

POW LLA Side Boards

How will the Forest Service evaluate suggestions or proposals submitted for the Prince of Wales Landscape Level Analysis project?

- 1) Does the USFS have the authority to implement the activity?

Over the past 125 years, the USFS (USDA prior to the establishment of the FS in 1905) has been granted its authority to manage NFS lands through various legislation including the Forest Reserve Act of 1891, the Organic Act of 1897, the Multiple-Use Sustained-Yield Act of 1960, and the National Forest Management Act of 1976, Tongass Timber Reform Act of 1990, among many others.

The very first question to confirm when something is proposed: Is it located on National Forest System land?

- 2) Does it meet the purpose and need of the project?

If something is proposed that does not meet the purpose and need of the project, it is considered “outside the scope of the project”.

For the POWLLA, the purpose and need is described in the Federal Register NOI, attached to this paper.

- 3) Does it meet the requirements of the Forest Plan?

The Tongass National Forest Plan guides everything we do on this project. A proposal must meet the requirements of the plan. If it doesn't, there may be a (slim) possibility of doing a Forest Plan amendment to allow that variation, but it is a very rigorous process and the preference is that it fits within the plan as is.

- 4) Does it meet other required laws and regulations?

For example: Clean Water Act; Endangered Species Act; Wilderness Act; National Historic Preservation Act; Clean Air Act; etc.

