



News Release

TONGASS NATIONAL FOREST

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE-FOREST SERVICE

Contact: Lee Benson
E-mail: labenson@fs.fed.us
Phone: 907-784-3359
Date: August 15, 2009

Forest Service releases EA for Yakutat motorized vehicle access

Yakutat, AK – The U.S. Forest Service has released the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Yakutat Ranger District Access and Travel Management (ATM) project.

A decision on the project will determine how the district's road system will be managed to meet public needs, safety and resource concerns, budget levels and Forest Plan objectives.

The EA describes and analyzes one no-action alternative and three action alternatives for motorized vehicle road and trail access on the Yakutat Ranger District, Tongass National Forest. It is available on the internet at www.tongass.fs.fed.us/r10/tongass/projects/projects.shtml under Yakutat Ranger District Access and Travel Management project.

Yakutat District Ranger Lee Benson is expected to release his Decision Notice (DN) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) in September 2009.

The Yakutat Ranger District has already provided several opportunities for public input on the ATM, including pre-scoping and informational meetings, as well as subsistence hearings. With the release of the EA, the public has another opportunity to comment on the proposal.

The Forest Service invites comments on the EA from individuals and organizations. Submit written comments by mail to Yakutat Ranger District, P.O. Box 327, Yakutat, AK, 99689; by fax to 907-784-3457; in person at the Yakutat Ranger District office, 712 Ocean Cape Road in Yakutat; or by email at comments-alaska-tongass-yakutat@fs.fed.us (please put "Yakutat ATM" in the subject line).

Comments must be received within 30 calendar days following publication of the notice of availability of this EA in the Juneau Empire, the newspaper of record for this project.

For more information, contact Lee Benson at 907-784-3359 (labenson@fs.fed.us).

Tongass National Forest, Yakutat Ranger District
P.O. Box 327, Yakutat, AK 99689
Voice: 907-784-3359 Fax: 907-784-3457
The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.