

## CHUGACH NATIONAL FOREST

### SCHEDULE OF NEPA PROPOSED ACTIONS

July 1, 1999 - June 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:** The interdisciplinary team is currently developing a range of alternatives, and is working with members of the public who want to develop their own alternative.

**Decision Date:** The Draft Forest Plan and Environmental Impact Statement are scheduled for completion in late 1999, with a final version in June 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	Public input is being analyzed and field reconnaissance is currently occurring.	July 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. DROPPED locations for the current Permit in Twentymile River Valley, and Ptarmigan and Moose Creeks.	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 this April 30, 1999. The EA was remanded back to the district to be supplemented with a cumulative impacts study.	Scoping began May, 1999.	Additional analysis is being conducted.	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
<b>NEW</b> 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.	Late August, 1999  District Ranger	Cal Baker (907) 424-7661
<b>NEW</b> 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 changes necessary due to increasing tourism use.	Scoping began in January 1999	In progress. Analysis will be conducted during winter 1999, spring 2000.	March, 2000  District Ranger	Bob Behrends Dixon Sherman (907)424-7661
Knowles Head Stream Restoration Projects.  Categorical Exclusion	Knowles Head, between Port Fidalgo and Port Gravina, Prince William Sound. T.13S., R.7 & 8W., CRM.	A number of erosion control projects are proposed where culverts and bridges were removed on the old 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.	Scoping letters sent April 1. Comments solicited 4/1 - 4/30, 1999. A public meeting on projects and management of Knowles Head area was held in Cordova.	Began January 1998. Biological Evaluation completed. Currently working with Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska DGC, and ADF&G Habitat.	Late June 1999  District Ranger	Ken Hodges (907) 424-7661
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 restoration projects and land management direction.	Began January 1998. Potential projects will continue to be identified through internal and external scoping and field review. A 1998 Analysis & Progress report completed 4/99 includes implementation and monitoring plan.	No decision document. Findings from the watershed analysis will be incorporated into Forest Plan Revision and decision documents for individual projects.	Susan Kesti (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 Environmental Analysis.	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 stipulations to be contained in the easement document.	Cal Baker, USFS (907) 424-766 Rick Rogers, CAC 560 E 34th Ave. Suite 200 Anchorage, AK 99503 (907) 563-8866
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
<b>NEW</b> 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 August, 1999 District Ranger	Jeannine LaDuke Bob Behrends (907) 424-7661

SEWARD RANGER DISTRICT  
334 Fourth Avenue, Seward, AK 99664-0390  
(907) 424-7661

RON FREEMAN  
Acting District Ranger

New Outfitter Guide Special Use Permit, Hope Fishing Charters, 1 year permit. Categorical Exclusion Action.	Ice Fishing: Summit and Jerome Lakes. Boat fishing: Summit Lake. Walk-in fishing: Resurrection Creek.	Guided ice fishing, guided boat fishing, and guided walk-in fishing.	Began April 1999.  Comments due 5/10/99.	Complete	<b>DECISION</b>	Shannon Skibeness (907) 224-3374
					May 1999 District Ranger	

PROJECT TITLE	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	SCOPING STATUS	ANALYSIS STATUS	DECISION DATE AND SIGNATURE AUTHORITY	CONTACT PERSON
Renewal and additional activities and locations for Outfitter Guide Special Use Permit, Northern Forage Horse Adventures, one year permit. Categorically Excluded Action.	Quartz Creek Beach; Quartz Creek Campground; power-line route near Quartz Creek; Old logging road from Quartz Creek to Russian Gap area; Crescent Creek Trail; and Resurrection Pass Trail System game retrieval only.	In winter, horse drawn sleigh on Quartz Creek Beach and in Quartz Creek Campground. In summer: Resurrection Pass Trail System game retrieval ONLY. All other areas, except Quartz Creek Campground, guided horseback riding.	Began April 1999.  Comments due 5/10/99.	Complete	<b>DECISION</b>  May 1999  District Ranger	Shannon Skibeness (907) 224-3374
Renewal and additional activities and locations for Outfitter Guide Special Use Permit, Alaska Two Wheel Tours, one year permit. Categorically Excluded Action.	Palmer Creek Road; Upper Russian Lakes trail; Crescent Lake Trail; and Johnson Pass trail.	Guided mountain bike riding.	Began April 1999.  Comments due 5/10/99.	Complete	<b>DECISION</b>  May 1999  District Ranger	Shannon Skibeness (907) 224-3374
New Outfitter Guide Special Use Permit, one year permit. Categorically Excluded Action.	Lost Lake Trail and Resurrection River Trail.	Guided horseback riding	Began April 1999.  Comments due 5/10/99.	Complete	<b>DECISION</b>  May 1999  District Ranger	Shannon Skibeness (907) 224-3374
New Outfitter Guide Special Use Permit, Alaska Llama Adventures; one year permit. Categorically Excluded Action.	Lost Lake Trail & Primrose Trail.	Llamas for backcountry hiking trips, drop camps, & game retrieval services using llamas as pack animals.	Began April 1999.  Comments due 5/10/99.	Complete	<b>DECISION</b>  May 1999  District Ranger	Shannon Skibeness (907) 224-3374
New Outfitter Guide Special Use Permit, Llamas of the Midnight Sun; Jennifer & John Tabor; 1 year permit. Categorically Excluded Action.	Upper Russian Lake trail, Resurrection River Trail, Johnson Pass Trail, Ptarmigan Creek Trail, Lost Lake Trail, Primrose Trail, Carter Lake Trail, & Crescent Creek Trail.	Guided llama hiking/packing	Began April 1999.  Comments due 5/10/99.	Complete	<b>DECISION</b>  May 1999  District Ranger	Shannon Skibeness (907) 224-3374
New Outfitter Guide Special Use Permit, Caution to the Wind Expeditions, Inc.; a one year permit. Categorically Excluded Action.	Hiking & biking: Crescent Lake Trail & Ptarmigan Creek Trail.  Canoeing & kayaking: Kenai Lake	Guided hiking, bicycling, canoeing, & kayaking.	Began April 1999.  Comments due 5/10/99.	Complete	<b>DECISION</b>  May 1999  District Ranger	Shannon Skibeness (907) 224-3374

PROJECT TITLE	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	SCOPING STATUS	ANALYSIS STATUS	DECISION DATE AND SIGNATURE AUTHORITY	CONTACT PERSON
Addition of an assigned site to an existing outfitter guide special use permit, Backcountry Safaris. Categorically Excluded Action.	Boston Bar of Sixmile Creek, Hope Highway Mile 3.4.	An assigned site for a trip staging area, parking, and classes of Backcountry Safaris. The non-guided public would still be allowed to use this site.	Began April 1999.  Comments due 5/10/99.	In Progress	<b>DECISION</b>  July 1999  District Ranger	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 652 acres burned. Birch thinning for moose habitat enhancement.	Began July 1995.	In Progress	August 1999  District Ranger	Karen Kromrey (907) 224-3374
Addition of an assigned site to an existing outfitter guide permit, Class V Whitewater. Categorically Excluded Action, Decision Memo required or not yet to be determined.	Hope Wye federal mining claim access to Sixmile Creek.	An assigned site for a trip staging area, parking, and camping of Class V Whitewater employees. The non-guided public would still be allowed to use this site.	Began April 1999.  Comments due 5/10/99.	In Progress	July 1999  District Ranger	Shannon Skibeness (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.	In Progress	Summer 1999. District Ranger	Eric Johansen (907) 224-3374
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.  Comments due by May 10, 1999.	In Progress	Summer 1999  District Ranger	Karen O'Leary (907) 224-3374
Special Use Permits. Categorically Excluded Action, Decision Memo required or not on a case-by-case basis.	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
Kenai Lake Work Center Timber Salvage Project. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo.	Seward Highway, Mile 23.	Harvest spruce trees killed or infested by the spruce bark beetle. Harvested acres will be replanted.	Began October 1998	In Progress	September 1999  District Ranger	Karen Kromrey (907) 224-3374

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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 CZMA - DFA (3)	December 1999 District Ranger	Karen Kromrey (907) 224-3374
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 may be constructed.	Ongoing.	Ongoing	Decisions will be issued at various time by the Seward District Ranger.	Karen Kromrey (907) 224-3374
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	August 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	Summer 1999 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.	In Progress	August 1999 District Ranger	Susan Howell (907) 224-3374
Guided/non-guided Use Allocation. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo.	Resurrection Pass, Devil's Pass and Summit Creek Trails	Determine percentage of guided versus non-guided use on these trails	Scoping on issues began 1/19/99 and was completed 3/10/99	Comments received are being organized by issue. Comments will then be analyzed and next analysis steps determined.	Fall 1999 District Ranger	Shannon Skibeness (907) 224-3374
Hardwood Regeneration Project. Categorically Excluded Action with Decision Memo.	Various sites on the Seward District.	Mature stands of birch, willow, and aspen, from 5 to 40 acres in size will be felled to improve wildlife habitat. Sites may be scarified, planted, or burned after felling.	Ongoing	Ongoing	Decisions will be made at various times by the Seward 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.	In Progress	Summer 1999 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.