



# Forest Plan Revision

## Tongass National Forest



## Land Management Plan Revision

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### What is a land management plan?

A land management plan (commonly known as a ‘forest plan’) is the comprehensive overarching document that guides the management of a National Forest for approximately 15 years. Land management plans set overall management direction. Described as “the view from 30,000 feet,” these plans are strategic and broad in scope. These plans do not make site-specific decisions or authorize projects but do provide guidance for making decisions about future projects and use. Forest plans have desired conditions, objectives, standards and guidelines, identification of suitability of areas for certain uses, and monitoring programs.

#### Why do we need to revise the plan?

The current Tongass National Forest Plan was adopted in 1997, with a major amendment in 2016. Plans should be revised periodically to remain current with laws, policies, and planning regulations; respond to changing ecological and socioeconomic conditions and expectations; and to incorporate the best available scientific information relevant to the management of public lands.

#### What is the process to revise a plan?

The planning rule established in 2012 provides the guidance and framework for revising land

management plans. The planning process includes three primary phases: assess, revise, and monitor (Figure 1). The process from the assessment phase through completion of a revised plan will take multiple years, beginning in earnest in 2024.

#### How can the public be involved?

The Tongass National Forest is committed to involving the public in transparent, meaningful dialogue to shape a plan that results in the sustainable management of resources, goods, and services. Forest Service staff will outreach broadly to engage federal and state agencies, tribes, local governments, communities, private landowners, and other interested individuals and groups.

For more information or to sign up for our email distribution list, please refer to the Tongass Revision Website:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/tongass/landmanagement/planning/?cid=fseprd1105492>



Figure 1. Basic plan revision process