



STATE OF ALASKA

DIVISION OF FORESTRY & FIRE PROTECTION

Department of Natural Resources

550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1450
Anchorage, AK 99501-3561

SUSITNA VALLEY FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN SCOPING PERIOD

Virtual meeting | October 7, 2025 | 12:00 – 1:30 PM

Meeting Agenda

Welcome and Introductions	Trevor Dobell-Carlsson
Project Area and Background	Stephen Nickel
Planning Process Overview	Geneva Preston
Q&A and Discussion	
Closing Remarks	Trevor Dobell-Carlsson

Related Information

Resource	QR Code
Susitna Valley Forest Management Plan Project Website https://forestry.alaska.gov/SusitnaValleyFP/	
DOF Forest Inventory Reports https://forestry.alaska.gov/timber/forestinventories	
Division of Forestry & Fire Protection Home Page https://forestry.alaska.gov/index	
DOF Forest Resources Web Viewer https://forestrymaps-soa-dnr.hub.arcgis.com/	



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Susitna Valley FMP Scoping

Project Information

Summary

The Susitna Forestry Guidelines were published in 1991 to direct forestry activities on Forest classified lands within the Susitna Valley. In response to developments in the timber market, regional ecology, internal planning processes, and updates to the regional Department of Natural Resources (DNR) plans for this area in the last 34 years, the Division of Forestry & Fire Protection (DOF) is developing a Susitna Valley (SV) Forest Management Plan (FMP) that will supersede the 1991 Forestry Guidelines. This plan will include management policy for the forest resources on Forest classified lands in the Susitna Valley and guidance for compatible forest management if other projects are proposed on those lands. The ultimate goal is managing State-owned lands for multiple uses (AS 38.05.300).

Forest Management Plans

A Forest Management Plan (FMP) is a document that provides guidance to present and future DOF staff, helping them make informed decisions about activities and projects on forested lands. These management guidelines focus on timber production (the primary purpose for forest-classified lands and designated State Forests) and they provide information about how other resources or uses in forested land (like recreation or water quality and quantity) may interact with forest resources. On almost all State-owned lands, the goal for any classification is multiple-use management. Multiple use management of forest resources on State-owned lands means the DOF is required to allow a range of resource uses, as long as those uses are compatible with the primary purpose identified for a parcel.

Legislatively designated State Forests are required by law to have a Forest Management Plan, but the State can develop a FMP for the forest classified lands in an area, even if those lands are not affected by a Legislative Designation. A Forest Management Plan does not create a State Forest. Only an act of the Legislature can create or remove a State Forest Designation

Affected Lands

The Susitna Valley Forest Management Plan will provide management guidance for Forest classified or co-classified lands in the Susitna Valley. The classification of lands is determined through DNR Regional Plans

The SV FMP will complement three Regional Plans:

- Susitna Matanuska Area Plan (2011)
- Southeast Susitna Area Plan (2008)
- Fish Creek Management Plan (2009)

The SV FMP will provide more detailed guidance for the management of forest resources on lands that are identified to contain forest resources by these regional



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plans. The information published in the SV FMP must be compatible with the existing management intent, resources, and uses that are described in the plans listed above.

Public Scoping Period

The Scoping Period is an early phase in the planning process. As the planning team is developing language for the plan draft, we are researching current and past activities and uses in the planning area, consulting expert opinion from partner agencies, and soliciting input from members of the public. The scoping period is your opportunity to share information you would like the DOF to have as part of the policy development process. Later in the planning process, a draft plan will be released for public review. The scoping period is an opportunity for the public to share information or concepts they'd like to see reflected in that draft.

Scoping meetings are not your only opportunity to contribute. These meetings are planned to share information about the project and how to participate. You can share your ideas through mail, email, or over the phone at any time during the Scoping Period.

Contact the Planning Team

Stephen Nickel	Mat-Su & Southwest Area Forester	(907)761-6301
Trevor Dobell Carlsson	Federal Programs Manager & Forest Planner	(907)269-8667
Geneva Preston	Forest Planner	(907)451-1645
Project Email Account	dnr.dof.matsuplanning@alaska.gov	
Mailing Address	Alaska Division of Forestry & Fire Protection Attn: Forest Planning 550 W. 7 th Ave. Ste. 1450 Anchorage, AK 99501	
Project Website	https://forestry.alaska.gov/SusitnaValleyFP/	

Future Meetings and Planning Phases

Future benchmarks in the planning process and meetings will be announced through the Alaska Online Public Notice System: <https://aws.state.ak.us/OnlinePublicNotices/> and announced on the project website.

The mission of the Division of Forestry & Fire Protection is to develop, conserve, and enhance Alaska's forests to provide a sustainable supply of forest resources for Alaskans

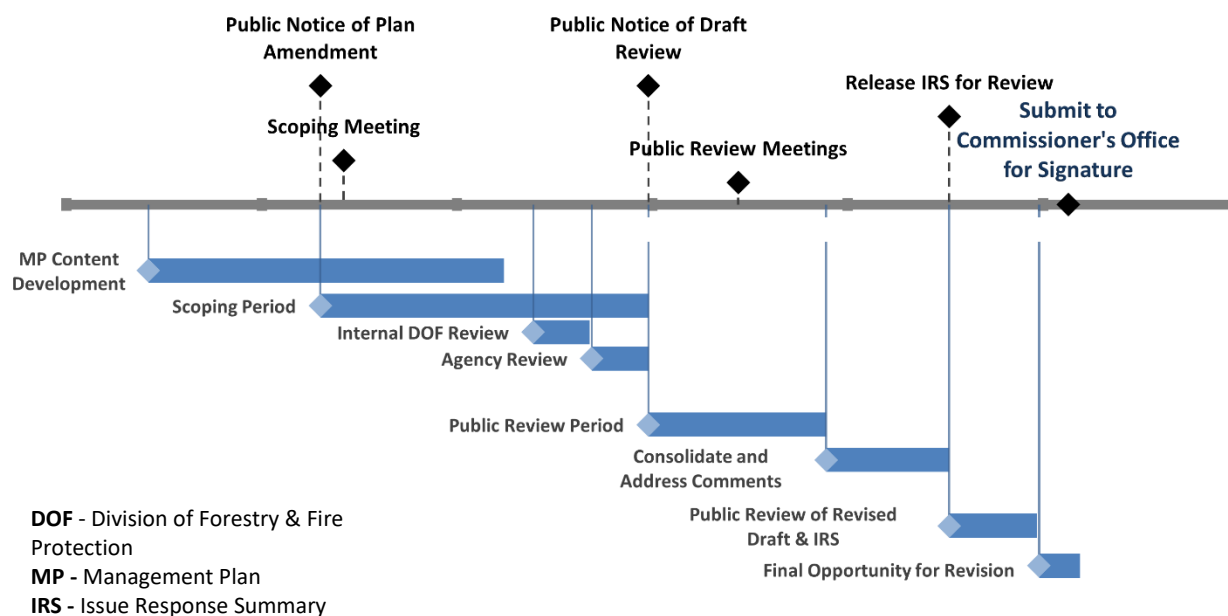


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Division of Forestry & Fire Protection Forest Management Plan Process



The steps and timing of DOF's planning process.

The black diamonds above the grey line represent events, while the blue bars below the grey line represent the processes that drive those events. In general, the events shown here are announced through Alaska's Online Public Notice System

Talk to a Forest Planner

Geneva Preston - (907)451-1645

Trevor Dobell-Carlsson – (907)269-8667

Visit the Project Website

<https://forestry.alaska.gov/SusitnaValleyFP/>



Send us your questions or comments
dnr.dof.matsuplanning@alaska.gov