



ALASKA ROADLESS RULE EIS WEEKLY STATUS MEETING

Date/Time: December 4, 2018 11:00 a.m. Alaska

Location: Teleconference

Attendees		
Lauren McChesney, Forest Service	Sitka Pence, Forest Service	Ken Tu, Forest Service
Robert Nichols, Forest Service	Jon Gellings, Forest Service (for part of meeting)	Jacque Foss, Forest Service
Dave Cox, Tetra Tech	Randy Fairbanks, Tetra Tech	

Ken provided a status update on the development of alternatives and schedule.

- USFS is working on minor tweaks following meeting with the Chief and Under Secretary. Next briefing is with the Secretary of Agriculture (date not set).
- Wednesday (12/5) is a national day of mourning; federal employees will not be working.
- Continuing Resolution expires this week.
- Still on track for 12/7 delivery of Alternatives (Chapter 2)
- Bringing on new staff for outfitter guide support, expect to be onboard next week
- Meeting in Bothell is set for the week of January 14.

Jon joined the call briefly to check in from contracting perspective. Tetra Tech to review revised labor hour contract, sign, and return. After Jon left the call, Dave passed on information from Tetra Tech's contract reviewer that they were looking into a couple items still but should be done soon.

Group discussion of the recent changes to the Alternatives and suitability, application of plan direction to underlying LUDs, T77 watersheds and The Nature Conservancy / Audubon conservation priority areas, wildlife analysis, and outfitter guide issues.

For the No Action alternative, use language from the Roadless court case.

See Wyoming court decision for guidance on programmatic NEPA and cumulative effects. Sitka to send to Dave.

Jacque is working on the spatial form of the alternatives. Not expected to be finalized this week. There are issues with slivers, vertical integration, etc. USFS would like Tetra Tech to resolve these issues.

Updated Chapter 1 will include edits to the Purpose and Need and update issue statements.

Randy updated the group on Tetra Tech activities. Working on Affected Environment and initial GIS work including suitability and vegetation layer.

Regarding the size density layer that Mary Jo (Tetra Tech GIS) asked about, Jacqui said it was run October 2017 and can be rerun by the USFS if needed.

Set up a call to focus on alternatives Tuesday (12/11) at 08:00 Alaska.