Opportunity to Object to Prince of Wales Landscape Level Analysis Project

The Tongass National Forest has released the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and draft Record of Decision (ROD) for the Prince of Wales Landscape Level Analysis (POW LLA) Project. These documents, with their associated appendices, are available for public review prior to the final decision. All documents are available online at http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/tongass/powlla.

Notification of the availability of these documents was sent by email or letter on October 31, 2018 to those who previously requested to be included on the project mailing list or submitted specific written comments related to the project. The POW LLA Project draft ROD proposes to authorize (on the Thorne Bay and Craig Ranger Districts, Tongass National Forest) a wide array of site-specific activities and management strategies including old- and young-growth timber harvest; precommercial thinning and wildlife habitat improvement; watershed improvement and restoration; recreation facilities maintenance, improvement, and development; other infrastructure and non-infrastructure activities; and invasive plant management (including manual, mechanical, and herbicide treatments). There would be no commercial harvest of old-growth stands in the area "North of 20 Road" and within VCU 5280. The Selected Alternative also includes measures to minimize impacts to or improve wildlife habitat on National Forest System lands adjacent to communities to benefit subsistence users.

The Responsible Official for this project is M. Earl Stewart, Forest Supervisor. A copy of the FEIS and additional information regarding this proposed project can be obtained from: Delilah Brigham, Project Leader, P.O. Box 19001, 1312 Federal Way, Thorne Bay, Alaska 99919, 907-828-3232, dbrigham@fs.fed.us or fax 907-828-3309. This proposed project is subject to a pre-decisional administrative review (objection) pursuant to 36 CFR 218, Subpart B.

Objections will be accepted only from those who previously submitted timely, specific, written comments regarding the proposed project either during scoping or other designated opportunities for public comment in accordance with 36 CFR 218.5(a). Issues raised in objections must be based on previously submitted, timely, specific, written comments regarding the proposed project, unless based on new information arising after designated public comment opportunities.

Individual members of organizations must have submitted their own comments to be eligible to object; objections received on behalf of an organization are considered those of the organization only. If an objection is submitted on behalf of a number of individuals or organizations, each individual or organization listed must meet the eligibility requirements (36 CFR 218.5(d)). Names and addresses of objectors will become part of the public record.

Incorporation of documents by reference in an objection is permitted only as provided for at 36 CFR 218.8(b). Minimum content requirements of an objection are identified in 36 CFR 218.8(d) and include: objector's name and address with a telephone number if available (signature or other verification of authorship must be supplied upon request); identification of the lead objector when multiple names are listed, along with verification upon request; name of project, name and title of the responsible official, national forest/ranger district of project; sufficient narrative description of those aspects of the proposed project objected to, specific issues related to the project, how environmental law, regulation, or policy would be violated, and suggested remedies which would resolve the objection; and statement demonstrating the connection between prior specific written comments on this project and the content of the objection, unless the objection issue arose after the designated opportunity for comment.

The Reviewing Officer is the Regional Forester. Send objections to:
Regional Forester,
Alaska Regional Office,
PO Box 21628, 709 W. 9th Street, Juneau, AK 99802-1628,
Fax: 907-586-7840, Phone: 907-586-8806 or email it to: objections-alaska-regional-office

Written objections, including any attachments, must be filed (regular mail, fax, email, hand-delivery, or express delivery) with the Reviewing Officer within 45 days following the publication date of this legal notice in the newspaper of record. The office business hours for those submitting hand-delivered objections are 8 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Electronic objections must be submitted in a format compatible with the current version of MS Word. It is the responsibility of objectors to ensure their objection is received in a timely manner (36 CFR 218.9).

The publication date of this legal notice in the newspaper of record is the exclusive means for calculating the time to file an objection of this project. Those wishing to object to this proposed project should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source.

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