

CHUGACH NATIONAL FOREST
SCHEDULE OF NEPA PROPOSED ACTIONS
April 1, 1999 - March 31, 2000

Enclosed is our current list of the proposed projects on the Chugach National Forest. If you know of someone who would like to be added to or removed from our mailing list, please call or write Linda Kelly, Environmental Coordinator, Chugach National Forest, 3301 "C" Street, Suite 300, Anchorage, Alaska 99503-3998, (907) 271-2527 or FAX her at (907) 271-3992. To comment or receive information on a specific project or to review a completed (Environmental Assessment) prior to the final decision, please call or write the contact person listed for the specific project in which you are interested. Addresses and telephone numbers are listed in each section.

SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE

Forest Plan Revision

Location: Chugach National Forest, southcentral Alaska.

Description: The Forest is revising its Land Management Plan. The original plan, completed in 1984, will be revised to reflect changes to the environmental, social, or legal conditions that have come about since then.

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. A summary of public interest and situation statements was sent out to the revision mailing list. Collaborative Learning workshops were conducted in March 1999, to seek input from the public on formulating draft alternatives. Draft alternatives will be developed and finalized in the summer of 1999.

Analysis Status: The Analysis of the Management Situation (AMS) which is a 'need to change' assessment of current management direction was completed in 1998. The significant issues have been described as 'situation statements' which are 'Public/Agency Interests' that are mutually exclusive or otherwise in conflict. The interdisciplinary team is designing management prescriptions in response to public and agency interests. These prescriptions will serve as a tool box for construction of alternatives which will address the Situation Statements.

Decision Date: The Draft Forest Plan and Environmental Impact Statement are scheduled for completion in late 1999, with a final version in June 2000. The Regional Forester is the Responsible Official on the Revision to 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

PROJECT TITLE	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	SCOPING STATUS	ANALYSIS STATUS	DECISION DATE AND SIGNATURE AUTHORITY	CONTACT PERSON
NEW PROPOSAL 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	In progress	1999 District Ranger	Cliff Fox (907) 783-3242
Williwaw Creek & Willow Pond Fish Habitat Enhancement. Environmental Assessment.	Portage Valley	Improve instream/lake habitat by introducing organic cover structures, modify the outlet to the lake, and consider further accessible fishing opportunities.	Began January 1999	In progress	1999 District Ranger	Rob Spangler (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	1999 District Ranger	Dan Gillikin (907) 783-3242
Boomerang Pond/Explorer Creek Salmon Habitat Enhancement. Environmental Assessment.	Portage Valley	The Forest Service is proposing to enhance salmon rearing and spawning habitat.	Began November 1998	In progress	1999 District Ranger	Rob Spangler (907) 783-3242
Fisheries Improvement Projects. Categorical Exclusion or Environmental Assessment.	Portage Valley north of Alaska Railroad grade, and the upper/mid Twentymile River system.	The Forest Service is proposing to evaluate and enhance salmon rearing and spawning habitat.	Began April, 1998	Public input is being analyzed and field reconnaissance is currently occurring.	May 1999 District Ranger	Rob Spangler (907) 783-3242
Special Use Permit. Chugach Powder Guides, Inc. Environmental Assessment.	Glacier/Winner Creek, Placer River Valley, Skookum Creek, Bench Peak, and Grandview. DROPPED locations for the current Permit in Twentymile River Valley, and Ptarmigan and Moose Creeks.	Chugach Powder Guides, Inc. proposes to provide outfitted/guided helicopter supported skiing December through April. The original decision on the EA was appealed. Heliski operations, currently under permit, will be allowed through this season. The EA was remanded back to the district to be supplemented with a cumulative impacts study.	Scoping to be reopened in May, 1999.	Additional analysis is being conducted.	August 1999 District Ranger	Elaine Gross (907) 754-2314
PROJECT DROPPED Special Use Permit. ERA Aviation. Environmental Assessment.	Twentymile, Spencer, Eagle, and Skookum Glaciers.	ERA Aviation proposes to land helicopters on glaciers or adjacent moraines and allow passengers an opportunity to explore the area for recreational purposes.	Scoping began April 1998; completed September 1998.	Began April 1998 and is now discontinued.	No Decision to be made. District Ranger	Elaine Gross (907) 783-3242

Spencer Glacier Sand, Gravel, & Rock Quarry Environmental Assessment.	Sec. 11,12,13,14; T.7N., R.2E.	The Forest Service is evaluating the site for continued use as a common variety minerals source of gravel and rock.	Began June 1998; and now postponed.	Need locatable minerals determination before proceeding.	Undetermined. District Ranger	Cliff Fox (907) 783-3242
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CORDOVA RANGER DISTRICT
612 Second Street, Cordova, AK 99574-0280
(907) 424-7661

CALVIN O. BAKER
District Ranger

NEW PROJECT						
Knowles Head Stream Restoration Projects. Categorical Exclusion	Knowles Head, between Port Fidalgo and Port Gravina, Prince William Sound. T.13S., R.7 & 8W., CRM.	A number of erosion control projects are proposed where culverts and bridges were removed on the old logging roads. Eroding banks and roads will be stabilized and revegetated with native plants. Revegetation and small check dams may also be used to reduce erosion in headwater streams. The projects should protect salmonid spawning areas from sedimentation.	Scoping letters sent by April 1. Comments solicited 4/1 - 4/30, 1999. A public meeting on projects and management of Knowles Head area was held in Cordova.	Began January 1998. Data being compiled and analyzed. Potential projects will be identified through both internal and external scoping.	Late May 1999 District Ranger	Ken Hodges (907) 424-7661
Knowles Head Watershed Analysis.	Knowles Head, between Port Fidalgo and Port Gravina, Prince William Sound. T.13S., R.7 & 8W., CRM.	Cordova Ranger District is conducting a watershed analysis to identify potential watershed restoration projects on lands purchased by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council, to be administered by the Chugach National Forest. The area has been extensively harvested and roaded.	Began Oct. 1998. A public meeting was held in Cordova to discuss restoration projects and land management direction.	Began January 1998. Data being compiled and analyzed. Potential projects will be identified through both internal and external scoping.	No decision document. Findings from the watershed analysis will be incorporated into Forest Plan Revision and decision documents for individual projects.	Susan Kesti (907) 424-7661
Bering Coalfields Access. (Carbon Mountain Road) NEPA - EXEMPT Environmental Analysis.	The proposed road would originate at the Copper River Highway near milepost 41, follow along the Martin River Valley approximately 30 miles, connecting the Copper River Highway to CAC land on the eastern edge of the Cordova Ranger District.	Road access to the CAC land is guaranteed under the 1982 Settlement Agreement between the State and Federal Governments and Chugach Natives Inc. (now Chugach Alaska Corporation [CAC]). The proposed location generally follows a route identified in the settlement.	Began October, 1996	The USFS and CAC reviewed the proposed route in June 1998. The Forest Service will use CAC environmental studies to specify location, timing and construction standards in the easements.	The conveyance of an easement to CAC to provide for road construction is on hold, pending agreements to complete goshawk surveys and identification of rock sources.	Cal Baker, USFS (907) 424-766 Rick Rogers, CAC 560 E 34th Ave. Suite 200 Anchorage, AK 99503 (907) 563-8866

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 throughout the year as each application or request is evaluated.	Dixon Sherman Bruce Campbell (907) 424-7661
PROJECT DROPPED Guided Heli-skiing. Environmental Assessment.	Mountainous component of all lands administered by the Cordova Ranger District; including, the coastal mountains of eastern Prince William Sound; the Chugach Range to the north and west of Cordova; and Montague, Hinchinbrook, and Hawkins Islands in Prince William Sound.	Numerous heli-ski operators have applied for Special Use Permits to conduct guided heli-ski operations annually between the months of March through May. Heli-ski operations could be conducted from Valdez, Cordova, Thompson Pass, or from boat based operations in Prince William Sound. Some operators have State of Alaska heli-ski permits and now wish to expand and include National Forest lands within their operation.	Began October, 1998		No Decision. District Ranger	Bruce Campbell (907) 424-7661

SEWARD RANGER DISTRICT
334 Fourth Avenue, Seward, AK 99664-0390
(907) 424-7661

RON FREEMAN
Acting District Ranger

DECISION Hemlock Firewood Area. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo.	Hope Highway, Mile 14.	Live hemlock trees will be thinned and bark beetle infested spruce cut.	Began October 1998. Ended December 1998.	Complete	December 1999 District Ranger	Karen Kromrey (907) 224-3374
DECISION Outfitter/Guide Special Use Permit, dog sledding & helicopter trips. Neve Dog Sled Tours, 1 year permit. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo.	Godwin Glacier near Seward, Sec. 3, T.1S., R.1E.	Outfitter proposes to set up summer base camp on Godwin Glacier and offer dog sled and helicopter trips.	Began April 30, 1998. Ended June 5, 1998.	Complete	Decision made 1/13/99 District Ranger	Karen O'Leary or Shannon Skibeness (907) 224-3374
DECISION Bean Creek Prescribed Burn. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo.	Cooper Landing, Bean Creek drainage, near E 1/2 Sec. 24, T.5N., R.4W.; and Sec. 19, T.5N., R.3W.	Broadcast burn 400 acres of bark beetle infested spruce and 600 acres of subalpine shrub to improve wildlife habitat and reduce wildfire hazard.	Began July 1998. Ended October 1998.	Complete	March 1999 District Ranger	Susan Howell (907) 224-3374

DECISION Stetson Creek North and South Prescribed Burn. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo.	Northwest of Cooper Lake, Cooper Landing. Sections 7,17,18,20, and 21, T.4N., R.3W.	Broadcast burn 250 acres and 450 acres of subalpine shrub south of Stetson Creek to improve wildlife habitat, and reduce wildfire hazard.	beetle infested spruce and fir north of Stetson Creek. Broadcast burn 450 acres of subalpine shrub south of Stetson Creek to improve wildlife habitat, and reduce wildfire hazard.	Began July 1998. Ended October 1998.	Complete	March 1999 District Ranger	Susan Howell (907) 224-3374
DECISION Fox Creek North Prescribed Burn Unit. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo.	South of Hope along Resurrection Pass Trail, Section 31, T.8N., R.2W.	Broadcast burn 200 acres of spruce/ hemlock, and 200 acres to improve wildlife habitat.	bark beetle infested spruce of subalpine shrub to	Began July 1998. Ended October 1998.	Complete	March 1999 District Ranger	Susan Howell (907) 224-3374
DECISION East Fork Creek 16/17 Prescribed Burn Units. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo.	Johnson Pass, north trailhead, Sections 9, 15 and 16, T.7N., R.1E.	Broadcast burn 170 acres to improve wildlife habitat	mixed spruce/hardwood	Began July 1998. Ended October 1998.	Complete	March 1999 District Ranger	Susan Howell (907) 224-3374
DECISION Upper Russian Prescribed Burn. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo.	Near Cooper Landing, east of Upper Russian Lake, Section 13, T.3N., R.4W., Section 18, T.3N., R.3W., .	Broadcast burn 650 acres of spruce and 400 acres of subalpine habitat and reduce wildfire hazard.	bark beetle infested spruce shrub to improve wildlife habitat.	Began July 1998. Ended October 1998.	Complete	March 1999 District Ranger	Susan Howell (907) 224-3374
DECISION Juneau Creek Unit 1 Prescribed Burn. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo.	North of Cooper Landing along Resurrection Pass Hiking Trail, Section 1, T.5N., R.4W., Section 36, T.6N., R.4W.	Broadcast burn 400 acres and 400 acres of subalpine habitat and reduce wildfire hazard.	beetle infested spruce shrub to improve wildlife habitat.	Began July 1998. Ended October 1998.	Complete	March 1999 District Ranger	Susan Howell (907) 224-3374
DECISION Quartz Creek Unit 35 Prescribed Burn. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo.	East of Cooper Landing, Sections 7,8,17, and 18, T.5N., R.2W.	Broadcast burn 150 acres and 600 acres of subalpine habitat.	mixed spruce/hardwood shrub to improve wildlife habitat.	Began July 1998. Ended October 1998.	Complete	March 1999 District Ranger	Susan Howell (907) 224-3374
NEW PROJECT New Outfitter Guide Special Use Permit, Hope Fishing Charters, 1 year permit. Categorically Excluded Action, Decision Memo required or not yet to be determined.	Ice Fishing: Summit and Jerome Lakes. Boat fishing: Summit Lake. Walk-in fishing: Resurrection Creek.	Guided ice fishing, guided walk-in fishing.	boat fishing, and guided	Began April 1999. Comments due 5/10/99.	In Progress	May 1999 District Ranger	Shannon Skibeness (907) 224-3374

<p>NEW PROJECT Addition of an assigned site to an existing outfitter guide special use permit, Backcountry Safaris. Categorical Exclusion, Decision Memo required or not yet to be determined.</p>	Boston Bar of Sixmile Creek, Hope Highway Mile 3.4.	An assigned site for a trip staging area, parking, and classes of Backcountry Safaris. The non-guided public would still be allowed to use this site.	Began April 1999. Comments due 5/10/99.	In Progress	May 1999 District Ranger	Shannon Skibeness (907) 224-3374
<p>NEW PROJECT Addition of an assigned site to an existing outfitter guide permit, Class V Whitewater. Categorical Exclusion, Decision Memo required or not yet to be determined.</p>	Hope Wye federal mining claim access to Sixmile Creek.	An assigned site for a trip staging area, parking, and camping of Class V Whitewater employees. The non-guided public would still be allowed to use this site.	Began April 1999. Comments due 5/10/99.	In Progress	May 1999 District Ranger	Shannon Skibeness (907) 224-3374
<p>NEW PROJECT Renewal and additional activities and locations for Outfitter Guide Special Use Permit, Northern Forage Horse Adventures, one year permit. Categorical Exclusion, Decision Memo required or not yet to be determined.</p>	Quartz Creek Beach; Quartz Creek Campground; powerline route near Quartz Creek; Bean Creek trail to Juneau Falls; Old logging road from Quartz Creek to Russian Gap area; Crescent Creek Trail; and Resurrection Pass Trail System.	In winter, horse drawn sleigh on Quartz Creek Beach and in Quartz Creek Campground. In summer: Resurrection Pass Trail System game retrieval ONLY. All other areas, except Quartz Creek Campground, guided horseback riding.	Began April 1999. Comments due 5/10/99.	In Progress	May 1999 District Ranger	Shannon Skibeness (907) 224-3374
<p>NEW PROJECT Renewal and additional activities and locations for Outfitter Guide Special Use Permit, Alaska Two Wheel Tours, one year permit. Categorical Exclusion, Decision Memo required or not yet to be determined.</p>	Primrose/Lost Lake trail; Palmer Creek Road; Upper Russian Lakes trail; Crescent Lake Trail; and Johnson Pass trail.	Guided mountain bike riding.	Began April 1999. Comments due 5/10/99.	In Progress	May 1999 District Ranger	Shannon Skibeness (907) 224-3374
<p>NEW PROJECT New Outfitter Guide Special Use Permit, one year permit. Categorical Exclusion, Decision Memo required or not yet to be determined.</p>	Lost Lake Trail and Resurrection River Trail.	Guided horseback riding	Began April 1999. Comments due 5/10/99.	In Progress	May 1999 District Ranger	Shannon Skibeness (907) 224-3374

NEW PROJECT New Outfitter Guide Special Use Permit, Llamas of the Midnight Sun; Jennifer & John Tabor; 1 year permit. Categorically Excluded Action, Decision Memo required or not yet to be determined.	Lower Russian Lake Trail, Upper Russian Lake trail, Resurrection River Trail, Johnson Pass Trail, Ptarmigan Creek Trail, Lost Lake Trail, Primrose Trail, Carter Lake Trail, & Crescent Creek Trail.	Guided llama hiking/packing	Began April 1999. Comments due 5/10/99.	In Progress	May 1999 District Ranger	Shannon Skibeness (907) 224-3374
NEW PROJECT New Outfitter Guide Special Use Permit, Alaska Llama Adventures; one year permit. Categorically Excluded Action, Decision Memo required or not yet to be determined.	Lost Lake Trail & Primrose Trail.	Llamas for backcountry hiking trips, drop camps, & game retrieval services using llamas as pack animals.	Began April 1999. Comments due 5/10/99.	In Progress	May 1999 District Ranger	Shannon Skibeness (907) 224-3374
NEW PROJECT New Outfitter Guide Special Use Permit, Caution to the Wind Expeditions, Inc.; a one year permit. Categorically Excluded Action, Decision Memo required or not yet to be determined.	Hiking & biking: Crescent Lake Trail & Ptarmigan Creek Trail. Canoeing & kayaking: Kenai Lake	Guided hiking, bicycling, canoeing, & kayaking.	Began April 1999. Comments due 5/10/99.	In Progress	May 1999 District Ranger	Shannon Skibeness (907) 224-3374
NEW PROJECT SST Toilet Replacement Project Categorically Excluded	Various campgrounds, trail-heads and recreation sites on the Seward District	Replace deteriorated pit type toilets with accessible vault toilets and add additional toilets where needed.	Began April 1999. Comments due by May 10, 1999.	In Progress	Summer, 1999 District Ranger	Karen O'Leary (907) 224-3374
NEW PROJECT Resurrection/Palmer Creek Channel Construction. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo.	Between Palmer and Resurrection Creeks, near Hope.	Excavate channels and ponds to provide rearing habitat for king and silver salmon.	Began March 1999.	In Progress	Summer 1999. District Ranger	Eric Johansen (907) 224-3374
Special Use Permits. Categorically Excluded Action, Decision Memo required or not on a case-by-case basis.	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	Decisions will be made at various times by the Seward District Ranger.	Karen O'Leary or Shannon Skibeness (907) 224-3374

Kenai Lake Work Center Timber Salvage Project. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo.	Seward Highway, Mile 23.	Harvest spruce trees killed or infested by the spruce bark beetle. Harvested acres will be replanted.	E I
Hope Timber Products. Environmental Assessment.	Hope, between Palmer and Resurrection Creek Roads.	Harvest spruce trees killed, infested, or at risk by the spruce bark beetle. A total of 2mmbf would be harvested over 5 years. Harvested areas will be replanted and 652 acres burned.	E
Firewood/Houselog Permit Areas. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo.	Seward Hwy, Mile 15-59; Sterling Hwy, Mile 37-55; and Hope Hwy, Mile 0-15.	Identify and open areas to the public for personal use firewood, houselog, and commercial use firewood harvest. Temporary roads may be constructed.	C
Hemlock Firewood Area. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo.	Hope Highway, Mile 14.	Live hemlock trees will be thinned and bark beetle infested spruce cut.	E I
Lost Lake Trailhead Construction. Environmental Assessment.	Seward Highway, Mile 5, Lost Lake Subdivision.	Construct a trailhead to provide for parking on National Forest System land	B I
Kiosk Construction. Categorically Excluded Action with Project File.	Resurrection Pass Trail South, Cooper Landing.	Construct interpretive trailhead kiosk for "Leave No Trace" camping program.	E I
Backcountry Designated Campsites. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo.	Ptarmigan Lake Trail, Mile 6; Lost Lake Trail, Mile 4.5-5; Crescent Lake Cabin.	Develop 5-20 tent camping sites.	E I
Ptarmigan Creek Fish Viewing Platform. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo.	Seward Highway, Mile 23; Ptarmigan Creek Campground.	Construct viewing platform overlooking Ptarmigan Creek.	S C
Guided/non-guided Use Allocation. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo.	Resurrection Pass, Devil's Pass and Summit Creek Trails	Determine percentage of guided versus non-guided use on these trails	S S I C 3
Hardwood Regeneration Project. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo.	Various sites on the Seward District.	Mature stands of birch, willow, and aspen, from 5 to 40 acres in size will be felled to improve wildlife habitat. Sites may be scarified, planted, or burned after felling.	C

	In Progress	September 1999 District Ranger	Karen Kromrey (907) 224-3374
95.	In Progress	April 1999 District Ranger	Karen Kromrey (907) 224-3374
	Ongoing	Decisions will be issued at various time by the Seward District Ranger.	Karen Kromrey (907) 224-3374
	In Progress	December 1999 District Ranger	Karen Kromrey (907) 224-3374
	Complete	May 1999 District Ranger	Pat O'Leary (907) 224-3374
	In Progress	August 1999 District Ranger	Irene Lindquist (907) 224-3374
	Sites identified	May 1999 District Ranger	Irene Lindquist (907) 224-3374
	In Progress	May 1999 District Ranger	Susan Howell (907) 224-3374
as	Comments received are being organized by issue. Comments will then be analyzed and next analysis steps determined.	Fall 1999 District Ranger	Shannon Skibeness (907) 224-3374
	Ongoing	Decisions will be made at various times by the Seward District Ranger.	Susan Howell (907) 224-3374

Johns Creek Prescribed Burn. Categorical Exclusion with Decision Memo.	Seward Highway, Mile 40-42, north of the Sterling/Seward Highway junction.	Broadcast burn timber sale slash to speed site regeneration and improve wildlife habitat.	March 1999.	In Progress	Apr Dis	1999 Ranger	Mark Kromrey (907) 224-3374
Mining Plans of Operation. Categorical Exclusion with Project File.	Various locations on the Seward District.	Mining plans of operations for placer and hardrock mineral deposits will be evaluated as received.	Ongoing as received.	Ongoing	Dec ma by Dis	ns will be various times Seward Ranger.	Donna Peterson (907) 224-3374.