



Forest Service
Chugach National Forest
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PRESS RELEASE
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Chugach National Forest Releases Draft Land Management Plan & Environmental Impact Statement

Public Invited to Open Houses to Learn More

ANCHORAGE, AK (August 3, 2018) – Today the Chugach National Forest announces the release of the draft Land Management Plan and draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The draft Land Management Plan updates the 2002 Chugach National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan. The public is invited to comment on the draft Land Management Plan and DEIS. A 90-day public comment period begins August 4, 2018 and ends November 1, 2018.

The Chugach National Forest draft Land Management Plan describes the 15-year strategic vision for managing the approximately 5.4 million acres of National Forest System lands in southcentral Alaska. Capitalizing on the strengths of the current 2002 Plan, the draft Land Management Plan provides for changes in the local and regional economy, physical condition of the Forest, and increased demand for recreation.

The draft Land Management Plan is responsive to issues raised by local stakeholders, the public, the State of Alaska, and Alaska Native Tribes and Corporations and makes the Chugach National Forest more sustainable and productive for the long term benefit of the American people. The draft Land Management Plan incorporates changes such as: ensuring public access and opportunities for diverse recreation use while protecting the natural, cultural, and scenic environment; supporting terrestrial and aquatic ecosystem functions and promoting ecosystem resilience; clarifying special designations on the Forest; and separating site-specific travel management direction from the plan.

“The Chugach National Forest is the backyard to over half of Alaska’s population, supporting businesses and rural communities with world-class tourism opportunities and destinations. The draft Land Management Plan for the Chugach National Forest continues our commitment to connect and deliver forest resources and benefits to people,” said Terri Marceron, Forest Supervisor.

Nine public open house meetings will be scheduled starting in mid-September to provide information about the draft Land Management Plan and the DEIS. Meetings will be hosted in Anchorage, Girdwood, Seward, Hope, Cooper Landing, Moose Pass, Cordova, Soldotna and Valdez. Dates and meeting locations will be posted at www.fs.usda.gov/chugach.

During the 90-day public comment period, comments may be sent in any of the following methods: 1) Electronically at www.fs.usda.gov/goto/chugach/plancomments; 2) FAX to (907) 743-9476; 3) Submit in writing at any public meeting hosted during the 90-day comment period; 4) Send or deliver written comments to: Chugach National Forest Supervisor’s Office, Attn: Draft Land Management Plan, 161 East 1st Street, Door 8, Anchorage, AK 99501.

For more information or to sign up for the mailing list, visit: www.fs.usda.gov/chugach.

To request information email chugachplanrevision@fs.fed.us

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