

FORESTRY ALTERNATIVES

MANAGEMENT GUIDANCE COMMON TO ALL ALTERNATIVES

Goals:

1. Maintain and enhance the health, productivity, and biological diversity of forest and woodland ecosystems.
2. Consistent with other resource values, provide personal use and subsistence wood products for local consumption and opportunities for commercial harvests.

Objectives:

1. Identify commercial stands and prioritize inventory needs.
2. Identify opportunities for providing access to personal use and commercial wood products.
3. In Wild and Scenic River corridors and Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs), forest management will only occur when the proposed activities do not adversely impact the values for which the area is designated. Forestry practices may occur in Special Recreation Management Areas (SRMAs), when consistent with Visual Resource Management (VRM) and SRMA objectives.
4. Identify management guidelines to minimize impacts from personal or commercial harvest activities.

Inventory and Monitoring: These monitoring/assessment projects would be common to all action alternatives:

1. Forest inventory will be conducted (coordinate with State and Natives to prevent duplication of efforts) to determine location and volume of commercial and non-commercial forest products. Priority for inventory efforts will be those areas identified under “Management Areas” in the Forestry Alternatives table.

Implementation-level planning:

1. Once land status is resolved (State and Native selections conveyed), an implementation-level plan will be done for forestry practices covering the areas identified under “Management Areas” in the Forestry Alternatives table.

Land Use Requirements: Timber sale contracts and personal use permits will adhere to general mitigation measures described in “Mitigation Measures for Surface Disturbing Activities”. Specific stipulations based on these mitigation measures may be developed on a project-by-project basis, to address specific resource concerns.

ALTERNATIVES – Forestry

DIFFERENCES IN MANAGEMENT GUIDANCE BY ALTERNATIVE				
Management Actions	Alternative A: Current management	Alternative B: Development end of spectrum	Alternative C: Conserve, maintain end of spectrum	Alternative D
SPCEIAL AREAS				
Tiegel	No specific area designated.	Include all BLM-managed lands within the Tiegel sub-region.	Should only include unencumbered BLM lands. No commercial sales, only personal use firewood gathering should be permitted.	This area includes unencumbered BLM lands as well as adjacent State and Native selected lands in the Tiegel sub-region. Forestry objectives are: 1) increase access for personal and commercial wood products; 2) salvage beetle-kill spruce; 3) consider potential for commercial harvest; 4) benefit wildlife habitat; 5) manage for white spruce/deciduous timber stands as described in general objectives.
Kenny Lake area (Tonsina bluffs)	No specific area designated.		Allow only personal use firewood permits in this area.	This area consists of BLM-managed lands around Kenny Lake/Tonsina bluffs. Forestry objectives are the same as described for the Tiegel forestry emphasis area.

ALTERNATIVES – Forestry

Management Actions	Alternative A: Current management	Alternative B: Development end of spectrum	Alternative C: Conserve, maintain end of spectrum	Alternative D
Scattered firewood/houselog areas	No specific area designated.			This area will be based on inventory but includes BLM-managed lands in vicinity of towns or villages. Forestry objectives are: 1) In cooperation with State and Natives, identify areas for personal firewood and houselog gathering; 2) Clearly mark access to area and boundaries to prevent unintentional trespass; 3) Provide for secondary objectives such as fuels reduction and habitat improvement.
CONSTRAINTS				
Wild and Scenic River (W&SR) corridors	Some personal use firewood gathering currently allowed under permit.	Same as A.	Do not allow personal use firewood cutting or commercial sales in WSR corridors.	Personal use firewood gathering allowed consistent with river management plans. Will meet VRM objectives (class I).
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs) or Research Natural Areas (RNAs)	No current timber sales in any of the proposed ACEC areas. Some personal use firewood gathering currently permitted.	Consider commercial sales, mitigate impacts through measures identified in “Mitigation Guidelines for Surface Disturbing Activities.”	No commercial sales allowed. Personal use firewood gathering permitted, consistent with measures identified in ACEC.	Forestry practices allowed, but primary objective of any forestry practice will be enhancement or protection of values identified within ACEC. Personal use firewood gathering permitted, consistent with measures identified in ACEC.

ALTERNATIVES – Forestry

Management Actions	Alternative A: Current management	Alternative B: Development end of spectrum	Alternative C: conserve, maintain end of spectrum	Alternative D
Special Recreation Management Areas (SRMAs)	Some commercial sales have occurred but none currently in place.	Consider commercial sales, mitigate impacts through measures identified in “Mitigation Guidelines for Surface Disturbing Activities.”	Permit only for personal use firewood or where primary objective is wildlife habitat improvement.	Forestry practices allowed. Emphasis will be on temporary roads, with consideration to retain roads where roaded-natural is objective (within highway corridors). Design cutting units to meet VRM objectives.
Timber sale contracts and personal use firewood or houselog permits will adhere to general mitigation measures described in “Mitigation Measures for Surface Disturbing Activities”. Specific stipulations based on these mitigation measures may be developed on a project-by-project basis, to address specific resource concerns.				