents, weeds, etc.

Plan Amendment: A change, or modification, to a state area or forest plan that permanently changes the plan by adding to or modifying the basic management intent for one or more of the plan's units or subunits or changes its allowed or prohibited uses, management intent statements or guidelines, or other resource policies.

Plan Special Exception: A change, or modification, to a state area or forest plan that does not permanently change the provisions of the plan (see Plan Amendment). It is used to allow a one-time, limited-purpose variance of the plan's provisions, without changing its general management or guidelines.

Plan Minor Change: A change to an area or state forest plan that does not modify or add to the plan's basic intent, and that serves only to clarify the plan, facilitate its implementation, or make technical corrections.

Planning Period: The upcoming period of 20 years, measured from the date of adoption of the Forest Plan.

Policy: An intended course of action or a principle for guiding actions. In this plan, policies for land and resource management including goals, management intent statements, management guidelines, classifications, implementation plans, and various other statements of Department intentions.

Primary use: An allowed use of major importance in a particular management unit. Activities in the unit will be managed to encourage, develop, or protect this use. Where a management unit has two or more primary uses, the guidelines of the plan, and existing regulations or procedures will direct how resources are managed to avoid or minimize conflicts between designated uses.

Prohibited use: A use not allowed in a management area because it conflicts with the management intent statement, designated uses, or management guidelines. Uses not specifically prohibited in a management unit are allowed if compatible with the designated uses, management intent statements, and plan guidelines. Changing a prohibited use to an allowable use requires a plan amendment.

Public Recreation Land: A land classification for state lands that is suitable for recreation uses, waysides, parks, campsites, scenic overlooks, hunting, fishing, or boating access sites, trail corridors, or greenbelts along bodies of water or roadways.

Put-to-bed: A process to stabilize and terminate the use of a logging road, trail, or other means of ingress or egress. Culverts, bridges, etc., may be removed, final grading is affected, water bars constructed, barricades erected, and in some cases the surface is seeded to reduce erosion. See 11 AAC 95.320 for specific guidelines for closure.

Recreation: The term "recreation" refers to any activity or structure for recreational purposes including, but not limited to, hiking, camping, boating, sports hunting and fishing, and sightseeing for pleasure. Recreation does not refer to subsistence hunting and fishing.

Resource Management Land: This term refers to the land classification described under 11 AAC 55.160. It is defined as land that contains one or more resource values, none of which if of sufficiently high value to merit designation as a primary use, or, because of the size of the parcel, a variety of uses can be accommodated with appropriate siting and design considerations. In the context of this plan, if a use is specifically identified as permitted within a subunit, that use is considered to be an appropriate use, subject to siting and design considerations.

Right-of-way: The legal right to cross the land of another landowner.

Resource transfer facility: Any facility necessary for transferring timber, minerals or other resources from the uplands to marine waters for the purpose of transporting it.

Rotation: In even-aged systems, the period between regeneration establishment and final cutting. Rotation may be based on many criteria including mean size, age, culmination of mean annual increment, attainment of particular minimum physical or value growth rate, and biological condition.

Sanitation cutting: A cutting made to remove trees killed or injured by fire, insects, fungi, or other harmful agencies (and sometimes trees susceptible to such injuries), for the purpose of preventing the spread of insects or disease. See also 'salvage cutting'.

Salvage cutting: A harvest of trees killed or badly injured to recover as much usable wood as possible prior to deterioration and decomposition.

Sawtimber: Trees that will yield logs suitable in size and quality for the production of lumber.

Scarification: Mechanical process of removing the forest floor or mixing it with the mineral soil in order to enhance the establishment and development of a new forest crop. Forest floor refers to the layer of unincorporated organic matter which lies on top of the mineral soil and is generally composed of fallen leaves, twigs, and other plant remains in various stages of decomposition.

Screening: The practice of providing an area between an area of timber harvest and a significant use or sensitive scenic resource in order to create a distance or vegetative separation.

Secondary use: A use of lesser importance than the primary use in a particular management unit. A secondary use is also considered important, but is given less management emphasis than a primary use because it is of lower importance or its

occurrence is site specific. Management of a secondary use will recognize and protect the primary uses within a management unit.

Selection cutting: Removal of mature timber, usually the oldest or largest trees, either as single scattered trees or in small groups at relatively short intervals, commonly 5 to 20 years, repeated indefinitely, by means of which the continuous establishment of natural reproduction is encouraged and an uneven-aged stand is maintained.

Settings: The ground within the yarding distance of a spar.

Shall: Same as 'will'.

Shelterwood cutting: Removal of the mature timber in a series of cuttings, which extend over a period of years equal usually to not more than one-quarter and often not more than one-tenth of the time required to grow the crop, by means of which the establishment of natural reproduction under the partial shelter of seed trees is encouraged. Syn. uniform method; compartment method. In theory the series of shelterwood cuttings is divided into three parts as follows:

1. Preparatory cuttings, which prepare the stand for its regeneration by the removal of dying and defective trees and undesirable species, and preparation of the seedbed.
2. Seed cutting, which further opens the stand, before seeding takes place, to make available the amount of light and heat that the expected seedlings will require.
3. Removal cuttings, which gradually remove the remainder of the mature stand which after establishment of reproduction retards the development of young trees. The final cutting is the last of the removal cuttings. Group shelterwood is a modification whereby the successive cuttings spread outward from groups rather than extending uniformly over the stand. In strip shelterwood the successive cuttings are applied strip wise rather than uniformly over the area.

Should.: 'Should' states the intent for a course of action or a set of conditions to be achieved. Guidelines modified by the word 'should' state the plan's intent and allow the manager to use discretion in deciding the specific means for best achieving the intent or whether particular circumstances justify deviation from the intended action or set of actions. A guideline may include criteria for deciding if such a deviation is justified.

Silvics: The study of the life history and general characteristics of forest trees and stands, with particular reference to environmental factors, as a basis for the practice of silviculture.

Silviculture: The art of producing and tending a forest, the application of the knowledge of silvics in the treatment of a forest, and the theory and practice of controlling and managing forest establishment, composition, and growth (AS 41.17.950 (15)).

Skid: To pull logs from the stump to the skidroad or landing.

Slash: Debris left after logging; also, large accumulations of debris after wind or fire. It includes logs, chunks, bark, branches, stumps, and broken understory trees or brush.

Snags: Dead standing trees or portions thereof.

Special Management Zone: Zones along water bodies designated to protect important spawning and rearing habitat and resident fish populations. Within these zones, development activities will be permitted only if they can be shown to have minimal impact on fish habitat and water quality or they can be shown to be of overriding public benefit.

Special Use Designation: A document prepared by the Department of Natural Resources that specifies uses of state land that are excluded as a Generally Allowed Use or are limited in their operation to some degree. Derived from 11 AAC 96.010(a), special use designations typically affect a specific geographic and is effective for a period of five years.

Spar tree: Tree from which the top and limbs have been cut and used to support the blocks and cables for various systems of logging.

Spur road: A short, low-standard road that supports a low level of traffic such as serving one or two landings.

State lands: All lands, including shore, tide and submerged lands, or resources belonging to or acquired by the state (AS 38.05.965(20)).

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 of the land and water but does not require that timber be harvested in a non-declining yield basis over a rotation period (AS41.17.950(17)).

Uplands: Lands above mean high water.

Viewsheds: Viewsheds are surfaces visible from a viewpoint on a road corridor or from marine waters.

Water bar: A method of erosion control whereby earthen berms are constructed across a road to cause runoff water to drain to the side of the road. Often used to put a road to bed.

Wetlands: Wetlands include both freshwater and saltwater wetlands. 'Freshwater wetlands' means those environments characterized by rooted vegetation which is partially submerged either continuously or periodically by surface freshwater with less than 0.5 parts per thousand salt content and not exceeding 3 meters in depth. 'Saltwater wetlands'

means those coastal areas along sheltered shorelines characterized by salt tolerant, marshy plants and large algae extending from extreme low tide.

Wildlife Habitat Land: A land use classification for state lands which are primarily valuable for: 1) fish and wildlife resource production, whether existing or through habitat manipulation, to supply sufficient numbers or a diversity of species to support commercial, recreational, or traditional uses on an optimum sustained yield basis; or 2) a unique or rare assemblage of a single or multiple species of regional, state, or national significance.

Will: 'Will' requires a course of action or a set of conditions to be achieved. A guideline modified by the word 'will' must be followed by DNR land managers. If such a guideline is not complied with, a written decision justifying the noncompliance is required.

Yarding: The process of pulling or skidding logs to a centralized point or landing where they are piled prior to loading or hauling away.

YUM yarding: Yarding of un-merchantable material to the landing as a method of slash disposal or site preparation.

ABBREVIATIONS

ADF&G: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

ADEC: Department of Environmental Conservation

DOF: Division of Forestry

DMLW: Division of Mining Land and Water

DNR or ADNR: Alaska Department of Natural Resources

DPOR: Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation

DOTPF: Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

APPENDIX B

STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF MINING, LAND, AND WATER

SPECIAL USE LAND DESIGNATION
to CREATE A NON-MOTORIZED AREA
Within the
HAINES STATE FOREST
And as further described in the
HAINES STATE FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN

ADL 106929

1. AUTHORITY: Pursuant to 11 AAC 96.010(a)(2) and 11 AAC 96.010(b) and Special Use Designation ADL 106858, all state owned land in the Haines State Forest are designated as Special Use Lands. The purpose of this designation is to enable the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to create and manage a non-motorized area in the general area of Mt. Ripinski and to prohibit the commercial use of Personal Watercraft on Chilkoot and Chilkat Lakes. The result of this designation will be to preclude the use of personal and commercial motorized vehicles within the designated Mt. Ripinski Non-motorized Area and the operation of Personal Watercraft on the waters of Chilkat and Chilkoot Lakes within the Haines State Forest for commercial purposes. These uses would otherwise be considered “generally allowed uses” under 11 AAC 96.

2. DEFINITIONS:

- HSFP: Haines State Forest Management Plan
- Motorized Vehicle: Any type of vehicle that is powered by an internal combustion engine and that is used by an individual or individuals for the purpose of transportation, either for personal or commercial purposes.
- Non-motorized Area: An area within which Motorized Vehicles may not operate.
- “Personal Watercraft” means a vessel that is a) less than 16 feet in length; b) propelled by a water-jet pump or other machinery as its primary source of motor propulsion; and c) is designed to be operated by a person sitting, standing or kneeling on the vessel, rather than being operated by a person sitting or standing inside it.
- Permitting System: An authorization issued by DNR, as described under the ‘Recreation’ section of Chapter 2, HSFP, and any associated standards specific to a subunit identified in Chapter 3, HSFP.

3. PURPOSE: This SUD is intended to implement recommendations in the Haines State Forest Plan that manage the types of vehicles that may be used within certain subunits of the HSFP.

- *Subunit 4b. Chilkat Lake.* In this subunit, the intent is to preclude the use of Personal Watercraft for commercial purposes inside that part of Chilkat Lake within the HSFP.
- *Subunit 8b. Chilkoot Lake.* In this subunit, the intent is to preclude the use of Personal Watercraft for commercial purposes inside that part of Chilkoot Lake within the HSFP.
- *Subunit 7a. Haines Highway.* In those portions of subunit 7a designated non-motorized in the DNR map entitled ‘Mt. Ripinski Non-Motorized Area, August 2002’ (see attachment), the intent is to preclude the use of motorized vehicles within the affected area.
- *Subunit 8c. Lutak Inlet.* In those portions of subunit 8b designated non-motorized in the DNR map ‘Mt. Ripinski Non-Motorized Area, August 2002’, the intent is to preclude the use of motorized vehicles within the affected area.
- *Subunit 8d. Chilkoot Alpine.* In those portions of subunit 8d designated non-motorized in the DNR map ‘Mt. Ripinski Non Motorized Area, August 2002’, the intent is to preclude the use of motorized vehicles within the affected area.

4. BACKGROUND:

Personal Watercraft: During the preparation of the Haines State Forest Plan the public expressed concern over the use of Personal Watercraft. Some members expressed this concern within the areas of the two lakes, Chilkat and Chilkoot, for personal or commercial use of these vehicles, or for their use throughout the Haines State Forest in general. Research into the use levels and patterns of these vehicles found that they have little use by the public currently, and there was some feeling that it would be unlikely for more use to occur given the character of the streams draining the State Forest. Also, bearing on the decision on whether to apply specific restrictions to the use of these vehicles is a portion of Alaska Statute (AS 38.04.200) that stipulates when and under what conditions DNR can regulate traditional uses for ‘aesthetic’ reasons. The protection of traditional uses, including traditional modes of access, is limited to personal use under this section of statute. Therefore, DNR cannot impose restrictions on their use once a pattern of popular use had been established. Such a pattern seemed to exist on Chilkat Lake and may exist on Chilkoot Lake. For these reasons, DNR determined that the restriction of Personal Watercraft was likely to only be a potential problem on the two lakes, but that restrictions on their use could only be confined to commercial use. Commercial use of these vehicles was also mentioned as being a real concern by current business operations on the two lakes.

Mt. Ripinski Non-Motorized Area: Considerable testimony was received during the review of the Public Review Draft on the need and appropriateness of creating a non-motorized area within the general Mt. Ripinski area. This is an existing, and historic non-motorized use area, and there had been no record of motorized use. Discussions at the local community level between motorized and non-motorized users also determined that this was one area that did not have

motorized use and where a non-motorized designation might be appropriate. Based on this testimony, DNR determined to amend the Public Review Draft of the HSFP to designate a non-motorized area within the lands described as ‘non- motorized’ on the aforementioned DNR map.

5. USES THAT ARE NOT ALLOWED or ARE TO BE MANAGED UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS: Certain types of recreation activities occurring within the Haines State Forest are excluded as a Generally Allowed Use under this Special Use Designation. Uses involving the operation of a Personal Watercraft for commercial purposes on that portion of Chilkat Lake and that portion of Chilkoot Lake within the Haines State Forest are not to be managed as a generally allowed use. Uses involving motorized vehicles within the areas of subunits 7a, 8c, and 8d delineated on the map ‘Mt.-Ripinski Non-Motorized Area, August 2002’ are also not to be treated as a generally allowed use.

The aforementioned uses within the following subunits are also subject to the following management requirements:

- *Subunit 4b. Chilkat Lake.* The use of Personal Watercraft for commercial purposes within that part of Chilkat Lake that is part of the HSFP is not allowed.
- *Subunit 8b. Chilkoot Lake.* The use of Personal Watercraft for commercial purposes within that part of Chilkoot Lake that is part of the HSFP is not allowed.
- *Subunit 7a. Haines Highway.* The use of motorized vehicles within those portions of subunit 7a, designated non-motorized in the DNR map ‘Mt. Ripinski Non-Motorized Area, August 2002’ are not allowed. This restriction affects both personal and commercial forms of motorized vehicle use.
- *Subunit 8c. Lutak Inlet.* The use of motorized vehicles within those portions of subunit 8c, designated non-motorized in the DNR map ‘Mt. Ripinski Non-Motorized Area, August 2002’, are not allowed. This affects both personal and commercial forms of motorized vehicle use.
- *Subunit 8d. Chilkoot Alpine.* The use of motorized vehicles within those portions of subunit 8d, designated non-motorized in the DNR map ‘Mt. Ripinski Non-Motorized Area, August 2002’, are not allowed. This affects both personal and commercial forms of motorized vehicle use.

Exceptions: The uses affected by this Special Use Designation do not include the use of Personal Watercraft on the two lakes or motorized vehicles within the designated non-motorized area where these vehicles are used for search and rescue or for establishing communication systems (repeaters) or related operations.

6. PERIODIC REVIEW: This special use designation is subject to periodic review every five years in order to ensure that the objectives described in this order are being met.

7. DECISION: It is my decision to designate those state lands in the Haines State Forest as special use lands in accordance with 11 AAC 96.010(a) (2) and 11 AAC 96.010(b). I find this decision consistent with the department's management authority and with the management intent as described in the Haines State Forest Management Plan.

In ninety days from the date of this designation, or by written notice of the designations before the end of the 90-day period, the activities described herein shall be managed according to the terms of this Special Use Designation.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES.



Commissioner, Department of Natural Resources



Date

**HAINES STATE FOREST
Mt. Ripinski Non-Motorized Area Map
August 2002**

Please click on the map link to view Non-Motorized Map.

APPENDIX C

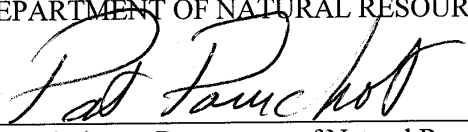
**HAINES STATE FOREST PLAN
FINDING OF THE COMMISSIONER
for
ADMINISTRATIVE MINERAL CLOSING ORDER #771
AS 38.05.185(a)**

The Haines State Forest Plan, developed and revised in accordance with AS 41.15.320, proposes closing areas recommended for Public Recreation classification and that contain park facilities or are situated in or adjacent to high use public recreation areas. A total of 110.69 acres are closed under this mineral closing order.

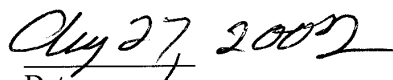
Mineral development is inconsistent with the use of the surface for public recreation or park use. Mineral development within public recreation or park areas may produce noise; interfere with recreation or park activities; conflict with other types of land uses; and may create unsafe conditions for recreation or park use.

Therefore, it is my finding, in accordance with AS 38.05.185(a), that the best interests of the state and its residents are served by this closure of the above areas to entry under the locatable mineral and mining laws of the state of Alaska, more particularly described in Mineral Closing Order #771. This order is subject to valid existing rights.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES.



Commissioner, Department of Natural Resources



Date

STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF MINING, LAND AND WATER

ADMINISTRATIVE MINERAL CLOSING ORDER NO. 771
Haines State Forest

X Closing Lands to Mineral Entry _____ Opening Lands to Mineral Entry

I. Name: Northern Southeast Area Plan

II. This mineral order is based upon the attached Commissioner's Finding and the written documentation contained in:

Area Plan: _____ Dated: _____

Management Plan: Haines State Forest Plan Dated: _____

Site Specific Plan: _____ Dated: _____

III.	<u>File Number</u>	<u>Legal Description</u>	<u>Acreage</u>
		See Attachment A and maps in the Haines State Forest Management Plan	110.69 acres

IV. This order is subject to valid existing rights and issued under the authority granted by AS 38.05.185 - 38.05.275 to the Department of Natural Resources. The above described lands are hereby X closed/ _____ opened to entry under the locatable mineral and mining laws of the State of Alaska.

Concur: [Signature] 8/30/02
 Director Date
 Division of Mining, Land and Water

Concur: [Signature] Aug 27, 2002
 Commissioner Date
 Department of Natural Resources

MINERAL CLOSING ORDER #771
Attachment A

<u>Subunit</u>	<u>Legal Description</u>	<u>Acreage</u>
Recommended State Park and Recreation Areas		
1b	Mosquito Lake State Recreation Site T. 028S., R. 055E., Copper River Meridian Section 10: Lots 1 and 2, USS 3431	4.58
	Total Acres	4.58
9b	Chilkoot Lake State Recreation Site T. 025S., R. 058E., Copper River Meridian Section 6: NW1/4 *	80.0
	Total Acres	80.0
9b	Chilkoot Lake Road T. 025S., R. 058E., Copper River Meridian Section 25: Land within 250' of Chilkoot Lake Rd., west side	
	T. 025S., R. 059E., Copper River Meridian	25.93
	Section 30: Land within 250' of Chilkoot Lake Rd., west side	.18
	Total Acres	26.11
	TOTAL ACREAGE OF ALL AREAS	110.69

APPENDIX D

STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF MINING, LAND, AND WATER

MINERAL LEASEHOLD LOCATION ORDER NO. 25

1.0 ORDER RESTRICTING TO LEASHOLD LOCATION

After the effective date of this order (see paragraph 5), and unless otherwise closed to mineral entry, rights to locatable minerals in the land covered by this order may be acquired only under the leasehold location system, AS 38.05.205, and may not be acquired by locating a mining claim under AS 38.05.195.

2.0 LAND SUBJECT TO THE TERMS OF THIS ORDER IS DESCRIBED AS SPECIFIC MANAGEMENT UNITS AND SUBUNITS CLASSIFIED PUBLIC RECREATION LAND OR WILDLIFE HABITAT LAND IN THE HAINES STATE FOREST PLAN, AND IS DEPICTED IN THE PLAN MAPS OF THIS PLAN.

<u>Land (subunits)</u>	<u>Classification</u>	<u>Acreage</u>
Klehini River (3d)	Wildlife Habitat	3,365.7
Mosquito Lake (1b)	Public Recreation	100.8
Tsirku West (3g)	Wildlife Habitat	1,436.0
West Chilkat Lake (4c)	Public Recreation	3,686.8
Chilkat Recreation (4d)	Public Recreation	128.7
Tahkin/Kicking Horse (5)	Wildlife Habitat	41,208.3
Lower Chilkat River (7b)	Wildlife Habitat	3,948.4
West Chilkat Inlet (6a)	Public Recreation	28,838.4
Davidson Lake/ Glacier (6b)	Public Recreation	4,193.8
Upper Chilkoot River (8a)	Wildlife Habitat	7,645.9
Chilkoot Lake (8b)	Public Recreation	6,786.3
	Total, Acreage:	101,339.1

3.0 AUTHORITY FOR THE ORDER

This order is issued under the authority granted by AS 38.05.185.

4.0 FINDINGS AND DETERMINATIONS

The following findings and determinations are made:

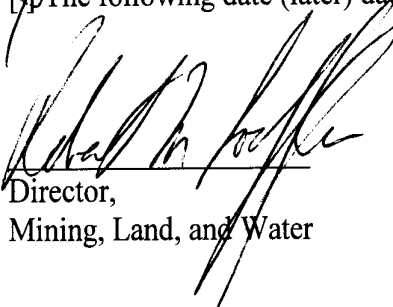
- 4.1 The land described in paragraph 2.0 is found to be subject to potential use conflicts, which require that mining only be allowed under written leases, under AS 38.05.205. The areas classified Public Recreation and Wildlife Habitat contain significant public recreation resources and areas of sensitive wildlife/fisheries and habitat. Mining operations may adversely affect these resources, potentially through changes in topography (affecting scenic resources), sedimentation effects to anadromous fish streams, and noise and other aspects of mining activity that may be deleterious to mountain goat and moose populations and to bald eagle concentrations.
- 4.2 Because of the mineralized nature of the lands subject to this leasehold location order, mining may be a use of these lands. Mining activity within these lands must avoid direct and indirect impacts to fish passage, spawning, or rearing; wildlife resources; and public recreational use. Mining activities must also ensure that they are not visible from the Haines Highway or that such visibility is minimized to the maximum extent feasible and practicable. Leasehold location is an appropriate measure to allow mineral development with minimal impact to areas classified Public Recreation and Wildlife Habitat.
- 4.3 The land described in paragraph 2.0 is found and determined to have mineral potential.
- 4.4 The stipulations contained in the Attachment are determined to be appropriate in minimizing impacts to the public recreation and wildlife habitat resources of the lands described in paragraph 2.0 and are to be used in approving mineral plans of operations by the Department of Natural Resources.

5.0 EFFECTIVE DATE

This order is effective as of:

_____ (Thirty days after the first public notice of this action)


The following date (later) date: 8/30/02



Director,
Mining, Land, and Water

Date: 8/30/02

Approved and ratified by:


Commissioner,
Department of Natural Resources

Date: Aug 27, 2002

**ATTACHMENT D
LEASEHOLD LOCATION ORDER 25**

STIPULATIONS

To be applied in the approval of
PLANS OF OPERATIONS

- 1. AREA AFFECTED BY LLO:** The area affected by the leasehold location order (LLO) includes those state lands with a land classification of Wildlife Habitat Land or Public Recreation Land in the Haines State Forest Plan (2002). The plan maps of the Forest Plan identify the areas affected by these land classifications. A total of **101,339.1** acres are affected by the LLO.

- 2. PLANS OF OPERATIONS:** The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will only approve Plans of Operations (PoO) that are/when:
 - Consistent with the most recent version of the ADF&G, Best Management Practices for Placer Mining.
 - Consistent with the general management intent statements and management guidelines of Chapter 2 specific to Fish and Wildlife, Recreation, and Subsurface Resources and Materials of the Haines State Forest Plan (2002).
 - Consistent with the specific management intent statements and management guidelines of Chapter 3 of the Haines State Forest Plan (2002) for that subunit(s) within which the proposed mining operation is to take place.
 - A PoO demonstrates that a proposed mining operation will result in minimum practicable disturbance to the existing vegetation and minimum construction of access roads and operational structures.
 - A PoO demonstrates that a proposed mining operation will not adversely affect fish passage, spawning, or rearing within anadromous streams; riparian habitat; wildlife concentration areas (fall and spring brown bear concentration areas, winter goat concentration areas, and fall moose concentration areas); trumpeter swans and bald eagles nests and/or rearing areas; ‘popular’ patterns of recreational use as described in AS 38.05.200; use by the owner of adjoining private land used for residential purposes, including seasonal residences.

- 3. LIVING ACCOMODATIONS:** No living accommodations, either temporary or permanent, will be authorized.

- 4. RECLAMATION STANDARDS:** DNR will require reclamation to *at least* the minimums set by state reclamation statute and regulations (AS 27.19 and 11 AAC 97), including revegetation by reseeding or replanting with appropriate species. Reclamation shall also restore areas of fish passage or fish habitat if affected under an approved PoO and restore damaged riparian habitat.

APPENDIX E

**STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF MINING, LAND, AND WATER**

**SPECIAL USE LAND DESIGNATION
to MANAGE LARGE-SCALE COMMERCIAL
RECREATION ACTIVITIES
Within the
HAINES STATE FOREST
And as further described in the
HAINES STATE FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN**

ADL 106858

1. AUTHORITY: Pursuant to 11 AAC 96.010(a)(2) and 11 AAC 96.010(b), all state owned land in the Haines State Forest are designated as Special Use Lands. The purpose of this designation is to enable the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to manage large-scale commercial recreation activities. The result of this designation is to require a permit for commercial recreation activities in the Forest and in a few small areas, to prohibit such uses. These uses would otherwise be considered “generally allowed uses” under 11 AAC 96. This Special Use Designation (SUD) outlines those activities that require an authorization within the Haines State Forest.

2. DEFINITIONS:

- **Public Recreation:** Public recreation is the use of state land by the public for recreational purposes. Public recreation use includes commercial and personal recreation use, and both motorized and non-motorized forms of transportation. Public recreation includes the recreational activity of individuals and activities provided by commercial entities. Both motorized and non-motorized forms of transportation can occur. Recreational use for personal purposes is protected under AS. 38.05.200. This statute allows the continued use by traditional means of access (motorized and non-motorized forms) to or within areas of traditional use if ‘popular patterns’ of such use are established.¹
- **Commercial Recreation Operator:** An entity that provides recreational services to the public for remuneration. These services can either take a motorized or non-motorized form.
- **Commercial Recreation Operation, Low Intensity (L).** A Commercial Recreation Operation that provides such services for not more than 11 clients per day.

¹ The term ‘Public Recreation’ is different from, and is distinguished from, the land classification of Public Recreation Land used in the Haines State Forest Plan. ‘Public Recreation Land’ is a land classification that embodies a management orientation emphasizing public recreation.

- Commercial Recreation Operation, Medium Intensity (M). A Commercial Recreation Operation that provides such services for 12 to 40 clients per day and with a group size of not more than 20 clients per trip.
 - Commercial Recreation Operation, High Intensity (H). A Commercial Recreation Operator that provides such services for more than 40 clients per day or groups of more than 20 clients per trip.
 - Generally Allowed Use: Those uses that do not require a permit to occur on state land, as specified in 11 AAC 96.020(a). Uses that are not included under 11 AAC 96.020(a), or that are affected by a Special Use Designation under 11AAC 96.014, must be authorized by the Department.
 - Group Size: the number of clients that may be taken on a specific trip by a Commercial Recreation Operator. Group size varies, generally reflecting the underlying management orientation of a specific unit or subunit. Smaller group sizes are associated with areas of more primitive, wild settings, while larger group sizes are associated with areas where the type and intensity of uses allowed in a unit or subunit are varied and more intense.
 - HSFP: Haines State Forest Management Plan
 - Permitting system: An authorization issued by DNR, as described under the ‘Recreation’ section of Chapter 2, HSFP, and any associated standards specific to a subunit identified in Chapter 3, HSFP.
- 3. PURPOSE:** This SUD is to enable DNR to manage higher intensity commercial recreation activities within the Haines State Forest. DNR will require permits for all Commercial Recreation Operations designated High Intensity (H) and to prohibit such operations within certain areas classified Public Recreation Land, Wildlife Habitat Land, or where campgrounds exist or are planned. Such large scale uses can conflict with existing uses and can have significant impacts on resources on state lands. The following additional purposes apply to specific units or subunits of the plan area:
- Unit 5. Takhin/Kicking Horse. In this unit, the intent is to limit the intensity of use by commercial recreation operators by limiting the number of clients per day and the group size per trip.
 - Subunit 6a. West Chilkat Inlet. In this subunit, the intent is to limit the intensity of use by commercial recreation operators by limiting the number of clients per day and the group size by trip.
 - Subunit 6b. Glacier Point. In this subunit, the intent is to manage the activities of Commercial Recreation Operations classified Medium (M) and High Intensity (H).

- Subunit 7a. Haines Highway. In this subunit, the intent is to manage the operations of Commercial Recreation Operators on the Mt. Ripinski Trail. The ‘trail’ is defined to include the area of 100’, measured 50’ from centerline.
- Subunit 8d. Chilkoot Alpine. In this subunit, the intent is to manage the operations of Commercial Recreation Operators on the Mt. Ripinski Trail. The ‘trail’ is defined to include the area of 100’, measured 50’ from centerline.

4. BACKGROUND: During the preparation of the Northern Southeast Area Plan and the Haines State Forest Management Plan, extensive public comment was received on the need to manage commercial activities related to tourism. Some public comment indicated a need to manage the more intense of these uses and develop a permitting system to ensure that the public has the opportunity to comment on these uses when proposed. Some comments also suggested that certain areas now experiencing low intensity public recreation use should be managed so that the same level of intensity will occur in the future. Other comments stressed the need to change the way that DNR was handling the permitting of the commercial recreation activities in the Glacier Point area, that there be some ability of the public to comment on the overall nature of the commercial recreation operations occurring there, and that specific standards should be created to manage the uses at this location.

DNR also conducted two surveys that allowed the state to better understand the patterns of recreation use, including tourism, in the Haines area. The first, termed the ‘Commercial Provider Survey’ identified the patterns of commercial recreation use, including information on use levels, frequency of operations, and sites where recreation occurred. The other survey, termed the ‘Community Resident Survey’, focused community attitudes toward commercial recreation use. This survey identified the locations where community recreation occurs, provided information on frequency and type of recreation use, and identified community opinion about commercial tourism operations. This survey suggested a number of important conclusions: 1) community residents perceived (83 percent) that commercial recreation was a visible presence in the community and that it took place during the period of time when personal recreation occurred; 2) a majority of residents (55 percent) did not find these activities intrusive upon their personal recreation activities; and 3) a majority of residents (53 percent) thought that additional management over these activities was warranted.

5. USES THAT ARE NOT ALLOWED or ARE TO BE MANAGED UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS: Certain commercial recreation activities occurring within the Haines State Forest are excluded as a Generally Allowed Use under this Special Use Designation. Uses that are identified as allowed in Table 1 are not affected by this designation. Uses identified as ‘authorized by permit’ or not allowed on Table 1 are not Generally Allowed Uses within specific units and subunits. Commercial recreation activities occurring within the Haines State Forest are, for purposes of management, segregated into types of operations: Commercial Recreation Operation (L-Low Intensity; M-Medium Intensity, and H-High Intensity).

Table 1, attached, lists the types of Commercial Recreation Operations that are to be allowed (A),² not allowed (N), or that are not allowed as a Generally Allowed Use, but may be authorized under the Permitting System (P). Table 1 is part of this Special Use Designation.

Exceptions: The uses affected by this Special Use Designation do not include commercial recreation activities that occur three or less times during the year or occur entirely within the state highway ROW (such as bus tours).

In addition, certain subunits are to be managed under certain standards or for specific purposes:

- Subunit 6b (Glacier Point). Commercial Recreation Operations are permitted in this subunit, but shall be subject to the following requirements:
 - Aircraft (associated with any permitted commercial recreation activity) shall not fly over the Chilkat State Park or private residential areas in their flight patterns to and from Glacier Point and shall not fly within 1500 feet of goats. Deviation from this standard is permitted for safety considerations.
 - Structures or uses associated with a permitted commercial recreation operation may be allowed except that no structure or use involving residential occupancy on an overnight basis shall be allowed on state land.
 - DNR shall reevaluate the patterns and intensities of commercial recreation uses, as well as other aspects deemed appropriate for review, authorized under this SUD five years from the date of adoption (August 2002).
 - CRO (L) operators do not require a permit from DNR in this area; CRO (M & H) operators require permits.
 - The conditions of the SUD are effective year-around.
- Subunit 7a (Haines Highway). Commercial Recreation Operations that are defined as Commercial Recreation Operation (L) or (M) are excluded as a Generally Allowed Use but may be authorized subject to the Permitting System. Uses that are defined as Commercial Recreation Operation (H) are not authorized. This standard is specific to the Mt. Ripinski Trail and 50' from centerline.
- Subunit 8d (Chilkoot Alpine). Commercial Recreation Operations that are defined as Commercial Recreation Operation (L) or (M) are excluded as a Generally Allowed Use but may be authorized subject to the Permitting System. Uses that are defined as Commercial Recreation Operation (H) are not authorized. This standard is specific to the Mt. Ripinski Trail and 50 feet on either side of the trail.

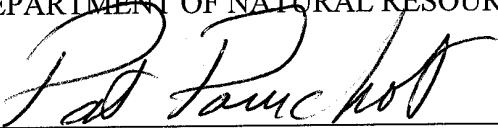
² Allowed under the list of Generally Allowed Uses.

6. PERIODIC REVIEW: This special use designation is subject to periodic review every five years in order to ensure that the objectives described in this order are being met.

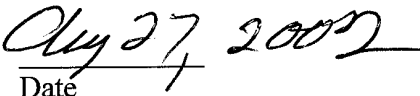
7. DECISION: It is my decision to designate those state lands in the Haines State Forest as special use lands in accordance with 11 AAC 96.010(a) (2) and 11 AAC 96.010(b). I find this decision consistent with the department's management authority and with the management intent as described in the Haines State Forest Management Plan.

In ninety days from the date of this designation, or by written notice of the designations before the end of the 90-day period, the activities described herein shall be managed according to the terms of this Special Use Designation.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES.



Commissioner, Department of Natural Resources



Date

TABLE 1

	Commercial Recreation Operation (Low)	Commercial Recreation Operation (Med.)	Commercial Recreation Operation (High)
Unit 1: Kelsall River			
<i>Subunit 1a</i> – Alpine Areas	A	P	N
<i>Subunit 1b</i> - Mosquito Lake Campground	P	N	N
<i>Subunit 1c</i> - Kelsall R. Lowlands	A	A	P
Unit 2: East Chilkat River			
<i>Subunit 2a</i> - East Chilkat Alpine	A	P	N
<i>Subunit 2b</i> - East Chilkat	A	A	P
Unit 3: Klehini River			
<i>Subunit 3a</i> - Haines Highway	A	A	P
<i>Subunit 3b</i> - Klehini Uplands	A	A	P
<i>Subunit 3c</i> - Haines Highway Uplands	A	A	P
<i>Subunit 3d</i> - Klehini River	A	A	P
<i>Subunit 3e</i> - Jarvis/Glacier Creeks	A	A	P
<i>Subunit 3f</i> - Lower Klehini	A	A	P
<i>Subunit 3g</i> - Tsirku West	A	A	P
<i>Subunit 3h</i> - Herman & Walker Lakes	A	A	P
<i>Subunit 3i</i> - Porcupine Creek	A	A	P
Unit 4: Chilkat Lake			
<i>Subunit 4a</i> - Devil's Elbow	A	A	P
<i>Subunit 4b</i> - North Takhin	A	A	P
<i>Subunit 4c</i> - West Chilkat Lake	A	A	P
<i>Subunit 4d</i> - Chilkat Recreation	A	P	P
Unit 5: Takhin/Kicking Horse			
Takhin/Kicking Horse	A	P	N
Unit 6: Chilkat Inlet			
<i>Subunit 6a</i> - West Chilkat Inlet	A	P	N
<i>Subunit 6b</i> - Davidson Glacier/Lake	A	P	P
Unit 7: Haines Hwy & Lower Chilkat River			
<i>Subunit 7a</i> - Haines Hwy	A	A	P
<i>Subunit 7a</i> - Ripinski Trail Corridor*	P*	P*	N*
<i>Subunit 7b</i> - Lower Chilkat River	A	A	P

Unit 8: Chilkoot Lake

<i>Subunit 8a</i> - Upper Chilkoot River	A	P	P
<i>Subunit 8b</i> - Chilkoot Lake	P	P	P
<i>Subunit 8c</i> - Lutak Inlet	A	A	P
<i>Subunit 8d</i> - Chilkoot Alpine	A	A	P
<i>Subunit 8d</i> - Ripinski Trail Corridor*	P*	P*	N*

Unit 9: Ferebee River

<i>Subunit 9a</i> - Ferebee River Valley	A	A	P
<i>Subunit 9b</i> - Ferebee Alpine	A	P	N
<i>Subunit 9c</i> - Taiyasanka Harbor	A	A	P

*Commercial Recreation Operations that are defined as Commercial Recreation Operation (L) or (M) are excluded as a Generally Allowed Use in these units but may be authorized subject to the Permitting System. Uses that are defined as Commercial Recreation Operation (H) are not authorized. This standard is specific to the tread of the Mt. Ripinski Trail and an area measured 50' on either side of the trail.

Table Key:

A – Allowed

N – Not Allowed

P – May be allowed under Permit system.

APPENDIX F

STATE OF ALASKA
 DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
 DIVISION OF MINING, LAND AND WATER

LAND CLASSIFICATION ORDER NO. SE-02-02

I. Name: **Haines State Forest Plan**

II. The classifications in Part III are based on written justification contained in one of the following plans:

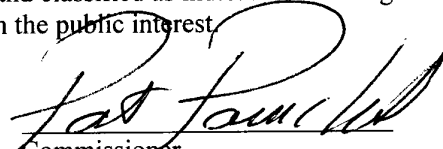
Area Plan:
 Adopted () Revised () Dated _____

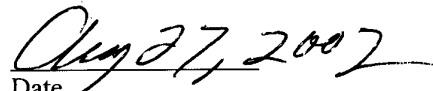
Management Plan: **Haines State Forest Plan**
 Adopted () Revised (x) Dated _____

Site Specific Plan:
 Adopted () Revised () Dated _____

Legal Description	Acreage	Acquisition Authority	Existing Classification	Classification by this Action
See maps, Haines State Forest Mgmt. Plan, not including subunit 7b	286,000		Various; from Haines-Skagway Management Plan (1979)	See maps, Haines State Forest Plan

IV. This order is issued under the authority granted by AS 38.04.065 and AS 38.05.300 to the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources. The above described lands are hereby designated and classified as indicated. Nothing shall prevent the reclassification of these lands if warranted in the public interest.

Classified: 
 Commissioner
 Department of Natural Resources


 Date

APPENDIX G

MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

Between the
DIVISION OF PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION
And
DIVISION OF MINING, LAND, AND WATER
And
DIVISION OF FORESTRY
For

State Land and Waters Generally Adjacent to Chilkoot Road
Haines, Alaska
ADL NO. 106860

This agreement is entered into between the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation (DPOR), Division of Forestry (DOF), and the Division of Mining, Land, and Water of the Department of Natural Resources and affects an area adjacent to Chilkoot Lake Road within the Haines State Forest and Resource Management Area. This Management Agreement (Agreement) describes the management responsibilities of each division and establishes the procedures to be followed in managing the land and water resources of this area.

1. PURPOSE: This Agreement is intended to assist in the management of state land and resources in the area of the Chilkoot Lake Campground, the land both selected and owned by the state in the area west of Chilkoot Lake Road within the Haines State Forest, and the navigable waters of Chilkoot River between the inlet at Chilkoot Lake and its outlet at the intertidal area of Lutak Inlet.

2. AUTHORITY: This agreement is entered into pursuant to and consistent with AS 38.04.05, AS 41.15.315, and AS 41.21.020.

3. PARCEL DESCRIPTION: Subject to valid existing rights, the land and water presently owned by the state and all land and water acquired in the future by the state lying within the boundaries described below are subject to this agreement:

Township 29 South, Range 58 East, Copper River Meridian
Section 25: N2/3NE1/4, and that portion of the E1/2SE1/4 and SE1/4NE1/4 lying easterly of a line 200' to the west of Chilkoot River Road, excluding the Chilkoot River Road right-of-way.

Township 29 South, Rang 59 East, Copper River Meridian
Section 30: that portion west of the east bank of the Chilkoot River excluding the Chilkoot River Road right-of-way and the Lutak Road right-of-way.
(See attached Map.)

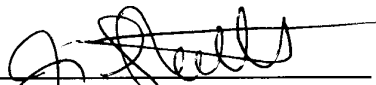
4. MANAGEMENT INTENT: The intent of this Agreement is that DPOR assume management authority of the state lands and waters described in this Agreement for the purpose of managing public recreational activities and facilities. It is the intent of this Agreement that the authority to be transferred to DPOR is limited to the management of public recreation activities and facilities. DOF and DMLW retain the authority for management of all other activities and facilities including third-party actions, Native claims, and mining and timber management, consistent with the specific management responsibilities identified in the Cooperative Management Agreement dated January 7, 1983.

5. HAINES STATE FOREST AND MANAGEMENT PLAN: Nothing in this Agreement is intended to restrict the requirement for multiple-use management or consistency with a forest management plan as required under AS 41.15.315. This Agreement implements the recommendation for resource management as described for subunit 8b (Chilkoot Lake) in the Forest Plan.

6. REVIEW: This Agreement will be reviewed every five years from the date of adoption (October 28, 2002).

7. TERM: This Agreement shall remain in effect until terminated in writing by one or more of the signatories.

8. EFFECTIVE DATE: The effective date of this Agreement shall be from the date of signature of all parties.



Jim Stratton, Director
Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation

24 Oct 02
Date



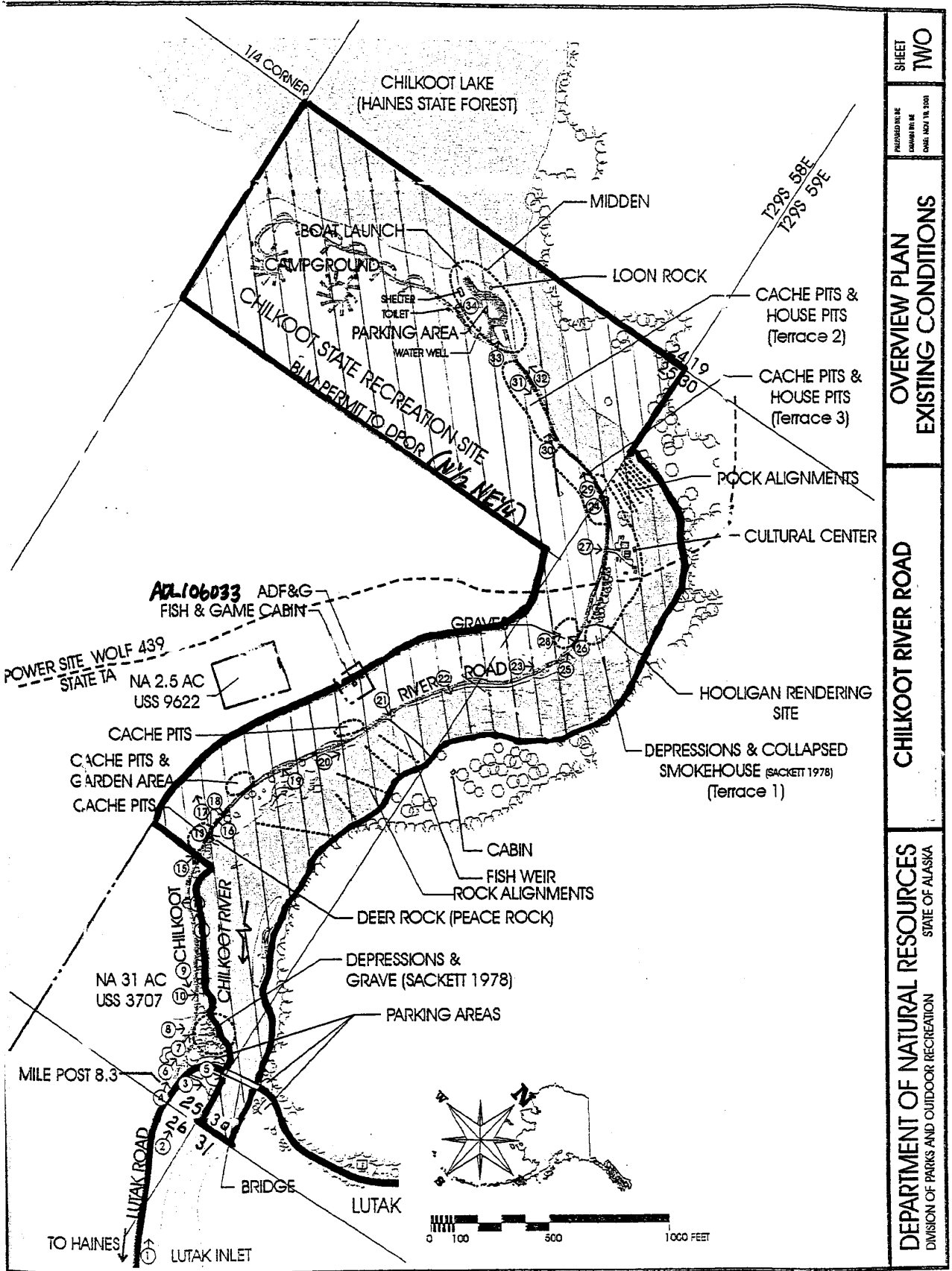
Bob Loeffler, Director
Division of Mining, Land, and Water

24 Oct 02
Date



Jeff Jahnke, Director
Division of Forestry

28 Oct 02
Date



SHEET
TWO

PROPOSED FILE
DRAWN BY: [illegible]
DATE: NOV 18, 2003

**OVERVIEW PLAN
EXISTING CONDITIONS**

CHILKOOT RIVER ROAD

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
STATE OF ALASKA
DIVISION OF PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION

APPENDIX H

LAND CLASSIFICATIONS HAINES STATE FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN

Following is a list of land classifications, and their associated definitions in Alaska regulations, which will apply to state lands in the planning area as a result of plan adoption. DNR will manage state lands and resources consistent with these classifications and with the management directions given in Chapter 3 for specific management units or subunits of state land.¹

11 AAC 55.070. Forest Land. Land classified forest is land that is or has been forested and is suited for forest management because of its physical, climatic, and vegetative conditions.

11 AAC 55.160. Public Recreation Land. Land classified public recreation is land that is suitable for recreation uses, waysides, parks, campsites, scenic overlooks, hunting, fishing or boating access sites, trail corridors, or greenbelts along bodies of water or roadways.

11 AAC 55.200. Resource Management Land. Land classified resource management is either:

- 1) land that might have a number of important resources but for which a specific resource allocation decision is not possible because of a lack of adequate resource, economic, or other relevant information, or is not necessary because the land is presently inaccessible and remote and development is not likely to occur within the next 10 years; or
- 2) land that contains one or more resource values, none of which is of sufficiently high value to merit designation as a primary use.

11 AAC 55.230. Wildlife Habitat Land. Land classified wildlife habitat is land which is primarily valuable for: **1)** fish and wildlife resource production, whether existing or through habitat manipulation, to supply sufficient numbers or a diversity of species to support commercial, recreational, or traditional uses on an optimum sustained yield basis; or **2)** a unique or rare assemblage of a single or multiple species of regional, state, or national significance.

¹ Land not otherwise classified on the plan maps within the planning area are classified Resource Management (RM) or if reconveyed to the state and previously classified, under the previous applicable classification order.

APPENDIX I

Cooperative Agreement

between

Division of Land and Water Management

and

Division of Forestry

Department of Natural Resources

on

The Haines State Forest Resource Management Area

January 20, 1983

Anchorage, Alaska

**RESULTS OF COMMUNITY RECREATION SURVEY
HAINES AREA
SPRING, 2001**

Community residents were asked (Spring, 2001) to complete a survey on community recreation and perceptions related to commercial recreation. The survey was sent to each of the communities within the planning boundary of the Northern Southeast Area Plan.

The level of response varied by community, with the response level for Haines being especially high. Some 248 surveys were received. Surveys were sent to each Post Office box-holder in Haines. It should not be inferred that the results of this survey are statistically relevant since rules of sampling and survey quality were not observed in their entirety. However, the results do give an indication of community recreation patterns and perceptions. Note: the survey also went to Skagway residents and results are included in these totals.

Q1. Where do you recreate. (Respondents were given a map and asked to indicate the location. To expedite understanding the surveys were grouped into general geographic units, which follow). The number of respondents using each area is given.

- Chilkat River Systems (89)
- Chilkat Inlet (23)
- Chilkoot River/Inlet/Lake (62)
- Taiya Inlet/Skagway (8)
- Chilkat Peninsula (59)
- Lynn Canal (7)

Q2. What is the primary recreation use broken down to general area. Keep in mind that each respondent identified up to three sites, so the figures for each use are going to be considerably higher than the number of surveys.

Chilkat River System	Use Total	Chilkat Peninsula	Use Total
Public Cabins/Campgrounds	16	Public Cabins/Campgrounds	18
Private Cabin	46	Private Cabin	11
Wildlife Viewing	166	Wildlife Viewing	112
Scenic Viewing	157	Scenic Viewing	135
Saltwater Fishing	16	Saltwater Fishing	41
Freshwater Fishing	145	Freshwater Fishing	11
Boating: non-motorized (kayak, etc.)	69	Boating: non-motorized (kayak, etc.)	46
Boating: motorized	90	Boating: motorized	36
Photography	135	Photography	84
Cross Country Skiing	69	Cross Country Skiing	25
Snowshoeing	54	Snowshoeing	38
Bicycling	36	Bicycling	20
Camping	103	Camping	50
Hunting	125	Hunting	13
Hiking/Backpacking	91	Hiking/Backpacking	105
Picnicking	106	Picnicking	110
Cultural/Historical Sites or Centers	21	Cultural/Historical Sites or Centers	6

Chilkat Inlet

Chilkoot River/Inlet

Public Cabins/Campgrounds	2	Public Cabins/Campgrounds	25
Private Cabin	6	Private Cabin	11
Wildlife Viewing	50	Wildlife Viewing	127
Scenic Viewing	52	Scenic Viewing	126
Saltwater Fishing	43	Saltwater Fishing	58
Freshwater Fishing	4	Freshwater Fishing	108
Boating: non-motorized (kayak, etc.)	35	Boating: non-motorized (kayak, etc.)	70
Boating: motorized	31	Boating: motorized	77
Photography	36	Photography	95
Cross Country Skiing	11	Cross Country Skiing	40
Snowshoeing	6	Snowshoeing	29
Bicycling	5	Bicycling	48
Camping	30	Camping	53
Hunting	16	Hunting	42
Hiking/Backing	33	Hiking/Backing	65
Picnicking	35	Picnicking	94
Cultural/Historical Sites or Centers	4	Cultural/Historical Sites or Centers	34

(It should be noted that Glacier Point constituted only 35 percent of the sites identified within the Chilkat Inlet as a place for residential recreation.)

Q4. Is commercial recreation present in the area(s) where community recreation occurs?

- Yes, 205
- No, 41

Q5. Are these commercial recreation activities intrusive?

- Yes, 110 (45 percent)
- No, 136 (55 percent)

Q6. Identify three primary areas where commercial recreation activities that are intrusive occur. The number of responses for each site is given. *It should be noted that 90 percent of the responses for Chilkat Inlet/Lynn Canal refer to Glacier Point as being an area with intrusive activity.*

- Chilkat River System (89)
- Chilkat Inlet/Lynn Canal (49)
- Chilkoot River/Inlet (80)
- Taiya Inlet/Skagway River (10)

- Don't know, 7 • Occurs throughout the area, 49

(It should be noted that these figures are low because many people did not respond to this part of the question).

Q7. Identify the primary commercial recreation activities that are taking place.

Chilkat River System
-- Primary Intrusive Activities

Kayaking, Canoeing, Rafting	33
Hunting	3
Wildlife/Scenic Viewing	26
Saltwater Fishing Charters	1
Freshwater Fishing Charters	8
Motorized Use (ATV's)	11
Motorized Use on Water	28
Flight Seeing/Transportation	19

Chilkat Inlet/Lynn Canal
-- Primary Intrusive Activities

Kayaking, Canoeing, Rafting	21
Hunting	9
Wildlife/Scenic Viewing	17
Saltwater Fishing Charters	11
Freshwater Fishing Charters	7
Motorized Use (ATV's)	17
Motorized Use on Water	23
Flight Seeing/Transportation	52

Chilkoot River System
-- Primary Intrusive Activities

Kayaking, Canoeing, Rafting	32
Hunting	5
Wildlife/Scenic Viewing	40
Saltwater Fishing Charters	1
Freshwater Fishing Charters	14
Motorized Use (ATV's)	17
Motorized Use on Water	35
Flight Seeing/Transportation	26

Chilkat Peninsula
-- Primary Intrusive Activities

Kayaking, Canoeing, Rafting	8
Hunting	0
Wildlife/Scenic Viewing	13
Saltwater Fishing Charters	0
Freshwater Fishing Charters	0
Motorized Use (ATV's)	9
Motorized Use on Water	5
Flight Seeing/Transportation	18

Q8. What is the overall severity? (On a scale 1 to 10, with 10 being most severe)

- Chilkat River System, 7
- Chilkat Inlet, 8
- Chilkoot River/Inlet, 8
- Chilkat Peninsula, 6

Q9. What were the principal problems associated with the commercial recreation activity?

Chilkat River System
-- Principal Problems

Noise	49
Anchorage Capacity	2
Displacement of Previous Activities	37
Safety	26
Scenic Degradation	30
Overcrowding	40
Depletion of Resources	16
Disturbance of wildlife	49
Level of Use Too High	41

Chilkat Inlet/Lynn Canal
-- Principal Problems

Noise	52
Anchorage Capacity	10
Displacement of Previous Activities	35
Safety	14
Scenic Degradation	34
Overcrowding	29
Depletion of Resources	13
Disturbance of wildlife	41
Level of Use Too High	46

**Chilkoot River/Inlet
-- Principal Problems**

Noise	44
Anchorage Capacity	8
Displacement of Previous Activities	47
Safety	34
Scenic Degradation	47
Overcrowding	67
Depletion of Resources	15
Disturbance of wildlife	65
Level of Use Too High	68
Other	

**Chilkat Peninsula
-- Principal Problems**

Noise	26
Anchorage Capacity	0
Displacement of Previous Activities	19
Safety	4
Scenic Degradation	12
Overcrowding	16
Depletion of Resources	1
Disturbance of wildlife	15
Level of Use Too High	14
Other	

Q10. Is increased management of commercial recreation warranted/appropriate?

- Yes, 131 (53 percent)
- No, 115 (47 percent)

APPENDIX K

**STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF MINING, LAND, AND WATER**

**SPECIAL USE LAND DESIGNATION
For COMMERCIAL HELICOPTER OPERATIONS**

**Within the
HAINES STATE FOREST
And SURROUNDING GENERAL STATE LAND
And as further described in the
HAINES STATE FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN
And NORTHERN SOUTHEAST AREA PLAN**

ADL 106939

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is hereby establishing a Special Use Area (SUA) to regulate commercial helicopter skiing (heli-skiing) operations on state land in the Haines area. This Special Use Designation (SUD) establishes specific areas and dates for heli-skiing operations and sets standards for these operations. This SUD prohibits helicopter landings on state lands for the purpose of commercial recreational tours (such as the glacier landing tours).

The SUD does not regulate helicopter traffic other than for commercial recreational tours and heli-skiing. Other helicopter landings will continue to be allowed for such things as search & rescue, personal use, access to mining claims, and government research. The SUD applies only to state land managed by DNR, which excludes the Haines airport. DNR cannot regulate helicopter traffic on non-state lands.

1. AUTHORITY

Pursuant to 11 AAC 96.010(a)(2) and 11 AAC 96.014¹ and Special Use Designation ADL 106939, all state owned land in the Haines State Forest and specific portions of state land and state selected land within the Haines Area² of the Northern Southeast Area

¹ Regulations governing special use lands and generally allowed uses on State land were filed by the Lieutenant Governor on November 7, 2002, and will become effective December 7, 2002.

² Affected areas of state land include those state owned or state-selected land within parcels H-01 through H-04, H-07, and H-08 that are within the “SUD Boundary” on the attached map. (To identify these parcels see Plan Maps Klehini-Tsirku, Upper Chilkat/Kelsall, Haines and Chilkat River of the Haines Area, Northern Southeast Area Plan.)

Plan are designated as Special Use Lands. The purpose of this designation is to enable the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to manage commercial helicopter tours and commercial heli-skiing operations within the Haines area. This designation will establish standards for helicopter operation and identify areas helicopters can and cannot land for these purposes on state land. These standards will also apply when federal land within the Haines Area is conveyed to the state. These uses would otherwise be considered “generally allowed uses” under 11 AAC 96.

Note: This SUD only applies to those commercial helicopter operations that land on state land. The SUD does not regulate other helicopter uses, for example for search and rescue, timber operations, mining operations, other resource development activities, surveying, land management, enforcement, other government activities, or private uses. These uses are generally allowed uses on most state land (excluding the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve). The SUD applies to state land managed by DNR, which excludes the Haines airport. DNR cannot regulate helicopter traffic on non-state lands, and cannot regulate helicopter traffic that only flies over state land.

2. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

- Area Plan. Northern Southeast Area Plan dated August 2002.
- Commercial (activity): Under 11 AAC 12.340(19), "Commercial activity" means the sale of, delivery of, or soliciting to provide, goods, wares, edibles, or services in exchange for valuable consideration through barter, trade, or other commercial means; a service offered in conjunction with another sale of goods, wares, edibles, or services, which service involves the use of state land or water, is a commercial activity whether or not it is incidental to, advertised with, or specifically offered in the original sale; all guide, outfitter, and transportation services are commercial activities if any payment or valuable consideration through barter, trade, cash, or other commercial means is required, expected, or received beyond the normal and customary equally shared costs for food and fuel for any portion of the stay on state land.
- Commercial Helicopter Tour. Commercial Helicopter Operations that provide a ‘tour’. A tour is defined as a brief trip to or through a place for the purpose of viewing it. Tours are typically frequent, recurring in specific areas. Examples of such operation include sightseeing, heli-hiking and other forms of tours. Not included in this definition are the occasional drop-off of passengers for other purposes than heli-skiing. Examples of the latter include hikers, hunters, fishers, sightseers, and the like.
- Commercial Recreation. Under 11 AAC 96.250(10), “commercial recreation” means recreational use of land, water, and resources for business or financial gain; “commercial recreation” includes guided sport fishing, guided and outfitted sport hunting, guided recreation, and air and water taxi services that provide transportation

to recreational users of state land; “commercial recreation” does not include solely anchoring a vessel overnight on state shoreland, tideland, or submerged land.

- DMLW. Division of Mining, Land, and Water.
- DNR. Department of Natural Resources.
- Forest Plan. Haines State Forest Plan (HSFP) adopted August 2002.
- Heli-skiing operations³: Commercial Helicopter Operations conducted for the purpose of transporting people who ski or snowboard to destinations within the Haines Area. This term also includes helicopter operations that are related to the commercial filming of such activity or to downhill skiing or snowboard competitions.
- Haines Area. That area of state owned or state-selected land within the Haines State Forest or other state land that is affected by this Special Use Designation. The specific area of application is that area enclosed by ‘SUD Boundary’ in the attached Map.
- Use Period. That period of time when commercial helicopter operations may occur within the Haines Area affected by this Special Use Designation.
- Non-Motorized Area. An area within the State Forest in which Motorized Vehicles may not operate, as defined in Special Use Designation ADL 106858. The non-motorized zone occupies a portion of Mt. Ripinski.
- Permittee. The entity to which DNR issues an authorization for Heli-skiing Operations.
- PRD. Public Review Draft of the HSFP or the Northern Southeast Area Plan.
- SUD. Special Use Designation.
- Skier Day. A number equal to one individual skier/snowboarder transported by a Heli-skiing Operation on one particular day. A ‘day’ is any portion of a day that is used for skiing.
- State Forest. Haines State Forest.

³ Includes snowboarding.

3. PURPOSE

This SUD implements the recommendation in the Haines State Forest Plan (Chapter 4, Implementation) that requires DNR to develop a management program for commercial helicopter operations within the Haines Area. More specifically, it sets out DNR management of certain types of commercial helicopter operations within the Haines Area. The SUD also includes state-selected federal land that is managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). If and when this BLM land is transferred to the state, DNR will apply the guidelines in this SUD to this federal land. In addition, DNR will use the SUD in response to requests from BLM for the state's comments or concurrence on BLM permits or authorizations within this area, as is required under Section 906(k) of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act.

This SUD does not affect commercial helicopter operations that are not commercial tours or heli-skiing operations, nor does it affect the use of helicopters for non-commercial purposes. This SUD only regulates helicopters that land or take-off on state land.

4. BACKGROUND

Commercial Helicopter Operations in the Haines Area. The issue of the management of commercial helicopter operations in the Haines Area came up as early as 1996, when there was an advisory vote on whether to authorize summer helicopter tours. The local community voted to not allow such activity. Since then, a heli-skiing operation, based in Haines, has operated for the last several years, primarily out of an area at mile 33 of the Haines Highway.

The issue of commercial helicopter operations emerged fairly late in the planning process for the Haines State Forest Plan (Forest Plan) and was not included in that process/plan. The Forest Plan recognizes the need to develop a mechanism to manage such operations as a specific recommendation in Chapter 4, Implementation.

Since the fall of 2001, there have been extensive local efforts to develop recommendations that could be used by DNR in its creation of a Special Use Designation to manage commercial helicopter operations. The City of Haines used a local planning group (Tourism Planning Committee) to develop a series of recommendations, which were passed by the City Council (January, 2002) and forwarded to the Department. At about the same time, a Service Advisory Board was created in the Haines Borough to develop an approach to helicopter operation management for areas outside the City proper. This group recommended a series of suggestions to the Borough Assembly who, in turn, approved a list of recommendations that were then forwarded to DNR (August, 2002). The recommendations from each of these entities were considered in the preparation of this SUD.

Land Status. There is a considerable amount of state land within the Haines State Forest and the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve, as well as general state land surrounding the State Forest in the northwest and southwest. In addition, extensive areas of federal land have been selected by the state but not yet conveyed. These lands comprise most of the federal lands within the

Haines Borough. They are located in mountainous areas to the north of the State Forest and in portions of the Tsirku River drainage in the mountainous area to the south and abutting the Glacier Bay National Park.

Helicopter Operations in the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve. In a separate action (August, 2002) an amendment was made to the Public Review Draft of the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve Plan that prohibited commercial helicopter landings within the Preserve and established a minimum flight altitude of 1,500 feet from ground surface.

5. RELATIONSHIP TO SPECIAL USE DESIGNATIONS IN FOREST PLAN AND AREA PLAN

SUD ADL 106858. This SUD for helicopter operations (ADL 106939) is linked to Special Use Designation ADL 106858, which is included in the Haines State Forest Plan. SUD ADL 106858 implements recommendations related to commercial recreation within the State Forest and imposes limitations on group size and the number of passengers that may be allowed in commercial helicopter operations.

This SUD is an element of the overall commercial recreation strategy for the Haines State Forest and adjacent state land. It will also apply to the areas of federal land that are state-selected when that land is conveyed to the state. This strategy is contained in the Haines State Forest Plan and the Northern Southeast Area Plan. This SUD does not change the management intent for state lands expressed in these two plans nor the requirements in SUD ADL 106858. SUD ADL 106939 refines the commercial recreation management strategies contained in the two plans. Heli-skiing operations allowed under SUD ADL 106858 are affected by the specific requirements of this SUD (ADL 106939).

SUD ADL 106858 establishes a permit system for commercial recreation activities in the State Forest, including commercial helicopter operations. Commercial recreation operations are subdivided into intensity classes measured in daily client levels (low, medium, and high), which are related to specific management units in the Forest Plan. These limits apply to the commercial helicopter operations -- permitting such operations where such uses are ‘Allowed’ or are authorized by ‘Allowed by Permit’ and prohibiting such operations if commercial uses of a specific size are ‘Not Allowed’. Consult Table 1 of this SUD ADL 106858 to determine where commercial operations are authorized or prohibited.

SUD ADL 106929. This SUD establishes a non-motorized zone within the State Forest in the Mt. Ripinski area. Commercial helicopter tours and heli-skiing landings are not authorized within this zone.

6. USES THAT ARE NOT ALLOWED or ARE TO BE MANAGED UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS:

Commercial Helicopter Tours and Heli-skiing Operations are not a Generally Allowed Use under this Special Use Designation. ‘Commercial Helicopter Tours’ are not authorized within the Haines Area and ‘Heli-skiing Operations’ (landings) are allowed in certain areas but subject to certain conditions. These conditions are included in the General and Specific Standards for the Operation of Heli-skiing, attached. These standards must be followed in all DNR permit authorizations of these types of activities.

Exceptions: This Special Use Designation does not affect Commercial Helicopter Operations that are not ‘Commercial Helicopter Tours’ or Heli-skiing Operations’.

7. PERIODIC REVIEW

This special use designation is subject to periodic review every five years in order to ensure that the objectives described in this order are being met. Revision of the SUD may occur earlier than that if the management intent of the Haines State Forest Plan for a specific management unit or subunit is not being met in the manner described in Chapter 3 of that Plan. The intent is to make the SUD, and any subsequent permits that may be issued under the SUD, consistent with the Forest Plan. Any revision of this SUD is to be coordinated with the Bureau of Land Management since that agency manages actions on state selected federal land. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game should be consulted for wildlife information, especially mountain goat habitat.

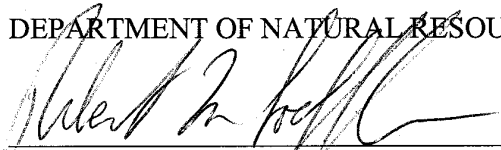
It can be expected that, as new information becomes available on sensitive wildlife resources, particularly on goat habitat, or other sensitive resources and users, changes to the boundaries of ‘Areas Allowed for Heli-skiing’ or “Flight Corridors” will be appropriate in order to reflect this information. Such changes will not require amendment of the Map in this SUD, but maps included as part of an authorization should include the necessary changes to these boundaries. Changes to use areas or flight corridors are to be approved by the Southeast Regional Land Manager, Division of Mining, Land, and Water.

8. DECISION


It is my decision to designate those state lands in the Haines State Forest and those state lands and state selected lands within the Haines Area of the Northern Southeast Area Plan⁴ as special use lands in accordance with 11 AAC 96.010(a) (2) and 11 AAC 96.010(b). I find this decision consistent with the department's management authority and with the management intent as described in the Haines State Forest Management Plan and the Northern Southeast Area Plan.

In ninety days from the date of this designation, by written notice of the designations before the end of the 90-day period, or by written notice at some other date determined appropriate by the Commissioner, the activities described herein shall be managed according to the terms of this Special Use Designation.


DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES.



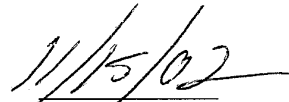
Director, Division of Mining, Land, and Water



Date



Commissioner, Department of Natural Resources



Date

⁴ See footnote #2 for applicable areas within the Haines Area.

ATTACHMENT

GENERAL AND SPECIFIC OPERATIONAL STANDARDS for COMMERCIAL HELICOPTER OPERATIONS PROVIDING TOURS and HELI-SKIING OPERATIONS

The following general standards and specific management stipulations affect ‘Commercial Helicopter Tours’ and ‘Heli-skiing Operations’.

General Standards

These standards are in addition to requirements of a standard DNR land use authorization.

1. Permits issued subsequent to this Special Use Designation (SUD) represent a nonexclusive privilege authorizing special uses of public lands and waters and, should circumstances warrant, the permit may be modified by DNR at any time, including the amount and location of use. The permit is revocable at will, with or without cause (11 AAC 96.040).
2. The temporary storage of fuel may be authorized in order to minimize the number of helicopter flights.
3. The Permittee must assume the responsibility for inspecting the permitted area for any existing or new hazardous conditions that present risks for which the Permittee assumes responsibility.
4. A permit does not create an exclusive right of use of an area by the Permittee.
5. The transport of explosives is not permitted.

Specific Stipulations

For all mitigation measures, it is recognized that exceptions may be made for aircraft safety and weather conditions. *Aircraft and passenger safety will take precedence over the following stipulations.*

1. Landings by ‘Commercial Helicopter Tours’ are not authorized on state land within the boundary of this SUD.
2. Heli-skiing Operations may occur within the Haines Area from February 1 through April 30 except as noted⁵. Landing helicopters for this purpose may

⁵ DNR, after consultation with ADF&G, may authorize heli-skiing operations, including commercial filming and skiing/snowboarding competition, after the dates specified in the Plan map for ‘Allowed Areas for Heli-skiing’ if such operations are not likely to affect the critical life cycle stages of goats or other sensitive wildlife populations (bear, wolverine, wolf, and bald eagle). Up to an additional 3 days may be authorized for each of the two areas (that is, May 3 for areas where heli-skiing is designated as allowed

only occur in the areas designated on the attached Map⁶ as ‘Allowed Areas for Heli-skiing’. Within the areas that may be used for skiing, specific use period limitations apply. See specific requirements of ‘Allowed Areas for Heli-skiing’ on the Map.

3. Landings by Heli-skiing Operations outside an ‘Allowed Area for Heli-skiing’ shall not be authorized within the SUD.
4. Heli-skiing Operations may only occur within the hours of 8:00am to 6:00pm within Designated Flight Corridors or ‘Allowed Areas for Heli-skiing’ except for the purpose of commercial filming conducted during low-sun angle periods between March 15th and April 30th. DNR may authorize use periods earlier than 8:00 am for this purpose or later than 6:00 pm consistent with FAA operational requirements for helicopters. It is not intended that this exception is to be used on a regular or frequent basis. Heli-skiing operators are to report all such activities to DNR on a biweekly basis in a manner that is to be stipulated in the permit.
5. Heli-skiing Operators shall use the Designated Flight Corridors to access ‘Allowed Areas for Heli-skiing’ and shall maintain the flight altitude minimums specified in specific Designated Flight Corridors. Generally, a vertical distance of at least 1,500 feet from ground and 1,500 feet from mountainous terrain shall be maintained, except for a minimum of 5,000 feet above sea level within areas of sensitive goat habitat.
6. Special conditions may exist for Flight Corridor A that may preclude its use. The use of Designated Flight Corridor A is permitted unless the Haines Borough restricts the initial take-off and (final) landing of Heli-skiing Operations in areas of private or Borough land within areas on and near the Haines Highway between Wells Bridge and the Canadian border. Should this occur, Heli-skiing Operators may not use Flight Corridor A. Flight Corridor B shall be used for accessing ‘Allowed Area of Heli-skiing’ in areas south of the Klehini River and west of the Chilkat River/Chilkat Inlet.
7. Travel from a take-off site/final landing site to the Designated Flight Corridors is to be as direct as possible. An altitude of at least 1,500 feet from the ground surface shall be attained as rapidly as practicable and is to be maintained until the Designated Flight Corridors are reached.
8. The number of skier days is limited to a total of 1,000 per year. This amount is the sum of all heli-skiing operations authorized by BLM and DNR in the Haines Area. If the authorized level of 1000 skier days is reached or can be expected to be attained in an upcoming operating season, authorizations granted by DNR shall be awarded on a competitive basis. The DNR Southeast Regional Manager, Division of Mining, Land, and Water, may require prospective

until April 30th and April 3rd for areas where it is allowed until March 31st). An extension is only to be granted by DNR for the completion of heli-skiing operations scheduled to be completed by the end dates specified in the attached map but such operations could not occur because of adverse weather conditions, safety considerations, or other unforeseen circumstances.

⁶ This Special Use Designation is limited in its application to the area enclosed by the ‘SUD Boundary’ depicted in this Map.

operators to submit applications and activity reports at a time and in a form specified by DNR.

9. Heli-skiing Operations will meet FAA requirements for safe air operations (routing, airspace separation, and coordination with other operators.)
10. All authorized Heli-skiing Operations will be required to submit and abide by a Safety and Operating Plan which will be approved by DNR on state lands and by BLM on state-selected lands. This Plan shall constitute a part of the Permit.
11. Heli-skiing Operators are not to hover over, circle, or harass wildlife in any way. This refers particularly to mountain goats, wolves, bears, wolverines, eagles, sea lions, and other marine mammals, but includes all wildlife species.
12. Each Heli-skiing Operator shall submit a report at the end of each operating season to DNR, ADF&G, and BLM that identifies the number and areas of landings and lists their observations of goats, bears, wolves, wolverines, or other species determined by ADF&G to be sensitive. The authorization issued by DNR shall specify the format of the reporting. DNR may require other information to be reported if necessary to the management of Heli-skiing Operations.
13. Heli-skiing Operators shall attend an Orientation Meeting with DNR and BLM prior to an operating season and a Review Meeting at the conclusion of the season. The Orientation Meeting is designed to acquaint operators with the General and Specific Stipulations of the DNR authorization, to more clearly describe backcountry ski areas, and possible ways to minimize noise effects in these areas. The Review Meeting is designed to determine the level and location of heli-skiing operations, identify and provide solutions to identified operational problems, or revise the requirement of the DNR authorization if necessary to more effectively manage Heli-skiing Operations.
14. Helicopters will maintain a minimum distance of one mile from all observed mountain goats and one-half mile from all other sensitive wildlife populations identified in authorizations granted by DNR.

**HAINES AREA
Areas of Heli-Skiing Use and Non-Use
Special Use Designation 106939**

**Please click on the map link to view Commercial Helicopter
Operations Map.**

