



Place
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Here

**Chugach National Forest Planning
Team Forest Plan Revision
3301 "C" Street, Suite 300
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Chugach National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan

321 ANILCA 501 (b) Lands Management Area - Fish and Wildlife (ANILCA 501b) Management Areas consist of lands designated in ANILCA 501b. According to 36 CFR 241.20 (d), "The primary purpose for the management of the Copper-Rude River addition and the Copper River-Bering River portion of the Chugach National Forest is the conservation of fish and wildlife and their habitat." Further at 36 CFR 241.22: "Subject to valid existing rights, a multiple-use activity may be permitted or authorized within the (501b) areas only after a determination by the responsible Forest Officer has been made that such activity is consistent with the conservation of fish, wildlife or their habitat. A use or activity may be determined to be consistent if it will not materially interfere with or detract from the conservation of fish, wildlife and their habitats".

Discretionary Prescriptions

131 Recommended wilderness Management Area - Recommended Wilderness is managed to maintain and protect the existing Wilderness character of the land. The Recommended wilderness shall be managed as described until Congress makes a decision on Wilderness designation.

132 Wild River Management Area - Wild Rivers or segments of rivers, with their immediate environments, are managed to maintain, enhance and protect the free-flowing character and outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar river related values for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations. Wild river areas are characterized as having watersheds or shorelines that are essentially primitive.

All hydroelectric power facilities and major water supply dams or diversions are prohibited.

Wild River segments recommended for designation in the revised Forest Plan will be managed to maintain their outstandingly remarkable values and classification eligibility until Congress designates the segments or decides not to designate them.

142 Natural Processes Management Area - Areas are mapped to let ecological processes dominate, with no human disturbance due to management activities or use. While recreation is one of several compatible human activities, this area is not a recreation-based prescription. Natural process areas recognize a range of primarily non-consumptive ecosystem values, especially intrinsic and life support values.

This prescription may not be applied over large areas of the Forest affecting subsistence activities.

231 Scenic River Management Area - Scenic River segments and their immediate environments, are managed to maintain, enhance and protect the free-flowing character and outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations.

Recommended Scenic River segments are managed to maintain their outstandingly remarkable values and classification eligibility until Congress designates the segments or decides not to designate them.

331 Recreational River Management Area - Recreational Rivers

with their immediate environments, are managed to maintain, enhance and protect the free-flowing character and outstandingly remarkable scenic, similar values for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations.

Recommended Recreational River segments are managed to maintain their outstandingly remarkable values and classification eligibility until Congress designates the segments or decides not to designate them.

244 Fish and Wildlife Management Area - Fish and wildlife conservation areas emphasize the conservation of fish and wildlife and their habitat.

141 Research Natural Area Management Area-Research Natural Areas (RNAs) form a long-term network of ecological reserves designated for non-manipulative research, monitoring, and education and the maintenance of natural diversity, allowing natural physical and biological processes to prevail without human intervention.

241 Municipal Watershed Management Area - Municipal Watersheds are managed to protect the municipal water supply of communities adjacent to the Forest.

242 Brown Bear Core Management Area - Brown Bear Core Management Areas are managed to maintain landscapes and their associated ecological processes to provide habitat for brown bears and other wildlife species.

243 Subsistence - The subsistence prescription areas will be managed for continued opportunities for subsistence use of the wild resources. Management emphasis will be on the maintenance or improvement of the habitats of important subsistence use species, such as salmon and large ungulate species. Providing for access to the habitats of these species by rural Alaskan's is also primary. Controlling other access that could lead to competition for subsistence resources is a management emphasis.

341 Developed Recreation/Reduced Noise - Developed Recreation/Reduced Noise Management Areas are managed to provide a range of year-round developed recreation opportunities in which human generated noises are minimized in natural or naturally appearing landscapes.

This management prescription shall apply to the site(s) identified. Other resource management activities, recreation opportunities, motorized or non-motorized uses, etc. shall be guided by the management area prescription for the larger watershed.

411 Developed Recreation Complexes - Developed Recreation Complexes Management Areas managed to provide developed recreation opportunities in which there are facilities for user comfort and convenience and the ability to accommodate large numbers of people in a naturally appearing setting.

541 Minerals Management Area - Mineral Management Areas are managed for the exploration, development, mining, and processing of locatable (base and precious metals, such as gold, silver, and copper, etc.), leasable (oil, gas, coal, etc.), and salable (sand, gravel, and quarry stone, etc.) minerals in areas with the highest potential for minerals development.

COLLABORATIVE LEARNING WORKSHOPS SCHEDULED

What is collaborative Learning?

Effective public participation is a creative process—more of an art than a science. It relies on building personal relationships with people who have interests or concerns about public lands. Collaborative Learning is a recent innovation in public participation theory that has been applied to various ecosystem level decision making processes. The technique is grounded in the theories of conflict management and systems thinking. Collaborative Learning encourages dialogue between diverse communities: scientific, public, and agency. Collaborative Learning promotes the integration of scientific and public/local knowledge about problem situations and helps participants understand the situations systematically. Effective Collaborative Learning results in increased rapport, respect, and trust among participants in the process.

What is the purpose of the Workshops?

The purpose of the workshops is to provide a forum for a public dialogue on how our revision toolbox can be used to create draft alternatives that will be analyzed in the draft environmental impact statement for the revised Forest Plan. The components of the revision toolbox include “Situation Statements,” “Issues,” public “Interest Statements,” Forest-wide management direction and management area prescriptions.

What will I do at the Workshops?

Forest Plan revision base maps will be available at the workshops and people will be able to use the management area prescriptions

to construct a Forest Plan alternative or a portion of an alternative. Members of the planning team will be in attendance to answer questions about the management area prescriptions or provide biophysical and social resource information as needed to help members of the public apply prescriptions to the maps.

What will we do with the information collected at the Workshops?

We will organize and study the information to determine how we can address all of the situation statements and public interests in a reasonable range of alternatives (3-8 alternatives). Draft alternatives should be complete in June, 1999.

What if I can't attend one of the workshops, but I want to participate?

Contact us and we will send you small versions of the maps discussed at the workshops with a comment form. You can describe the concepts of your alternative and show on the maps where specific prescriptions should be applied. Please mail us your comments by April 15, 1999.

M A R C H & A P R I L	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	14	15 <small>Hope 7-10 PM</small>	16 <small>Cooper Landing 7-10 PM</small>	17	18 <small>Girdwood 7-10 PM</small>	19 <small>Anchorage Seward 7-10 PM</small>	20 <small>Whittier 11 AM-2 PM</small>
	21	22 <small>Cordova 7-10 PM</small>	23 <small>Kenai/Soldotna 7-10 PM</small>	24	25	26 <small>Valdez 7-10 PM</small>	27
	28	29	30 <small>Tatitlek 11 AM-2 PM</small>	31	1	2	3
	4	5	6 <small>Chenega 10-2 PM</small>	7	8	9	10

THE DATES

Hope
Monday, March 15
Community Center
7:00 - 10:00 PM

Cooper Landing
Tuesday, March 16
Community Club
7:00 - 10:00 PM

Girdwood
Thursday, March 18
Glacier Ranger District
7:00 - 10:00 PM

Anchorage
Friday, March 19
Loussac Library Conference Room
7:00 - 10:00 PM

Seward
Friday, March 19
Seward High School Cafeteria
7:00 - 10:00 PM

Whittier
Saturday, March 20
Begich Towers Column Room
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Cordova
Monday, March 22
Mt. Eccles Elementary School
7:00 - 10:00 PM

Kenai/Soldotna
Tuesday, March 23
Kenai Peninsula Borough Office
7:00 - 10:00 PM

Valdez
Friday, March 26
Convention Center
7:00 - 10:00 PM

Tatitlek
Tuesday, March 30
Village Meeting Hall
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Chenega
Tuesday, April 6
Council Meeting Room
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Eyak
To be announced



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THE NEXT STEP!!!



1999

March	Collaborative Learning workshops
April-May	Refine alternatives
June	Incorporate Information from Science Assessments

Management Area Prescriptions



Definitions

Prescription Categories – Management Area Prescriptions have been sorted into five categories representing a range of expected management activity and Forest User density in the Management Area. In **Category 1** prescriptions, ecological processes such as fire, insects, and disease are essentially allowed to operate relatively free from the influence of humans. Forest users would expect a primitive recreation experience. Travel is primarily non-motorized. **Category 5** Prescriptions are usually applied to forested ecosystems that are managed to meet a variety of ecological and human needs. Management activities are emphasized; however, environmental change is generally within the expected range of natural variability. Management activities may result in a long-term commitment of resource outputs. These lands are often intensively used, have a high density of facilities and roads, and display significant evidence of vegetation manipulation. Forest users expect to see other humans and evidence of human activities. **Category 2, 3, and 4** prescriptions represent a gradation between the continuum from **Category 1 to Category 5** prescriptions.

Prescription Types - Management Area prescriptions are divided into four types based upon how and where they may be used.

Basic Prescriptions (Type 1) – These prescriptions were developed to address a variety of multiple use public interests. They could be applied to any land area on the Chugach notwithstanding other management direction specified in law or legal agreement.

Non-discretionary Prescriptions (Type 2) – Prescriptions that address management requirements specified in law or legal agreement.

Discretionary with Congressional Approval (Type 3) – Examples of congressional designations include wilderness, and wild, scenic and recreational rivers.

Discretionary Prescriptions (Type 4) – Prescriptions that were developed to respond to public interests in protecting specific resource values through Forest Service administrative designations. Examples include Research Natural Areas, Municipal Watersheds and others.

Management Area Prescriptions Summary

Each prescription is identified by a three digit number and a name. The first digit indicates the prescription category (1-5). The second digit indicates the prescription type. The third digit is just an identifier. The name may or may not indicate a clear picture of the objectives of the prescription.

Basic Prescriptions

111 Primitive Management Area - Primitive areas are managed to emphasize primitive recreation opportunities in natural, unmodified landscapes.

This prescription may not be applied over large areas of the Forest affecting subsistence activities.

211 Backcountry Management Area - Backcountry areas are managed to emphasize a variety of recreational opportunities for backcountry non-motorized activities in natural appearing landscapes.

212 Backcountry Motorized Management Area - Backcountry motorized areas are managed to emphasize a variety of year-round recreational opportunities for a variety of backcountry motorized activities in natural appearing landscapes.

312 Fish, Wildlife and Recreation Management Area - Wildlife, Fish and Recreation Management areas are managed to provide a variety of habitats for fish and wildlife species as well as year-round recreational opportunities with a variety of developed and dispersed settings.

411 Resource Development Management Area - Resource Development Management Areas are managed for the economical and efficient production of wood fiber and special forest product and/or the prospecting, exploration and development of mineral while developing a commodity transportation system that provides access for motorized recreation and tourism development.

Non-discretionary Prescriptions

121 Wilderness Study Management Area - The Nellie Juan-College Fjord Wilderness Study Area (WSA) is managed to maintain and protect the existing (1984) wilderness character. The WSA shall be managed as described in this prescription until congress removes the designation.

221 EVOS Acquired Lands Management Area - As part of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Settlement, lands or interests in lands have been purchased with the goal of maintaining the land in perpetuity for conservation and preservation purposes, and for the restoration of resources and services injured by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill. Chugach National Forest lands acquired under the EVOS purchases are surface estate or surface conservation easements. Other owners have subsurface title and have a right of access for exploration and development of the subsurface estate resources (such as minerals, oil, and gas).

Three primary types of acquired lands or easements have been purchased. In some areas the surface estate has been purchased in fee. These are called Federal Conveyance Lands. The second primary type is Native Village Corporation Conservation Easements, some with public access and some without. The final primary type is the Timber Conservation Easements. Here the Native Village Corporation retains all right of surface ownership, except for the right to harvest timber for commercial purposes.

See the individual acquisition agreements for detailed management requirements for each of the individual parcels.

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level.

Forest Service lands are managed to maximize recreational opportunities on a sustainable basis. Landscapes are preserved, or modified to have a natural appearance and provide settings desirable for recreation and tourism. A diversity of natural setting and habitats provide for human appreciation, as well as meeting legal requirements for minimum viable populations. Resource management activities and commodity extraction are

possible to conditions present when ANILCA was signed. Native Alaskans and local residents are allowed to increase their use of nearby Forest Service lands for subsistence, primitive and semi-primitive recreation, and customary and traditional uses. Commercial scale extraction of commodities is prohibited.

Concept J

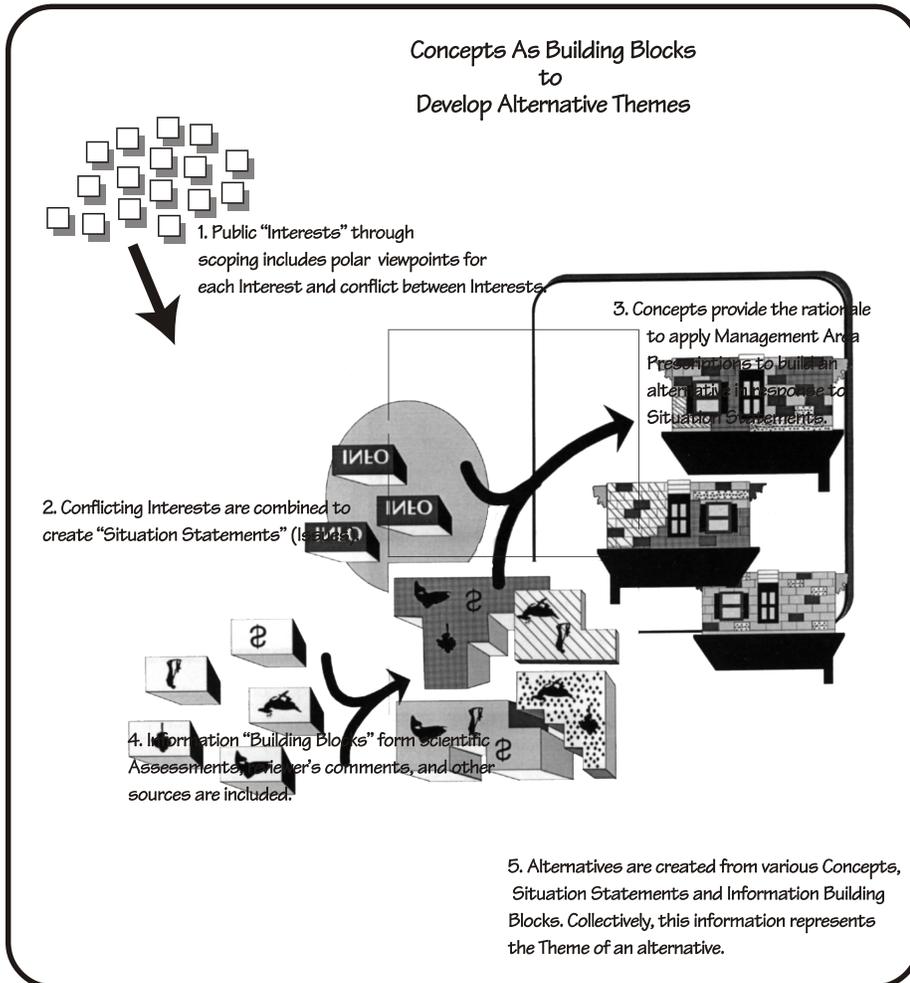
This Concept is derived in part from public Interests in managing for forest conditions that would protect local communities and forest resource values from wildfire.

Forest Service lands are managed to reduce the risk of large, high intensity disturbance events such as wildfire, insect infestation, and disease. Vegetation patterns are restored to conditions consistent with the pre-settlement incidence of disturbance events. Management activities and commodity production are restricted to sites that can tolerate human disturbance. Recreation opportunities, personal uses, and access for customary and traditional uses are provided on a sustainable basis.

Concept K

This Concept responds to public Interests in seamless management across land ownership boundaries.

Forest Service lands are managed to meet goals contained in Alaska State Area Plans and Alaska Native Corporation and village tribal land management plans where they exist. Decisions are made based primarily on local, rather than national, interest. There is a wide variation in how Forest Service lands are managed and appear, based on state agency and native land owner desires and their ability to make these known. Compared to current direction, benefits to state agencies and native landowners is expected to increase.



compatible with landscapes and aesthetic conditions desirable for a full spectrum of recreation and tourism opportunities. No one recreational or tourism use is valued more or less than another, and all are provided at the same relative level. Decisions about what mix of opportunities to provide are made at the local level and based primarily on likely trends in use related to non-commodity values.

Concept I

This concept addresses the subsistence Situation Statement and the associated quality of life and cultural values of Native Alaskans.

Forest Service lands are managed to provide opportunities for various noncommercial purposes, personal interests, and customary and traditional uses. Lands are restored so that types and quantities of plants and animals are as close as

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As you see from the above list, the Concepts presented in this paper are only a small part of what may eventually become a fully described alternative. The IDT has not yet developed alternatives. Therefore, what we offer here as an approach should be considered as a beginning and not an end.

What is included in Concepts?

The following are 11 preliminary Concepts identified by the revision IDT. We realize that words used in the Concepts are not specifically defined at this point. We expect to develop more detailed definitions as the alternative development process continues. A glossary of terms will be provided in the draft environmental impact statement. Your comments concerning how certain terms affect your interpretation of the preliminary Concepts will be helpful as the revision IDT discussions continue.

The italicized part of each Concept provides a brief description of the Interest(s) and/or Situation Statements considered in developing the Concept. The Concept may not explicitly address all recommendations from the Interests, Situation Statements, and science assessments. Additional detail and recommendations will be incorporated into Concepts as the alternative development process continues.

Concept A

This Concept is derived from Interests suggesting that natural processes should be allowed to function with minimal human intervention.

Forest Service lands are managed with minimal human intervention. Ecosystems and their components are allowed to evolve essentially from natural processes. Landscape structure, biodiversity, and ecological functions are neither specified nor controlled. Access is allowed for low impact recreation and for non-consumptive activities in undeveloped settings.

Concept B

This Concept develops the Resource Development Situation Statement, as related to the economic vitality of some communities, and is linked to the flow of goods and services from Forest Service lands.

Forest Service lands are intensively managed to provide a steady flow of goods and services. Ecosystem restoration and mitigation is performed as needed to maintain productivity and meet legal obligations. Management decisions emphasize support for local economies that have been traditionally dependent, or partially dependent, on resources from public lands. To the extent possible, disturbance regimes that threaten the flow of goods and services are controlled.

Concept C

This Concept addresses the flow of goods and services from Forest Service lands at a reduced investment level. Forest Service lands are managed for minimal human intervention. Consumptive uses are allowed to continue from areas with resource surpluses above levels needed to support ecological functions. Ecosystems are mostly affected by natural processes. Management decisions are based primarily on minimal cost and avoidance of risk, and do not necessarily provide a steady flow of goods and services.

Concept D

This Concept was developed around the Ecological Systems Management Situation Statement with an emphasis on restoration through active management.

Forest Service lands are actively managed so that ecosystems approach historic ranges of variability in terms of structure, function, and processes. In the short term, landscapes will show evidence of intensive human management, but the level of management will decrease over time as ecosystems are restored to desired conditions. A diversity of plant and animal species and habitats is distributed and interconnected across the landscape. Restoration and management activities may benefit local economies with new employment and recreation opportunities. Benefits that result are not predictable, which requires communities to adapt to a variety of output levels over the long term.

Concept E

This Concept responds to the No Action Alternative requirement of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The "No Action" Concept is a translation of current Forest Plan direction from the original prescriptions used in the 1984 Plan to the format of the current management area prescriptions so that comparisons can be made.

Concept F

This Concept responds to Interests in having some designated commodity production areas. This Concept is intended to illustrate consideration for both preservation and commodity production values.

Recommended Wilderness Areas, Research Natural Areas, Wild Rivers, existing unroaded areas, wilderness study areas, and sensitive and representative habitats are managed to minimize the effects of most human activities. On these lands, ecological processes are allowed to function with minimal human intervention. Connections between habitat patches may or may not exist across the landscape. The remaining areas will be managed to maximize sustainable production of goods and services consistent with existing laws.

Concept G

This Concept was developed from the Habitat for Fish and Wildlife Situation Statement concerning the health of Key Forest Watersheds. It partially addresses management direction outlined in section 501(b) of ANILCA.

Forest Service Lands in key watershed areas (such as the Kenai and Copper River watersheds) are managed to protect or restore watershed processes which operate to provide high quality fish and wildlife habitat for species dependant upon those watersheds. Priority for restoration or mitigation is on moderate and high hazard landscapes and aquatic systems. Forest Service lands are managed to provide for a variety of goods and services, as long as management activities do not adversely impact watershed processes, or fish and wildlife habitat values.

Concept H

This Concept develops the social impacts to local communities portion of the Recreation and Tourism Situation Statement with the idea that Forest Service lands affect people's quality of life and culture more directly at the local level than at the national

REVISION

inside

chugach national forest land
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n e w s i e t t e r

Anchorage, Alaska

volume 6

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Preliminary Concepts for the Design of Alternatives

How did we get to this point?

These Concepts are the building blocks for beginning the development of alternatives. They are not alternatives, but merely one step in the process for developing alternatives. Each public Interest identified through scoping includes a polarity of viewpoints but they are expressed as positive statements. Some Interests are not compatible with each other resulting in a conflict situation. Situation Statements (Issues) were derived from major areas of conflict between public Interests. The Situation Statements and Interests were considered in developing concepts.

Concepts illustrate how Situation Statements could be addressed by applying different Management Area Prescriptions to develop different alternative Themes. Some Situation Statements generated more than one Concept and some Concepts focus on only one Situation Statement. During alternative development, concepts will be combined and integrated to address the range of Situation Statements.

What will we do with the concepts?

We believe that the 11 Concepts in this paper represent a range of management strategies and respond to the Situation Statements. Additional Concepts will be developed from your responses and consideration of information from scientific assessments. It is possible that not all Concepts will be

carried into complete alternatives. They may be dropped, changed, or re-instated. Some Concepts may require changes in existing laws or policies for successful implementation.

Other Concepts, or combinations of Concepts, will result in fully described alternatives that are carried forward to the draft environmental impact statement.

What will an alternative look like?

Each alternative will address all Situation Statements derived from conflicting public Interests identified during public scoping. They will be built from combining Concepts or parts of Concepts. Alternatives will be made up of Forest-wide management direction and management Area Prescriptions that are designed to achieve the desired future conditions characteristic of the Theme for the alternative. Alternatives will also identify barriers to implementation, including funding and existing laws and/or regulations. Both long and short-term objectives will be identified for each alternative. Some direction will apply to all lands administered by the Forest Service while other direction may apply to only specific watersheds.

The components of alternatives are:

- Assumptions
- Forest-wide Direction
- Management Area Prescriptions
- Goals
- Objectives
- Standards
- Guidelines
- Decision Criteria
- Concepts
- GIS database information
- Other Ownership Strategies
- Monitoring needs
- Implementation Strategy

