

Appendix A- GLOSSARY

AAC. Alaska Administrative Code.

All-season road. A road constructed and intended to be used in all seasons of the year.

Amendment. An amendment permanently changes the guidelines by adding to or modifying the basic management intent for one or more subunits, or by changing allowed or prohibited activities, policies, or guidelines. For example, an amendment might close to clearcutting an area where this activity was previously allowed, allow a particular activity in an area where it was previously prohibited, or change the guidelines for the length of timber rotations.

Anadromous fish stream. Streams identified by DFG in the *Catalog of Anadromous Waters* are anadromous streams. AS 41.17.118(c) clarifies that in lieu of site-specific determinations that a stream does or does not contain anadromous fish, it should, for planning purposes, be presumed that a stream is anadromous if it is connected to anadromous waters without DFG-documented physical blockage and has a stream gradient of 8% or less. Where a previous site visit has not been made, DFG will, at the operator's request, conduct a field review to document the presence of anadromous fish. The field review will be scheduled when anadromous fish are likely to be present and the site is accessible.

Annual allowable cut. The average volume of timber that may be cut from a forest that will maintain a balance between net growth and harvest while meeting the management intent for the forest land.

AS. Alaska Statutes.

Board foot. A unit of measure for wood equal to a block of wood one-foot square and one inch thick (1" x 12" x 12").

Broadcast burning. The management technique of burning slash or other vegetation within an area for the purpose of enhancement of forest regeneration, fire hazard reduction, or habitat improvement.

Burn plan. A document including a fire prescription and an assessment of likely impacts to air quality, water quality, and other resources such as wildlife habitat and recreation. A burn plan also specifies measures for controlling the proposed burn.

Clearcuts. Cuts where all trees are harvested within a cutting unit, and where the cutting unit is five acres or greater in size.

Closed forests. Forest lands on which trees cover more than 50% of the surface area.

Codominant trees. Trees with crowns which form the general level of the forest canopy and receive full light from above but relatively little from the sides.

Commercial use wood. Wood harvested for sale, barter, or other commercial purposes. This includes wood used to construct lodges and other commercial facilities, or to heat these facilities during the period of commercial operation.

Commissioner. The Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources, unless otherwise specified.

Conditional area. Area where timber harvesting is allowed as long as special guidelines (conditions) are met. Meeting these conditions may reduce the amount of timber available for harvesting. For example, a shoreline management zone allows timber harvesting if special guidelines for this zone are met.

Consultation. Processes followed by the Department of Natural Resources under existing statutes, regulations and procedures to inform other groups of the intention to take some action, and seek their advice or assistance in deciding what to do. Consultation is not intended to be binding on a decision. It is a means of informing affected organizations and individuals about forthcoming decisions and getting the benefit of their expertise. DNR replies to parties offering advice or assistance by sending them the decision and the reasons for which the decision was made, or by notifying them that the decision and findings are available for review.

Co-primary use. Designation where more than one use is a primary use. Wildlife Habitat and Public Recreation are also primary uses on lands where Forestry is designated a primary use. On these lands Wildlife Habitat, Public Recreation, and Forestry are co-primary uses. Co-primary uses must be managed to be compatible with each other.

Co-primary uses have equal status: no co-primary use is more important than the others.

Cover habitat. Cover habitat includes hiding cover, snow interception cover, and thermal cover. See the individual definitions of these terms.

Critical protection area or sites. The highest level of wildfire suppression. This designation is used for areas and sites where fire presents a real and immediate threat to human safety and designated physical developments. Fires burning in these areas will be immediately and aggressively suppressed.

Cutting unit. An area within a timber sale from which trees are actually removed. (See *Chapter 2 - Figure 1.*)

DEC. Department of Environmental Conservation.

Decking. The piling of logs.

Designated personal use area. See Personal use.

Designated use. The land use(s) identified by designations (see following definition) in a land use plan. Designated uses include primary, co-primary, and secondary uses. Forestry is one of the designated uses on lands with the following designations: Forestry - co-primary, Forestry - secondary, Forestry - personal use (this may be either a primary or secondary use), and Resource Management.

Designation. A category of land allocation determined by a land use plan. Designations identify the primary and secondary uses for state lands. Designations where forestry is allowed include land where Forestry is designated a primary use (Forestry - co-primary) or a secondary use (Forestry - secondary), and land designated Resource Management. Forestry - co-primary or Forestry - secondary designations may specify that timber harvest is allowed only for personal use. These areas are shown on the map as Forestry - personal use designations.

DFG. Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

DNR. Alaska Department of Natural Resources.

DOF. Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry.

DPOR. Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation.

DOT/PF. Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities.

Due deference. That deference which is appropriate in the context of the commenter's expertise and area of responsibility, and all the evidence available to support any factual assertions. Where due deference is given, if the commissioner does not agree with a commenting agency, the commissioner shall prepare a written statement of the reasons for the disagreement. (AS 41.17.098)

Eagle nesting sites. Nesting sites mapped by USFWS from their bald eagle surveys and shown on the map "Bald Eagle Nesting Sites" accompanying these guidelines. Sites can be added to or deleted from the map based on new information from USFWS eagle surveys or inspection of specific sites. Additions or deletions will be made by DNR in concurrence with DFG and USFWS. Changes to the map will be based on physical characteristics for nesting and evidence of use.

Experimental forest. Forest land retained for forest research that involves site manipulation or long-term observation (e.g., timber management research, habitat enhancement research).

Feasible. Capable of being accomplished in a successful manner within a reasonable period of time, taking into account economic, environmental, technical, and safety factors. (11 AAC 95.900)

Feasible and prudent. Consistent with sound engineering practice and not causing environmental, social or economic problems that outweigh the public benefit to be derived from compliance with the guideline. (6 AAC 80.900)

Fire prescription. A document stating the objectives of a proposed burn (for example, the amount of slash to be removed and the intensity of the burn), and identifies the weather conditions needed to meet the objectives.

Forestry. Any activity or structure for the harvest or management of timber resources.

Forestry - co-primary. Land where forestry is one of the designated primary uses. Timber harvest for commercial and personal use is allowed consistent with the Susitna Forestry Guidelines and the management intent and guidelines from the land use plan for the affected area.

Forestry - personal use. Land where timber harvest is a primary or secondary use, but is allowed only for personal use.

Forestry - secondary. Land where forestry is one of the designated secondary uses. Timber harvest for commercial and personal use is allowed when consistent with the management intent for the primary uses. Harvesting must also be consistent with the Susitna Forestry Guidelines and guidelines from the land use plan for the affected area.

Full protection area. The second highest category of wildfire suppression. Fires in this category will be controlled through immediate and aggressive suppression.

Goal. A statement of basic intent or of a general condition desired in the long term. Goals usually are not quantifiable nor do they have specified dates for achievement.

Group selection cuts. Cuts where all trees are harvested within a cutting unit, and where the cutting unit is less than five acres in size. (See diagram on last page.)

Guideline. A specific course of action that must be followed when a resource manager permits, leases, or otherwise authorizes use of state lands. Some guidelines state the intent that must be followed and allow flexibility in achieving it. Guidelines range from giving general guidance for decision-making or identifying factors to consider, to setting detailed standards for on-the-ground decisions.

Harvest unit. One or more cutting units plus the uncut areas between them. The total area of cutting units within a harvest unit is generally 5-50 acres. Unless otherwise specified for a particular sale, harvest units will be separated by a buffer of at least 330 feet.

Hiding cover. Hiding cover is vegetation capable of hiding 90% of a standing adult moose from the view of a human at a distance of 200 feet. Generally, hiding cover is provided by vegetation that is at least 13 to 20 feet high.

High site. Forest lands with open mixed forest, closed mixed forest, open cottonwood, closed cottonwood, or closed white spruce cover. See definitions of open forest and closed forest.

Ice bridge. A bridge of ice across a lake, river, or stream, either natural or constructed to a specified thickness to safely accommodate specified vehicle loads.

Identified trumpeter swan nesting sites. Nesting sites mapped by USFWS in their 1975, 1980, and 1985 swan surveys and shown on the map "Trumpeter Swan Nesting Sites" accompanying this guidelines. Sites can be added to or deleted from the map based on new information from USFWS swan surveys or inspection of specific sites. Additions or deletions will be made by DNR in concurrence with DFG and USFWS. Changes to the map will be based on physical characteristics for nesting, evidence of use for nesting within the prior 20 years, and presence or absence of human disturbance.

Landing. A cleared area in the woods to which logs are yarded for loading onto trucks for shipment to a processing plant.

Land use designations. See "Designation".

Land use plan. A plan developed and adopted under AS 38.04.065 that determines management intent, designations, and guidelines for state land. Land use plans in the SFG area include the Susitna Area Plan, Willow Subbasin Area Plan, Kashwitna Management Plan, Fish Creek Management Plan, Deception Creek Land Use Plan, and Susitna Basin Recreation Rivers Management Plan.

Large woody debris. Any large piece of relatively stable woody material having a least diameter of greater than 10 cm (4") and a length greater than 1m (3.3ft) that intrudes into the stream channel.

Legislatively designated area. An area established by an act of the legislature for special management. Legislatively designated areas in the SFG vicinity include: Susitna Basin State Recreation Rivers (five river corridors), Susitna Flats State Game Refuge, and Willow Creek State Recreation Area.

Limited action area. The lowest level of wildfire suppression. Fires in limited action areas will be allowed to burn with the exception of necessary action to prevent undesirable escape from the area. Critical sites within such areas will receive specific protection.

Low site. Forest lands with open white spruce, open black spruce, or closed black spruce cover. See definitions of open forest and closed forest.

Mainline road. A permanent, year-round road built to provide access to continuing harvest operations and identified by DOF as a mainline road at the time the road is designed.

Management intent statement. The statements that define the department's near- and long-term management objectives and the methods to achieve those objectives.

Minor change. A change that does not modify or add to the guidelines basic intent, and that serves only to clarify the guidelines, make them consistent, facilitate their implementation, or make technical corrections. A minor change is not considered a revision to the guidelines.

Modified action area. The third highest category of wildfire suppression. Fires will be contained unless otherwise directed by the land manager or owner upon completion of an annual evaluation.

Multiple use. The term "multiple use" as defined in the Alaska Forest Resources and Practices Act (AS 41.17.950) means:

1. The management of all the various resources of forest land so that they are used in the combination that will best meet the needs of the citizens of Alaska, making the most judicious use of the land for some or all of these resources or related values, benefits, and services over areas large enough to provide sufficient latitude for periodic adjustment in use to conform to changing needs and conditions;
2. That some land will be used for less than all of the resources; and
3. Harmonious and coordinated management of the various resources, each with the other, without significant impairment of the productivity of the land and water, with consideration being given to the relative values of the various resources, and not necessarily the combination of uses that will give the greatest dollar return or the greatest unit output.

Multiple use road. A road constructed and intended to be used for more than one use, such as timber harvest, recreation, hunting access, and mining.

Off-highway vehicle. A vehicle designed or adapted for cross-country operation over unimproved terrain, ice, or snow, and which has been determined by the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities to be unsuitable for general highway use. (13 AAC 40.010)

Off-road vehicle. Same as off-highway vehicle.

Open forest. Forest land on which trees cover 10-50% of the surface area.

Personal use (timber harvest). Timber harvest for use by the harvester. Wood harvested for personal use may not be sold, bartered, or used for commercial purposes (11 AAC 71.050). Personal use wood may not be used to build lodges or other commercial facilities or to heat these facilities during the period of commercial operation. Harvest of wood for personal use is authorized in personal use harvest areas designated by the Division of Forestry through the Five-Year Schedule of Timber Sales or in remote areas under individual permits for personal use. Designated personal use areas are located near road access and are open for multiple personal use permits. (See also *Forestry-Personal Use* in this appendix.)

Pesticide. Any chemical or biological agent intended for use as an insecticide, herbicide, rodenticide, fungicide, or other biocide. (18 AAC 90.060(9))

Phase (area). One of three regions of the Susitna Forestry Guidelines area that determines the timing of timber management and development of access to timber on state land. See p.7 for a description of the three phases.

Policy. An intended course of action or a principle for guiding actions. DNR policies for land and resource management given in these guidelines include goals, management intent statements, management guidelines, and use designations, implementation plans and procedures, and various other statements of DNR's intentions.

Primary road. A permanent road which provides access to within at least five miles of the management site. It is built to accommodate two way traffic at moderate speeds.

Primary use. A designated, allowed use of major importance in a particular management unit. Resources in the unit will be managed to encourage, develop or protect this use. Where a management unit has two or more designated primary uses, the management intent statement and guidelines for the unit - together with existing regulations and procedures - will direct how resources are managed to avoid or minimize conflict between these primary uses.

Prohibited area. An area where timber harvesting is not allowed.

Prohibited Use. A use not allowed in a management unit because of conflicts with management intent, designated primary or secondary uses, or management guidelines. Uses not specifically prohibited nor designated as primary or secondary uses in a management unit are allowed if compatible with primary and secondary uses, the management intent statements for the unit, and the plan's guidelines.

Put-to-bed. A process to stabilize and terminate the use of a logging road, trail, or other means of access by highway vehicles. Roadbeds may be scarified to encourage revegetation; culverts, bridges, etc., may be removed; scarification is done; final grading is done to prevent erosion; water bars may be constructed, barricades may be erected, and in some cases the surface is seeded to reduce erosion.

Recreation. In the SFG, recreation includes the range of opportunities and settings described in *Appendix E - Recreation Opportunity Spectrum for the Susitna Forestry Guidelines Area*.

Remote cabin. Cabin constructed under a permit issued through the Remote Cabin Permit program authorized in AS 38.05.079 and further described in 11 AAC 67.700-.790.

Research natural area. Ecologically representative or unique sites maintained in a natural state for education, long-term observation research, and environmental monitoring.

Resource management. Resource management areas are designated by land use plans. This designation is used when land has all four of the following characteristics: 1) significant existing or potential value for more than one land use when the potential uses are not compatible and one or more of the potential uses requires land disposal (i.e., settlement or agriculture); 2) inadequate existing information to establish the highest values of the land for the long term; 3) no existing road access, nor likelihood of access being developed in the next five to ten years. Accessible lands are defined as those within five miles of roads that can be traveled by 4-wheel drive vehicles; and 4) resource development (e.g., farm development, timber harvests, habitat enhancement) is unlikely in the next five to ten years. Land under a resource management designation will be available for public use in the near term, provided that the uses are not detrimental to the potential long term uses identified when the designation was established. For example, timber may be harvested from potential

agricultural areas designated resource management as long as the agricultural potential is not diminished. Resource management designations will be reevaluated when land use plans are reviewed or when conditions affecting the potential use of the area change, for example, when road access is improved or when better information is available on the benefits and costs of a possible use.

Rotation. The period of years required to establish and grow timber to a specified condition of maturity.

Salvage cutting. A harvest of trees killed or injured to recover as much useable wood as possible prior to deterioration and decomposition.

Scarification. Mechanical process of exposing mineral soil on the forest floor in order to enhance the establishment and development of a new forest crop.

Seasonal wildlife concentration area. Area in which the density of animals of a given species exceeds the density of that species in the surrounding area and is necessary to the perpetuation of the population.

Secondary road. A road constructed and maintained to standards sufficient for timber transportation that provides access to harvest areas. Secondary roads connect spur roads to primary roads.

Secondary use. A designated, allowed use considered important but intended to receive less emphasis than a primary use because it (a) has less potential than a primary use or contributes less to achieving the management intent of the unit than a primary use or, (b) occurs only on limited sites. In those very site-specific situations where a secondary use has higher value than a primary use, the secondary use may take precedence over the primary use but only for a limited area of the management unit. Management for a secondary use will recognize and protect primary uses through application of guidelines, regulations, and procedures. However, if a secondary use can not take place without detrimentally affecting a primary use in the management unit as a whole, the secondary use will not be allowed. If more than one secondary use is identified in a subunit, the uses are co-secondary. Co-secondary uses must be managed to be compatible with each other. Co-secondary uses have equal status: no co-secondary use is more important than the others.

Seed tree harvesting. A harvesting system in which most trees are removed from a stand and openings are created. Openings are similar in size to clear-cuts but about 5-10 of the best mature trees are left standing on each acre to provide a good seed source for forest regeneration.

Selective harvesting. Removal of mature timber, usually the oldest or largest trees, either as single scattered trees or in small groups at relatively short intervals, commonly 5 to 20 years, repeated indefinitely, by means of which the continuous establishment of natural reproduction is encouraged and an uneven-aged stand is maintained. Selective harvesting includes both single-tree selection and group selection harvesting.

Settlement. A designation used where state land has been sold for private use or is proposed for sale. Personal use forestry is allowed as a secondary use in areas in the SFG designated for settlement.

Shall. Requiring a course of action or a set of conditions to be achieved. A guideline modified by the word "shall" is required to be followed by resource managers or users. If a guideline constrained by the term "shall" is not complied with, a written decision justifying the variation is required (see *Chapter 3 - Procedures for Guideline Modification*).

Shelterwood. A timber harvesting system in which a series of two or more cuttings are used to ensure regeneration while keeping some cover on the site at all times. Cuttings may be in strips, blocks, or dispersed throughout the harvest area.

Shoreline management zone. Land between 100 feet and 300 feet from anadromous or high value resident fish waterbodies (AS 41.17.118(a)(2)) and land between 100 feet and 300 feet from lakes. See also *Chapter 2 - Rivers, Streams, and Lakes - Shoreline Management Zones*.

Should. Stating intent for a course of action or a set of conditions to be achieved. A guideline modified by the word "should" states the intent of the guideline and allows a resource manager to use judgment and discretion in deciding either (a) the specific means for best achieving the intent or (b) whether particular circumstances justify deviation from the intended action or set of conditions. A guideline may include criteria for deciding whether such a deviation is justified.

Silviculture. The theory and practice of controlling forest establishment, composition, and growth.

Single-tree selection. A harvesting system in which harvested trees are selected on the basis of the characteristics of individual trees, such as size, form, and health. Stands managed by single-tree selection have trees of many ages and sizes. Openings in stands managed by single-tree selection are small, usually created by harvesting an individual tree or a few adjacent trees. (See also *Chapter 3 - Harvesting Systems, Single-tree Selection*.)

Site preparation. Any activity to prepare for reforestation land where timber harvest has occurred. Site preparation includes scarification to prepare a seedbed for natural or artificial seeding and activities to prepare a harvested area for tree planting.

Skid. To pull logs from the stump to the skidroad and landing.

Slash. Debris left after logging; also, large accumulations of debris after wind or fire. It includes logs, chunks, bark, branches, stumps, and broken understory or brush.

Snags. Dead standing trees or portions thereof.

Snow interception cover. Snow interception cover is vegetation that reduces snow depths on the ground. Shallower snow reduces the energy needed for wildlife movement. In southcentral Alaska, stands with 70% coniferous trees with a mean height of 35 feet provide optimal snow interception cover. Forest stands with lower proportions of coniferous trees offer proportionally less snow interception cover.

Sound cull. A tree that because of rot, curves, or other defects is not suitable for lumber but can be used for pulp and fiber.

Special exception. A special exception does not permanently change the provisions of the guidelines. Instead, it allows a one-time, limited-purpose variance of the guidelines, without changing their general intent. For example, a special exception might be used to allow a specific harvest in a habitat buffer closed to harvesting if DFG requested the harvest to benefit wildlife habitat.

Spur road. A road constructed for access within a timber sale. These roads are generally temporary roads less than one mile in length. Spur roads connect the cutting units to secondary (or occasionally primary) roads.

State land. All land, including uplands, tidelands, and submerged lands, or resources belonging to or acquired by the State. State patented, tentatively approved, and state selected lands are included in this definition.

Subunit. Areas of land that are generally homogeneous with respect to resources, topography, and land ownership, and designated uses. Subunit boundaries are determined by land use plans and shown on the map in the back pocket of the SFG.

Sustained yield. AS 38.04.910 (11) defines multiple use for state land managed by DNR as *"The achievement and maintenance in perpetuity of a high level annual or regular periodic output of the various renewable resources of the state land consistent with multiple use."* AS 41.17.950(15) is specific to forest land and adds that sustained yield *"does not require that timber be harvested in a non-declining basis over a rotation period."*

Thermal cover. Thermal cover is vegetation that moderates adverse climatic conditions by providing summer shade and trapping radiant energy in the winter. In southcentral Alaska, stands with 70% coniferous trees with a mean height of 35 feet provide optimal thermal cover. Forest stands with lower proportions of coniferous trees offer proportionally less thermal cover.

Timber base. The amount of forested land where forestry is an allowed use, and the volume of timber supported by that land. The gross timber base includes all forested state land where forestry is a co-primary or secondary use and land designated resource management. The net timber base is the gross timber base minus prohibited areas.

Timber sale. One or more harvest units offered for sale for commercial use under a single contract under AS 38.05.110 - .120 and described in a Forest Land Use Plan.

Trumpeter swan staging areas. Areas traditionally used by flocks of trumpeter swans, usually estuaries and tide flats, for feeding and resting during fall or spring migration.

USDA. United States Department of Agriculture.

Will. Used interchangeably with and meaning the same as "shall" (see above).

Wetlands. Wetlands include both freshwater and saltwater wetlands. Freshwater wetlands means those environments characterized by rooted vegetation which is partially submerged either continuously or periodically by surface freshwater with less than .5 parts per thousand salt content and not exceeding three meters in depth; saltwater wetlands means those coastal areas along sheltered shorelines characterized by halophilic hydrophytes and macro-algae extending from extreme low tide to an area above extreme high tide which is influenced by sea spray or tidally-influenced water table changes. (6 AAC 80.900). *Class I wetlands* are wetlands larger than 100 acres and all wetlands with a locatable stream outlet. *Class II wetlands* are wetlands between 40 and 100 acres with no outlet. *Class III wetlands* are wetlands less 40 acres with no outlet.

Wildlife concentration area. An area in which the density of animals exceeds the density of the species in the surrounding area and which is necessary to perpetuate the population.

Winter road. A road constructed and intended for winter use only when the ground is frozen and snow depth is greater than a specified minimum.

Yarding. The process of pulling or skidding logs to a centralized point or landing where they are piled prior to loading or hauling away.

Years 1 - 5. In the Five-Year Schedule of Timber Sales, Year 5 is the current year, the year sales are offered for purchase. Year 1 is the first year proposed sales can be on the schedule, it is four years prior to the proposed sale date.