

State of Alaska
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Forestry & Fire Protection



Coastal Region-Southeast Area Office
Forest Land Use Plan

Tuxekan Timber Sale
SSE-1392-K

August 2025

Abbreviations

ADEC	Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
ADF&G	Alaska Department of Fish and Game
ADNR	Alaska Department of Natural Resources
BIF	Best interest finding
DMLW	Division of Mining, Land and Water
DOF	Division of Forestry & Fire Protection
FLUP	Forest Land Use Plan
FRPA	Alaska Forest Resources and Practices Act
FYSTS	Five-Year Schedule of Timber Sales
MBF	Thousand board feet
OHA	Office of History and Archeology
POG	Productive old growth
POW	Prince of Wales
POWIAP	Prince of Wales Island Area Plan
ROW	Right-of-way
SESF	Southeast State Forest
SESFMP	Southeast State Forest Management Plan
UA	University of Alaska
USFS	United States Forest Service

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I. Introduction

Project File Number: SSE-1392-K

Division of Forestry & Fire Protection Office: Southeast

Area Forester: Greg Staunton

Forest Practices Geographic Region (AS 41.17.950): Region I

This Forest Land Use Plan (FLUP) covers proposed forest operations on approximately 188 acres of land on Tuxekan Island, approximately 1 mile to the west of the community of Naukati. It is intended to provide the best available information regarding the proposed harvest of timber, and management of other non-timber uses in compliance with AS 38.05.112 and AS 41.17.060, and must be adopted by the DNR before the proposed activity can occur.

☐ This Forest Land Use Plan is for timber sale(s) which have been determined to be in the best interest of the state pursuant to AS 38.05.035 (e). This FLUP does not determine whether or not to access and sell timber within the timber sale area, nor the method of sale.

☒ This Forest Land Use Plan is for timber sale(s) for which a Preliminary Best Interest Finding was concurrently out for review. A final best interest finding is made simultaneously with this FLUP pursuant to AS 38.05.035 (e) and AS 38.05.945.

☐ This Draft Forest Land Use Plan is for timber to be harvested that does not require a final finding pursuant to AS 38.05.035 (e) and notification under AS 38.05.945.

A draft of this plan was distributed to the Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G) and the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) for their review and comments relevant to the consistency of this proposed project with the statutes governing forest land use plans (AS 38.05.112) and the requirements of the Alaska Forest Resources & Practices Act (AS 41.17) and its Regulations (11 AAC 95).

This Forest Land Use Plan was made available for public comments; the review period ended on February 24, 2025. After public and agency review of the draft FLUP, the DOF reviewed and responded to comments (see BIF, Appendix D), and made minor technical changes to the operational content and has adopted this FLUP. The following resource change is noted for the record:

The DOF elected to retain timber around the cataloged southern bald eagle nest location in addition to the two nests locations on the north end of the peninsula. The total area of the timber sale was therefore decreased to reflect the retention.

This Forest Land Use Plan has been adopted by the Department of Natural Resources. Site specific compliance with the Alaska Forest Resources and Practices Act and the Regulations, as well as the Final Finding for this proposed project are reflected in this Forest Land Use Plan and will be implemented in the Timber Sale Contract.

An eligible person affected by this decision, and who provided timely written comment or public

to the department, may appeal the decision to the DNR Commissioner per AS 44.37.011 and 11 AAC 02.

☒ Other Documents are referenced in this FLUP. This timber sale is designed to be consistent with the management intent of the following documents:

- Alaska Forest Resources and Practices Act
- Southeast State Forest Management Plan
- Prince of Wales Island Area Plan
- Tuxekan Timber Sale Preliminary Best Interest Finding, SSE-1392-K

The administrative record for this sale is maintained at the Division of Forestry & Fire Protection Southeast Area Office filed as SSE-1392-K.

A. Legal description

Sections 13, 14, 23, and 24, Township 69 South, Range 79 East, Copper River Meridian (CRM). The sale area is found within the Craig D-4 NW and Craig D-4 SW USGS quadrangles. See also map in Appendix A.

B. Operational Period

Calendar years 2025-2030

C. Timber Disposal

- ☒ Timber will be sold and will have a contract administrated by the State.
- ☐ Timber will be available to the public; permits obtained by the public will be issued by the State.
- ☐ Other

D. Objectives and Summary

1. To follow the Alaska Department of Natural Resources' (ADNR) constitutional mandate to encourage the development of the State's renewable resources, making them available for maximum use consistent with the public interest;
2. To help the State's economy by providing royalties to the State in the form of stumpage receipts, an infusion to the State's economy through wages, purchases, jobs, and business.
3. To help the local economy of the communities within southern Southeast Alaska by creating additional jobs due to the combination of road building, logging, trucking and potentially milling.

II. Affected Land Owners/Jurisdictions

A. State

Activity on ownership:	Access Easement	Harvest	Written Representative Approval
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Southeast State Forest	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other state land managed by DNR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> University of Alaska	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Trust	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> School Trust	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

B. Other Land Interests

Land Interest, Representative:

- USFS Road Reservations, USFS District Ranger and Engineering Staff
- SEALASKA

III. Harvest Methods, Silvicultural Actions, and Management of Non-timber Resources

Forest operations will be designed to:

- Protect fish habitat and water quality in compliance with the best management practices in 11 AAC 95.260-.370,
- Manage for the other land uses and activities identified in AS 41.17.060 and the Best Interest Finding for this timber sale, and
- Ensure prompt reforestation and maintenance of site productivity in compliance with AS 41.17.060(c) and 11 AAC 95 .375-.390.

Harvest and Silvicultural Methods:

- ☒ The silvicultural actions are described in this document, and no prescription was written or is necessary.
- ☐ A silvicultural prescription has been written and is attached to this document in Appendix B.

A. Timber Stand Description and History

Timber types are primarily a mix of young growth Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*), and western hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*) with a residual old growth component of western hemlock, and western redcedar (*Thuja plicata*). These stands are uneven aged on the shoreline with most of the even aged young growth in the center of the tract. The east and west sides have some evidence of wind disturbance. The young growth is approximately 70 years old. Some mortality is present in the hemlock on the northeast side from what appears to be western hemlock sawfly (*Neodiprion tsugae* Middleton) and black-headed budworm (*Acleris gloverana* Walsingham) defoliation.

B. Timber Harvest Activities

Timber Harvest Activities are displayed in Table 1.

Table 1. Timber Harvest Activities

Unit ID	Acres	Topography	Silvicultural Action	Logging Method
1	188	Irregular Slopes	Even-aged Management utilizing the clearcut system	Ground Based (Shovel) Logging

C. Site Preparation

☒ Site preparation will not be necessary. There is either sufficient residual stocking, or because there has been sufficient soil disturbance by logging to forego scarification.

☐ Site preparation will be implemented and described in Table 2:

Table 2. Site Preparation

Unit ID	Acres	Site Preparation Method	Date of Completion
--	--	Not Applicable	--

D. Slash Abatement

☐ Potential for insect infestations caused by slash accumulations exists. Slash abatement for controlling infestations will be implemented as required by 11 AAC 95.370.

☒ Scatter slash; accumulations will be kept to less than 2 feet in height.

☒ Slash will be disposed of by the operator ☐ Slash will be disposed of by the State

☐ Other - method of slash disposal: ☐ removal off site ☐ crushing or grinding ☐ burning

☐ Burn permits necessary from DOF and DEC to be acquired.

☐ The operator will contact the DOF local area office prior to ignition of debris.

E. Soil Stability / Erosion / Mass Wasting

- ☐ Maximum percent side slopes are $\leq 50\%$
☒ Maximum percent side slopes are $> 50\%$

Percentage of sale area with slopes $> 50\%$: 4%

Maximum percent slopes: 70%

Slope percentages referenced are based on field observations and the use of USGS 3DEP DEM data and ESRI ArcGIS Pro Slope raster function. Steeper slopes are bedrock out crops.

- ☒ There are no indicators of unstable areas.
☐ Indicators of unstable areas were identified and will be mitigated by actions indicated below.

F. Timber Harvest—Surface Water Protection

- ☐ There are no streams or lakes abutting or within a harvest unit.
☒ Known surface waters and protection measures are described in Table 3 below. *Locations are included in the operational map in the Appendices.*

Table 3. Protection for Known Surface Waters

Unit	Waterbody Name	AS 41.17.950 Classification	ADF&G AWC #	Required Riparian Protection	Site-specific actions to minimize impacts on riparian area
1	--	Surface Water	--	FRPA Best Management Practices (BMPs)	Split yarding, directional felling, removal of logging debris from waters

Surface waters listed above were reviewed by the Department of Fish and Game:

- ☒ During the timber sale planning process
☒ During the agency review conducted for the Best Interest Finding for this sale
☒ During the drafting of this Forest Land Use Plan
☐ Stream Crossings (Title 16) Permits are needed per ADF&G Division of Habitat

Surface waters listed above were reviewed by the Department of Environmental Conservation:

- ☒ During the timber sale planning process
☒ During the agency review conducted for the Best Interest Finding for this sale
☒ During the drafting of this Forest Land Use Plan

Non-classified surface waters are subject to applicable BMPs in 11 AAC 95.

Notes: Several narrow surface waters were observed in the southwestern portion of the sale flowing into Jinhi Bay.

G. Wildlife Habitat

- ☒ Wildlife species and allowances for their important habitats were addressed in writing by the Department of Fish & Game during the Best Interest Finding review.
- ☒ Wildlife species and allowances for their important habitats were addressed in writing by the Department of Fish & Game during the drafting of this Forest Land Use Plan.

Silvicultural practices to be applied to minimize impacts to wildlife habitat or wildlife management:

- ☐ Timber retention - concentrations of timber surrounding harvest units, or interspersed within harvest units to provide cover.
- ☒ Snag Retention- snags or isolated trees left for cavity nesting species.
- ☐ Large Woody Debris – concentrations of downed timber or logging debris interspersed within harvest units to provide cover left on site.
- ☐ Other actions

Notes: Retention areas, not less than 330 feet in radius, have been laid out surrounding cataloged eagle nest trees on the north and west side of the timber sale in accordance with 11 AAC 95.340.

Nonmerchantable snags interior of the unit having no evidence of mistletoe are authorized to be retained for bat roosting.

H. Cultural and Historical Resource Protection

- ☒ This project was reviewed by the State Historic and Preservation Office (SHPO).
- ☒ No artifacts have been reported within the project area(s).
- ☐ Known or likely sites have been identified and a mitigation plan is in place. (Describe the mitigation actions.)

I. Other Resources Affected by Timber Harvest and Management

- ☐ There are other resources and areas of concern besides surface water, fish habitat, and wildlife habitat that may be affected. Mitigations actions were addressed in the Best Interest Finding.
- ☒ There are no affected resources or areas of concern other than surface water, fish habitat, and wildlife habitat, which are addressed in this Forest Land Use Plan.

J. Reforestation

Reforestation utilizing the clearcut method is expected to result in optimal growing conditions for regenerating Sitka spruce, western hemlock, western redcedar and Alaska yellow-cedar. Increased availability of light and nutrients along with moderately scarified ground from track-based logging equipment is expected to result in a stocked stand within five years of harvest. Historically natural regeneration after a timber harvest in Southeast Alaska has been

satisfactory in meeting FRPA reforestation requirements.

Harvest type as it relates to reforestation requirement:

- ☒ Clearcut
- ☐ Region I: Partial Harvest leaving more than 50% live basal area (11 AAC 95.375(b)(3))
- ☐ Region II or III: Partial Harvest relying on residual trees to result in a stocking level that meets standards of 11 AAC 95.375(b)(4).

Season of harvest:

- ☐ Winter harvest only
- ☐ Non-winter harvest only
- ☒ All-season harvest

Regeneration type:

- ☒ Natural regeneration

List species: Western hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*), Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*), western redcedar (*Thuja plicata*), Alaska yellow-cedar (*Chamaecyparis nootkatensis*).

- ☐ Coppice
- ☐ Artificial regeneration
- ☐ Seeding: Species and source of seed (general vicinity location of seed source)

☐ Planting: Species: _____ Date of proposed planting: _____

Source of seedlings (location of seed source): _____

See Appendix B for further reforestation details.

IV. Roads and Crossing Structures

A. Road Design, Construction, and Maintenance

Roads will be designed, constructed, and maintained to prevent significant adverse impacts on water quality and fish habitat (AS 41.17.060(b)(5)), and site productivity (AS 41.17.060(c)(5)). Roads will comply with the best management practices in the Forest Resources and Practices Regulations (11 AAC 95.285 – 95.335). All roads used in this timber sale will conform at a minimum to the Division of Forestry & Fire Protection Road Standards, site specific design may supersede this standard and will typically be specified and applied through the timber sale contract.

Roads or other means required for the access and removal of this timber from the harvest area(s) or unit(s) are listed in Table 5A, 5B, and 5C.

Table 5A. Road Reconditioning and Use

Road ID	Harvest Unit	Mile**	Road Class	Maximum Grade %*	Constructed By	Maintained By
1470020.70R	--	0.55	Spur	12	Existing	Purchaser
147-100	1	0.23	Spur	12	Existing	Purchaser

Table 5B. New Road Construction and Use

Road ID	Harvest Unit	Mile/ Station **	Road Class	Maximum Grade %	Constructed By	Maintained By
147-100	1	0.92	Spur	18	Purchaser	Purchaser
147-110	1	0.14	Spur	17	Purchaser	Purchaser
147-120	1	0.23	Spur	13	Purchaser	Purchaser
147-130	1	0.51	Spur	16	Purchaser	Purchaser
147-326	1	0.11	Spur	12	Purchaser	Purchaser

Table 5C. Road Use Permits Required

Road ID	Harvest Unit	Mile/ Station **	Road Class	Maximum Grade %	Ownership	Maintained By
1470000	-	0.11	Primary	12	Sealaska	Purchaser

Road ID	Harvest Unit	Mile/ Station **	Road Class	Maximum Grade %	Ownership	Maintained By
1470020	-	0.29	Secondary	12	Sealaska	Purchaser
1470020	-	0.42	Secondary	12	USFS	Purchaser
1470020.70R	-	0.22	Temp Spur	12	USFS	Purchaser

Road Class is as defined in the DOF Road Standards.

**Note: Roads must be less than 20% grade per 8 AAC 61.1060 Additional Logging Standards.*

*** One station equals 100 feet. One mile equals 5,280 feet.*

Reconditioning typically includes grading and ditch maintenance with localized surface replacement.

B. Soil Erosion / Mass Wasting

Maximum percent side slopes: 40%

☒ Maximum percent side slopes are $\leq 50\%$

☐ Maximum percent side slopes are $> 50\%$

☒ There are no indicators of unstable areas where roads will be constructed

☐ Indicators of unstable areas were identified and will be mitigated by actions indicated below:

Table 6. Road Erosion Control Risk and Mitigation

Road ID	Mile/ Station or Point Label	Identified Erosion Risk	Risk Level	Mitigation
All	--	None	<i>Low</i>	Standard FRPA Best Management Practices

General Timber Sale Erosion Control:

☐ Grass seeding

☐ Erosion control mats

☐ Wattle

☒ Drivable water bars

☐ Other: _____

☐ Not applicable

C. Crossing Structures

Are you removing or replacing drainage structures? ☒ YES ☐ NO

☐ No crossing structures are needed within the project area.

☒ Crossing structures will be placed in access roads as described in the table below:

Table 7. Required Drainage and Crossing Structures on Known Surface Waters

Road ID	Point Label	Bridge Length (ft.) or Culvert Diameter (in.)	Structure Type [ex. Corrugated Plastic Pipe, Log Stringer, Fabricated, Ice]	AS 41.17.950 Stream Classification	ADF&G AWC Number	Duration of crossing structure in place
147-130	M206	24"	CPP	Surface Water	N/A	Close of Timber Sale
147-200	M336	24"	CPP	Surface Water	N/A	Close of Timber Sale
1470320	M337	18"	CPP	Surface Water	N/A	Close of Timber Sale

Roads constructed for the timber sale that are left open will be subject to maintenance standards under 11 AAC 95. 315. Otherwise, roads constructed for the timber sale will be closed, subject to standards under 11 AAC 95.320.

Table 8. Road Closures

Road ID	Segment	Closure Type All Season/Winter	Estimated Closure Date	Projected Road Use after Timber Harvest
1470320	North of rock pit on state land	All Season	End of harvest	Silviculture
147-105	All	All Season	End of harvest	Silviculture
147-100	All	All Season	End of harvest	Silviculture
147-110	All	All Season	End of harvest	Silviculture
147-120	All	All Season	End of harvest	Silviculture
147-130	All	All Season	End of harvest	Silviculture
147-200	All	All Season	End of harvest	Silviculture

E. Material Extraction

- ☐ There will be no material extraction sites in the project area.
- ☐ Material extraction and associated overburden disposal will be located outside of riparian areas and muskegs. Material extraction and disposal will be located as shown on the operation map, in a manner that prevents runoff from entering surface waters.
- ☒ Other: Depending on suitable material availability, a rock pit will be developed for construction of the road. The development of a pit will be part of the timber purchaser's operating plan prior to commencing operations and subject to DOF approval.

F. Other Resources Affected by Roads or Material Extraction

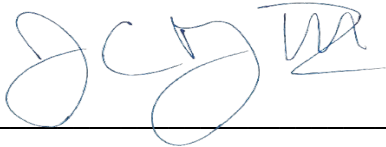
List resources other than water, habitat or cultural resources potentially impacted by road construction, and indicate how impacts will be mitigated. Other affected resources could be, but are not limited to mining claims, scenic areas, recreational trails, etc.

Table 9. Other Affected Resources

Impacted Resource	Reviewing Agency	Impact / Mitigation Actions
--	--	--

V. Approvals

This Forest Land Use Plan has been reviewed by the Division of Forestry & Fire Protection and provides the information necessary to be adopted by the Department of Natural Resources as required by AS 38.05.112.



Commissioner
Department of Natural Resources

8.6.25

Date

If you have any questions, please contact the Southeast Area Office at (907) 225-3070 or email at dnr.dof.sse@alaska.gov

VI. Reconsideration

An eligible person affected by this decision of the department, and who provided timely written comment to the department, may request reconsideration to the DNR Commissioner per AS 44.37.011 and 11 AAC 02. Any request for reconsideration must be received by the Commissioner's Office within twenty (20) calendar days after issuance of the decision under 11 AAC 02.040. The Commissioner may order or deny a request for reconsideration within thirty (30) calendar days after issuance of the decision. If the Commissioner takes no action on a request for reconsideration within thirty (30) days after issuance of the decision, the request for reconsideration is considered denied. The Commissioner's decision on reconsideration, other than a remand decision, is a final administrative order and decision of the department. An eligible person must first request reconsideration to the Commissioner before seeking relief in superior court. The Alaska State Courts establish its own rules for timely appealing final administrative orders and decisions of the department.

Reconsideration may be mailed or hand-delivered to the DNR Commissioner's Office, 550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 1400, Anchorage, Alaska, 99501; or faxed to (907)-269-8918 or sent by electronic mail to dnr.appeals@alaska.gov. Reconsideration must be accompanied by the fee established in 11 AAC 05.160(d)(1)(F), which has been set at \$200 under the provisions of 11 AAC 05.160(a)-(b).

If no reconsideration is filed by that date, this decision goes into effect as a final order and decision 30 days from signature.

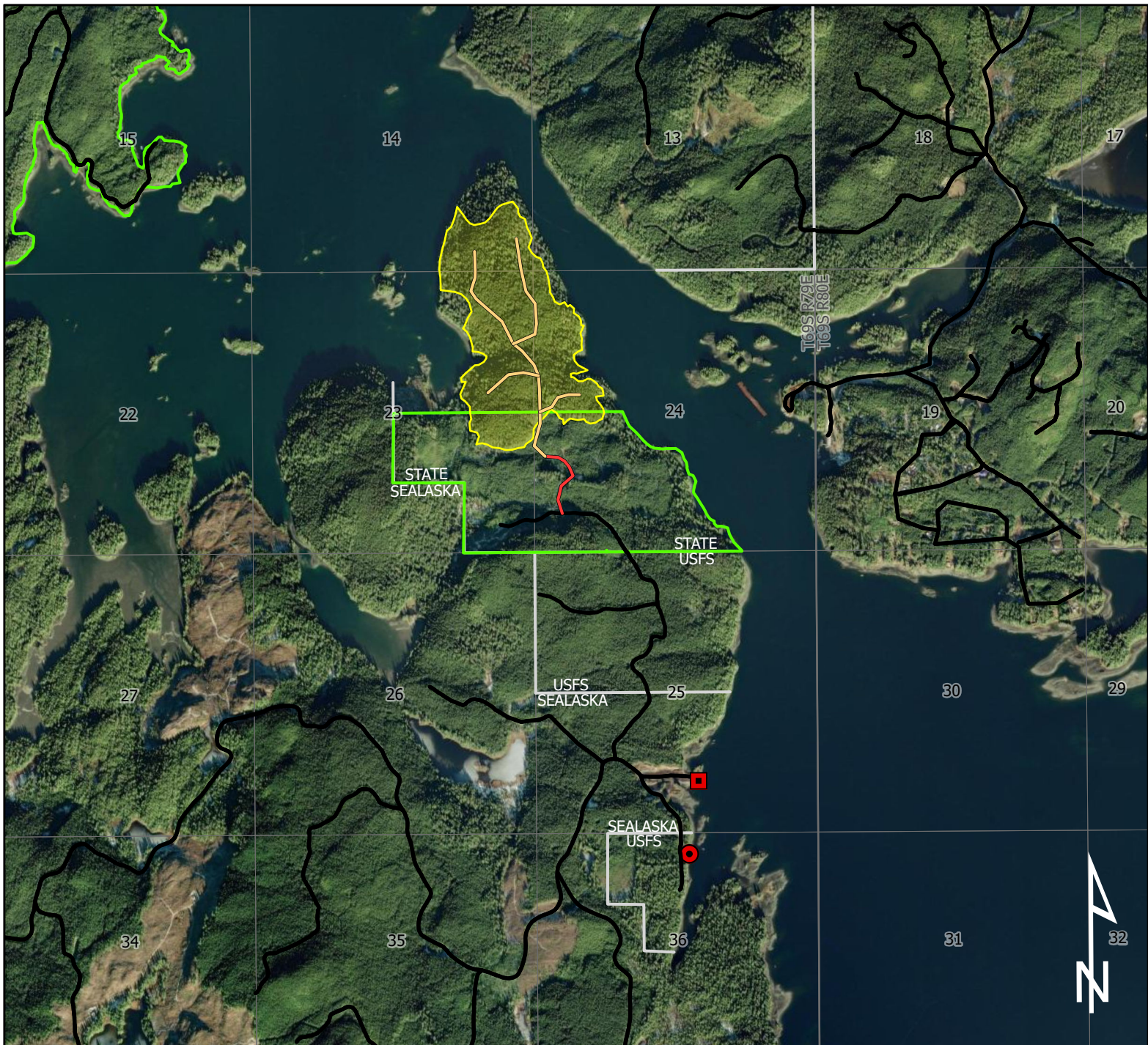
A copy of 11 AAC 02 is enclosed as part of the Best Interest Finding (Appendix C) and is also available on the department's website at <https://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/pdf/DNR-11-AAC-02.pdf>.

If you have any questions, please contact Greg Staunton of the Southeast Area Office at (907) 225-3070 or e-mail dnr.dof.sse@alaska.gov

Appendix A: Timber Sale Maps

Appendix A1 Vicinity Map (1 page)

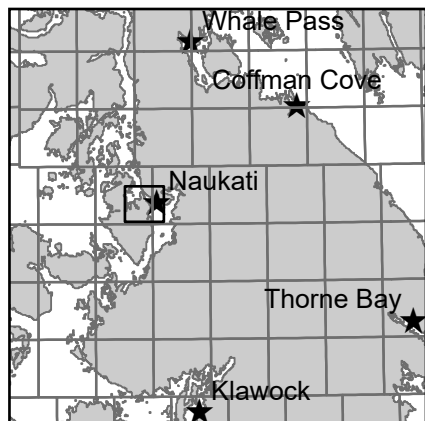
Appendix A2 Unit Map (1 page)



0 0.25 0.5 1
Miles

Area Map 1 in = 1/2 mile

T69S R79E
Copper River Meridian



Vicinity Map 1 in = 20 miles

Legend

- Proposed Harvest Unit
- Southeast State Forest (SESF)
- Reconstruction
- Proposed Road
- Existing Road
- Property Line
- Nichin Cove LTF

APPENDIX A1 SSE-1392-K TUXEKAN TIMBER SALE AREA MAP



08/04/2025 GS



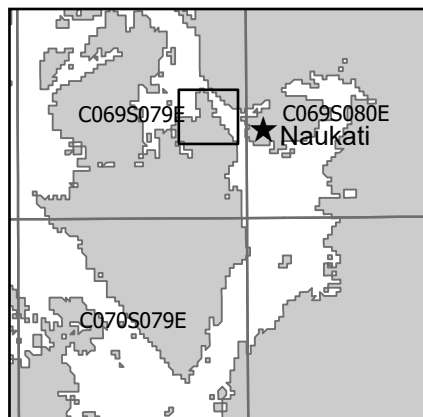
Area Map 1 in = 1000 ft

T69S R79E Section(s): 13, 14, 23, 24
Copper River Meridian

Contour Interval = 10 FT
Source: USGS DEM

Legend

-  Eagle Nest (USFWS)
 Culverts
- ## Roads
-  Inactive
 Closed
 Proposed
 Reconstruction
 General Water Quality
 Property Line
 Proposed Unit
 Southeast State Forest (SESF)



Vicinity Map 1 in = 5 miles

**APPENDIX A2
SSE-1392-K
TUXEKAN TIMBER SALE
SALE MAP**



08/04/2025 GS

Appendix B: Supporting Information

Note: Silvicultural and stand information has also been described in the BIF.

Alaska Forest Practices and Regulations.

<http://forestry.alaska.gov/forestpractices>

Forest Road Standards.

http://forestry.alaska.gov/Assets/pdfs/resources/forest_road_standard_design_20151231.pdf