

CHUGACH NATIONAL FOREST

SCHEDULE OF NEPA PROPOSED ACTIONS

October 1, 1999 - September 30, 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, from the original Plan completed in 1984.

Changes to environmental, social, or legal conditions will be intergrated 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 Interest Statements are 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. Collaborative Learning workshops were conducted in March 1999, to seek input from the public for formulating draft alternatives.

Analysis Status: There are 30 draft alternatives under consideration. Eight of the draft alternatives were created by the Forest Service Interdisciplinary Team and 22 were submitted by individuals and group representatives of the public. The range of alternatives will be narrowed to about six by October 15, 1999. Draft science assessment reports are also due for completion by October 15th.

Decision Date: The Draft Forest Plan and Environmental Impact Statement are scheduled for completion March, 2000, with the revised Forest Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement due for completion October, 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
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.	EA complete. 30 day review of EA is complete.	October 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.	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 were allowed through April 1999. The EA was remanded back to the district to be supplemented with additional cumulative effects analysis..	Scoping began May 1999.	EA complete. 30 day public review underway in October.	October 1999 District Ranger	Elaine Gross (907) 754-2314
Issue & Reissue a Variety of Outfitter-Guide & Other Special Use Permits. Categorical Exclusion	Lands administered by the Glacier Ranger District at various locations in western Prince William Sound, Portage Valley, and near the Seward Highway.	Various special use permit applications and permit renewals will be processed for activities such as commercial photography, power, telephone and natural gas line improvements, outfitting and guiding and recreation events.	Public scoping is continuous, based on receipt of new applications.	The project records are being reviewed to prepare decisions for reissuing permits. Scoping for new permits is ongoing.	Decisions will be made at various times throughout 1999. District Ranger	Elaine Gross (907) 745-2314

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

CALVIN O. BAKER
District Ranger

PROJECT TITLE	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	SCOPING STATUS	ANALYSIS STATUS	DECISION DATE AND SIGNATURE AUTHORITY	CONTACT PERSON
Knowles Head Stream Restoration Projects.	Knowles Head, between Port Fidalgo and Port Gravina,	A number of erosion control projects are proposed where culverts and bridges were removed on the old	Scoping letters sent April 1.	Began January 1998. Biological Evaluation	DECISION	Ken Hodges (907) 424-7661

Categorical Exclusion	Prince William Sound. T.13S., R.7 & 8W., CRM.	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. PROJECT COMPLETED AUGUST 1999	Comments solicited 4/1 - 4/30, 1999. A public meeting on projects and management was held in Cordova.	completed. Permits obtained from Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska DGC, and ADF&G Habitat, June, July, 1999.	Decision Memo was signed July 1999. District Ranger	
Development of visitor and employee parking lot adjacent to District office. Categorical Exclusion, Project File, and Decision memo.	Immediately adjacent to the Cordova Ranger District office in Cordova.	In 1998, 6 lots adjacent to the District office were purchased by the Forest Service to meet current parking needs. Project plans are currently being developed to grade and construct the parking area.	Scoping began in January 1999.	In progress. Public comments are welcome. The City of Cordova is involved in the parking lot design.	November 1999 District Ranger	Cal Baker (907) 424-7661
Development of Mineral Material Permits. Categorical Exclusion, Project File, and Decision memo.	Milepost 27, Copper River Valley Highway	Identify and allow authorization of personal and commercial use of silt quality sand Mineral Material Permits.	Scoping to begin in July 1999.	In progress. Public comments are welcome.	Late November 1999 District Ranger	Bob Behrends (907) 424-7661
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 necessary changes due to increasing tourism use.	Scoping began in January 1999.	In progress. Analysis will be conducted during winter 1999 to spring 2000.	March 2000 District Ranger	Bob Behrends Dixon Sherman (907)424-7661
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 TITLE	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	SCOPING STATUS	ANALYSIS STATUS	DECISION DATE AND SIGNATURE AUTHORITY	CONTACT PERSON
Bering Coalfields Access. (Carbon Mountain Road) NEPA - EXEMPT	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 final easement document language.	Cal Baker, USFS (907) 424-766 Rick Rogers, CAC 560 E. 34th Ave. Suite 200 Anchorage, AK 99503 (907) 563-8866
Knowles Head Watershed Analysis.	Knowles Head, between Port Fidalgo and Port Gravina, Prince William Sound. T.13S., R.7 & 8W., CRM.	Cordova Ranger District conducted 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.	Scoping began Oct. 1998. In April 1999, a public meeting was held in Cordova to discuss	Began January 1998. Potential projects will continue to be identified through internal and external scoping and field review. A 1998 Analysis & Progress	No decision document. Findings from the watershed analysis will be incorporated into Forest Plan Revision and decision	Susan Kesti (907) 424-7661

			restoration projects and land management direction.	report completed 4/99 includes implementation and monitoring plan.	documents for individual projects.	
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SEWARD RANGER DISTRICT
334 Fourth Avenue, Seward, AK 99664-0390
(907) 224-3374

MICHAEL R. KANIA
District Ranger

PROJECT TITLE	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	SCOPING STATUS	ANALYSIS STATUS	DECISION DATE AND SIGNATURE AUTHORITY	CONTACT PERSON
NEW LISTING Outfitter/Guide 1 year Special Use Permit for 2000 season. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo.	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.	Began September 1999.	In Progress.	December 1999 District Ranger	Shannon Skibeness (907) 224-4111
NEW LISTING Outfitter/Guide 1 year & 5 year Special Use Permits for 2000, and 2001 - 2005 seasons. Categorically Excluded.	Sixmile Creek along the Seward & Hope highways.	Permit renewal for limited number of permits for whitewater rafting and kayaking, and assigned site near mile 1 Hope Highway.	Began September 1999.	In Progress.	December 1999 District Ranger	Shannon Skibeness (907) 224-4111
NEW LISTING Outfitter/Guide 5 year Special Use Permit for 2000 - 2004 seasons. Categorically Excluded.	Various locations on the Seward and Glacier Ranger Districts.	Permit renewal for the following companies: Alaska Clearwater Sportfishing Adventures, Alaska Driftboaters, Alaska River Adventures, Alaska Rivers Company, Alaska Wildland Adventures, Big Sky Charter & Fishcamp, Bob's Walkabout Fly Fishing, Cooper Landing Floating & Fishing, Great Alaska Fish Camp, Great Alaska Safaris, Hope Fishing Charters, Hope Trading Post, Resurrection Fly Fishing, and Wilderness Ventures.	Began September 1999.	In Progress.	January 2000 District Ranger	Shannon Skibeness (907) 224-4111
SST Toilet Replacement Project. Categorically Excluded	Various campgrounds, trailheads 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.	Complete.	DECISION September 27, 1999. District Ranger	Karen O'Leary or Shannon Skibeness (907) 224-3374
Hope Timber Products. (Palmer Creek/Resurrection Creek Salvage Project.) Environmental Assessment.	Hope, between Palmer and Resurrection Creek Roads; and birch stands on west side of Resurrection Creek.	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 421 acres burned. Birch may be thinned for moose habitat enhancement.	Began July 1995.	In Progress.	October 1999 District Ranger	Karen Kromrey (907) 224-3374
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.	In Progress.	December 1999	Karen Kromrey (907) 224-3374

Action with Decision Memo.					District Ranger	
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 over ice and snow may be used. No roads will be constructed in designated roadless areas.	Ongoing.	Ongoing.	Decisions will be issued at various time by the Seward District Ranger.	Karen Kromrey (907) 224-3374
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.	Complete. Water rights permit to be obtained winter 1999/2000.	Summer 1999. District Ranger	Eric Johansen (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.	Decisions will be made at various times by the Seward District Ranger.	Karen O'Leary or Shannon Skibeness (907) 224-3374
PROJECT TITLE	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	SCOPING STATUS	ANALYSIS STATUS	DECISION DATE AND SIGNATURE AUTHORITY	CONTACT PERSON
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.	December 1999 District Ranger	Shannon Skibeness (907) 224-4111
Kiosk Construction. Categorically Excluded Action with Project File.	Resurrection Pass Trail South, Cooper Landing.	Construct interpretive trailhead kiosk for "Leave No Trace" camping program.	Began January 1999.	In Progress.	November 1999 District Ranger	Irene Lindquist (907) 224-3374
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.	Began October 1998.	Sites identified.	Spring 2000 District Ranger	Irene Lindquist (907) 224-3374
Ptarmigan Creek Fish Viewing Platform. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo.	Seward Highway, Mile 23; Ptarmigan Creek Campground.	Construct viewing platform overlooking Ptarmigan Creek.	Scoping ended October 1998.	Complete.	October 1999 District Ranger	Susan Howell (907) 224-3374
Hardwood Regeneration Project. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo.	Snow River Hwy Bridge T3N, R1E, Sect. 19, 30 and 31; Cooper Landing T5N, R4W, Sect. 25 and 30; Hope T10N, R2W, Sect. 34 and T9N, R2W, Sect. 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.	September 1999.	In Progress.	Winter 1999-2000 District Ranger.	Susan Howell (907) 224-3374
Johns Creek Prescribed Burn. Categorically Excluded Action 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.	Complete.	Winter 1999-2000 District Ranger	Mark Kromrey (907) 224-3374
Mining Plans of Operation. Categorically Excluded Action 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.	Decisions will be made at various times by the Seward District Ranger.	Donna Peterson (907) 224-3374.
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.	Began March 1998.	Complete.	November 1999 District Ranger	Pat O'Leary (907) 224-3374