

Riparian Areas and Wetlands

Comment # Comment

- 0136-003 No logging within 1 mile of any waterway
- 0371-004 riparian,
- 0462-007 CNF Mngt. Plan should be written to cooperate with the Kenai River Special Mngt. Area Plan and protect the Kenai River drainage. Many of the critical head waters, lakes, marshes, etc. vital to the health of (over) the Kenai River are in CNF. No logging should occur within the Kenai River drainage.
- 0467-020 Degradation of wetlands caused by heavy equipment impacting vegetation and impairing natural drainage patterns resulting in a loss of nesting and foraging habitat for migratory birds and other species are of great concern to Service. These alterations can result in permanent or semi-permanent hydrologic changes and loss of functional wetlands characteristics. Degradation or loss of limited types of wetlands (i.e., fens) can have a drastic change to other adjacent habitats (i.e., fish habitat). The Forest Plan should outline how Executive Order 11990, as amended, will be met to avoid to extent possible the long- and short-term impacts associated with destruction or modification of wetlands. Removal, storage, reutilization, and/or disposal of overburden removed during road construction should be outlined in the Forest Plan. Reporting of cubic yards of material removed, acreage impacted, and acreage rehabilitated, should be part of ongoing planning and monitoring. The Service encourages the Forest Service to consider compensatory mitigation to offset unavoidable adverse impacts to wetlands which remain after all minimization efforts have been met (NEPA Section 1508.20). This approach also embraces positive stewardship of
- 0475-001 They [forested wetlands] regulate water flow, protect coastal areas by buffering storm effects, improve water quality, and provide important habitat for fish and wildlife. Recent estimates indicate that the United States has lost over 40% of the inventoried wetlands. This piecemeal alteration and destruction of wetlands is devastating. The Forest Service should remove all forested wetlands from the timber base.
- 0475-002 Riparian zones adjacent to unconfined alluvial flood plain channels, alluvial fan channels, and glacial outwash channels should also not be subject to cutting [timber harvest].
- 0821-021 This is particularly true for riparian areas and the Forest's many rivers and streams. In order to attain meaningful protection of fish and wildlife, watershed analyses must be completed prior to approval of logging, mining, and road-building. Watershed analyses be comprehensive, utilizing the most current scientific information about watershed conditions, resources, and processes. Access.
- 0836-022 3 Aquatic vegetation (sea grasses) occurring within the intertidal and subtidal zones of estuaries are important to a variety of aquatic species. The Plan should identify areas supporting significant sea grass resources and describe what measures will be taken to protect these areas. Degradation of wetlands caused by heavy equipment impacting vegetation and impairing natural drainage patterns resulting in a loss of nesting and foraging habitat for migratory birds and other species are of great concern to Service. These alterations can result in permanent or semi-permanent hydrologic changes and loss of functional wetlands characteristics. Degradation or loss of limited types of wetlands (i.e., fens) can have a drastic change to other adjacent habitats (i.e., fish habitat). The Forest Plan should outline how Executive Order 11990, as amended, will be met to avoid to extent possible the long- and short-term impacts associated with destruction or modification of wetlands. Removal, storage, reutilization, and/or disposal of overburden removed during road construction should be outlined in the Forest Plan. Reporting of cubic yards of material removed, acreage impacted, and acreage rehabilitated, should be part of ongoing planning and monitoring. The Service encourages the Forest Service to consider compensatory mitigation to offset unavoidable adverse impacts to wetlands which remain after all minimization efforts have been met (NEPA Section 1508.20). This approach also embraces positive stewardship of public lands.