

Restrictions in Sensitive Moose Areas. Restrict public access in sensitive moose areas by closing spur roads during critical seasonal periods. DFG will identify sensitive moose areas in proposed timber sales by May 1 each year so that this information can be included in Forest Land Use Plans for the sales.

Putting-to-bed. Non-permanent secondary roads and spur roads will be put-to-bed (see *Appendix A - Glossary* for definition of put-to-bed). Roads put-to-bed should be treated to encourage establishment of forest vegetation immediately after forest operations have been completed. In south-central Alaska, browse plants include most willow species, birch, aspen, cottonwood, high-bush cranberry, labrador tea, and other woody shrubs and forbs.

Willow 8a. New timber access in the northern part of the subunit (approximately that part in T19N) will be kept available for additional road vehicle access for recreation after harvesting is complete. Timber access roads extending farther south will be closed to road vehicle access after harvesting is complete. The Five-Year Schedule of Timber Sales should include 1:63,360 or larger scale maps of sale location, access corridors, and identify the type of access proposed (e.g., year-round v. seasonal, and temporary v. permanent) for sales proposed for offering in the current year or the two subsequent years.

Section V - Public Notice & Interagency Coordination

Public notice is required for proposed timber sales, Forest Land Use Plans, and habitat enhancement projects. This section sets the guidelines for public notice.

General. DOF will provide interagency and public notice of proposed timber sales before decisions are made on sale offerings. See *Chapter 1 - Five-Year Schedule of Timber Sales* and *Forest Land Use Plans* for more information on the review process for proposed sales.

Five-Year Schedule of Timber Sales. Under AS 38.05.113, all timber sales must appear on the Five-Year Schedule of Timber Sales for at least two years. In the SFG area, designated personal use

harvesting areas that will be open for multiple personal use permits will be included on the Five-Year Schedule of Timber Sales. These designated personal use areas will be subject to the notice requirements for commercial sales. The Department may adopt regulations exempting small and emergency sales from the Five-Year Schedule requirements. If regulations are adopted, timber sales in the SFG must comply with the regulations. (See also *Forest Land Use Plan* in this section.)

Interagency Notice. Interagency notice shall be given prior to public notice to allow for resolution of interagency disagreements before the public comment period.

Annual Notice. Annual public notice shall be provided for the Five-Year Schedule of Timber Sales under the following guidelines.

1. Notice shall include display advertisements that appear at least twice in Anchorage and Matanuska-Susitna Valley newspapers.
2. The Division of Forestry shall maintain a mailing list of local governments, post offices, and community councils, and of interest groups and individuals that request notification of the Five-Year Schedule of Timber Sales. Annual notice of the Five-Year Schedule of Timber Sales should be sent to all parties on the mailing list. Notices may be brief, but shall include a map and text sufficient to let recipients know whether or not sales are proposed in their areas of interest, and shall include directions for obtaining more detailed information on the sale schedule.

DNR will make a good faith effort to notify interested parties through the mailing list. However, failure to give notice under this guideline does not constitute a legal basis for invalidation or delay of this action. For example, notice may fail to reach a party if the party does not provide DOF with a current address or if the party misses a notice while on vacation.

3. Additional methods of notifying the public of the sale schedule may also be used.
4. DOF will notify landowners or lessees of state lands near proposed sales proposed for offering in the following year. Notification should be sent to landowners and lessees within 1/4-mile of a proposed sale boundary. Notice shall include a location map and directions for obtaining more detailed information. Borough tax records will be used to identify landowners; information on lessees can be obtained from the DNR Division of Land.

5. If annual operating plans propose changes that significantly deviate from the FLUP, DOF should notify the same landowners notified of the sale through the FLUP or Five-Year Schedule of Timber Sales. Significant deviations include actions that would affect non-timber resources, for example, expansion of the sale boundary, changes in the location of cutting units, changes in the harvesting system, or changes in access routes, or changes in the type of access proposed.

Annual Meetings. DOF will hold one or more public meetings each year to review proposed timber sales. Meetings will be scheduled to follow distribution of the Five-Year Schedule of Timber Sales.

Map Scale. The Five-Year Schedule of Timber Sales will include locating timber sales and timber access at a scale of 1:63,360 or greater for sales proposed for offering in the current year or the two subsequent years. The Five-Year Schedule of Timber Sales will also identify the type of access proposed, for example, whether roads will be permanent or temporary, or whether they will be seasonal or year-round roads.

Forest Land Use Plan. A Forest Land Use Plan (FLUP) is required for all timber sales and harvesting except isolated personal use timber harvest (AS 38.05.112). An FLUP is required for negotiated sales under AS 38.05.115.

In the SFG area, public notice for FLUPs should include notice to the DOF mailing list (see *Five-Year Schedule of Timber Sales - Annual Notice 2* in this section). DNR also will notify landowners and lessees of state lands within 1/4-mile of the proposed

boundary of a sale exempted from the Five-Year Schedule requirement. Notice should be sent when the draft Forest Land Use Plan is developed. The notice will include a location map and directions for getting more detailed information.

AS 38.05.945. AS 38.05.945 requires public notice at least 30 days prior to all timber sales other than negotiated sales under AS 38.05.115. Notice is not required for personal use harvests less than or equal to 10Mbf per person. Notice must include newspaper ads, mailing lists, notice to municipalities, Native corporations, and local postmasters; and at least one other method of public notice. In the SFG area, newspaper ads should be display ads.

Isolated Personal Use. No public notice is required for individual permits for personal use wood harvesting. Personal use permits may be offered for a maximum of 10 Mbf.

Habitat Enhancement. The DNR Division of Land should notify the public and affected agencies of proposed habitat enhancement activities that involve timber harvest or forest clearing during the permit review process. Notice should be provided to organizations and individuals on the mailing list described in the guideline on *Five-Year Schedule of Timber Sales -- Annual Notice 2* in this section.

During interagency review of the draft Five-Year Schedule of Timber Sales, DFG will notify the DNR Division of Forestry of forest sites in the SFG area that have been identified as candidates for habitat enhancement. (Forest sites includes high site and low site forest types. See *Appendix A - Glossary* for definitions of high sites and low sites.)