

Conservation Strategy Goals, Themes and Objectives for the Chugach National Forest

Assessment:	Invitational Roundtable Forum	Coordinator:	Pat Reed
Summary of Key Assessment Findings (To be Completed by Assessment Coordinator)			
Key Finding 1:	<p>Ensure Naturally Interconnected Populations of Biota</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Maintain matrix integrity for purpose of maintaining and enhancing dispersal of biota, for demographically and genetically viable populations. b) Avoid artificial connection of selected, naturally disjunct populations. c) Do not encourage invasion or dispersal of exotic species. 		
Key Finding 2:	<p>Maintain Native Plant Community Composition and Structure at Multiple (Broad and Mid) Scales.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Ensure that native terrestrial plant communities remain naturally well distributed throughout the planning area. b) Maintain specific, focal, critical plant communities and communities of special concern. 		
Key Finding 3:	<p>Maintain Viability of Species of Interest.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Maintain endemic species, some rare. E.g., Kenai Brown Bear (not rare but of concern), Montego Island Marmot, Dusky Canada goose. b) Maintain multiple locations of rare species or species adversely subject to catastrophic disturbance events. 		
Key Finding 4:	<p>Maintain ecological sustainability of (biotic) processes, viz., productivity, nutrient cycling, energy flow , gene flow, reproduction, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Ensure long-term sustained productivity and regeneration of net primary production (NPP) of native ecosystems in the context of natural processes. b) Ensure long – standing productivity and regeneration of keystone salmon stocks. c) Ensure conditions to maintain all major categories of key ecological functions of wildlife species, or those that we are likely to have the greatest effect on. 		
Key Finding 5:	<p>Maintain natural (abiotic) disturbance processes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Discourage significant departures from natural frequency and extent of natural abiotic disturbance processes. Evaluate implications of proposed activities that may lie outside the ranges of natural variation. 		
Key Finding 6:	<p>Provide opportunities for sustainable human uses compatible with restoration and maintenance of ecosystem integrity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Ensure habitat for long-term sustained human use of populations of focal wildlife (non-fish vertebrate) species. b) Ensure long-term sustained production of wild fish populations and associated freshwater and marine aquatic systems for human use. c) Provide for special (“non-timber”) forest products of value and use to humans. d) Provide for non-consumptive uses. e) Address broader social concerns for evaluating alternative conservation strategies. 		