

TLMP 2008 STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES OUTLINE

Refer to Chapter 4 in the [Tongass Land Management Plan 2008](#) (469pp with appendices) for the full text of the relevant Standards and Guides.

Definitions:

- **Standard** – A mandatory constraint on project and activity decision making, established to help achieve or maintain the desired condition or conditions, to avoid or mitigate undesirable effects, or to meet applicable legal requirements.
- **Guideline** – A constraint on project and activity decision making that allows for departure from its terms, so long as the purpose of the guideline is met.

Outline of Chapter 4 (Standards and Guides)

Beach and Estuary Fringe

(4-4)

B & EF (1): Little evidence of human use (4-4)

- Beach – 1000' slope distance from mean high tide all marine coastline
- Estuary – 1000' slope distance from limit of salt water tolerant vegetation

B & EF (2): Development LUDs (4-4)

- Beach log salvage allowed
- Facilities > 300' from mouth Class1 streams
- Salvage of dead standing and down timber
- Restoration of 2nd growth encouraged

Fish

(4-8)

Streams (class I, II, III): Maintain or restore (4-9, 10)

- Channel
- Banks
- Large Woody Debris
- Water Quality
- Optimum water temperature
- Don't disrupt the migration of aquatic organisms

Forest Health

(4-13)

Create ecological conditions which improve forest health

Heritage Resources

(4-14)

Don't disturb

Invasive Species

(4-20)

- Reduce population and size
- Use native species in restoration

Karst and Cave Resources

(4-21)

Low vulnerability karstlands (vk): (4-22)

- No special provisions

Moderate vk: (4-22)

- Use existing roads and quarries

High vk: (4-24)

- Minimize clearing and grubbing
- Use fill type road construction, no cut and fill
- Use log stringer bridges over collapse features
- Use sediment traps and sediment control measures
- Same Season revegetation, native species
- No quarry development
- Work closely with Karst manager

Young growth management on Karst: (4-25)

- Precommercial thinning is appropriate on all karst lands
- Commercial thinning on low – moderate karst. No slash in sink holes
- No commercial thinning in high value karst. 100' cave entrance and sinking stream, ¼ mile from swallow hole.
- All features buffered from center to lip, prefer zone one tree length in width around lip
- All timber felled away from feature, any falling into will be hand removed
- No yarding across features

Salvage of wind throw on Karst: (4-25)

- Appropriate on only low – moderate
- Buffer 100' away from any feature

Plants

(4-42)

Provide a sufficient buffer for all rare, threatened, sensitive and endangered plants

Riparian (4-61)

Riparian Management Areas: Streamsid es, lakes and flood plains (4-63)

- No commercial timber harvest < 100' horizontal either side of Class I and Class II (and Class II tributaries) streams flowing into Class I.
- Not included are Class II flowing into ocean and Class II that flow into Class III and then into Class I
- Establish Windfirm Zone adjacent to RMA zone
- Provide protection for fish and wildlife during critical life cycle periods by using seasonal restrictions on harvest activities
- Use riparian corridors for wildlife travel corridors, both horizontal and vertical
- Manage road systems to protect RMA functions

Alluvial fan: (4-66)

- Class I & II (direct) - no commercial harvest < 100' stream or within RMA (greater of active portion of the alluvial fan or 140' from channels). Remainder of fan harvest at rate of < 10% of fan area per 30 years.
- Class II (non direct) & III – No harvest within RMA (greater of active portion of the alluvial fan or 140' from channels). Remainder of fan harvest at rate of < 10% of fan area per 30 years. Leave large trees, minimize soil disturbance, leave cull logs,
- Avoid roading, ensure fish passage

Flood Plain / Glacial Outwash: (4-68)

- I & II (direct) – no timber harvest < 100' stream or within RMA (greatest of flood plain, riparian vegetation or soils, wetland fens or 130'). Manage beyond no harvest zone for windfirm buffer
- II (non direct) III – No harvest within RMA (greatest of flood plain, riparian vegetation or soils, wetland fens or 130'), with zone for wind firm buffer
- Minimize soil disturbance (<5%)
- Ensure fish passage

High Gradient Contained: (4-70)

- I & II (direct) – No harvest < 100' stream. No harvest within RMA (greater of 100' or top of V notch (*side slope break*)), with windfirm buffer
- II (non direct) – No harvest in RMA (greater of 100' or top of V notch (*side slope break*)) , with windfirm buffer
- III – No harvest RM (V notch), with windfirm buffer
- Minimize yarding corridors
- Ensure fish passage

Low Gradient Contained: (4-72)

- I & II (direct) – No harvest < 100' stream or within RMA (within the sideslope break), with windfirm buffer
- II (non direct) – No harvest within RMA (greater of 100' or sideslope break), with windfirm buffer
- III – No harvest within RMA (side-slope break) with windfirm buffer
- Fully suspend trees over bankfull stream, minimize corridors, <5% bared soil
- Ensure fish passage

Moderate Gradient Contained: (4-74)

- I & II (direct) – No harvest < 100' stream or RMA (channel side-slope break) with windfirm buffer
- II (no direct) – No harvest < 100' or within RMA (side-slope break), with windfirm buffer
- III – No harvest within RMA (side-slope break) with windfirm buffer
- Fully suspend trees over bankfull stream, minimize corridors
- Ensure fish passage

Moderate Gradient / Mixed Control (*found between high gradient and flood plains*): (4-76)

- I & II (direct) – No harvest < 100' stream or within RMA (greatest of flood plain, riparian vegetation or soils, fens or 120') with wind firm buffer
- II (non direct) III – No harvest in RMA (greatest of flood plain, riparian vegetation or soils, fens or 120') with wind firm buffer
- Fully suspend trees over bankfull width stream, minimize corridors, baring of soil <5%
- Ensure fish passage

Palustrine: (4-78)

- I & II (direct) – No harvest < 100' stream or within RMA (greatest of flood plain, riparian vegetation or soils or fens) with wind firm buffer
- II (non direct) – No harvest in RMA (greatest of flood plain, riparian vegetation or soils or fens) with wind firm buffer
- III – Consider no harvest
- Fully suspend trees over bankfull stream, minimize corridors, use wetland guidelines
- Ensure fish passage

Lakes and Ponds: (4-80)

- I (lakes with anadromous fish or high value fisheries) and II (lower value fisheries; lakes > 3 acres) – No harvest <100' of lake margin or within RMA (greatest of riparian vegetation or soils, fens or height of one site tree) with wind firm buffer. Consider additional no harvest buffer for scenic, wildlife and other uses.
- II (low value fisheries; < 3 acres) - Consider additional no harvest buffer for scenic, wildlife and other uses.

- Minimize barring of soil <1%

Scenery

(4-83)

High Scenic Integrity Areas: (4-84)

- Low VAC (visual absorption capability) – Single tree selection or group selection < 2 acres
- Intermediate VAC – cc ~ 5-15 acres
- High VAC – cc ~ 15-30 acres

Moderate Scenic Areas: (4-85)

- Low VAC – Group selection < 2 acres, cc ~5-15 acres
- Intermediate VAC – cc ~15-40 acres
- High VAC – cc ~40-60 acres

Low Scenic Integrity: (4-85)

- Low VAC – cc ~15-40 acres
- Intermediate VAC – cc ~40-60 acres
- High VAC – cc ~60-100 acres

Very Low Scenic Integrity: (4-85)

- Low VAC – cc ~50-75 acres
- Intermediate VAC – cc ~80-100 acres
- High VAC – cc ~80-100 acres

Silvicultural Prescriptions other than clearcutting: (4-86)

- Two aged management - Retain 20-40% of trees and enlarge harvest area
- Uneven aged management – Remove 5-20% for high to moderate integrity areas

Soil and Water

(4-89)

- Protect and improve soil and water quality
- Minimize cumulative effects
- Avoid roading slopes >67%

Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Species

(4-95)

Threatened or Endangered: (4-96)

American Peregrine Falcon – Provide for protection and maintenance of habitats

- Protect foraging areas

Sensitive: (4-97)

Northern Goshawk (97)

- preserve habitat around all nest sites
- Maintain an area >100 acres of POG (multi layered, >60% canopy, open understory, large trees >20”
- No harvest permitted

Peales peregrine Falcon (97)

- protect and maintain habitat
- Avoid activities within 2 miles of nest
- Limit activities during nesting period (April 15- August 31)

Trumpeter Swan (98)

- Preserve habitat
- Avoid disturbance, limit development to ½ mile of wetlands used for nesting, rearing, overwintering

Osprey (98)

- Preserve habitat
- Establish >330’ radius zone around each nest tree
- Within zone prohibit disturbing activities
- Provide large trees for nesting, feeding and perching

Timber
(4-100)

Even Aged Management: (4-102)

Clearcutting - Use only when best system to meet management objectives

- <100 acres in size (with environmental analysis <200 acres for natural biological hazards or <150 acres with approval of Forest Supervisor for other reasons)
- Leave strips between cc >5 acres

2 Aged Systems: (4-103)

- Green tree and snag retention
- Residual trees and patches will not be harvested later

Uneven Aged Systems: (4-104)

- All timber types on the Tongass NF may be harvested using uneven aged systems

Salvage Harvest: (4-104)

- High priority
- No salvage in RMA without Line Officer approval

Proportionality: Consult Tongass Timber Reform Act, Sec. 301 & FSH 2409.18

Wetlands
(4-118)

Wet

- Use BMPs
- Harvest may occur in development LUDs

Wildlife (4-119)

Legacy Forest Structure (LFS)

High Risk VCUs – concentrated past harvest (>33% of POG harvested or 67% POG will be harvested 49 VCUs) (4-120)

- Within created openings (even aged or 2 aged harvest unit) >10 acres, 30% of area LFS retained (long term in clumps)

Moderate Risk VCUs - <33% POG harvested and 33-67% will be harvested (154 VCUs) (4-121)

- Within created openings >20 acres 15% area LFS retained

Lower Risk VCUs - <33% POG harvested and <33% to be harvested (741 VCUs) (4-121)

- Within created openings >30 acres 10% LFS retained

Reserve Tree/Cavity-Nesting Habitat: (4-122)

- Legacy Forest Structure will provide where applied
- When not applied retain dead standing trees
- Preferably clumped, away from roads
- Retain live trees for snag recruits

Landscape Connectivity: (4-122)

- Provide OG corridors
- Use Beach Fringe Zones and RMAs in development LUDs

Sitka Black Tailed Deer Habitat: (4-122)

- ID and consider deer winter range in planning

Bald Eagle Habitat: (4-123)

- Maintain long term nesting, perching and winter roosting habitat

Bear Habitat: (4-123)

- Protect bear foraging sites such as waterfalls

Waterfowl and Shorebird Habitat: (4-124)

- Maintain or enhance wetlands which receive significant use

Heron and Raptor Nest Protection: (4-125)

- ID rookeries and nesting habitat
- Protected with 600' windfirm buffer
- No disturbance during nesting season (March 1 – July31)

Alexander Archipelago Wolf: (4-126)

- Provide sufficient deer habitat
- Maintain 1200' buffer around dens, no roads within 600'

Mt Goat: (4-126)

- Maintain POG 1300' of escape terrain (>50% slope or cliff)
- Maintain travel corridors between seasonal sites

Marbled Murrelet: (4-127)

- Maintain a 600' circular radius buffer around nest trees
- Minimize disturbance during nesting season (May1 – August 15)

Moose Habitat: (4-127)

- Maintain habitat
- Manage roads

American Martin: (4-127)

- Maintain habitat
- Manage roads