



UNIVERSITY
of ALASKA
Many Traditions One Alaska

Frequently Asked Questions Haines 10-Year Timber Project

April 25, 2018

What is a negotiated timber sale?

A negotiated timber sale is a sale where the terms are negotiated between the seller and one interested buyer with a high probability of closing the transaction. The university engages in negotiated sales to allow for flexibility and to respond to unique local issues to ensure a successful project.

The university conducts an open public process, sells timber at or above fair market value, and follows all required federal, state and local laws and regulations.

What will you do with received comments?

The university will review and consider all comments to help inform the final harvest plan and project implementation. The plan may be amended by public comments. Additionally, the university will summarize comments for the Board of Regents at the May 31, 2018 meeting. The university will also consider those comments during the next steps, field surveys and timber cruising. This work will help refine project details, infrastructure needs and viable harvest areas.

The process will be coordinated with the university's partners, the State of Alaska Division of Forestry, and the Alaska Mental Health Trust Land Office. Periodic updates will be provided to the community.

What federal, state and local laws must be adhered to?

The University of Alaska projects and contractors comply with all applicable laws, orders, ordinances and regulations of federal, state or local authorities. This includes but is not limited to the Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) regulations, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) and Alaska Worker's Compensation Laws.

What permits and approvals are needed?

The permitting process is an ongoing endeavor and will be determined through iterative engineering, design and layout of the project. Permits commonly required for timber harvesting include State of Alaska upland and tideland permits, State of Alaska General permits with siting guidelines for Log Transfer Facilities, Marine Access Facilities and other associated approvals.



Will logging take place in the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve? What protections will be put in place?

Harvesting timber in certain parts of the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve, allowed under state law, is a possibility. The university is working with the American Bald Eagle Foundation to ensure development protects the eagles. The project partners and contractors will comply with all applicable laws, orders and regulations of federal, state or local authorities to develop the university’s land within the preserve’s boundaries, which was set aside by the state legislature for multi-use when the preserve was established. All entities must follow the Forest Resources & Practices Act.

What time of year will harvest take place?

Timber harvests vary from year to year based on weather, site and other variable conditions. Typical operations occur during the spring, summer and fall with a winter shutdown. Operations may stop as required by seasonal federal or state wildlife regulations.

What type of timber harvesting practices will be used?

Timber harvest methods will be evaluated incorporating best practices in field of the silviculture, public comment, and other factors. Decisions will be made through a combination of the following options based on resource quality, habitat, restoration and water resources:

PRACTICE	HABITAT	METHODOLOGY
No Action	Reserve Habitat: scenic or old growth	No Action
Regeneration Harvest	Even-Aged or Two-Aged Habitat	Clear cut, harvest-salvage-or-sanitation, seed tree or shelterwood
Regeneration Harvest	Uneven-Aged Habitat	Group selection or single tree selection
Immediate Harvest	Habitat with Enhanced Composition, Growth or Quality	Thinning, salvage or sanitation
Understory Management	Converting unhealthy stands to healthy, productive forests	Selective thinning



UNIVERSITY
of ALASKA
Many Traditions One Alaska

How will reforestation be addressed?

As required under the Alaska Forest Resources & Practices Act, the university will reforest harvested land to full extent of regulations. Opportunities for berry and other subsistence harvests will also be considered as part of the project.

Who is the buyer?

Information about the buyer will be made public along with all of the terms of sale once the negotiations are finalized and a contract established. Until then, negotiations are confidential.

Who has final decision authority for approving the contract?

The Board of Regents has given the university the approval to proceed with project development and has established the terms under which the University of Alaska Facilities and Land Management Office would negotiate the final contract with the buyer. Information about the buyer will be made public along with all of the terms of sale once the negotiations are finalized and a contract established.

What happens with the funds generated from the timber sale?

As a land grant institution, the University of Alaska has a fiduciary responsibility to develop its resources granted from the federal government. By doing so we convert our land assets into financial assets to advance the university's mission. The revenue from development is deposited into the university's Land Grant Endowment Trust Fund. The UA Board of Regents then allocates funding annually to support programs such as the UA Scholars Program, which offers individual \$12,000 scholarships to the top 10 percent of the graduates from every Alaska high school each year. Endowment funds are also utilized to fund the University of Alaska Press, including agriculture, forestry, fisheries and minerals programs.

Did we offer this sale/timber to Alaskan mills? Is the buyer considering local timber purchase and processing?

Yes. The university has had conversations with Haines community members regarding the purchase of privately owned timber and the sale of university timber to small mill operators for value added production.

What type of economic impact, jobs and opportunities will be generated by the project?

The project is expected to provide \$90 million to the Haines economy. The university estimates 40-45 total new local jobs with 25 in maritime and 20 in construction/forestry. This estimate is based on prior harvests in



UNIVERSITY
of ALASKA
Many Traditions One Alaska

the region, and support needs for construction, timber operations, heavy equipment operator uses and maritime services. As the project develops, the university and buyer look forward to working with the Haines community to utilize the local workforce.

What are the access roads and other infrastructure needed?

Infrastructure needs will be identified as part of the planning and engineering process. The project will construct supporting roads, bridges, and marine access facilities throughout the life of the project. Details will be determined as development alternatives are reviewed and finalized with the buyer.

How will log truck traffic through downtown Haines be handled?

A traffic safety plan will be developed to address and minimize truck traffic on any public road system within the Haines Borough. The traffic safety plan will be in place prior to beginning operations.

What are the different roles of the University of Alaska, State of Alaska and Mental Health Trust?

The University of Alaska (UA) Facilities and Land Management Office, State of Alaska Division of Forestry (DOF) and the Mental Health Trust Land Office (TLO) are working together to provide the 10-year timber supply from their respective land. This agreement was executed on Jan. 18, 2018 with a Statement of Intent.

These organizations have complementary missions regarding resources with lands bordering on or in proximity to one another. A collective effort supports the separate missions of UA, DOF and TLO for access, staging and marketing of their respective timber resources. This acknowledgement also facilitates any financing for construction infrastructure that may be needed. During the 10-Year timber project each entity will complete their own process regarding their resources.

Send written comments to the University of Alaska by fax at (907) 786-7733, email ua-land@alaska.edu or mail Facilities and Land Management, 1815 Bragaw St., Suite 101, Anchorage, Alaska 99508.

Comments must be received no later than 5 p.m. on Tuesday, May 22, 2018.



Land Grant Trust 10-Year Timber Development in Haines

PLANNING

- **2015** Meet Haines Mayor & Manager
- **2016** Forest Stewardship Plan Complete
- **2017 June**, Land Management Strategic Plan 2017-2030, Approved by Board
- **2017** Haines Planning Commission Mtgs.
- **2017 May**, Chilkat Timber Public Notice
- **2018** Ongoing Planning Commission Mtgs.
- **2018 Feb**, UA Development & Disposal Plan Public Notice of Negotiated Contract
- **2018 April**, UA Legislative briefing
- **2018 April 26**, Open house with partners; public comments extended to May 7
- **2018 May 31**, Plan revisions to Board
- **2018 June+**, Field surveys & silviculture cruising, scoping; engineering designs for layouts, routes & support facilities

Development & Permitting

- **2018** Workforce Training Program Development
- **2018-19** Design & permitting of necessary infrastructure & support facilities (staging sites, roads, marine access facility),
- Each partner's process varies by regulation
- All Entities must follow Forest Resources & Practices Act

Harvest Work

Comply with the Forest Resources & Practices Act, requirements of multiple ongoing monitoring & inspections

