

Corri A. Feige
Commissioner



Department of
Natural Resources

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STATE OF ALASKA

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: April 10, 2020

Haines State Forest road improvement teleconference set for April 15

(Haines, AK) – Members of the public interested in proposed improvements to public recreation access to the Haines State Forest road system may attend a Division of Forestry public meeting by teleconference on Wednesday, April 15, from 3-5 p.m.

The Division is applying for a State Parks Recreational Trails Program Grant to reclaim and maintain about 7.3 miles of overgrown roads in the forest, to enhance recreational use on state lands in the area. The grant proposal will seek funding to remove brush on, grade, and resurface existing forestry roads, and to install signs and maps to make the road system easier to use.

The Haines State Forest road system offers the public well-signed and well-maintained surface access to a working state forest for multiple uses. As forestry operations have declined in recent years, however, many miles of existing forestry roads have become overgrown, closing off valuable recreation opportunities to locals and visitors alike.

The forestry roads that have been maintained are used by independent recreationists, including bikers, skiers, hunters, ATV users, and hikers, as well as those conducting commercial ventures such as rafting tours, ATV tours, guided hunts, timber harvest, mining, forest product gathering and berry collection. Road signs, maps, brushing, and maintenance will make an additional 15-mile portion of the road system safe and accessible for all users of the State Forest and Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve.

To participate in the Teleconference number, call: **1-800-315-6338** and enter code: **87156#** Maps of the proposed project and the WebEx link are available on the Division's [What's New page](#), and on DNR's [online public notice system](#). The WebEx link is [here](#).

Those unable to attend may send comments and questions about the proposed project to Alison Arians with the Division of Forestry in Anchorage, no later than May 4 at noon.

CONTACT: Alison Arians, 907-748-3712, alison.arians@alaska.gov

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