

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



Coastal Region-Southeast Area Office

**Preliminary Best Interest Finding
and
Forest Land Use Plan**

**Tuxekan Timber Sale
SSE-1392-K**

January 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 and 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 |
| 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 |
| SHPO | State Historic Preservation Office |
| UA | University of Alaska |
| USFS | United States Forest Service |

Table of Contents

| | | |
|-------------------|--|-----------|
| I. | PROPOSED ACTION | 4 |
| II. | STATUTORY AND REGULATORY AUTHORITY | 4 |
| III. | ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD | 4 |
| IV. | SCOPE OF DECISION | 4 |
| V. | PROJECT LOCATION, LAND STATUS, AND DESCRIPTION | 6 |
| VI. | PUBLIC REVIEW | 13 |
| VII. | PUBLIC NOTICE..... | 13 |
| VIII. | RECOMMENDATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION | 14 |
| IX. | SIGNATURE..... | 14 |
| X. | APPENDICES | 15 |
| Appendix A | SSE-1392-K Tuxekan Timber Sale Area Map..... | 16 |
| Appendix B | References..... | 17 |
| Appendix C | Appeal and Request for Reconsideration Regulations (reserved) | 18 |
| Appendix D | SSE-1392-K Tuxekan Timber Sale Comments & Responses (reserved)..... | 19 |
| Appendix E | SSE-1392-K Tuxekan Timber Sale Forest Land Use Plan | 20 |

I. PROPOSED ACTION

The Division of Forestry and Fire Protection (DOF) is proposing to offer for sale approximately 212 acres of mixed age timber from Southeast State Forest (SESF) and General Use (GU) State lands on the Prince of Wales (POW) Island area (Tuxekan Island), approximately 1.0 miles west of the community of Naukati Bay (see Appendix A, Timber Sale Area Map). Timber is predominately young growth Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*) and western hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*) with interspersed residual old growth hemlock and redcedar (*Thuja plicata*). The volume to be offered totals approximately 5,000 thousand board feet (MBF). The DOF proposes to sell the commercial timber in one competitive sale under provisions of AS 38.05.120.

Selling the timber in an open and competitive manner using the AS 38.05.120 authority in Southeast Alaska will likely generate a stumpage revenue to the State. Purchasers of competitive sales typically use the round log export market and obtain higher returns on their investment. Most of this sale is young growth timber; while there has been interest in shifting harvest activity away from old growth timber, there has not been significant interest to date manufacturing young growth timber in existing mills in Southeast Alaska.

The management objectives for the proposed timber sale area are:

1. To follow the Alaska Department of Natural Resources' (ADNR) constitutional mandate to encourage the development of the State's renewable resources (Article 8.1), 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 in Southeast Alaska due to the combination of road building, logging, trucking and potentially milling;

II. STATUTORY AND REGULATORY AUTHORITY

The Division is taking this action under the authority of

- AS 38.05.035(e) Best Interest Finding;
- AS 38.05.110-120 and 11 AAC 71, Timber Sale Statutes and Regulations; and
- AS 41.17.010-950 and 11 AAC 95, Forest Resources and Practices Statutes and Regulations.

III. ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

The Division will maintain an administrative record regarding the decision of whether or not to proceed with the action as proposed. This record will be maintained at the DOF's Southeast Area Office filed as SSE-1392-K.

IV. SCOPE OF DECISION

This Preliminary Best Interest Finding (BIF) and draft Forest Land Use Plan (FLUP) are parts three and four of a six-part process to design, sell, and administer timber sales; for this timber sale the documents are combined into a single document. This preliminary BIF and draft FLUP describes the DOF's intent to sell approximately 212 acres of young and old growth timber composed of western hemlock, Sitka spruce, western red cedar, and

Alaska yellow-cedar on Southeast State Forest and General Use Classified land located within portions of Sections 13, 14, 23, and 24, Township 69 S, Range 79 E, CRM. The following list summarizes the overall process:

Part 1: Regional Planning. The Department of Natural Resources develops area plans and state forest management plans to designate appropriate uses for state land, classify the land accordingly, and establish management guidelines for multiple use. These plans determine where timber sales are an allowed use, and what other uses must be considered when designing and implementing timber sales. Subsequent land use decisions must be consistent with provisions contained within the applicable area and/or forest plans. The timber sale area in this preliminary BIF is covered primarily by the Subunit 7b of the Prince of Wales Island Area Plan (POWIAP). The Land Classification of Tuxekan Island in this area is General Use (GU) and Southeast State Forest (SESF) Lands. The sale is accessed through SESF land on its south side and is covered by the Southeast State Forest Management Plan. The Land Classification of that area is SESF.

Part 2: Five-year Schedule of Timber Sales (AS 38.05.113). The Southern Southeast Area Office prepares a Five-Year Schedule of Timber Sales (FYSTS) every other year. The Schedule identifies proposed sales, including their location, volume, and main access routes. The FYSTS is a scoping document that provides an opportunity for public, agency, and industry to identify potential issues and areas of interest for further consideration in the BIF. Under AS 38.05.113, proposed timber sales within the area covered by this BIF must appear in at least one of the two FYSTSs preceding the sale. This timber sale area has been identified in the FYSTS 2026-2030.

Part 3: Best Interest Finding (AS 38.05.035(e)). DOF must adopt a BIF before selling timber. A best interest finding is the decision document that:

- Ensures that the best interest of the State will be served by this proposed action.
- Establishes the overall area within which the timber sale may occur,
- Determines the amount of timber that will be offered for sale and the duration of the sale,
- Sets the overall harvest and reforestation strategy for the sale area,
- Determines whether the sale proposal complies with the Constitutional requirement to manage for sustained yield by evaluating the amount of timber in the sale and the annual allowable cut for the affected area,
- Selects the appropriate method of sale (i.e., competitive or negotiated sale), and
- Determines the appraisal method that will be used to determine the sale price.

Part 4: Forest Land Use Plans (AS 38.05.112). Prior to authorizing harvest of timber on any area greater than 10 acres, the DOF must adopt a site-specific Forest Land Use Plan (FLUP) for the harvest area. DOF has prepared draft FLUPs for the harvest area within the overall sale area covered by this best interest finding. The FLUP specifies the site, size, timing, and harvest methods for harvest units within the sale area. The FLUP also addresses site-specific requirements for access construction and maintenance, reforestation, and multiple use management. The FLUP is based on field work and site-specific analyses by the DOF. Appropriate regulatory agencies have been consulted, and the plan is subject to public review.

Part 5: Timber Sales and Contracts. Following adoption of the BIF, the DOF may offer the timber for sale using the identified authority. The Division will sign a contract with the purchaser for each sale. The contract will include stipulations to ensure compliance with the BIF, FLUP, and statutory requirements.

Part 6: Sale Administration. DOF will administer the timber sale and conduct field inspections to ensure compliance with the BIF, FLUP, timber sale contract, and applicable laws, including the Alaska Forest Resources

and Practices Act (FRPA) and regulations (AS 41.17 and 11 AAC 95), and forest management statutes and regulations in AS 38.05 and 11 AAC 71.

V. PROJECT LOCATION, LAND STATUS, AND DESCRIPTION

A. Location

The timber sale area is found within 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 Appendix A1, Area Map, Best Interest Finding, SSE-1392-K Tuxekan Timber Sale.

B. Title status

Patented to the state (Patent No. 50-2002-0072) under National Forest Community Grant (NFCG) 346.

C. Land use planning, classification, and management intent

The proposed timber sale area is within the geographic region covered by the POWIAP (adopted 1985, updated 1998). The area in this PBIF is covered by the Sea Otter Sound Subunit 7b in the POWIAP with land classification of General Use (GU) and in the Southeast State Forest (SESF). The DMLW is the land manager for all State lands other than the SESF in this timber sale. The DOF is the forest resource manager for all SESF lands contained in the timber sale.

The primary purpose of the state forest is, “timber management that provides for the production, utilization, and replenishment of timber resources while allowing other beneficial uses of public land and resources” (AS 41.17.200(a)). SESF lands are classified as forest land. The DOF is the land manager for the SESF;

The specific management intent for the uses of lands other than SESF in the in the timber sale area follow (excerpted from the POWIAP Sea Otter Sound Subunit 7b – Tuxekan):

BACKGROUND

This subunit includes the southwest part of Sea Otter Sound, including Tuxekan Island, Tuxekan Passage, and a section of Prince of Wales Island just north of Naukati to Ahtun Point. The Naukati area is in Subunit 7c.

Tuxekan Island has an isolated road system for timber harvest. Access is primarily by boat or floatplane.

MANAGEMENT INTENT AND GUIDELINES

“State tidelands and submerged lands will be managed for multiple use. Logging, centered on Tuxekan Island, is the primary economic activity. State tidelands and submerged lands will be managed to support this activity.”

“Jinhi Bay has protected waters that can be accessed from the Tuxekan road system. This subunit will be managed for multiple uses. Water dependent commercial or industrial activities are both considered appropriate at Jinhi Bay, and there is limited usable waterfront land for water-related

commercial or industrial activities at Naukati. Inland areas can support a variety of uses, including limited timber harvest.

All state lands in this subunit are open to mineral entry.”

FISH AND WILDLIFE

Resource Information:

Crucial habitat for salmon rearing and schooling extends to a depth of 40 feet at mean lower low water at the mouths of anadromous fish streams unless otherwise indicated.

“Trapping and deer hunting on the uplands adjacent to Tuxekan Passage are not designated because they do not meet the criteria for intensive harvest.”

Management Intent:

Lands designated fish and wildlife habitat and harvest will be managed to avoid significant impacts to habitats and traditional harvest activities. Impacts on non-designated community harvest areas should be considered when authorizing activities (see Map 1-1).

FORESTRY

Resource Information:

The northwestern parcel has experienced extensive timber harvest and the forest consists of closed canopy stands. The southeastern parcel is only affected by timber harvest in its southern part. Commercial forest stands occur within the interior of the southeastern parcel.

Management Intent:

Log transfer for Tuxekan Island timber will continue at the long-term site in Nichin Cove (Site 7.22 LT). The U.S. Forest Service may need a log transfer on the west side of Tuxekan Island (Site 7.20 LT) for approximately 15 MMBF of timber. West Tuxekan (Site 7.20 LT) has been designated Forestry but road haul to Nichin Cove is preferred (see guideline below).

State tidelands and submerged lands designated “F” (Forestry) will be managed to support timber harvest activities consistent with other co-primary designations and guidelines. Upland areas designated General Use may be used for timber harvest subject to the restrictions of Chapter 2 guidelines. All harvest activity must also be compatible with future commercial/industrial uses adjacent to Jinhi Bay. The latter areas are not expected to develop significantly during this planning period, but harvest operations must be coordinated with any site development activities conducted for this type of development. Because of the extensive past cutting, further harvest in the northwest parcel during the planning period is inappropriate. Timber harvest in the southeastern tract must consider habitat requirements adjacent to the coast during the FLUP planning process.

D. Current access and land use

The adjacent ownerships are the USFS and Sealaska. The road access to this sale area is by Tuxekan Island's isolated road system. The sale area is located approximately 1.5 miles north of the Sealaska Nichin Cove Log Transfer Facility (LTF) and accessed by the USFS 1470020 and 1470020.7 roads. The use of the Nichin Cove LTF and the 1470020 road through Sealaska and USFS lands is contingent on two separate facility and road use permits from Sealaska and the USFS respectively which are required before commercial traffic related to the harvest may occur across those lands.

The nearby community of Naukati provides logistical support and connection to outlying communities and camps in Sea Otter Sound. The community of Naukati is an unincorporated community. A public floatplane, harbor and boat launch views Tuxekan Island and the proposed timber sale area. Several state subdivisions exist in the community, and more have been considered and are in the planning stage.

Tuxekan Island and the surrounding areas have been extensively harvested by the USFS and other landowners for the past fifty years. There are extensive road systems on the various islands including POW and Tuxekan. The footprint of this sale was harvested in the early 1950's using A frame methods. The community of Naukati was a large logging camp during the long-term contract with Ketchikan Pulp Company.

In late 2014, Sealaska Corporation received conveyance from the Forest Service of a significant portion of Tuxekan Island. This block of land is located approximately one mile to the south of the proposed sale area. Sealaska managed a timber harvest operation on the island for two years after conveyance but is not currently operating in the area. Sealaska Corporation has described its management intent for the property as focused on forest management. In 2018 Sealaska Corporation became the first entity in Alaska to be issued carbon-offset credits associated with carbon sequestration projects. Since that time there has been no active commercial timber harvest operations under Sealaska Corporation ownership on Tuxekan Island.

The State created the Southeast State Forest in 2010 and 2011 from lands previously classified General Use; one of these areas is located on Tuxekan Island and a portion of the proposed sale is on SESF. The DOF sold a 138-acre timber sale (SSE-0986K) on what is now SESF land directly south of the project area in 2001 which now has potential for pre-commercial thinning. Approximately 11 acres of timber northwest of that sale blew down in 2018. The DOF salvaged that timber in 2024 in the Jinhi Bay timber sale.

Viking Lumber Company currently moves state and Mental Health Trust timber through the Naukati LTF on POW to the west of the Naukati public boat launch approximately ¾ miles east of the proposed timber sale area.

Commercial oyster farms are located to the west of the peninsula on state tidelands and move product to market through Naukati.

E. Background and description of proposal

1. Background:

The demand for State timber is currently unprecedented due to the decrease and uncertainty of the federal timber supply. A diversified economy with a timber industry component has traditionally been important to southeast Alaska due to the extensive forests, its isolation and numerous economic benefits. By

direction from the Governor and Legislature, the Division of Forestry and Fire Protection manages a timber sale program that makes timber volume available to help sustain the region's timber industry and economy.

Where commercial timber exists proximate to the tract, it was generally considered appropriate to include it in the sale in order to contribute to the revenue of the project, but only if its harvest was not expected to significantly detract from other resources.

2. Timber Volume and Sustained Yield:

The total estimated saw log volume identified in this sale is approximately 5,000 MBF based on DOF staff estimates.

The Division of Forestry and Fire Protection is required to manage its timber harvest on State Forest and General Use classified land on a sustained yield basis. "Sustained Yield" means the "achievement and maintenance in perpetuity of an annual or regular periodic output of the various renewable resources of the State land consistent with multiple use" (AS 38.04.910). The Division's policy is to define "regular periodic output" as output over a ten-year period. This is done to allow for market fluctuations and operational restrictions. Based on the DOF inventory of the land and the timber base, it uses an annual allowable cut of 9,100 MBF per year for the Southern Southeast Area. Timber sales that are sold in the Southeast Area will remain within the constraints of the allowable cut and will comply with sustained yield requirements at the time they are sold. The duration of the timber sale contract(s) will be governed by the economic conditions at the time of the sale. This timber sale is well within the annual allowable cut for forest managed state land.

3. Harvest Unit Design:

Reconnaissance by the DOF indicates that the sale areas are generally harvestable using ground-based logging techniques. This logging system will need to take advantage of directional timber falling techniques and utilize benches and uneven terrain to access all included timber. Areas of wet and or saturated soils will require adequate puncheon in skid trails to minimize impacts to the soil and water quality. Where skid trails are established, soil integrity and soil compaction will be monitored to maintain existing site capacity or improve existing conditions for tree growth. Residual tree conditions will likewise be maintained with the intent to not significantly diminish young growth stands currently regenerating. Retention buffers are planned around two of the three bald eagle nests in the federal record located in the timber sale area; neither nest or Bald Eagle Tree tags were located during initial reconnaissance. Retention of timber on the north end of the island for the cataloged eagle use appears achievable and is planned. The tree or a nest on the south end does not appear to be present due to past wind disturbance; timber is not planned to be retained in that area. Due to historic evidence of windthrow throughout the peninsula, leaving coastal retention areas does not appear to be prudent. In addition, a significant amount of residual defective redcedar timber resides in these shore zones that may add to the value of the timber sale.

During the Fall of 2024 DOF foresters performed field reconnaissance of the proposed timber sale area. The overall objective was to confirm and examine timber types, potential road access, geology, soils, hydrology, cultural resource potential, and fish and wildlife use within the proposed sale area. By January 2025, DOF foresters completed field layout tasks, concurrent with final recon activities. Flagging of

road centerlines, drainage structure locations, harvest unit boundaries, and associated natural resources were mapped in January 2025.

4. Unit Access:

Access to the Tuxekan Timber Sale (SSE-1392-K) is projected to utilize the USFS 1470020 Road going north from Sealaska Nichin Cove LTF. Use of this road and LTF will require the authorization of Sealaska by means of a facility and land use permit from Sealaska and a Road Use Permits (RUP) from the USFS.

F. Resources and management

1. Timber

a. Timber Stand Composition and Structure:

Timber types are primarily a mix of young growth Sitka spruce, and western hemlock with a minor old growth component of western red cedar, western hemlock and Sitka spruce and Alaska yellow cedar. 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 both have evidence of wind disturbance in the residual stand. The young growth is approximately 70 years old. Redcedar is of average quality for Sea Otter Sound. Some mortality is present in the hemlock on the northeast side from hemlock sawfly, generally no salvage value observed for the affected stems.

b. Stand Silvics:

The adjacent timber stand to the south is even-aged young growth timber, last harvested in 2001, with similar topography.

Stand improvement treatments such as pre-commercially thinning overly dense stands have occurred in the area historically. The benefits of thinning are an overall decrease in tree density and competition with an increase in tree growth rate and vigor. Thinning of other regenerating stands within this operating area of the SESF is planned within the next five years.

c. Reforestation and Site Preparation:

The sale area will be reforested in compliance with the Forest Resources and Practices regulations (11 AAC 95.375-.390). The DOF will conduct post-harvest reforestation inspections of all areas of commercial timber harvest to ensure that the stocking of natural regeneration meets or exceeds FRPA reforestation requirements.

Natural regeneration is the preferred regeneration method for this sale, and it is anticipated that adequate stocking levels will be achieved within five years after harvest based on observations directly south in the 2001 clearcut. Experience with this regeneration method on POW has shown that well-stocked stands are readily established after utilizing the clearcut harvest method. Logging will break down the slash piece size and residuals to the ground level, accelerating decomposition and opening more growing space. Disturbance associated with logging will also increase seed bed opportunity and survival by creating mineral soil access and micro relief.

Sitka spruce and western redcedar are the preferred species for reforestation. Spruce and cedar will likely be the favored and dominant species due to anticipated increase in available light,

nutrients and scarification in the units during harvesting operations. Scarification disturbs the vegetative mat to expose mineral soil which in turn provides a more receptive seed bed. Western hemlock will be a major component of the regenerated stand as well since it currently occupies the site, is an aggressive shade tolerant pioneer species, and is providing a seed source.

d. Topography and Soils:

The sale area is located on rolling near-coastal terrain with Jinhi Bay to the west and the Tuxekan Narrows to the north and west. The unit ranges from 0-200 feet above sea level. Predominant geology is limestone bedrock types overlain with brown mineral and organic soils. Karst geology is evident in the sale area with formations scattered throughout. Abrupt short relief and solution features are present. Steeper slopes contain moderately well-drained soils. Benches and more level terrain contain poorly drained soils including areas of saturated soils.

2. Wildlife habitat and harvest

As required by AS 41.17.098, DOF provides due deference to ADF&G to ensure all wildlife habitat issues are addressed by the proposed timber sale design. The proposed timber sale was identified in the 2026-2030 FYSTS sent to ADF&G. No specific design issues have been identified.

The United State Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) publishes a geodatabase of identified bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) nest locations. Per 11 AAC 95.340 (c), the DOF avoids the nest locations in the planning of state timber sales. Three eagle nest locations were indicated by the database and searched for unsuccessfully in the field. Retention buffers of 330' were placed around database nest locations for timber sale planning purposes. The last time these trees were physically documented was in the late 1980's. Evidence of natural stand disturbance (windthrow) was observed in all three tree locations. The DOF plans to reserve timber for the eagle tree habitat potential on the north end of the island; habitat retention is not planned for on the south end given the size and poor condition of the residual timber.

Evidence of Sitka black-tailed deer (*Odocoileus hemionus sitkensis*) (tracks/scat/beds), black bear (*Ursus americanus*) (scat), and Alexander Archipelago wolves (*Canis lupus ligoni*) (scat, vocalizations) was not significantly evident in the timber sale area. Wolf vocalization was heard several times to the south on Sealaska land during reconnaissance of the timber sale area in the fall of 2024

3. Fish Habitat, Water Resources, and Water Quality

The proposed sale has been designed and managed to protect fish habitat and water quality in compliance with the Forest Resources and Practices Act and regulations (AS 41.17 and 11 AAC 95). As required by AS 41.17.098, DOF provided due deference to ADF&G to ensure all fish and wildlife habitat issues are addressed by the proposed timber sale design. DOF provides due deference to the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) for all water quality issues.

Surface waters within and near the proposed timber sale were surveyed by field foresters. Streams were categorized with assistance from ADF&G GIS stream data related to the cataloged anadromous and high value resident fish streams.

Operations adjacent to cataloged anadromous habit are not anticipated. Two small surface waters are noted in the southwest portion of the sale. Surface waters in general were not prevalent. Most drainage in the area appears to be subsurface.

4. Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources.

There are no known commercial recreation operations that use the proposed sale area where harvest will occur. Recreation in the timber sale is dispersed and tied closely to the existing road system and saltwater; use is occasional in nature for such things as hunting, berry picking, and wildlife viewing which will be limited during active harvest operations. The area is not known to have unique tourism values at this time.

5. Cultural Resources.

The DOF works with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to identify and avoid known cultural, historic or prehistoric sites in planning the proposed access routes and harvest areas.

G. Costs and benefits

The DOF will appraise the timber value in compliance with 11 AAC 71.092. The sale area will be appraised by using a residual value appraisal method. Selling values and extraction cost data are obtained from industry sources, the United States Forest Service, and previous operations.

Based on DOF observations of the project area and historic markets, timber revenue is projected to cover administration, access and operating costs for this sale area and possibly provide stumpage royalty to the State. The initial analysis of the costs of removal and the potential value of the timber indicates that the young growth hemlock and spruce timber will be exported in the round based on market demand and to generate adequate return for expenses.

The DOF projects that it will need a large sale format in the proposed area to attract the capital to mobilize and access the site(s). Access will be improved on State Forest land for timber management which increases the long-term operational flexibility of the forest to meet its purpose.

While the DOF encourages utilization of the timber resource by the timber purchaser, significant residual firewood potential typically is present after a timber sale is logged. The DOF is not planning to leave the road systems open or inactive for this purpose due to the road system being isolated.

Timber sales have traditionally created broad economic benefits to the communities of Southeast Alaska. The business communities on POW and other nearby SE communities will receive direct economic benefits by providing support services for the operators such as transportation, fuel, food, housing, medical and miscellaneous supplies.

VI. PUBLIC REVIEW

The public and agencies are invited to review and comment on this Preliminary Best Interest Finding and draft Forest Land Use Plan. Objections or comments pertaining to the proposed action must be received in writing by the DOF Southeast Area Office **by 4:00 pm February 24, 2025**, to ensure consideration and review. Commenters are encouraged to confirm receipt of their comments by the DOF prior to the submission deadline. Comments should be mailed to the State of Alaska, Division of Forestry and Fire Protection, 2417 Tongass Avenue, Ketchikan, Alaska 99901 or emailed to dnr.dof.sse@alaska.gov. For more information, please contact Greg Staunton at 907-225-3070 or by email at dnr.dof.sse@alaska.gov. To be eligible to appeal the final decision, a person must have provided written comment on this Preliminary Best Interest Finding and draft Forest Land Use Plan by the deadline of: **4:00 pm February 24, 2025**.

VII. PUBLIC NOTICE

The preliminary best interest finding, and decision is publicly noticed in compliance with AS 38.05.945. Notice is posted on the Alaska Online Public Notice System. Notices are also posted at the Ketchikan, Craig, and Thorne Bay Public Libraries. Mailed notices were distributed to a mailing list maintained by the Southeast Area Office and public notices were sent to the post offices of Edna Bay, Ketchikan, Ward Cove, Craig, Klawock, Thorne Bay, Coffman Cove, Naukati, Metlakatla, Wrangell and Petersburg. A legal notice is also provided in the Ketchikan Daily News and the Island Post.

VIII. RECOMMENDATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION

After due consideration of all pertinent information, the ADNR has reached the following preliminary decision: to offer for sale approximately 212 acres of mixed age timber composed of western hemlock, western red cedar, Sitka spruce, and Alaska yellow-cedar on General Use and Southeast State Forest land. Harvest activities on the Southeast State Forest lands will follow the management intent of the of the Southeast State Forest Plan. Activities on General Use lands will follow the management intent of the Prince of Wales Island Area Plan. The DOF finds that this decision satisfies the objectives stated in this document and it is in the best interest of the State to proceed with this action under its authority in AS 38.05.035(e) (Powers and Duties of the Director) and AS 38.05.110-120; 11 AAC 71 (Timber Sale Statutes and Regulations; and AS 41.17.010-.950 and 11 AAC 95 (Forest Resources and Practices Statutes and Regulations).

IX. SIGNATURE

For Greg Staunton, Area Forester
Alaska Division of Forestry & Fire Protection

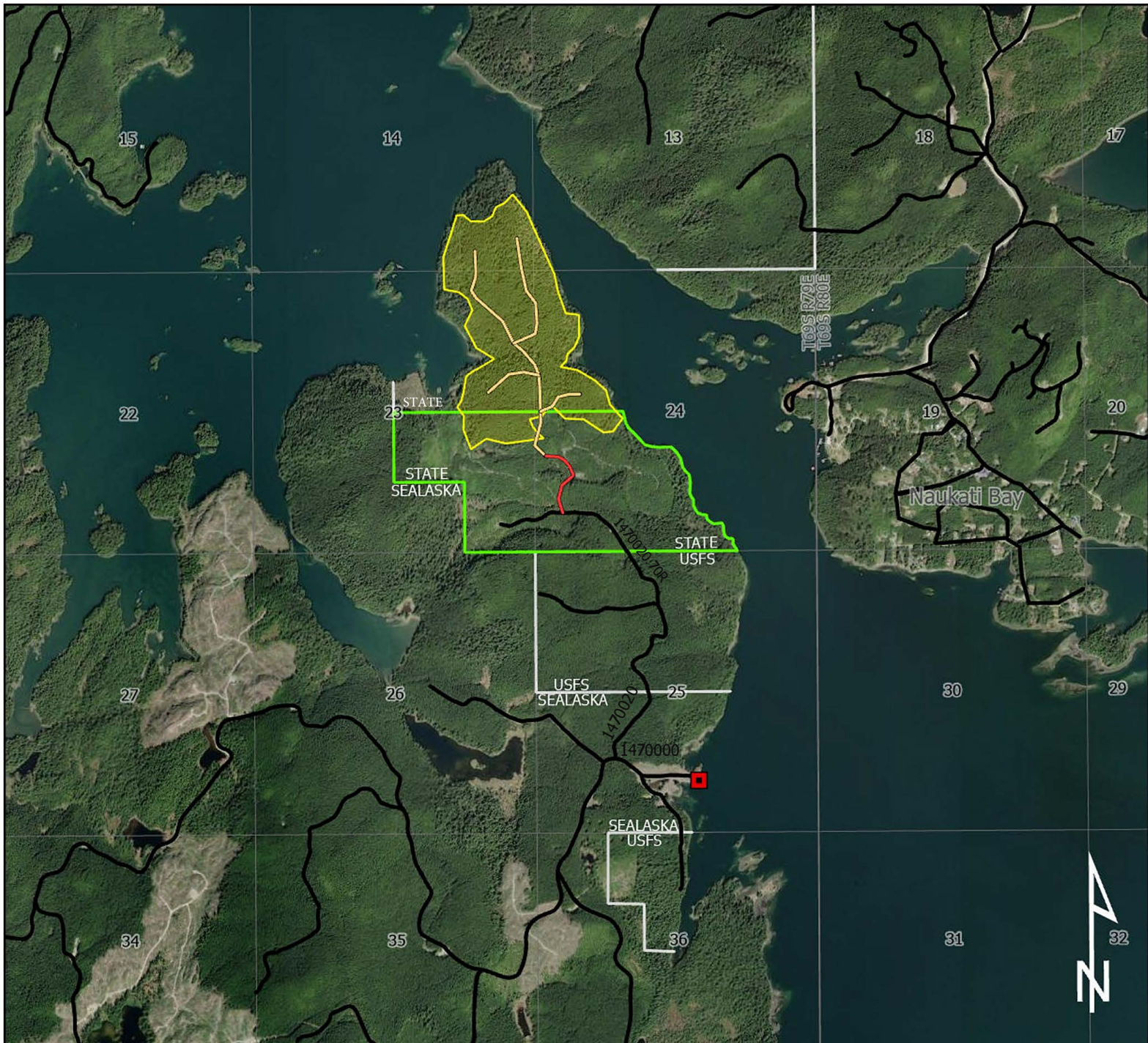
Date

X. APPENDICES

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Appendix A | SSE-1392-K Tuxekan Timber Sale Area Map |
| Appendix B | References |
| Appendix C | Appeal Regulations (reserved) |
| Appendix D | Comments & Responses (reserved) |
| Appendix E | SSE-1392-K Tuxekan Forest Land Use Plan |

Appendix A SSE-1392-K Tuxekan Timber Sale Area Map

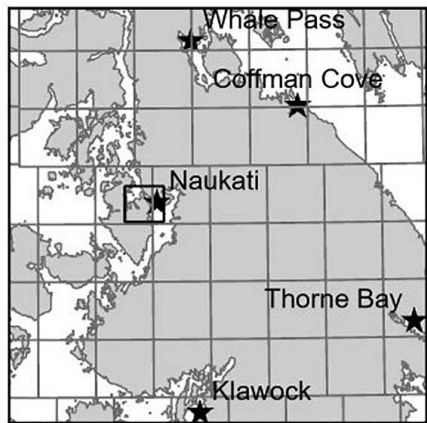
Vicinity Map (one page)



0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles
 Area Map 1 in = 1/2 mile

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

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



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 B References

Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry, Annual Board and Agency Reports on the effectiveness of the Alaska Forest Resources and Practices Act and regulations. Reports retrievable from: <http://forestry.alaska.gov/alaskaboardforestry.htm>

Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry, *Southeast State Forest Management Plan*, Adopted February 29, 2016. Maps and general information retrievable from: <http://forestry.alaska.gov/stateforests.htm>

Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry, Southern Southeast Area Office, *Five-year Schedule of Timber Sales*. Retrievable from: <http://forestry.alaska.gov/timber/ketchikan.htm#fiveyear>

Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry, Southern Southeast Area, Operational Forest Inventory for State and General Use Lands, Adopted February 9, 2016. Report retrievable from: <http://forestry.alaska.gov/timber/forestinventories>

Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mining Land and Water, Alaska Mapper. Retrievable from: <https://soa-dnr.maps.arcgis.com/home/index.html>

Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mining Land and Water, Land Administration System. Retrievable from: <http://dnr.alaska.gov/landrecords/>

Catalog of Waters Important for Spawning, Rearing, or Migration of Anadromous Fishes- Southeastern Region, Alaska Department of Fish and Wildlife, Division of Sport Fish and Habitat, Effective June 1, 2010.

United States Forest Service Geographic Information System Database.

Wikipedia. Shovel logging. Accessed at: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shovel_logging

Appendix C Appeal and Request for Reconsideration Regulations (reserved)

Appendix D SSE-1392-K Tuxekan Timber Sale Comments & Responses (reserved)

Appendix E SSE-1392-K Tuxekan Timber Sale Forest Land Use Plan

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



Coastal Region-Southeast Area Office
Draft Forest Land Use Plan

Tuxekan Timber Sale
SSE-1392-K

January 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 |

Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| I. Introduction..... | 4 |
| A. Legal description | 5 |
| B. Operational Period..... | 5 |
| C. Timber Disposal | 5 |
| D. Objectives and Summary..... | 6 |
| II. Affected Land Owners/Jurisdictions | 7 |
| A. State | 7 |
| B. Other Land Interests | 7 |
| III. Harvest Methods, Silvicultural Actions, and Management of Non-timber Resources | 7 |
| A. Timber Stand Description and History | 8 |
| B. Timber Harvest Activities | 8 |
| C. Site Preparation | 8 |
| D. Slash Abatement..... | 9 |
| E. Soil Stability / Erosion / Mass Wasting..... | 9 |
| F. Timber Harvest—Surface Water Protection..... | 9 |
| G. Wildlife Habitat..... | 10 |
| H. Cultural and Historical Resource Protection..... | 10 |
| I. Other Resources Affected by Timber Harvest and Management | 10 |
| J. Reforestation..... | 11 |
| IV. Roads and Crossing Structures..... | 12 |
| A. Road Design, Construction, and Maintenance..... | 12 |
| B. Soil Erosion / Mass Wasting | 13 |
| C. Crossing Structures..... | 13 |
| E. Material Extraction..... | 15 |
| F. Other Resources Affected by Roads or Material Extraction..... | 15 |
| V. Approvals | 16 |
| Appendix A: Timber Sale Maps..... | 1 |
| Appendix B: Supporting Information..... | 1 |
| Appendix C: Public Agency Comments and Responses (reserved) | 1 |
| Appendix D: Appeal and Request for Reconsideration Regulations (reserved)..... | 1 |

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 212 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 Draft 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) and AS 38.05.945. This FLUP does not determine whether or not to access and sell timber within the timber sale area, nor the method of sale. Those decisions have been made previously in the Best Interest Finding and are not appealable under this FLUP.

This Draft Forest Land Use Plan is for timber sale(s) for which a Preliminary Best Interest Finding is currently out for review. A final best interest finding must be completed prior to adoption of a 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).

The public and agencies are invited to comment on specific requirements for harvest, access, and reforestation operations in this draft FLUP. The decision on whether or not to offer timber for sale is made through the best interest finding process and is not subject to review under the FLUP. Objections or comments pertaining to the draft FLUP must be received in writing to DOF Southeast Area Forester's Office by February 24, 2025 in order to ensure consideration for review. Comments should be mailed to the State of Alaska, Division of Forestry & Fire Protection, 2417 Tongass Avenue, Suite 213, Ketchikan, AK 99901 or by email to dnr.dof.sse@alaska.gov. For more information you may contact the Southeast Area Forester at: 907-225-3070. To be eligible to participate in any appeal or request for reconsideration to the final decision, a person must be affected by the decision and must have submitted comment to the preliminary decision during the comment period.

After public and agency review of the draft FLUP, the DOF will review comments, make changes as appropriate, and adopt the FLUP. An eligible person affected by this decision, and who

provided timely written comment or public hearing testimony 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 2025-2026

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, western redcedar (*Thuja plicata*), and Alaska yellow-cedar (*Chamaecyparis nootkatensis*). These stands are uneven aged on the shoreline with most of the even aged young growth in the center of the tract. The west side has 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 | 212 | 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 $> 50\%$: 5%

Maximum percent slopes: 70%

- 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, site specific crossing approval from DOF |

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

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 and 5B.

Table 5A. Road Reconstruction and Use

| Road ID | Harvest Unit | Mile** | Road Class | Maximum Grade %* | Constructed By | Maintained By |
|-------------|--------------|--------|------------|------------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1470 | -- | 0.06 | Primary | 12 | Existing | Purchaser |
| 1470020 | -- | 0.45 | Secondary | 12 | Existing | Purchaser |
| 1470020.70R | -- | 0.41 | Spur | 12 | Existing | Purchaser |
| 147-105 | 1 | 0.07 | 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 | 0.84 | Spur | 12 | Purchaser | Purchaser |
| 147-110 | 1 | 0.16 | Spur | 12 | Purchaser | Purchaser |
| 147-120 | 1 | 0.21 | Spur | 12 | Purchaser | Purchaser |
| 147-130 | 1 | 0.45 | Spur | 12 | Purchaser | 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.*

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 | Low | Standard FRPA Best Management Practices |

General Timber Sale Erosion Control:

- Grass seeding
- Erosion control mats
- Wattle
- Drivable waterbars
- 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 |
|---------|-------------|---|---|------------------------------------|------------------|---|
| -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |

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 |
|----------------|----------------|---|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1470 | All | All Season | End of harvest | Silviculture |
| 1470020 | All | All Season | End of harvest | Silviculture |
| 1470020.70R | All | 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 |

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 Draft Forest Land Use Plan has been reviewed by the Division of Forestry & Fire Protection and provides the information necessary for public and agency review of the project described in this document.

For
Greg Staunton
Area Forester

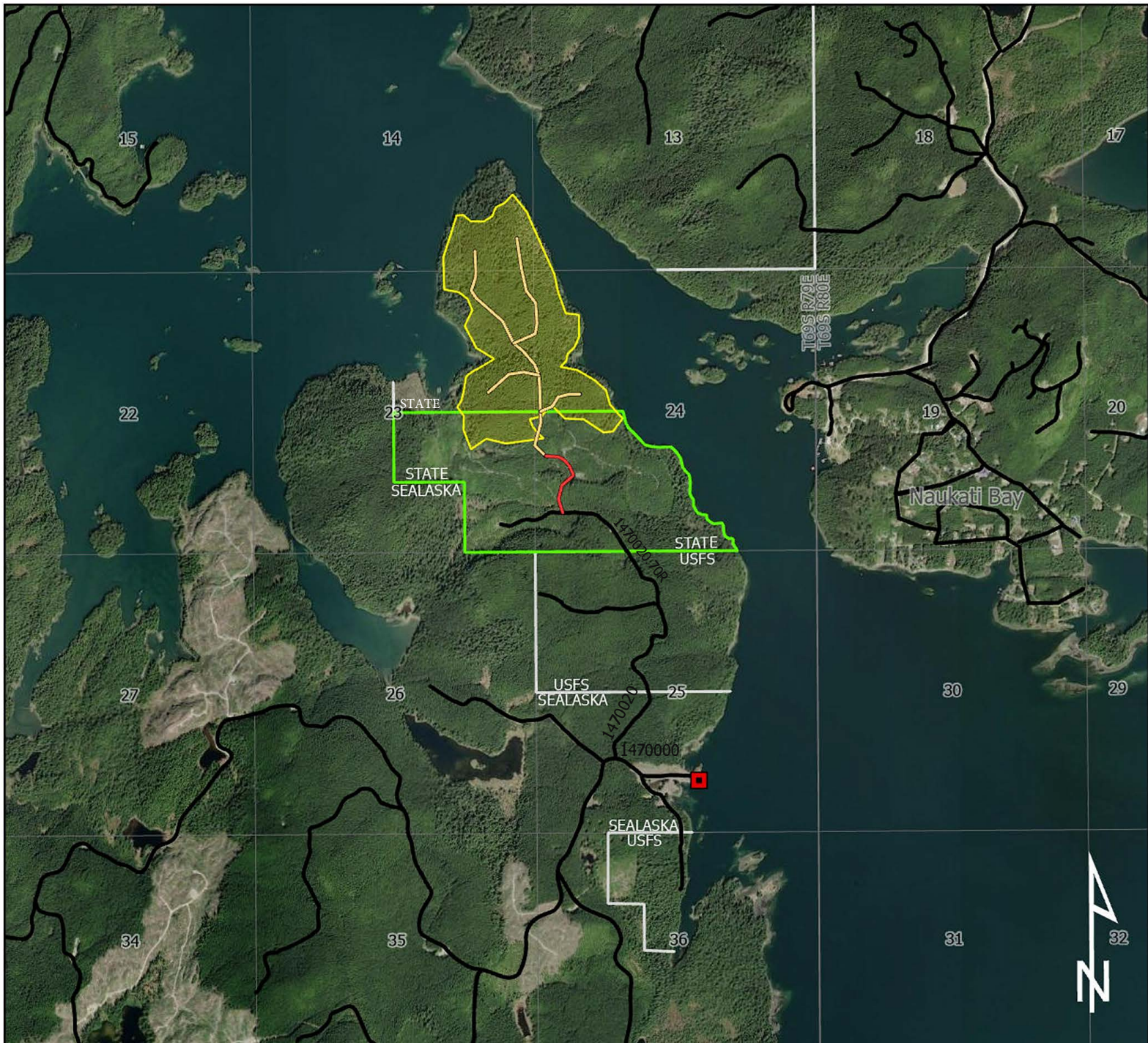
Date

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

Appendix A: Timber Sale Maps

Appendix A1 Vicinity Map (1 page)

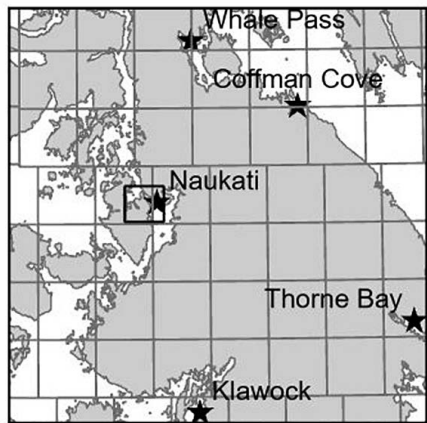
Appendix A2 Unit Map (1 page)



0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles
 Area Map 1 in = 1/2 mile

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

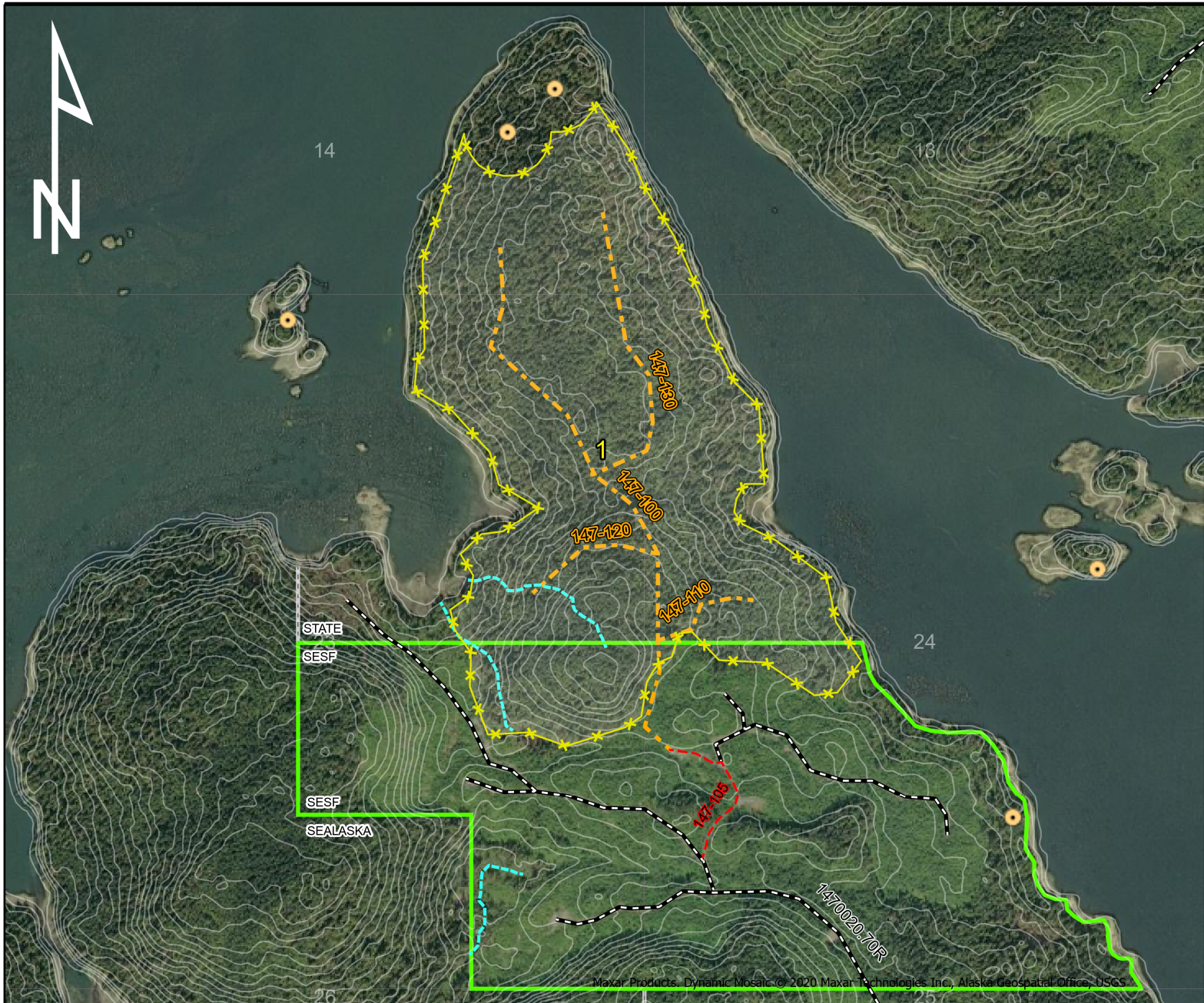
**APPENDIX A1
 SSE-1392-K
 TUXEKAN TIMBER SALE
 AREA MAP**



Legend

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

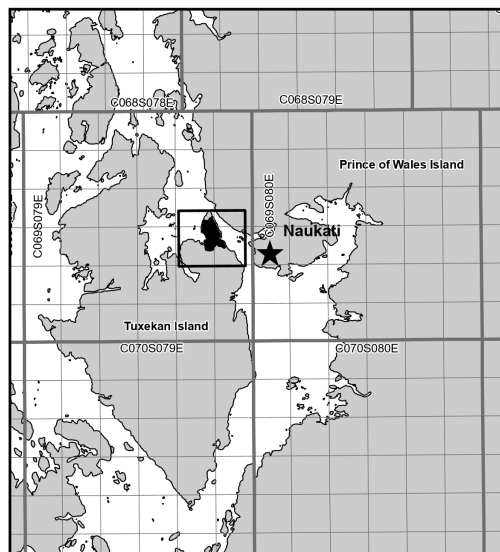




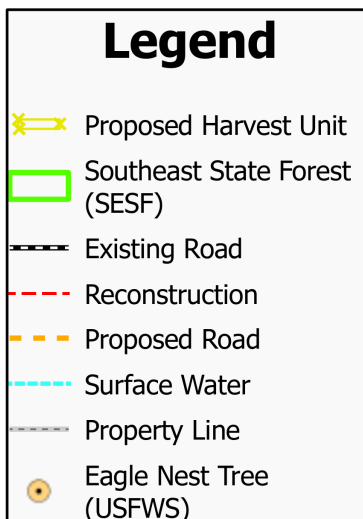
0 1,000 2,000 4,000 Feet
 Area Map 1 IN = 2,000 FT

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

Contour Interval = 25 FT
 Source: IFSAR



Vicinity Map 1 IN = 5 MILES



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



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

Draft Forest Land Use Plan for Tuxekan Timber Sale, SSE-1392-K

Appendix C: Public Agency Comments and Responses (reserved)

***Appendix D: Appeal and Request for Reconsideration Regulations
(reserved)***