

2022 - 2026

# Five Year Forest Management Schedule



Alaska Division of Forestry

Haines State Forest

Department of Natural Resources

2022 - 2026

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Table of Abbreviations

<b>FYFMS</b>	<i>Five Year Forest Management Schedule</i>
<b>HSF</b>	<i>Haines State Forest</i>
<b>DOF</b>	<i>Division of Forestry</i>
<b>HSFMP</b>	<i>Haines State Forest Management Plan</i>
<b>CBEP</b>	<i>Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve</i>
<b>FLUP</b>	<i>Forest Land Use Plan</i>
<b>ADFG</b>	<i>Alaska Department of Fish and Game</i>
<b>BIF</b>	<i>Best Interest Finding</i>
<b>FRPA</b>	<i>Forest Resources and Practices Act</i>
<b>AS</b>	<i>Alaska Statute</i>

## Purpose

This Five-Year Forest Management Schedule (FYFMS) provides information to State agencies, commercial and non-commercial organizations, local governments, and the public concerning planning and use of the forest resources on the Haines State Forest for the period January 2022 - December 2026. This FYFMS meets the Alaska Statute (AS 38.05.113. Five-year sale schedule) requirements for periodic notification of planned activities, including timber sales, on the State Forest.

The FYFMS illustrates planning direction proposed by the Division of Forestry (DOF) in compliance with the Management Guidelines found in the Haines State Forest Management Plan (HSFMP rev. 2002).

This biennial document presents proposed timber sale activities, silviculture and reforestation activities, road construction and maintenance estimates, and proposed public recreation development on the Forest for the next five years. The FYFMS has been prepared to solicit input on these proposed activities while still in the preliminary planning stage. At this point consideration of comments and questions can contribute to a collaborative planning effort of the proposed projects described in this document and portrayed in the HSFMP.

## Introduction

The Haines State Forest (HSF) was established by legislation on July 1, 1982. As part of this law, 44,775 acres were designated as the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve (CBEP) to preserve and protect the bald eagle and fisheries habitat along the Chilkat and Chilkoot Rivers. Specific to the HSF, the law's central tenet was to utilize, perpetuate, conserve, and protect the renewable and nonrenewable resources in this area through multiple-use management. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) DOF manages the 260,000 acres of land within the Haines State Forest legislative boundaries including portions of the major river watersheds of the Lower Klehini, Chilkat, Chilkoot, and Ferebee Rivers and their tributary water systems. The CBEP is managed by the DNR Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation separately from the HSF, though collaboratively, implementing the management goals for this important public resource management area. The Haines State Forest Resource Management Plan was developed in a process which included significant public involvement and is based in serving the broad public interest of resource protection and sustainable resource use.

In the Haines State Forest Management Plan (HSFMP), DOF uses a land classification strategy to define the multiple-use management intent and guidelines to balance resource use areas with areas of restricted use; these classifications are Forest, Wildlife Habitat, Resource Management, and Public Recreation. The Public Recreation and Wildlife Habitat land classifications protect forest ecology in those areas of the HSF entirely separate from the preserved lands found in the CBEP, though these lands are mostly adjacent. Together the protected lands of these two management areas, spanning nearly 139,000 acres, comprise the management goal of forest resource preservation. The Forest and Resource Management classifications provide 52,000 acres of forest designated for commercial timber harvest activities in the HSF.

## Commercial Timber Harvest

The process for preparing a timber sale for contracting and harvesting as described in Alaska Statute and Regulation requires the State to issue a finding concluding that the sale is in the State's best interest and prepare a detailed Forest Land Use Plan (FLUP) prior to timber harvest. The BIF and the FLUP are agency and public review documents with the BIF presenting the proposed activity more specifically than this FYFMS and then the FLUP containing the greatest level of detail for a project completing the progressive planning and review method. The Division of Forestry may make changes to individual sales previously listed in the FYFMS based on fieldwork, agency comments, and public input. Any changes to the description of a timber sale found in this document will be

incorporated into the FLUP for that sale. This process provides an opportunity to create harvest plans that will be successful in accomplishing the goals of resource management on the HSF incorporating local factors related to forest resources and their use.

It is the policy of the DOF to include all sales (except for salvage sales, emergency sales, personal use permits, and negotiated sales less than 500 thousand board feet and less than 160 acres) in at least one FYFMS preceding the sale preparation and offering.

If a sale has been through the FYFMS, and has been offered but not sold, it can be re-offered without rescheduling or reconstructing the sale information. That is to say, if a sale was offered but not purchased, or if a sale was purchased but not completely harvested, the remaining timber can be sold without reappearing in a FYFMS or in a new FLUP. If the sale changes significantly in design or condition from the initial offering, a new FLUP may be required prior to re-offering.

## **Fish Habitat**

A special management zone has been established around every anadromous fish stream and lake throughout the forest. These zones extend 300 feet on each side of anadromous streams, and 500 feet around anadromous fish bearing lakes. The HSFMP states that “the primary management objective for a special management zone will be to maintain or enhance anadromous fish habitat. Only activities which are or can be made compatible with this objective will be allowed in these zones.” DNR will consult with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG), Division of Habitat on the planning, design, and maintenance of resource development projects inside a special management zone.

## **Wildlife and Recreation**

In the HSFMP planning process, area wide land use conflicts between primary resource use in a management unit and wildlife and recreation resources within that unit were identified and addressed. Specific guidelines for resolution to potential conflicts are described on a unit-by-unit basis in Chapter 3 of the HSFMP. This FYFMS was developed in accordance with the HSFMP and no significant adverse impacts to wildlife or recreational values are anticipated.

Further consideration of Wildlife and Recreation resources in the development of activities contained in this document will occur in the public planning process associated with that development. In the case of timber sale harvest activities, the BIF and the FLUP will address specific wildlife and recreation concerns as they relate to developing road building, harvest, and reforestation plans for that sale area through the administrative standards set out in AS 41.17.060. Additionally, the Forest Resources and Practices Act and Regulations contain specific requirements for the protection of these resources during extraction of renewable and non-renewable resources.

## **Transportation**

Transportation goals and management guidelines for road construction on the HSF will follow the DOF Road Standards. These standards define methods and conditions related to road building, clearing, grading, drainage structures, and road location. Other guidelines that pertain to road development on the forest can also be found in the HSFMP. Please refer to that document for details.

All forest road construction activities must comply with the Alaska Forest Resources and Practices Act and Regulations to minimize impacts to fish and wildlife resources. DOF guidelines include and FRPA requires regular maintenance on primary haul roads. This maintenance will occur in association with active timber sales and in the

absence of active sales priority will be given to maintenance to maintain water quality and protects fish and wildlife resources.

Other State Agencies have jurisdictional authority specific to elements of transportation development and/or maintenance. They are:

1. The State Department of Transportation (DOT) conducts biennial inspections of bridges over twenty feet in length open to public highway vehicles.
2. The ADF&G Division of Habitat will be consulted before any activity is proposed in fish bearing waters. Operators must acquire the appropriate permit from the Division of Habitat for any in-stream work.

These considerations, along with the goals and guidelines from the HSFMP, are reviewed during the timber sale FLUP process to ensure that road development meets the intent of managing the resources of the State Forest for multiple use.

### **Local Timber Resource Supply and Demand**

There are several small mobile dimensional lumber sawmills and two commercial log home building companies currently active in the Haines area. These mills produce rough-cut green lumber for local consumption, round log, two and three side log homes for both local use and as an export product, and firewood products for sale throughout the communities of the upper Lynn Canal. In the past two years the timber supply for these operators has come from State timber sales with some supply harvested from private property.

This document lists available timber resources that could support diverse resource markets for possible demand both locally and outside of the area. Planning for potential market demand changes remains conservative and is designed to represent practical limitations of supplying available resources without exceeding sustainable harvest levels.

Local markets do not have the capacity to utilize the entire annual allowable cut volume. Market conditions in Alaska and on world markets have at times in the past expressed interest for round log export of timber from the Haines State Forest. It is the policy of DOF to encourage and continue to support local processing of resource materials extracted from the HSF.

## **HARVEST ACTIVITIES**

### **Sustainable Harvest Calculations**

The annual allowable harvest of 5.88 million board feet was computed applying the area control method using the average volume of commercial timber present on an acre of forest land and the land base that is available and operable for timber harvest. This harvest level reflects the policy found in the HSFMP (rev. 2002) and is consistent with harvest goals and management intent. Volume per acre values used in this calculation are based on the results found in the Haines State Forest Inventory Report published in 1995 which provide for a 10 year harvest level of 58.8 million board feet of timber.

The Division of Forestry is required to manage its' timber harvest on a sustained yield basis (AS 38.05.065(b) (1)). "Sustained Yield" means the "achievement and maintenance in perpetuity of an annual or regular periodic output of the various renewable resources of the State land consistent with multiple

use” (AS 38.04.910). The Division’s policy is to define “regular periodic output” as output over a ten-year period. Based on proposed sales and 2012-2022 harvest data, sales through 2020 were within the “sustained yield” management objective. When the total annual volumes listed in this FYFMS exceed the allowable cut on a yearly basis; it is done for planning purposes and to allow leeway within the DOF’s timber sales program to react to unknown project constraints and market fluctuations.

## **Forest Resources and Practices Act**

The Alaska Forest Resources and Practices Act (FRPA) was created to provide scientific based guidelines that must be followed when timber harvest is undertaken on land within the State to ensure the protection of important fish and wildlife habitat. The Division of Forestry works collaboratively with agency professionals for assistance in implementing the FRPA applying protection measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate impacts to fish and wildlife resources in harvest management areas.

## **Proposed Five-year Harvest Activities**

The dates listed in this five-year Forest Management Schedule refer to calendar years. All timber sales larger than 10 acres in size require the adoption of a FLUP prior to timber harvest. Areas depicted on the associated maps represent the timber base from which the proposed sales will be located. These timber base areas are larger than the actual harvest units. The harvest unit area will be designed within the larger timber base areas represented on the maps in consideration of additional information gathered during the preparation of the FLUP. The DOF Haines Office typically sells between 30 and 50 acres of small sales a year to local markets. These small sales are focused on site specific management objectives as well as the market demand.

### **2022**

Walker 1 - This sale may consist of 1 to 3 units over approximately 20 acres and is located one-mile northwest of Walker Lake and is designed for ground and cable yarding systems. *FLUP completed.*

### **2023**

Ski Hill Opener - This sale consists of up to 5 harvest areas for a total of 100 harvest acres located off the end of River View Road along the northern portion of ski hill ridge. This sale is intended to provide access to the ridge and its existing forest road system from River View Road beginning a local small sale harvest program in the area.

West Herman V - This sale will be last of the West Herman sale area and is 20 acres in size located between the Porcupine Road and the Sunshine Mountain Road. This harvest unit is designed for ground skidding systems. *FLUP completed.*

Kelsall Pocket – This sale is located east and west of the Kelsall 100 road at approximately mile 6 and will consist of three to five selective harvest areas providing a commercial thinning treatment to the regenerating forest. An estimated 500 thousand board feet of timber may be sold in these sales over some 140 acres.

### **2024**

Chilkat Ridge 1 – Approximately 20 million board feet of timber for harvest with the installation of a bridge across the Tsirku River and 8.4 miles of new road construction east of Chilkat Lake.

K100CW – Along the west side of the Kelsall 100 Road this sale will harvest approximately 1.5 million board feet of cottonwood timber from 250 acres of regenerating forest.

4 Winds Opener – This sale consists of up to 5 harvest areas totaling 100 acres located on the hillside above the Mosquito Lake Community Center. Access to the area is from the Mosquito Lake Road adjacent to the building property and will consist of a single lane forest road leading to the proposed harvest area development. This project will contribute to the local small sale harvest program in the area.

Porcupine Junction 1 – Located above the Sunshine Mountain Road at its junction with Porcupine Road near porcupine creek, this sale will begin the harvest of this area with a 20-acre unit. Yarding roads and a landing area will be constructed from the U-15 spur north of the Sunshine Mtn. Rd.

## **2025**

Single Fifteen – This sale consists of a 90-acre unit, located on the west side of the Kelsall River. The harvest of approximately 2 million board feet of timber will combine high-lead cable and ground yarding and the construction of one mile of new road. *FLUP completed.*

Canyon Creek – This sale area is located along the Kelsall 100 Road approximately 8.5 miles from the Mosquito Lake junction. Designed for cable logging systems, this harvest area is estimated to be 125 acres in size and approximately 1.6 million board feet of timber.

Ski Hill Ridge – Approximately 420 thousand board feet of timber will be harvested in this sale following the access development to the existing ridge forest road system. Harvest will occur in two to four areas no larger than 30 acres.

Kelsall Spurs – This sale consists of 130 acres within a 60ft ROW along several miles of old harvest spur roads adjacent to the Kelsall 100 road between Bear Flats and Nataga Creek. This timber will be harvested primarily to support the wood fuel industry and secondarily to reestablish spur road access to the regenerating forest.

## **2026**

Chilkat Ridge 2 – 15 million board feet of timber will be offered from an estimated 560 acres with 5 miles of new forest road constructed to extend road development in Subunit 4B to the south of the Chilkat Ridge 1 sale area along the ridge.

Turn Around – This sale is located at the end of the Kelsall road system off the 300 Road. It will consist of approximately 4.0 million board feet of timber on 200 acres of forest.

Porcupine Junction 2 – This sale continues the development of the Porcupine Junction sale area with a 36-acre offering of approximately 900 thousand board feet of timber. An estimated .8 mile of road construction will be necessary to access the unit.

Haines State Forest			Harvest Activities Table	
Five-Year Forest Management Schedule			Prepared by: Greg Palmieri	
<u>Calander Years 2022 - 2026</u>				
Year	Map locator	Timber Sale Name	Volume (MBF)	Total (MBF)
2022	1	Walker 1	400	
		Miscellaneous -10 acres or less	350	750
2023	2	Ski Hill Opener	500	
		Kelsall Pocket	500	
		West Herman V	400	
		Miscellaneous -10 acres or less	350	1,750
2024	5	Chilkat Ridge 1	20,000	
		Kelsall 100CW	1,500	
		4 Winds Opener	500	
		Porcupine Junction 1	700	
		Miscellaneous -10 acres or less	350	23,050
2025	9	Single 15	2,000	
		Canyon Creek	1,600	
		Ski Hill Ridge	420	
		Kelsall Spurs	130	
		Miscellaneous -10 acres or less	350	4,500
2026	13	Chilkat Ridge 2	15,000	
		Turn Around	4,400	
		Porcupine Junction 2	900	
		Miscellaneous -10 acres or less	350	20,650
<b>Total Sale Volume</b>				<b>50,700</b>

## TRANSPORTATION

### State Forest Roads

Forest Roads on the Haines State Forest were developed primarily to provide for timber harvest operations. There are two main forest road systems creating access to resources located in the Klehini, Little Salmon, Kelsall, and Chilkat River drainages. Forest roads are constructed by removing the organic mat and overlaying rock on top of the existing substrate that has been modified by excavation to support the overlay. Construction specifications are defined in the DOF “Road Standards” and at a minimum will adhere to this policy document.

The DOF standards for design and construction use practical road location techniques such as the utilization of existing flat features such as benches along hill sides to avoid unstable areas and use full bench construction as

required on sloped areas. Water quality and soil integrity are managed with frequent cross drains, periodic ditch and culvert maintenance. The use of grass seeding on exposed soil banks will be used to minimize sediment movement through the road development and maintenance periods. Adherence to the Forest Resources and Practices Regulations on all road construction and maintenance projects will be utilized to provide avoidance and protection measures for wildlife and fisheries resources.

Timber harvest roads may be used by the public with varied interest such as miners, hunters, anglers, woodcutters, berry pickers, photographers, hikers, etc. During the winter, skiers, snowmachine riders, trappers, and dog mushers may use State Forest roads for access and recreation. Also, importantly, these roads provide access for wildland fire protection during months of forest fire danger to protect the many resources of the State Forest.

## **Maintenance**

State timber sale contract stipulations require safe driving and log hauling conditions while an operator is working under contract to the State. Regular maintenance requirements for forest road use under a large timber sale contract typically provides for these needs. Regular maintenance requirements when a large timber sale contract is in place include grading, ditching, culvert maintenance, surface repairs, and roadside brushing. Road use and maintenance agreements between operators using the same road may be required. Once a timber sale contract has expired, the contractor has no further legal obligation to provide road maintenance. The state is then responsible for maintaining roads which are kept open for continued resource access and public use. Regular maintenance may also be appropriate and required for other commercial users, not related to timber use, commensurate with the level of use and impacts.

Maintenance activities on forest roads within the HSF outside of large timber sale contracts is prioritized based on risks to water quality, public use, road condition, and safety. Over the last two years DOF has completed roadway brushing, repair, and resurfacing projects on 5-miles of the Little Salmon River Road. Culvert installations and road repairs on the Kelsall 100 Road and repairs to the Sunshine Mountain Road have maintained public and resource access on these road systems. A section of the Porcupine Road was repaired along the DOF managed 3-mile segment between Bear Creek and Glacier Creek preventing flooding impacts to maintain safe access and prevent resource degradation.

A repair project replacing the running surface on the Porcupine Creek Bridge is scheduled for the early summer along with minor repairs to the surfacing on the Bear Creek Bridge. Planning for road grading projects on main forest roads is underway for this summer and will be accomplished as funding is made available.

The forest road passing through the Old Porcupine townsite to Glacier Creek received some brushing work last year provided by a local timber sale contractor working with the State. This work provided benefits to all users of the road and represent small though important contributions to the safety of users and the long-term maintenance of access on the State Forest Road system.

To continue to provide access to the State Forest for all users the following roads are projected to need maintenance over the next two to five years:

- Replacing running planks on Porcupine and Bear Creek Bridges.
- Grading of 7.5 Miles of the Kelsall 100 Road.
- Grading of the Sunshine Mountain Road.
- Grading the Little Salmon River Road.
- Brushing the Kelsall 100 Road.
- Brushing the Kelsall 300 Road.
- Brushing the Unit 15 access spur north of the Sunshine Mtn. Road.
- Resurfacing a portion of the Little Salmon River Road.
- Repairing roadside ditching along the Kelsall 100 Road.

## Forest Resource Access

Resources that may benefit from forest road development or be impacted by road development proposed in a timber harvest plan are considered and described in a FLUP associated with that activity. Additional access to State Forest land may include the development and maintenance of trails independent of road development associated with timber harvest; see the Recreation section of this document for proposed trail access projects. Alternatives to road construction such as the use of helicopters and winter road harvest methods during resource extraction will be considered during individual project development.

Haines State Forest			Transportation Activities Table		
Five Year Forest Management Schedule			Prepared by: Greg Palmieri		
<u>Calander Years 2022 - 2026</u>					
Year	Project	Sale Access	Road Type	Construct	Maintenance
2022	Walker 1	Walker 1 spur/Sunshine Mtn. Rd	Spur Road	0.9	6.0
2023	Ski Hill Opener	River View Road spur extension	Spur Road	0.3	1.5
	Kelsall Pocket	Kelsall 100 Road	Secondary Road	0.0	6.5
	West Herman V	Sunshine Mtn. Rd/WHV Spur	Mainline Road	0.3	6.0
2024	Chilkat Ridge 1	Chilkat Ridge Rd/Chilkat Lake Rd	Mainline Road	8.4	4.5
	Kelsall 100CW	Kelsall 100 Road	Secondary Road	0.0	6.0
	4 Winds Opener	Mosquito Lake Road	Spur Road	0.2	0.0
	Porcupine Junction 1	Sunshine Mtn. Road	Mainline Road	0.0	6.0
2025	Single 15	Kelsall 100/300 Roads	Mainline Road	1.0	14.0
	Canyon Creek	Kelsall 100 Road	Spur Road	0.5	9.0
	Ski Hill Ridge	Ski Hill Spur	Spur Road	0.0	1.0
	Kelsall Spurs	Kelsall 100 Road	Spur Road	0.0	16.0
2026	Chilkat Ridge 2	Chilkat Ridge Rd/Chilkat Lake Rd	Mainline Road	5.0	14.0
	Turn Around	Kelsall 100 Road	Mainline Road	2.0	15.0
	Porcupine Junction 2	Junction Spur/Sunshine Mtn. Rd	Mainline Road	0.8	6.0
<b>Total Miles of Road</b>				<b>19.4</b>	<b>111.5</b>

# SILVICULTURE ACTIVITIES

## **Objective**

A primary objective and policy of State Forest Management is to provide for the regeneration of all timber harvest lands within the Haines State Forest to maintain the sustainable extraction of timber resources for generations to follow. Second rotation stand management practices such as tree planting, thinning, and pruning will be implemented as funding allows to provide for the improvement of forest health and diversity while contributing to the changing dynamic of forest growth and quality enhancement.

## **Policies and Practices**

Site preparation for some silviculture activities like tree planting is best accomplished either during or immediately following harvest and will be completed for all units in this plan. Site preparation may include burning, and/or mechanical scarification. Mechanical scarification might be as simple as requiring ground yarding methods where log skidding will develop the required soil disturbance.

Sitka spruce and western hemlock are the two most abundant commercial tree species within the Haines State Forest. Replanting of Sitka Spruce trees has occurred on the forest since 1977. The DOF may replant harvest areas as part of a harvest contract or contract to replant independently of the harvest. If planting is required, Sitka Spruce will be the species selected for planting on harvest areas to meet regeneration goals in the Alaska Forest Practices Act for this region. Sitka Spruce, in contrast to the shade tolerant Western Hemlock, struggles to regenerate under cover of other vegetation and on heavily populated Western Hemlock sites. Sitka spruce and Western hemlock are good seed producers typically having some seed production each year and a good crop every five to seven years.

In the HSF, the DOF has collected 135 bushels of Sitka spruce cones since 1996. Additional seed should be collected from sites of high productivity that contain trees that exhibit good form, size, and resistance to disease and defects. Identifying the location of these sites will be an ongoing activity of the Division of Forestry, as will cone collections during good cone crop years.

Natural reforestation depends on the preparation of a good seedbed, adequate moisture, and lack of competition from brush species. Cable yarded units on hillsides naturally reseed well and these units may also be planted at intervals from 10 to 16 feet to ensure regional Forest Practice Regulation goals are met. A more intense planting effort will be concentrated on the flat sites logged in the winter, and on dry hillsides.

Prescribed burning may be used on selected sites to remove higher than normal amounts of slash or reduce a brush component and/or to reduce the potential spread of insects or diseases that may limit the normal growth of Forest stands. If the planting of harvest areas is required in a FLUP, reforestation will be accomplished the year immediately following harvest or burning. Planting will be conducted primarily in the spring to take full advantage of the summer growing season. Reforestation surveys will be conducted in the fourth year after completion of logging in each unit scheduled for natural regeneration or be conducted in the fourth year following a harvest unit planting project.

The DOF periodically monitors regenerating harvest areas to identify and incorporate procedures to improve or repeat successful forest growth activities.

## **Thinning Activities**

The DOF applies pre-commercial thinning strategies to young regenerating stands on some of the more productive sites improving stand health and diversity while improving the value of timber at rotation age.

A total of 1,995 acres have been thinned since 1993 when the program was first initiated. These regenerating stands benefit greatly from thinning. Tree spacing following thinning treatment has ranged from 10' X 10' to 20' X 20'. According to growth survey results found by periodic sampling of permanent research areas within the forest, these areas receiving treatment have shown an increase in average volume per tree and vigorous growth and diversity in stand structure following treatment.

In the past four years DOF has identified areas of regenerating forest that are available for commercial thinning treatment. These areas were not previously thinned and would benefit during remaining stand development from treatment at this stage, while providing forest management opportunities and generating revenue in the community and for the State.

### **Pruning Activities**

Stand improvement can be derived from the practice of pruning designated trees which will promote the production of clear grain wood volume in the bole of a tree receiving treatment. This practice may also have demonstrated that it provides protection from insect and disease impacts with forest health as an important management goal for this program. Permanent study plots have been established to measure the results of implementing this program with two measurements occurring to date. Results of the study illustrate successful pruning practices and healthy growth in the treated stands. A total of 470 acres have been pruned since 2000 when the pruning program was first initiated on the Haines State Forest.

### **Summary of Five-Year Schedule Activities**

#### **2022-2026**

Continue silviculture program activities such as pruning stands in the Kelsall flats area near Nataga Creek and thinning of stands both pre-commercial and commercially as those areas are identified each year and funding allows. Cone collection projects should be considered each year and scheduled based on cone crop conditions to provide for a viable seed source for reforestation projects in the next decade.

## **RECREATION DEVELOPMENT**

### **Forest Recreation**

Public Recreation activities across the Haines State Forest can be categorized simply as commercial and non-commercial (public). These groups take advantage of both the developed access routes, including roads and trails, as well as the remote undeveloped areas of the forest throughout the year.

Some commercial activities currently occurring within the HSF are lake/river boat tours, a variety of guided tours (hunting, hiking, wildlife viewing), helicopter-skiing, ATV site-seeing tours, film/photography/television, and guided backcountry excursion trips. Public recreation activities are similar including many subsistence related uses such as hunting, fishing, berry, mushroom, and herb picking, but also include boating, wildlife viewing, hiking, snowshoe/skiing, camping, mountain climbing, ice climbing, ATV riding, photography/filming, and prospecting/gold panning.

Most of the land within the HSF resource management area is designated for a dispersed recreation experience with the intention to allow for a recreation experience in undeveloped forest. Five subunits within the HSF are classified for Public Recreation as the primary use: Mosquito Lake, Chilkoot Lake, Davidson Lake, Walker and Herman Lakes, and Chilkat Lake. In these designated subunits DOF will

consider plans for developed recreation that is open to all user groups to meet the intent of the management guidelines for the subunit.

Mosquito and Chilkoot Lakes contain recreation area development that is cooperatively managed by the DNR DPOR and the DOF. Davidson Lake has trail access development from salt water to the NW shore near the glacier out fall and proposed shelter development in previous FYFMS. Walker and Herman Lakes have existing trail development with a new trail and proposed cabin development on Walker Lake that may be completed with support from other state agencies. Chilkat Lake has a historic cabin location that has been proposed for reconstruction. Identifying funding for these projects is ongoing and planning for development will coincide with the dedication of funds.

Most of the recreation use on the State Forest begins with access to the forest across the existing forest road system managed by the DOF. Over the last two years maintenance of approximately 30 miles of that system has facilitated those activities to continue for all users. Regular maintenance projects for all road systems in the HSF are continuing as funding is made available with priorities based on use patterns and public safety across the forest. Priority road use areas can be identified through public comment in response to this document and planning can begin to address access needs in those areas.

## **Proposed Developments**

The DOF looks for opportunities to enhance or develop recreation access during all project work planning on the HSF to meet the multiple use goals of management as efficiently as possible. DOF has identified potential cabin sites on the HSF in previous FYFMS's in response to local requests for recreation shelter development which included Chilkat Lake, Davidson Lake, Walker Lake, and the upper Kelsall Valley.

The DOF is actively pursuing funding for the development of a new access trail into Walker Lake. The proposed route will head south from the Sunshine Mountain Road approximately 1.3 miles to a point on the western shore of the Lake above its main inlet stream. At this location the trail will terminate at a proposed cabin location.

## **Summary of Five-Year Schedule Activities**

This summary is intended to identify possible and proposed actions relating to recreation development during this schedule period. Some of these actions are progressive over the entire period and some may be accomplished in one season. This information does not depict deadlines for accomplishment of any task but is intended to be used to provide for discussion with interested individuals or groups. The projects are listed by suggested priority under each category.

### **2022-2026**

#### **Roads/Trails**

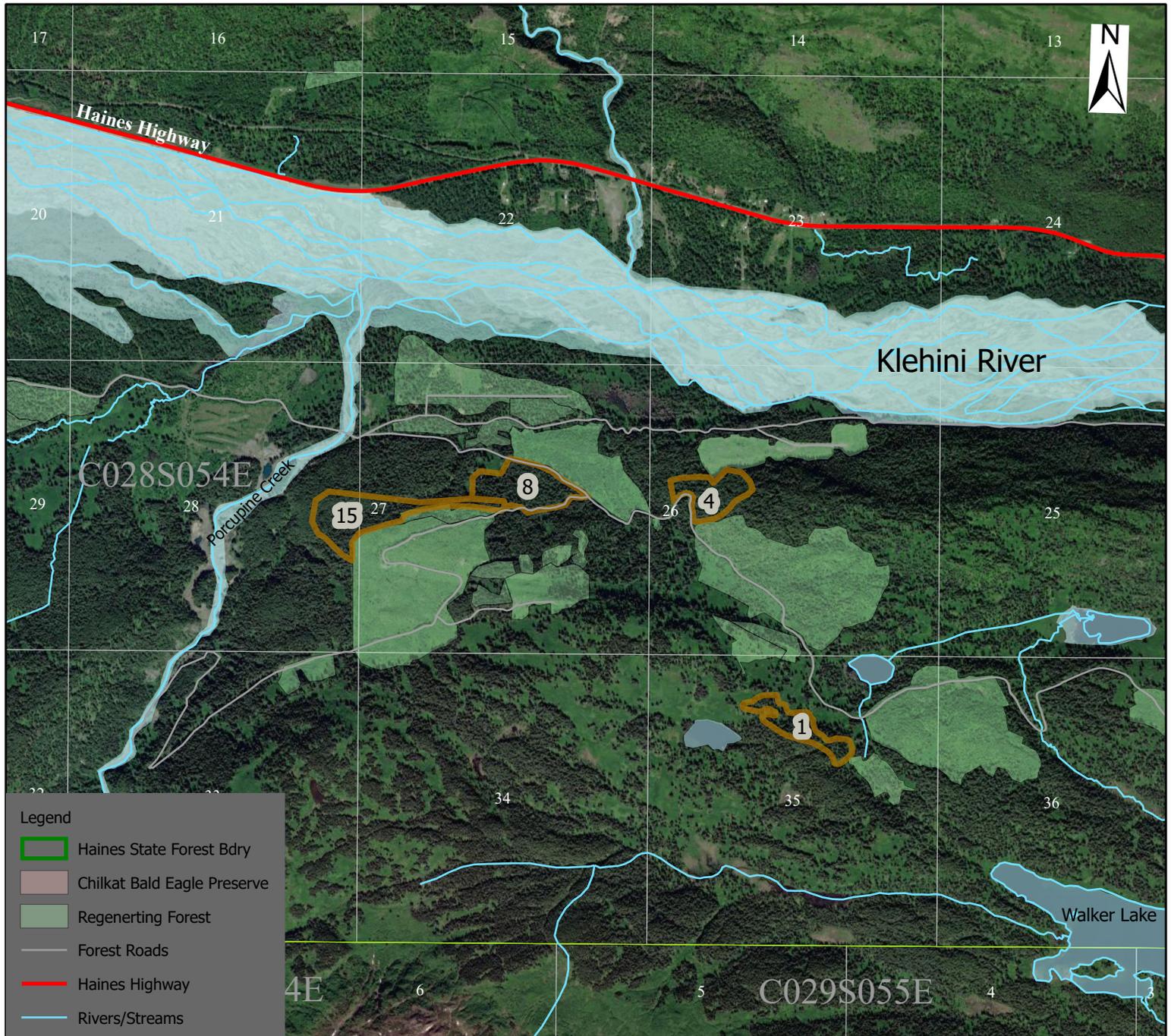
- Grade and resurface the Little Salmon River Road.
- Construct new access route into Walker Lake to potentially add boat access to the lake and a possible public use site.
- Support local groups pursuing access easements for the Ripinsky Trail System.
- Support DPOR access improvements along the Chilkoot River Corridor.
- Install new road and trail signage at key forest road intersections including maps depicting the road system.

#### **Cabins**

- Work in cooperation with State agencies to identify funding to construct a new trail into and a public use cabin at the proposed Walker Lake site.
- Work in cooperation with DPOR and local advocacy groups to identify and prioritize potential public cabin development sites on State Lands in the area.

## Comments and Questions

Please provide comments on any topic presented in this Forest Management Schedule or questions regarding the information provided to the DOF Haines office either in person or by email to [greg.palmieri@alaska.gov](mailto:greg.palmieri@alaska.gov). You may also send in comments/questions through the U.S. Mail Service to State of Alaska, P.O. Box 263, Haines, Ak 99827. Please ensure all submittals arrive by the close of business, June 7, 2022. Thank you for reading through this schedule and your interest in Forest Management on the Haines State Forest.



**Legend**

- Haines State Forest Bdry
- Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve
- Regenerating Forest
- Forest Roads
- Haines Highway
- Rivers/Streams
- Township
- Section

**Proposed Harvest Areas**

**Table Reference**

- 1-15

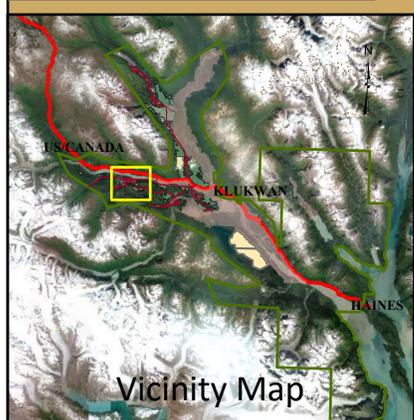
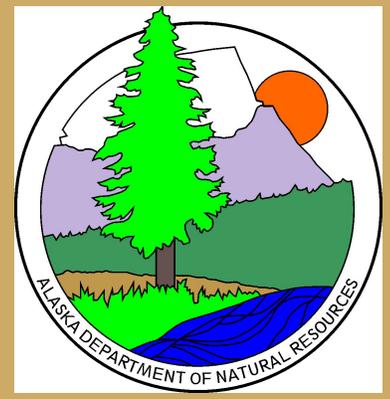


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 Map Scale: 1 inch = .5 Mile

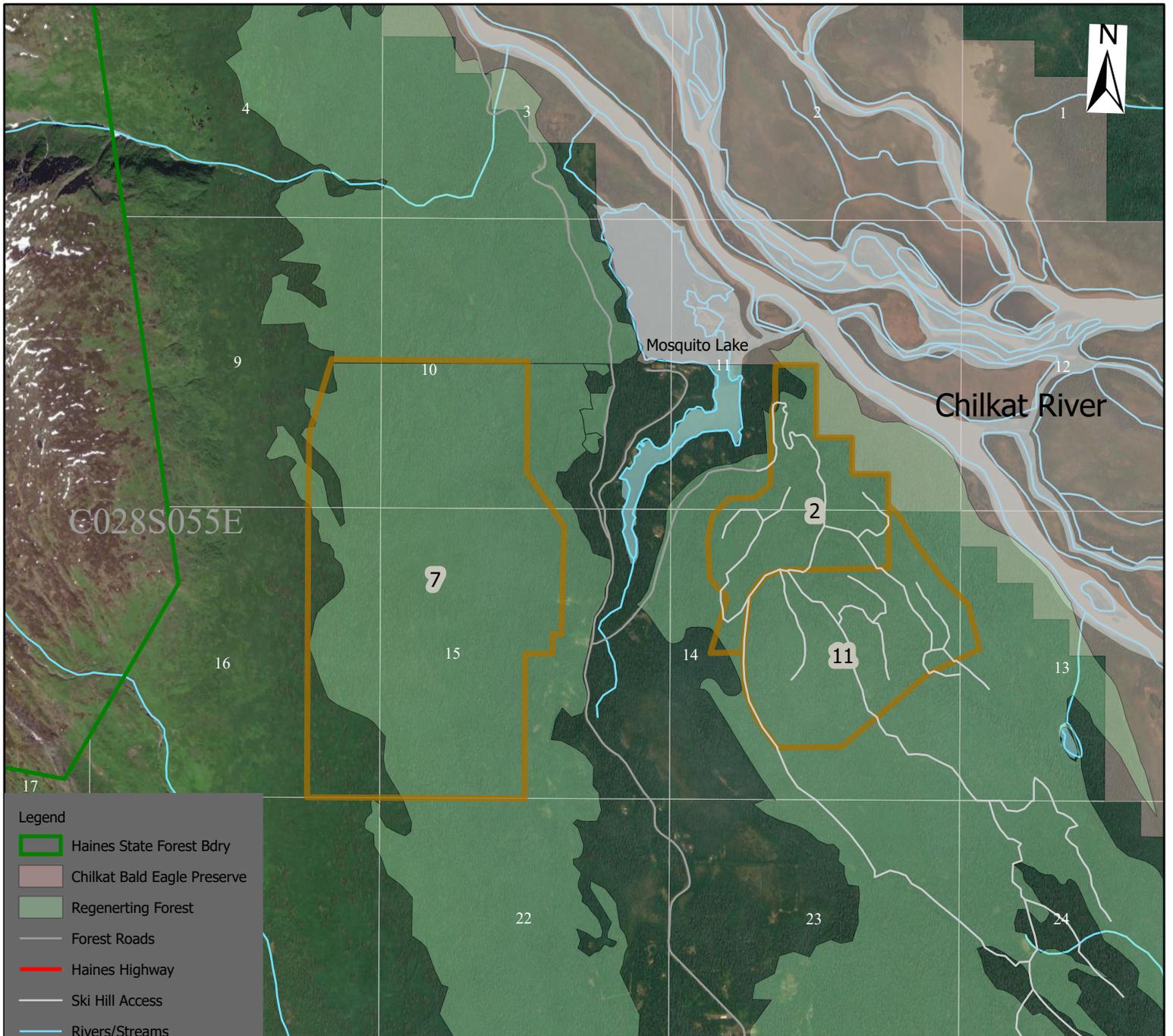
# HAINES STATE FOREST FYFMS 2022-2026 Proposed Harvest Areas Map 1

State of Alaska  
 Division of Forestry  
 Haines Office

*Prepared by: GJP - SOA, DNR, DOF 02/22*



*"Develop, conserve, enhance, and manage the state's forests to provide a sustainable yield of forest resources for Alaska..."*



- Legend**
- Haines State Forest Bdry
  - Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve
  - Regenerating Forest
  - Forest Roads
  - Haines Highway
  - Ski Hill Access
  - Rivers/Streams
  - Township
  - Section
- Proposed Harvest Areas**
- Table Reference**
- 1-15

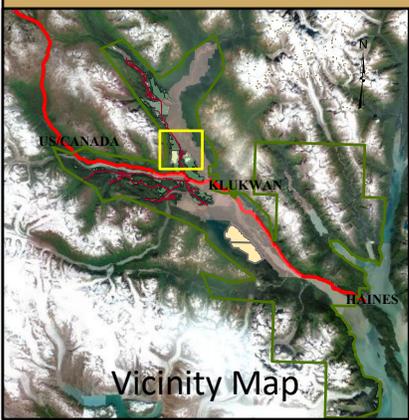
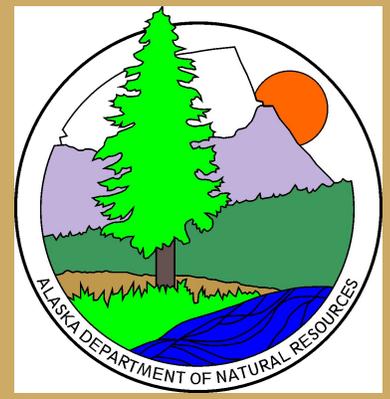


Coordinate System: NAD83 2011  
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 Map Scale: 1 inch = .5 Mile

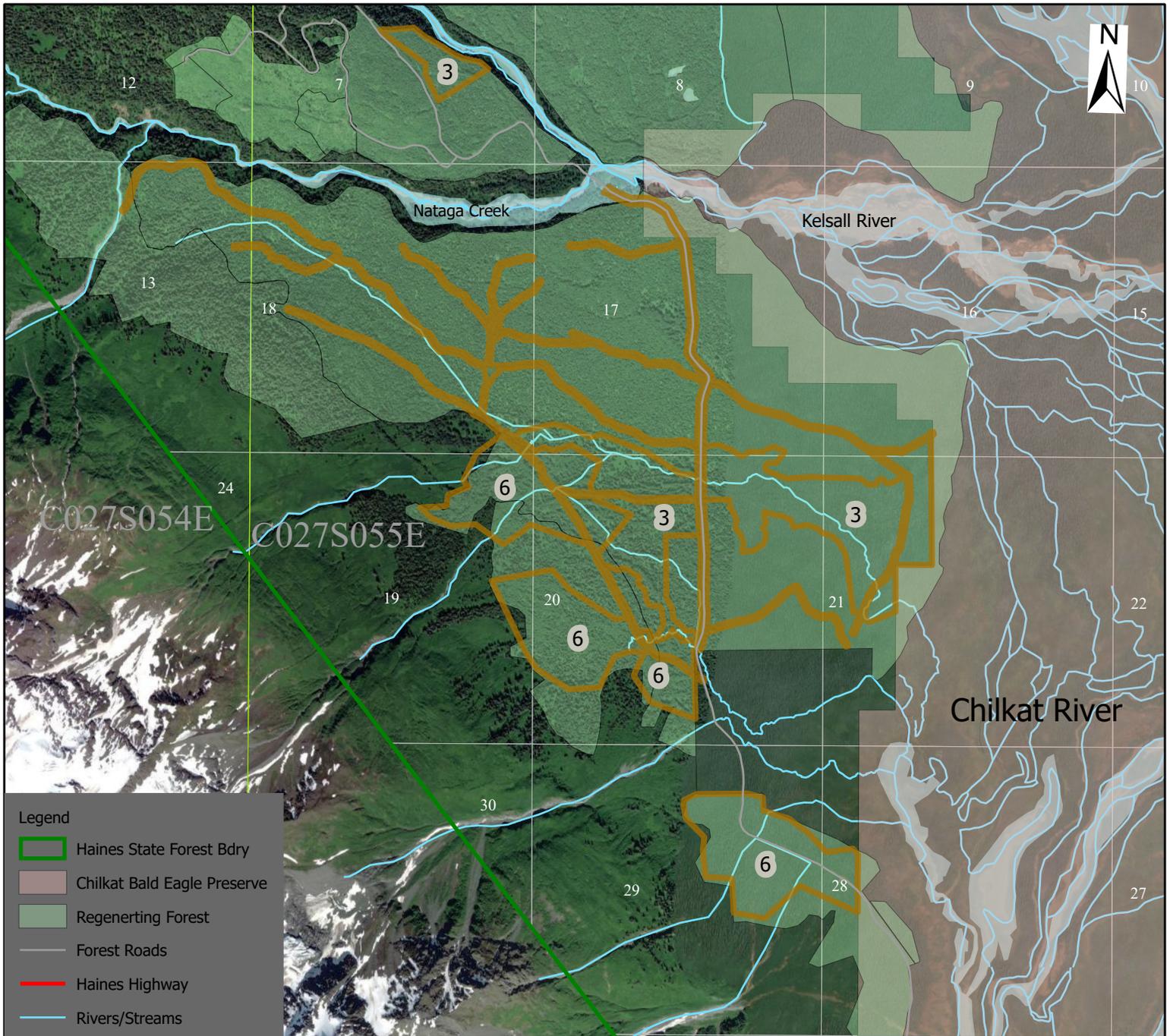
# HAINES STATE FOREST FYFMS 2022-2026 Proposed Harvest Areas Map 2

State of Alaska  
 Division of Forestry  
 Haines Office

*Prepared by: GJP - SOA, DNR, DOF 02/22*



*"Develop, conserve, enhance, and manage the state's forests to provide a sustainable yield of forest resources for Alaska..."*



**Legend**

- Haines State Forest Bdry
- Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve
- Regenerating Forest
- Forest Roads
- Haines Highway
- Rivers/Streams
- Township
- Section

**Proposed Harvest Areas**

**Table Reference**

- 1-15

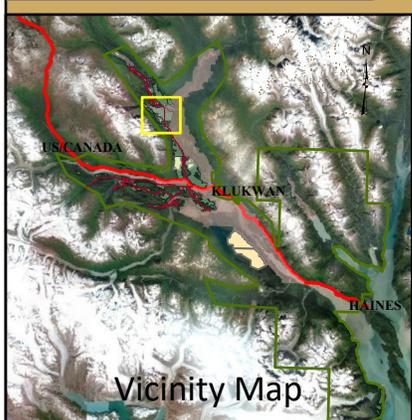
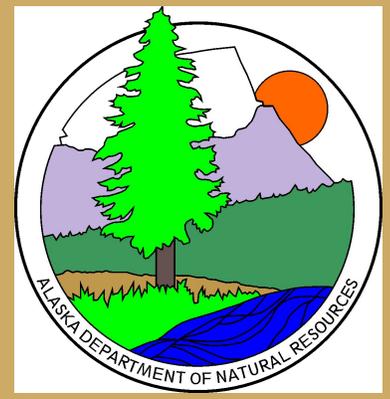


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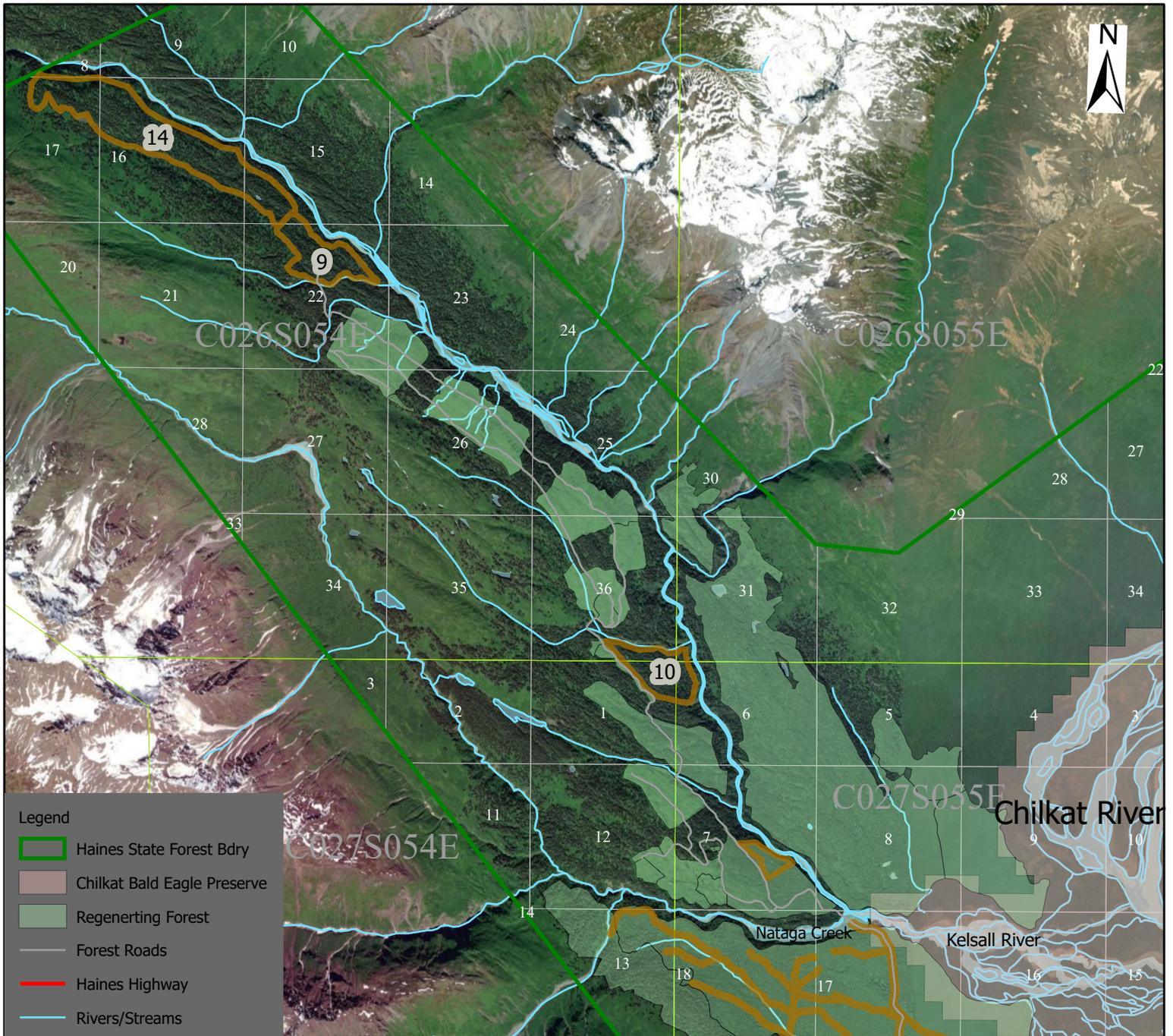
# HAINES STATE FOREST FYFMS 2022-2026 Proposed Harvest Areas Map 3

State of Alaska  
 Division of Forestry  
 Haines Office

*Prepared by: GJP - SOA, DNR, DOF 02/22*



*"Develop, conserve, enhance, and manage the state's forests to provide a sustainable yield of forest resources for Alaska..."*



- Legend**
- █ Haines State Forest Bdry
  - Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve
  - Regenerating Forest
  - Forest Roads
  - █ Haines Highway
  - █ Rivers/Streams
  - Township
  - Section

**Proposed Harvest Areas**  
**Table Reference**  
 1-15

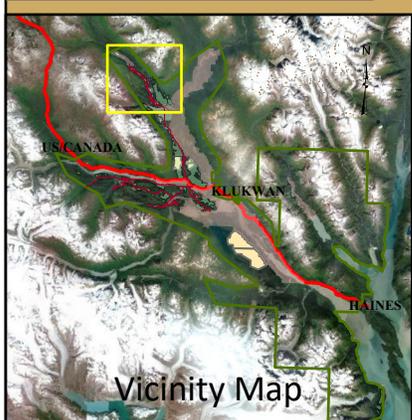
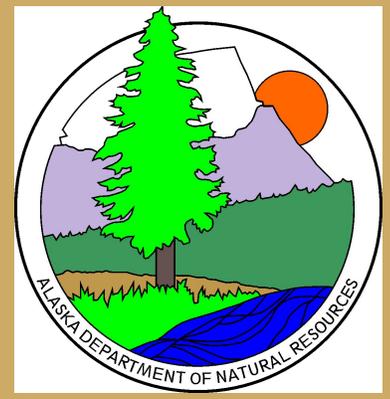


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 Map Scale: 1 inch = 1 Mile

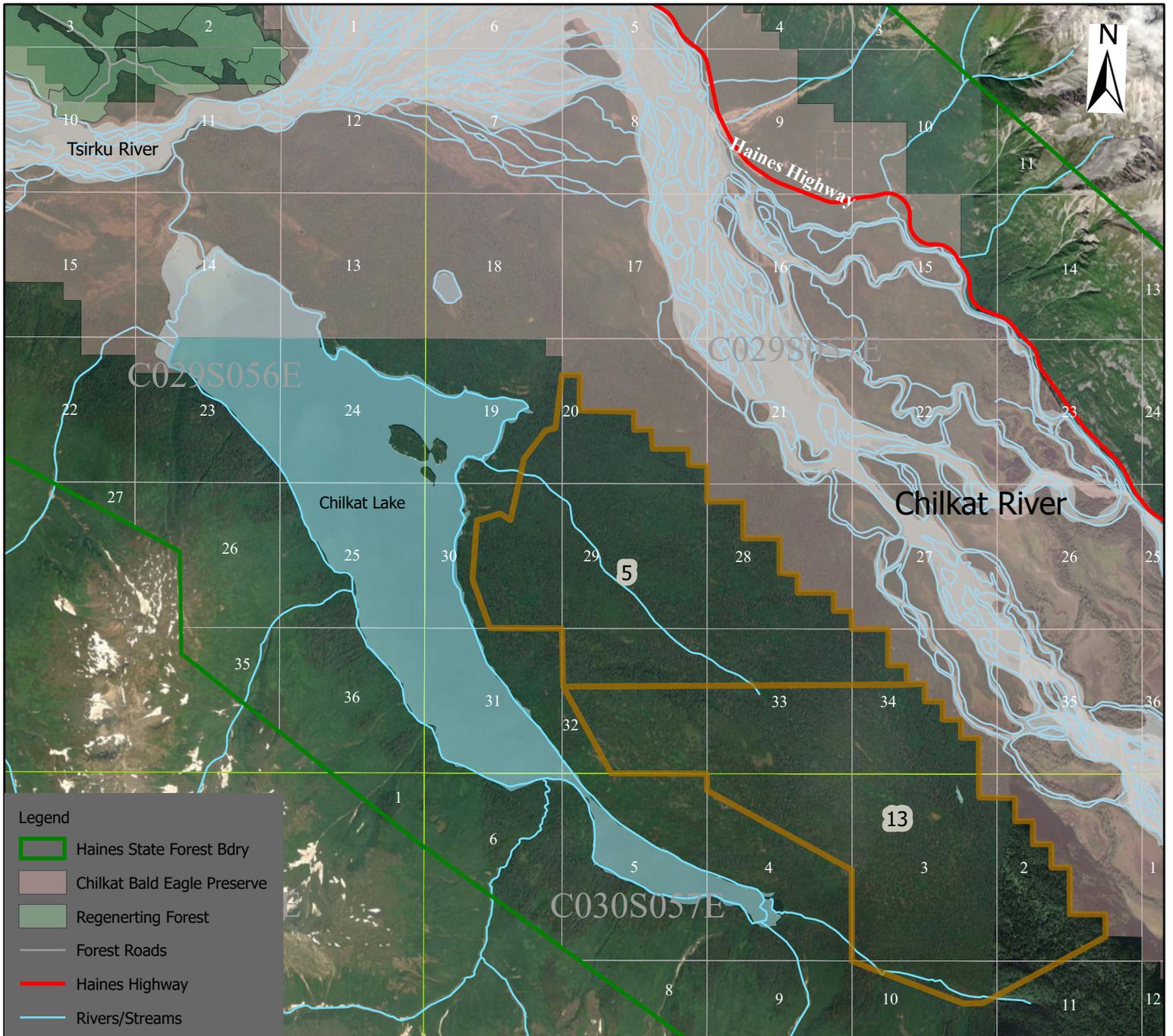
# HAINES STATE FOREST FYFMS 2022-2026 Proposed Harvest Areas Map 4

State of Alaska  
 Division of Forestry  
 Haines Office

*Prepared by: GJP - SOA, DNR, DOF 02/22*



*"Develop, conserve, enhance, and manage the state's forests to provide a sustainable yield of forest resources for Alaska..."*



- Legend**
- Haines State Forest Bdry
  - Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve
  - Regenerating Forest
  - Forest Roads
  - Haines Highway
  - Rivers/Streams
  - Township
  - Section
- Proposed Harvest Areas**
- Table Reference**
- 1-15

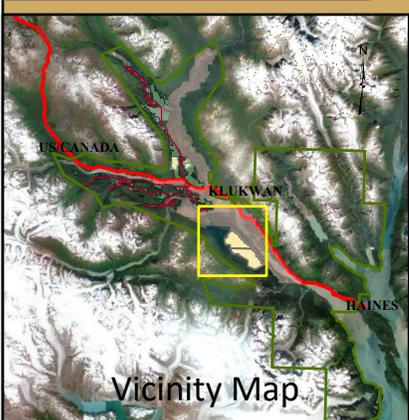
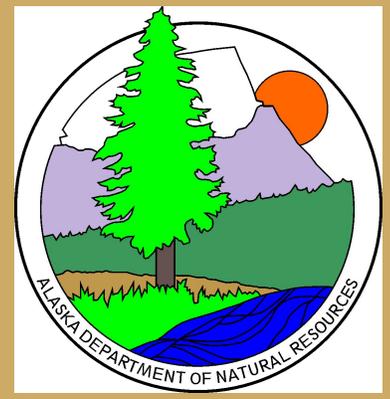


Coordinate System: NAD83 2011  
 State Plane AK Zone 1 FIPS 5001  
 Map Scale: 1 inch = 1 Mile

# HAINES STATE FOREST FYFMS 2022-2026 Proposed Harvest Areas Map 5

State of Alaska  
 Division of Forestry  
 Haines Office

*Prepared by: GJP - SOA, DNR, DOF 02/22*



*"Develop, conserve, enhance, and manage the state's forests to provide a sustainable yield of forest resources for Alaska..."*