

# CHUGACH NATIONAL FOREST

## SCHEDULE OF NEPA PROPOSED ACTIONS

October 1, 2000 – September 30, 2001

### SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE

#### **Forest Plan Revision**

**Location:** Chugach National Forest, southcentral Alaska.

**Description:** The Forest is revising its Land Management Plan. The original Plan was completed in 1984. Changes to environmental, social, or legal conditions will be integrated into the revised Plan.

**Scoping Status:** Formal scoping commenced with the publication of the Notice of Intent in the Federal Register on April 21, 1997 (Volume 62, Number 76). Preliminary revision issues were identified in the first edition of the Revision newsletter. During the months of November and December 1997, public workshops were conducted throughout southcentral Alaska. Over 1,000 letters, containing over 3,000 comments, were received during the scoping period. Analysis of those comments was used to identify the significant issues. The significant issues have been described as 'situation statements' and 'Public/Agency Interests'. The Situation Statements involve Public interests, which may be mutually exclusive, with a range of possible ways for resolution. A summary of public interest and situation statements was sent out to participants on the revision mailing list. Management Area Prescriptions were developed in response to the situation/interest statements. Collaborative Learning workshops were conducted in March 1999, to seek input from the public for formulating draft alternatives. The prescriptions were applied to various areas around the Forest to develop a range of alternatives.

**Analysis Status:** There were 30 alternatives developed by the Forest Service, other agencies, and groups and members of the public. The Forest Service Interdisciplinary Team created eight draft alternatives. Individuals and group representatives of the public submitted twenty-two alternatives. On December 19, 1999, the Chugach National Forest Supervisor Dave Gibbons approved a range of six alternatives, A through F, along with the existing "No Action" Alternative to be analyzed in detail. Alternatives 6 and 13 were to be included also, but not analyzed in detail. From this range of alternatives, a single preferred alternative was derived. The preferred alternative map completed May 2000, is posted on the Chugach Forest Revision Website ([www.fs.fed.us/r10/chugach/revision/](http://www.fs.fed.us/r10/chugach/revision/)). The draft EIS and revised Forest Plan were posted on the Revision Website in August 2000.

**Decision Date:** The Draft Forest Plan and Environmental Impact Statement were distributed for public comment on September 15, 2000 with the comment period running through December 14, 2000. Depending upon the number of changes that are required in the draft documents, the Final Plan and Environmental Impact Statement are scheduled for completion March 2001. The Regional Forester is the Responsible Official for the Revision of the Forest Plan.

**Contact Person:** Gary Lehnhausen, Forest Supervisor's Office, (907)-271-2560.

GLACIER RANGER DISTRICT  
P.O. Box 129, Girdwood, AK, 99587-0129  
(907) 783-3242

DEIDRE ST. LOUIS  
District Ranger

4<sup>TH</sup> Quarter, 2000

<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>SCOPING STATUS</b>	<b>ANALYSIS STATUS AND CZMA CATEGORY*</b>	<b>DECISION DATE AND SIGNATURE AUTHORITY</b>	<b>CONTACT PERSON</b>
Classroom addition Begich, Boggs Visitor Center. Categorical Exclusion.	Portage Valley	Build a classroom addition to accommodate school groups that visit the Center.	Began January 2000.	Complete CZMA-FAA (3)	<b>DECISION 8/1/00</b> District Ranger.	Mary Kay Vandiver (907) 783-3242
Turnagain Pass Facility Reconstruction. Environmental Assessment.	Turnagain Pass	Replace toilets on east and west sides of highway, install picnic tables and trail, and reduce size of parking lot on east side.	Began April 2000	Complete. CZMA-FAA (1)	<b>DECISION 9/18/00</b> District Ranger.	Mary Kay Vandiver (907) 783-3242.
Backcountry Freeskiing World Tour Recreation Event. Special Use Permit.  Categorical Exclusion.	Two of the following areas will be chosen based on snow stability and snow conditions: among three slopes between Placer River and Skookum Glacier, two slopes east of Bench Creek, one slope east of the railroad tracks near Grandview, and one slope northeast of Bartlett Glacier.	Recreation event special-use permit for backcountry freeskiing for several days in March, involving up to 150 people. A Safety Director and safety crew of experts would be involved in avalanche control work that includes use of explosives. The Alaska Railroad and helicopters would be used to transport people to the event.	Began January, 2000	Analysis suspended.  CZMA-FL/P (2)	Project waiting submittal of out-year request. Activity not authorized at this time.  District Ranger.	Teresa Paquet or Deidre St. Louis (907) 783-3242
Portage Valley Bunkhouse Construction. Environmental Assessment.	Portage Valley.	Construct a new Forest Service bunkhouse in Portage Valley near the Begich Boggs Visitor Center.	Began March 1999.	Complete. CZMA-FAA (1)	October 2000 District Ranger.	Cliff Fox (907) 783-3242
Alder Pond Day Use Recreation Site Development. Environmental Assessment.	Portage Valley.	Develop a shoreline trail, picnic area, parking area, and waste disposal site.	Began January 1999.	In progress. CZMA-FAA (1)	2001 District Ranger.	Dan Gillikin (907) 783-3242

\* see CZMA category definitions on page 8.

GLACIER RANGER DISTRICT

4<sup>TH</sup> Quarter, 2000

PROJECT TITLE	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	SCOPING STATUS	ANALYSIS STATUS AND CZMA CATEGORY*	DECISION DATE AND SIGNATURE AUTHORITY	CONTACT PERSON
Helicopter Skiing Glacier and Seward Ranger Districts. Special Use Permit. Environmental Assessment.	Glacier/Winner Creek, Placer River Valley, Skookum Creek, Bench Peak, and Grandview.	Supplement 1999 EA as per 40 CFR 1502.9	Began January 2000.	Complete CZMA-FL/P (2)	<b>DECISION</b> Oct. 10, 2000 District Ranger.	Mary Kay Vandiver (907) 783-3242.
Issue and reissue a variety of outfitter-guide and other special use permits.	Lands administered by the Glacier Ranger District.	Numerous special use permit applications and permit renewals such as commercial filming, recreation events, and outfitter-guides.	Ongoing, as applications are received.	Ongoing. CZMA-FL/P (2)	Decisions will be made at various times by the District Ranger.	Mary Kay Vandiver (907) 783-3242.

CORDOVA RANGER DISTRICT

612 Second Street, Cordova, AK 99574-0280  
(907) 424-7661

CALVIN O. BAKER  
District Ranger

4<sup>TH</sup> Quarter, 2000

Sheridan Creek Stream Restoration and Habitat Enhancement.  Categorical Exclusion.	East end of Sheridan Glacier Lake, 15 miles east of Cordova.	An erosion control and stream bank vegetation project is proposed along a non-glacial stream flowing into Sheridan Glacier Lake. This will improve fish passage and habitat.	Scoping began May 30, 2000	Biological evaluation and archaeological survey completed May 2000.  CZMA-FAA (3)	<b>DECISION MEMO 7/12/00</b>  District Ranger	Merlyn Schelske (907) 424-4739 Ken Hodges (907) 424-4738
Million Dollar Bridge Recreation Site Plan.  Environmental Assessment.	Milepost 48, Copper River Highway.	A recreation site plan for Childs Glacier and Million Dollar Bridge is being developed to incorporate and facilitate changes due to increasing tourism use.	Began 1/99. Additional public meetings TBA	In progress. Analysis will be conducted winter 1999 through summer 2000.  CZMA-FAA (1)	<b>DECISION</b> September 2000  District Ranger	Bob Behrends Dixon Sherman (907)-424-7661

CORDOVA RANGER DISTRICT

4<sup>TH</sup> Quarter, 2000

<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>SCOPING STATUS</b>	<b>ANALYSIS STATUS AND CZMA CATEGORY*</b>	<b>DECISION DATE AND SIGNATURE AUTHORITY</b>	<b>CONTACT PERSON</b>
<b>NEW PROJECT</b> Cutthroat Trout Habitat Enhancement  Categorical Exclusion	Tributaries of Mile 18 Creek, 18 miles east of Cordova	Small rock and log structures would be built to increase pool habitat for cutthroat trout juvenile rearing and winter habitat.	Scoping to begin October 2000	Project analysis will begin October 2000.  CZMA-FAA (3)	Decision Memo May 2001 District Ranger	Ken Hodges (907) 424-4738
<b>NEW PROJECT</b> Cutthroat Trout Habitat Enhancement  Categorical Exclusion	Tributaries of Mile 18 Creek, 18 miles east of Cordova	Small rock and log structures would be built to increase pool habitat for cutthroat trout juvenile rearing and winter habitat.	Scoping to begin October 2000	Project analysis will begin October 2000.  CZMA-FAA (3)	Decision Memo May 2001 District Ranger	Ken Hodges (907) 424-4738
Quadra Creek Fish Habitat Improvement. Categorical Exclusion.	Quadra Creek, Hanning Bay, Montague Island.	Logs and other woody material would be placed in streams to improve fish habitat. Natural input of wood is lacking because the riparian area was logged.	Scoping will begin October 2000.	Project analysis will begin October 2000.  CZMA-FAA (3)	Decision Memo May 2001 District Ranger	Merlyn Schelske (907) 424-4739
Stream bank Restoration Along ORV Trails.  Categorical Exclusion	Hawkins, and Hinchinbrook Islands.	Off road vehicle use has damaged stream banks at crossing areas. Banks would be revegetated and bridges would be built over smaller streams to reduce erosion and sediment input.	Scoping will begin October 2000.	Project analysis will begin October 2000.  CZMA-FAA (3)	Decision Memo May 2001 District Ranger	Merlyn Schelske (907) 424-4739
Riparian Vegetation Management.  Categorical Exclusion.	Mile 18 Copper River Highway, east of Cordova; Hanning Creek, Montague Island.	Crowded stands of Sitka spruce would be thinned to accelerate growth and/or encourage deciduous shrubs directly adjacent to streams. Purpose of project is to improve fish habitat in streams in logged/disturbed areas.	Scoping will begin October 2000.	Project analysis will begin October 2000.  CZMA-FAA (3)	Decision Memo May 2001  District Ranger	Ken Hodges (907) 424-4738
Alaganik Access Trail.  Environmental Assessment.	Off Alaganik Road, 20 miles SE of Cordova.	Construct ½ mile of single-plank boardwalk trail to improve fishing access and prevent further damage to wetland vegetation.	Scoping will begin October 2000.	Project analysis will begin October 2000.  CZMA-FAA (1)	Decision Notice February 2001  District Ranger	Ken Hodges (907) 424-4738

CORDOVA RANGER DISTRICT

4<sup>TH</sup> Quarter, 2000

PROJECT TITLE	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	SCOPING STATUS	ANALYSIS STATUS & CZMA CATEGORY	DECISION DATE AND SIGNATURE AUTHORITY	CONTACT PERSON
Issue and Reissue a Variety of Outfitter-Guide and other Special Use Permits.	Lands administered by the Cordova Ranger District, at various locations in eastern Prince William Sound and the Copper River Delta.	Numerous special use permit applications and permit renewals such as commercial videography, temporary installations of monitoring equipment, navigational aids, geologic survey work, encampments, and outfitter and guide services.	As needed.	A "Recreation Use Carrying Capacity Analysis" (completed August 1994) is used to evaluate hunting outfitter and guide permit requests.	Decisions are made through the year as each application or request is evaluated. CZMA class dependent on permit.	Dixon Sherman Bruce Campbell (907) 424-7661

SEWARD RANGER DISTRICT

334 Fourth Avenue, Seward, AK 99664-0390  
(907) 224-3374

MICHAEL R. KANIA  
District Ranger

4<sup>TH</sup> Quarter, 2000

Outfitter/Guide 5 year Special Use Permit for 2001 - 2005 season.  Environmental Assessment with Decision Notice.	Godwin Glacier near Seward, T1S, R1E, sec. 3.	Permit renewal for Godwin Glacier Dogsled Tours involving summer base camp on Godwin Glacier, dog sled tours, and helicopter trips providing transportation to and from the base camp from Seward Airport.	Begins October 2000.	In progress.  CZMA – FL/P (1)	April 2001.  District Ranger	Karen Kromrey (907) 224-3374
Grant Lake Mine Exploration Project. Decision Memo or Environmental Assessment/Decision Notice depending on results of scoping.	Old Case Mine at Grant Lake, T5N, R1E, Sec 29, Sew Meridian, Moose Pass area	Evaluate exploration activities at the Case Mine. Bulk sampling and core drilling at up to 5 sites is proposed.	In Progress.	In Progress.  CZMA – FL/P (1)	November 2000  District Ranger	Donna Peterson (907) 224-3374
Outfitter Guide Special Use Permits. Categorically Excluded Action, with Decision Memo.	Resurrection Pass, Devil's Pass, and Summit Creek Trails.	Decide whether to authorize additional guided use, including hiking, mountain bike riding, horses, and llamas. If decision is made to authorize additional use, interested outfitter guides will compete for limited permits.	Scoping on issues began 1/19/99 and was completed 3/10/99.	In Progress.  CZMA – FL/P (2)	December 2000  District Ranger	Karen Kromrey (907) 224-3374

## SEWARD RANGER DISTRICT

4th Quarter, 2000

<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>SCOPING STATUS</b>	<b>ANALYSIS STATUS &amp; CZMA CATEGORY</b>	<b>DECISION DATE AND SIGNATURE AUTHORITY</b>	<b>CONTACT PERSON</b>
Snow River Private Road Special Use Permit.	Snow River, T3N, R1E, sec. 19 & 30	Landowner proposes to construct a road to access private property. The year round road would parallel the railroad for approx 1 mile. Driving surface would be 12 feet with 18-foot clearing limit. It would traverse backwater streams, sloughs, and silt deposits along the lower Snow River	Begins August 2000.	In process.  CZMA – FL/P (1)	March 2001  Forest Supervisor	Karen O'Leary (907) 224-3374
Resurrection Pass Trail Reconstruction. Categorically Excluded or Environmental Assessment/Decision Notice.	Mile 5, north end of Resurrection Pass Trail to Mile 3, Devils Pass Trail.	Reconstruct deteriorating trail tread and realign segments of the trail at various locations.	January 2000.	In Progress.  CZMA – FAA (4)	Winter 2001  District Ranger	Pat O'Leary or Irene Lindquist (907) 224-3374
District Campgrounds Rehabilitation and Upgrade. Categorical Exclusion or EA, depending on scoping.	Cooper Creek, Ptarmigan Creek, Trail River, Tenderfoot Creek, Primrose Creek, Porcupine Creek, and/or Coeur d'Alene Campgrounds.	The 30+ years old facilities will be evaluated for improvements including upgrades for accessibility, expansions to increase available sites on the Kenai Peninsula, and to accommodate current and future larger camping vehicles.	Begin January 2000.	In Progress.  CZMA – FAA (4)	Spring 2001  District Ranger	Karen O'Leary (907) 224-3374
Reconstruct Rainbow Lake Trail. Categorical Exclusion with Decision Memo or Environmental Assessment/Decision Notice, depending on scoping.	Cooper Lake/ Snug Harbor Road	Reconstruct trail to an accessible standard.	Began January 2000.	In Progress.  CZMA – FAA (3)	April 2001  District Ranger	Pat O'Leary (907) 224-3374
Hardwood Regeneration Project. Categorically Excluded Action, with Decision Memo.	Snow River Highway Bridge, T3N, R1E, Sect 19, 30, 31; Cooper Landing, T5N, R4W, Sect. 25 and 30; Hope, T10N, R2W, Sect. 34; and T9N, R2W, Sec. 3.	Mature stands of birch, willow, and aspen up to 10 acres in size, will be felled to improve habitat for bald eagles, northern goshawks, snowshoe hares and moose. Sites may be scarified, planted, or burned after felling.	Ongoing as opportunities arise.	In Progress.  CZMA – FAA (3)	Decisions will be made at various times by the Seward District Ranger.	Susan Howell (907) 224-3374

## SEWARD RANGER DISTRICT

4th Quarter, 2000

<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>SCOPING STATUS</b>	<b>ANALYSIS STATUS &amp; CZMA CATEGORY</b>	<b>DECISION DATE AND SIGNATURE AUTHORITY</b>	<b>CONTACT PERSON</b>
Reforestation of spruce bark beetle impacted stands. Environmental Analysis, depending on results of scoping.	Areas identified in Spruce Bark Beetle Management Plan.	Hand planting or seeding areas where spruce mortality is high. Some sites may require scarification or site prep prior to planting.	Begin May 2000	In Progress.  CZMA – FAA (3)	December 2000  District Ranger	Mark Kromrey (907) 288-3178
Hope Highway Fuel Reduction Project. Environmental Assessment with Decision Notice.	Hope Highway, Mile 1 – 6, 10 – 15.	Reduce fire hazard by removing fuels (dead spruce trees) along Hope Highway.	Begin Summer 2000	In progress.  CZMA – FAA (1)	January 2001  District Ranger	Karen Kromrey (907) 224-3374
Special Use Permits.  Categorically Excluded.	Various locations on the Seward District.	Several new and existing special use permit applications for such activities as log storage sites, outfitter/guide operations and recreation events will be evaluated.	Ongoing, as applications are received.	Ongoing.  CZMA – FL/P (2)	Decisions will be made at various times by the Seward District Ranger.	Karen O'Leary (907) 224-3374
Mining Plans of Operation. Categorically Excluded with Project File or Decision Memo. Type of document depends on results of scoping.	Various locations on the Seward District.	Evaluation of mining plans for small placer and hardrock operations. The activity usually occurs in the following drainages: Quartz, Canyon, Mills, Juneau, John's, Primrose, Porcupine, Victor, Falls, Sixmile, Crescent, Stetson, Bear, Gulch, Diane, Cooper, Silvertip, Palmer, Pass Fresno, Resurrection and Lynx.	Scoping is continuous as plans are received.	Ongoing.  CZMA – FL/P (2)	Decisions will be made at various times by the Seward District Ranger.	Donna Peterson (907) 224-3374.
East Kenai Lake Prescribed Burn. Categorically Excluded Action, with Decision Memo.	Cooper Landing area T4N, R2W, sect, 6, 7, 8 and 17.	Burn approximately 200 acres of bark beetle infested and dead white spruce to reduce wildfire potential and improve wildlife habitat. An additional 300 acres of mixed spruce, alder and alpine may also be burned within the project boundary.	In progress.	In progress.  CZMA – FAA (3)	Fall 2000.  District Ranger	Susan Howell (907) 224-3374.
Fuller Prescribed Burn. Categorically Excluded Action, with Decision Memo.	Cooper Landing area T5N, R4W, sect. 28.	Burn approximately 120 acres of bark beetle infested and dead white spruce to reduce wildfire potential and improve wildlife habitat.	In progress.	In progress.  CZMA – FAA (3)	Fall 2000.  District Ranger	Susan Howell (907) 224-3374.

## SEWARD RANGER DISTRICT

4th Quarter, 2000

<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>SCOPING STATUS</b>	<b>ANALYSIS STATUS &amp; CZMA CATEGORY</b>	<b>DECISION DATE AND SIGNATURE AUTHORITY</b>	<b>CONTACT PERSON</b>
Adit survey and closure Categorically Excluded Action, with decision Memo	Various locations on the Seward District	Survey for ownership. Close abandoned adits.	In progress	In progress. CZMA – FAA (3)	Fall 2000. District Ranger	William Shuster 907-224-3374
Cooper Creek Erosion Control.  Categorical Exclusion.	East side of confluence of Cooper Creek and Kenai River. T5N, R3W, Sec 31	Reduce sediment movement from cut bank to Cooper Creek and Kenai River.	Begin Summer 2000	In Progress. CZMA – FAA (4)	Winter 2000 District Ranger	William Shuster (907) 224-3374
Exit Glacier Winter Trail  Categorical Exclusion.	Adjacent to the Exit Glacier Road near Seward.	Reduce winter recreation user conflicts along Exit Glacier Road.	Begin Summer 2000	In Progress. CZMA – FAA (3)	Fall-Winter 2000 District Ranger	Dan Lentz (907) 224-3374

## \*Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) categories

FL/P = Federal License or Permit (15 CFR 930.50):

- (1) Applicant must provide a consistency certification to the Alaska Division of Governmental Coordination (DGC) and obtain DGC approval before FS can issue permit.
- (2) ACMP consistency certification normally not required.

FAA = Federal Agency Activity (15 CFR 930.30):

- (1) FS will provide either a consistency determination or negative determination to DGC.
- (2) The project is generally consistent with the Alaska Coastal Mgt. Program (ACMP).
- (3) FS does not expect to provide a consistency determination or a negative determination.
- (4) FS has not decided whether it intends to provide a consistency determination.